

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Fishing and Boating Services
2026 Yellow Perch Recreational Catch Limit – Effective 1/8/2026

WHAT THIS NOTICE DOES

The Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources announces a correction to the recreational daily catch and possession limit for yellow perch. Effective 12:01 a.m. January 8, 2026, except for reservoirs, lakes, ponds, impoundments, and waters upstream of them, the recreational daily catch and possession limit for yellow perch is five fish per person per day. This notice supersedes any public notice affecting the yellow perch recreational catch limit issued prior to January 8, 2026.

WHY THIS IS NECESSARY

This action is necessary because yellow perch are experiencing a period of low recruitment that has occurred over the last six years. Reducing the harvest of larger females may improve the chance of spawning success. This action for the recreational fishery equitably manages the burden of reduced harvests experienced by the commercial fisheries reduction in quota.

WHO THIS NOTICE AFFECTS

This applies to recreational anglers who fish for yellow perch in tidal waters, and streams and rivers in nontidal waters.

AUTHORITY

Code of Maryland Regulations 08.02.21.04

Josh Kurtz
Secretary of Natural Resources