






STRIPED BASS FISHING ADVISORY

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has launched a Striped Bass Summer Fishing Advisory Forecast system for the summer. This awareness campaign is aimed to reduce striped bass mortality during the summer fishing season.

The color-coded recommendation system will advise of fishing conditions, allowing anglers to plan their striped bass fishing trips up to seven days in advance. The department will monitor temperature forecasts and announce a general recommendation each day striped bass fishing is allowed from mid-June through Labor Day using the following advisory system with the colors red, yellow, and green.

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|  | STRIPED BASS FISHING ADVISORY | Red days: Air temperatures are forecast at 95 degrees or higher. Anglers are encouraged not to fish for striped bass after 10 a.m. and should target other species of fish. |
|  | STRIPED BASS FISHING ADVISORY | Yellow days: Air temperatures are forecast at 90-94 degrees. Anglers should use extreme care when fishing for striped bass; fish should be kept in the water when caught and released on these days. |
|  | STRIPED BASS FISHING ADVISORY | Green days: Fishing conditions are normal. Proper catch-and-release practices are encouraged. |

Summer striped bass fishing best practices, to reduce post-release mortality:

- Circle hooks are mandatory for anglers that are targeting striped bass with bait and for anglers that are chumming or livelining for any species in tidal waters
- Use larger circle hooks in the 8/0-9/0 size range
- When releasing striped bass, minimize handling and get the fish in the water as fast as possible
- Have appropriate de-hooking hardware on hand
- Keeping hands wet will help fish maintain slime layer
- Keep fish in water when de-hooking

