# Maryland Regulation Summary for Seafood Dealers 2022-2023

## Blue Crabs

**Size:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Bay</th>
<th>Atlantic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male Hard Crabs</td>
<td>5” (4/1 – 7/14)</td>
<td>5”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 ¼” (7/15-12/15)</td>
<td>3 ¼” (4/1 – 7/14)</td>
<td>3 ¼”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Season:**

- **Bay:** 4/1 – 12/15
- **Atlantic:** 4/1 – 10/31

**Female Importation:**

Dates established by public notice in March/April.

## Oysters

**Season:**

- All gears except power dredge: 10/1 – 3/31
- Power dredge: 11/1 – 3/31

**Sizes:**

- 3” for wild caught and aquaculture oysters (submerged lease 10/1-3/31)
- 2” for aquaculture oysters (submerged lease 4/1 – 9/30 and water column lease year round)

*Each bushel of oysters must be tagged with the appropriate wild fishery tag or aquaculture tag.

## Open Fishing Seasons (Most Commonly Sold Fish)

- **Yellow Perch:** 12/1 – 3/31
- **Summer Flounder:** 1/1 – 12/31
- **Black Sea Bass:** 1/1 – 12/31
- **Spiny Dogfish:** 5/1 – 4/30
- **Tautog:** 1/1 – 5/15 and 7/1 – 12/31
- **Spanish Mackerel:** No closure
- **Red Drum:** No closure
- **Black Drum:** Not open in Coastal bays, No closure in Chesapeake Bay or Atlantic Ocean
- **Croaker:** 3/16 – 12/31
- **Catfish:** No closure

**NOTE:** Seasons may be subject to close by public notice (notices available [HERE](#)).

## Striped Bass

**Seasons:**

- **Bay - pound net:** 6/1 – 12/31
- **haul seine:** 1/1 – 2/28 and 6/1-12/31
- **gill net:** 12/1 – 2/28
- **hook and line:** 6/1 – 12/31 (ITQ), 6/1 – 12/31 (CP)
- **Atlantic - all gears:** 10/1 – 5/31

**Sizes:**

- **Bay – Min. 18” & Max. 36”**
- **Atlantic – Min. 24”**

**Tag Colors:**

- **2022:** Common Pool – Orange; ITQ – Yellow; Atlantic – Green
- **2023:** Common Pool – Blue; ITQ – Red; Atlantic – White

## Quick Contacts for Maryland Fisheries:

- **Regulations:** Jacob Holtz 410-260-8262
- **Penalties:** Karla Schaffer 410-260-8608
- **Legislation:** Sarah Widman 410-260-8266
- **Natural Resources Police:** 800-628-9944
- **Striped Bass:** Chris Jones 410-260-8293
- **Crabs:** Genine McClair 410-260-8270
- **Oysters:** Chris Judy 410-260-8259
- **Aquaculture:** Rebecca Thur 410-260-8252

Last updated 2/7/2023. This is a summary of rules pertaining to certain common commercial species harvested in Maryland.