

**CT DEEP** **2013**  
**FISHING REPORT NUMBER 26**  
**10/17/2013**



**YOU CAN FIND US DIRECTLY ON FACEBOOK.** This page features a variety of information on fishing, hunting, and wildlife watching in Connecticut. The address is [www.facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife](http://www.facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife).

common carp (*Cyprinus carpio*)

## INLAND REPORT



### TROUT

#### **TROUT STOCKING – DEEP'S FALL TROUT STOCKINGS WILL BE COMPLETED THIS WEEK.**

DEEP is stocking 5,500 rainbow trout into a total of 15 lakes and ponds in eastern CT this week. These fish are being released into Black Pond (Meriden/Middlefield)(300 rainbow trout), Rogers Lake (300 rainbow trout), Quonnipaug Lake (300 rainbow trout), Wauregan Reservoir (200 rainbow trout), Long Pond (200 rainbow trout), Amos Lake (200 rainbow trout), Beach Pond (750 rainbow trout), Crystal Lake (600 rainbow trout), Black Pond (Woodstock)(200 rainbow trout), Bigelow Pond (200 rainbow trout), Mashapaug Lake (750 rainbow trout), Gardner Lake (600 rainbow trout), Cedar Lake (200 rainbow trout), Pattaconk Lake (100 rainbow trout) and Wangumbaug Lake (600 rainbow trout).

DEEP stocked a total of 29,000 trophy and adult sized trout into selected waters throughout the state this fall. Approximately 12,800 were trophy size brown trout (all greater than 12 inches in length) and the remaining 16,200 adults were standard size (9-10 inch) rainbow trout.

**RIVERS & STREAMS** - Conditions should be good this weekend, with seasonable weather in the forecast and adequate flows in most areas (flows are again beginning to drop below typical October levels – see stream flow graphic on page 4). Good reports last week from the West Branch Farmington River, Farmington River, Housatonic River (early/late), Hammonasset River, Willimantic River, Moosup River, Salmon River, Yantic River and Shetucket River.

Streamer fishing has been good. Try white, yellow & brown colors and for patterns try White Woolly Buggers, Muddlers, Micky Finn, or Grey or Black Ghosts (#4-10). Bottom bouncing nymphs with Caddis pupa (#14-16), Serendipity (#14-16), Pheasant Tail (#12-20), Prince (#6-18), Golden Stoneflies (#8) and Hare's ear (#8-20) should also be productive. Good reports last week from the West Branch Farmington River, Farmington River, Housatonic River (early/late), Hammonasset River, Willimantic River, Moosup River, Salmon River, Yantic River and Shetucket River.

**Farmington River** – Trout fishing has been good and conditions should be good for the weekend. Flows are clear and moderate to low, currently 134 cfs at Riverton with the Still River then adding another 43 cfs. Water

#### **FIND TROUT STOCKING MAPS ON OUR WEBSITE**

Maps of all of the state's trout streams and rivers showing the many stocking and access points are available online at

[www.ct.gov/deep/troutstockingmaps](http://www.ct.gov/deep/troutstockingmaps).



temperatures are in the low 60's °F. Hatches/patterns include *Isonychia* (#12-14, parachute style), Blue Wing Olives (#18, 22-24, mid-late afternoon), Caddis (tan #16-18, all day; brown #16-18), Midges (#20-32, morning), & Rusty Spinner (#12-24, morning).

**Housatonic River** – Trout fishing has been good. Flows are clear and moderate (currently 423 cfs at Falls Village and 570 cfs at Gaylordsville) and morning water temperatures are in the mid to upper 50's °F.

Hatches/patterns include Blue Wing Olive (#18-26, early morning; spinner fall in evening), *Isonychia* (#10-14 evening), Midges (#20-24) and Black caddis (#14-20, early morning & evening) and Light Cahill (#12-14).

**LAKES & PONDS** – Several lakes are producing fair fall fishing. Areas to try include Quonnipaug Lake, Wauregan Reservoir, Long Pond, Mashapaug Lake, Wononskopomuc Lake, Pattaconk Lake, East Twin Lake and Crystal Lake (Ellington; fish in 2-3 feet near the outlet; slow).

**ATLANTIC SALMON** – Catches reported from Crystal Lake and Mount Tom Pond. So far this fall DEEP has stocked **nearly 1,700 fish** with Crystal Lake (145 salmon) Mount Tom Pond (145 salmon), the upper Naugatuck River (350 salmon), lower Naugatuck River (350 salmon) and Shetucket River (700 salmon) all stocked at least twice. Most of the Atlantic salmon released so far for the fishery range in weight from 2-6 pounds each (with some fish larger). Following spawning later this fall, DEEP expects that approximately 150 additional salmon from the Kensington Hatchery will be available for stocking in November. These fish will range in weight from 3 to 15 pounds each. *For a summary of Atlantic salmon fishing regulations see page 4.*

**LARGEMOUTH BASS** fishing remains generally fair to good. Places to try include Candlewood Lake, Bantam Lake, Congamond Lakes, Amos Lake, Wononskopomuc Lake, Hatch Pond, West Hill Pond, Mamanasco Lake, Gardner Lake, Pachaug Pond, Black Pond (Woodstock), Bishop Pond, Dog Pond, West Twin Lake, Red Cedar Lake and Bashan Lake. **Tournament angler** reports are from Gardner Lake (variable, lots of 5 fish bags for one club 10 days ago and tougher this past weekend, not much weight to the bags with 2 lb & 2.55 lb lunkers), Coventry Lake (fair fishing, with a 3.63 lb lunker), Pachaug Pond (fair fishing with most action from 12-14 inch fish, lunker came in at 5.44 lbs) and Candlewood Lake (generally fair fishing, with a 5.5 lb lunker).

**SMALLMOUTH BASS** fishing reported as fair to good at Candlewood Lake (good), Highland Lake (fair), Gardner Lake (fair) and Coventry Lake (fair – barely). Good reports for river smallmouth from the Naugatuck River and Willimantic River. **Tournament angler** reports are from Candlewood Lake (fishing is picking up, with good action for at least one club) and Gardner Lake (not many, with a 1.8 lb lunker).

**CATFISH** are being caught at Mohegan Park Pond, Lake Wintergreen and Silver Lake (Berlin/Meriden).

Several memorable **CHAIN PICKEREL** were caught from Congamond Lakes, Wononskopomuc Lake, Woodcreek Pond and Amos Lake.

**COMMON CARP** are on the feed bulking up for the winter. Areas to try include Chapman Pond, West Thompson Lake, Stillwater Lake, Rogers Lake, Mansfield Hollow Reservoir and Squantz Pond. See if you can find them in other areas. Hint: try slow moving waters in rivers near your home. Sweet corn and a medium action rod will get you started. Chum the area with oats and sweet corn or boilies to get them primed. Here's a secret (but don't tell). Mix one full container of oat meal and one can of cream style corn. Make balls out of it and chum the area you want to fish. Don't pack it too tight. You want it to fall apart. Finally, make a pack bait rig and you're good to go (do a web search for directions).

**NORTHERN PIKE** catches have been reported in Winchester Lake, Bantam Lake, Lake Lillinonah and Pachaug Pond.

**PANFISH** are providing mid-fall time action. Use worms, grubs, jigs or small poppers for them. Areas to try include Park Pond, Coventry Lake, Kenosia Lake, Glasgo Pond, Mamanasco Lake, Lake of Isles, Kenosia Lake, Dog Pond, Lake Hayward, West Twin Lake, Griggs Pond, Roseland Lake, Winchester Lake, Black Pond

(Woodstock), Silver Lake (Meriden), Wood Creek Pond, Quinebaug Lake, Bigelow Pond and Bishop Swamp. Get out and enjoy the foliage.

### CONNECTICUT RIVER

Flows are comfortable for boating and fishing, but are a bit lower than is typical for mid-October. **BLACK CRAPPIE** action was good last week in the coves up and down the river. Successful anglers are using small shiners. **NORTHERN PIKE** fishing was reported as good (and should get better). The best fishing can be found in the coves. Try the Middletown area, including the Mattabasett River. The Haddam area is producing very good catches of **CHANNEL CATFISH** on sunfish, chunk & cut-bait (work the outside edges of the channel and the coves. Target brush piles on the downstream side near drop offs.

### NOTES & NOTICES:

**BESECK LAKE** A 13 foot drawdown to facilitate dam repairs began October 4.

**CONNECTICUT RIVER (Haddam).** The Connecticut Yankee-Haddam Neck Power Plant discharge canal has been closed to public access due to security concerns.

**LAKE LILLINONAH (boat launch).** The Lake Lillinonah state boat launch (Route 133, also referred to as the "Steel Bridge" launch) is closed for renovations. This closure is currently expected to last through December 31, 2013. Anglers/boaters can continue to access the lake using the Pond Brook state boat launch.

**ROGERS LAKE.** The lake is currently (as of 10/16) down approximately one foot. Dam repairs are nearing completion and refill has begun, but may be slow, as the rate of refill is dependent on rainfall amounts in the watershed (and it's been relatively dry). The launching of trailered boats may be difficult at this level of drawdown and the launch may be unusable by larger boats or those with deeper draft.

**WEST BRANCH RESERVOIR (Hogback Reservoir).** The West Branch Reservoir is being drawn down 70 feet to facilitate an inspection of Colebrook River Lake outflow structures (as of 10/17, down approximately 62 feet).

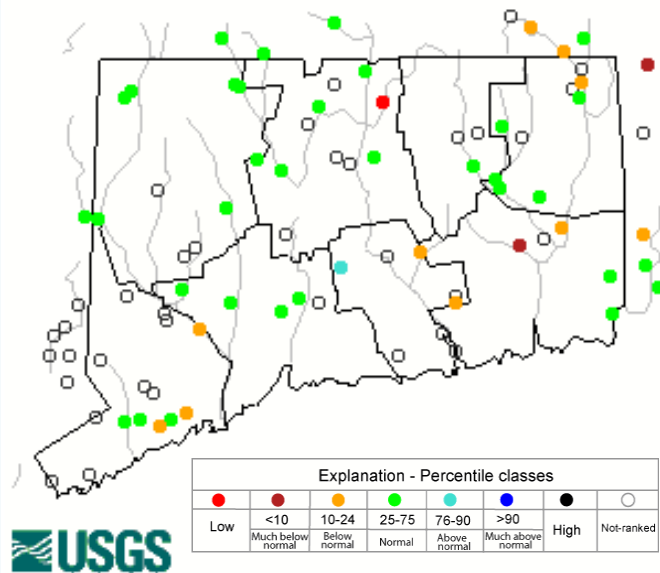
**LAKE ZOAR** is currently scheduled to be drawn down starting October 19<sup>th</sup> (**this weekend**) with refilling scheduled to begin October 27<sup>th</sup>. Lake Lillinonah is currently scheduled to be drawn down beginning October 30<sup>th</sup> and ending November 17<sup>th</sup>. During these drawdowns, launching of trailer boats will be difficult to impossible at the state boat launches.

### TIPS & TRICKS -FISHING FOR CARP

- ✓ Fall can be one of the best times of the year to fish for them
- ✓ They are more active than in the hot summer as they try to bulk up for winter.
- ✓ The cooler waters decrease fishing pressure.
- ✓ Try baits such as corn, bread, worms, and other basic things.
- ✓ Dip your favorite bait in carp sent.
- ✓ An easy method mix is; oat meal and sweet corn.
- ✓ Hair & pop-up rigs produce well.
- ✓ Use a weighted fly line & a 24" leader as your terminal line.
- ✓ In fishing from the bank or a boat the key is to cast several feet past the fish.
- ✓ Using a barbless hook makes the fish more of a challenge and makes release easier.
- ✓ Make sure your reels have quality 10-15lbs test line on them.
- ✓ Your fishing rod should be stout, but whip enough to cast long distances.
- ✓ A spod (like a LaCrosse stick) can be used to heave some corn or other chum into the area.
- ✓ Pre-baiting your site is a must.

## Stream flow conditions as of 10/17/2013

Thursday, October 17, 2013 12:30ET



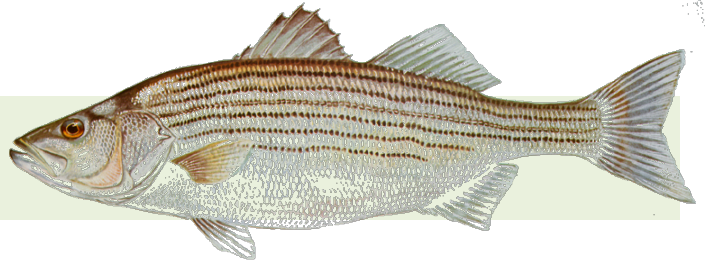
Data in the state graphic to the left are generated by the United States Geologic Survey (USGS) and are available on line at: <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ct/nwis/rt>.

A percentile is a value on a scale of one hundred that indicates the percent of data in the data set equal to or below it. For example streamflow greater than the 75<sup>th</sup> percentile means only ¼ of the streamflow values were above the value and thus would be considered “above normal”. Stream flow between the 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> are considered to be “normal flows” and those 25<sup>th</sup> or less are considered to be “below normal”.

### Atlantic salmon fishing regulations and areas summary

- Regulations for Atlantic salmon on the Shetucket and Naugatuck Rivers.** In the Naugatuck, Housatonic and Shetucket Rivers, the daily creel limit for Atlantic salmon is one fish per day through September 30, 2013. From October 1 through November 30, angling for Atlantic salmon is restricted to **catch-and-release only**. From December 1, 2013, through March 31, 2014, the daily creel limit for Atlantic salmon will be one. During the open season in the rivers, the legal method for taking Atlantic salmon is limited to angling using a single fly, or an artificial lure with a single free swinging hook and no additional weight can be added to the line above the fly or lure. Also, from October 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>, fishing for other species in the designated Atlantic Salmon “Broodstock” Areas is restricted to the gear legal for Atlantic salmon.
- On the **Shetucket River**, anglers can fish for salmon downstream from the Scotland Dam (Windham) to the Water Street Bridge in Norwich (the first bridge upstream of Norwich Harbor). The salmon are stocked into one designated Atlantic Salmon “Broodstock Area”, from the Scotland Dam to the Occum Dam.
- Anglers are allowed to fish for salmon in the **Naugatuck River** from the confluence of the East and West Branches (Torrington) downstream to the Housatonic River (Derby). Anglers may also fish for Atlantic salmon in the Housatonic River downstream of Derby Dam. The salmon are typically stocked into two designated Atlantic Salmon Broodstock Areas on the Naugatuck River, the “Campville Section” of the upper Naugatuck River from Route 118 downstream to the Thomaston Flood Control Dam (Litchfield-Thomaston) and the “Beacon Falls Section” of the lower Naugatuck, from Prospect Street (Naugatuck) downstream to Pines Bridge Road (Route 42 bridge, Beacon Falls). From October 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>, fishing for other species in these designated Atlantic Salmon Broodstock Areas is restricted to the gear legal for Atlantic salmon.
- The regulations for Atlantic salmon released into lakes and ponds are different from the regulations for salmon on the Naugatuck and Shetucket Rivers. **In each lake, the regulations for methods, seasons and minimum lengths for salmon will be the same as for trout in that specific water body but the daily creel limit will be one salmon per day.** (Please refer to the 2013 CT Angler’s Guide for trout regulations).

## MARINE FISHING REPORT



Surface water temperatures in Long Island Sound (LIS) remain in the low to mid 60's °F. Check out the following web sites for more detailed water temperatures and marine boating conditions:

<http://www.mysound.uconn.edu/stationstat.html>

[http://marine.rutgers.edu/mrs/sat\\_data/?nothumbs=1](http://marine.rutgers.edu/mrs/sat_data/?nothumbs=1)

<http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/>

<http://www.wunderground.com/MAR/AN/330.html>

**TAUTOG (blackfish)** fishing season reopened this past week with a big bang all along the coastline! Any of the breakwaters, reefs, and areas with structure will do. Shore fishing spots include all of our coastal state parks, all of which have great tog habitat. Hermit crabs, green crabs, and Asian shore crabs are the baits to use. Fishing in shallow water (10-25 feet) has been producing some good catches with fish weighing over 8 pounds.

The coastal tidal rivers and harbors remain full of bunker, hickory shad and river herring. That's where you will find both **BLUEFISH** and **STRIPED BASS**, in the rivers feeding voraciously. The Connecticut River is especially loaded with baitfish.

**HICKORY SHAD** fishing is also excellent in the Connecticut River and "alligator" blues are right on their tails. From shore try the DEEP Marine Headquarters fishing pier.

**SCUP (porgy)** fishing remains excellent at any of the major rocky reefs and shoreline areas with structure. Scup up to 18 inches in length have been reported this past week.

**BLACK SEA BASS** fishing remains good to excellent and can be taken in the same areas where tog and scup hangout.

Check out our Coastal Access Guide at <http://www.lisrc.uconn.edu/coastalaccess/> for more shore fishing locations close to home!

*For Current Connecticut Recreational Fishing Regulations: Anglers should consult the 2013 Connecticut Anglers Guide which is now available at most Town Clerks Offices, DEEP offices and at tackle stores selling fishing licenses. Current regulations, electronic versions of the Angler's Guide and additional information can all be accessed on the DEEP website at: [www.ct.gov/deep/fishing](http://www.ct.gov/deep/fishing).*

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### DEEP WEEKLY Fishing Report



Connecticut Department of  
**ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

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[www.ct.gov/deep](http://www.ct.gov/deep)

Common carp & striped bass images  
courtesy Duane Raver/USFWS.