

Maryland Regulation Summary for Seafood Dealers 2019

Blue Crabs

Size:

| Male Hard Crabs | Soft Crabs | Peelers |
|---|------------|--------------------|
| Bay -(males) -4/1- 7/14: 5" -7/15 – 12/15: 5 ¼" | -3 ½" | -3 ¼" (4/1 – 7/14) |
| Atlantic- 5" males | | -3 ½" (7/15-12/15) |

Season:

Bay – 4/1 – 12/15

Atlantic – 4/1 – 10/31

Female Importation:

Dates established by public notice in March/April ([2018](#))

Striped Bass

Seasons: Bay - pound net: 6/1 – 12/31; haul seine and hook and line: 6/1 – 11/30; gill net: 12/1 – 2/28 Atlantic - all gears is 10/1 – 5/31

Sizes: Bay – Min. 18" & Max. 36" Atlantic – Min. 24"

Tag Colors:

MD: Common Pool – Red; ITQ – White; Atlantic – Blue

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 (permitted fishery – season subject to change)

Summer Flounder: 1/1 – 12/31 (permitted fishery – season subject to change)

Black Sea Bass: 1/1 – 12/31 (permitted fishery – season subject to change)

Spiny Dogfish: 5/1 – 4/30 (permitted fishery – season subject to change)

Tautog: 1/1 – 5/15 and 7/1 – 12/31

Spanish Mackerel: No closure

Red Drum: No closure

Black Drum: Not open in Bay, No closure Atlantic

Croaker: 3/16 – 12/31

Catfish: No closure

Quick Contacts for Maryland Fisheries:

Regulations: Tammy O'Connell 410-507-0779

Penalties: Jacob Holtz 410-260-8262

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: Karl Roscher 410-260-8313