

**CT DEEP** **2014**  
**FISHING REPORT NUMBER 7**  
**6/5/2014**



Black crappie (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*)



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Take someone fishing

**LARGEMOUTH BASS** fishing continues to be generally good although there's lots of variability in fish location (both within and between lakes) with anglers finding the bass either on beds, or off beds, and moving deep (but with a few under structure). Good reports for last week from Mamasasco Lake, Lake McDonough, Highland Lake, Candlewood Lake, Lake Saltonstall, Lake of Isles, Glasgo Pond (several 4-6 lb fish caught here); and fair reports from Silver Lake, Bantam Lake, Wyassup Lake (fishing's been picking up here) and Lake Waraumaug. **Tournament angler** reports are from Pachaug Pond (fair action, nothing over 2 lbs), Mansfield Hollow Reservoir (fair to good, with a 3.75 lbunker), Candlewood Lake (good, with some 4-5 lb fish), Lake Lillinonah (tough for largemouth), Winchester Lake (fair at best, with a 3.9 lbunker) and Wonoskopomuc Lake (fair to good, 3.7 lbunker).

**SMALLMOUTH BASS.** Good reports from Colebrook Reservoir, Candlewood Lake (good fishing, some smallmouth in the 3-4 lb range), Lake Zoar and Lake McDonough. **Tournament angler** reports are from Lake Lillinonah (good action), Lake Zoar (good action, some over 3 lbs) and Candlewood Lake (fishing continues to be very good, with a number of 3-4 smallmouth and several over 4 lbs).

**CHANNEL CATFISH.** Good reports for catfishing from Wauregan Reservoir, West Thompson Lake, Mohegan Park Pond, Black Pond (Middlefield) and Pattaconk Lake. Other recently stocked catfish waters to try include Bunnells Pond (Bridgeport), Keney Park Pond (Hartford), Lakewood Lake (Waterbury), Lake Wintergreen (Hamden/New Haven), Freshwater Pond (Enfield), Pickett's Pond (in Osborndale State Park, Derby), Maltby Lakes 2 & 3 (Orange/West Haven), -, Silver Lake (Meriden), Hopeville Pond (Griswold), , Stillwater Pond (Torrington), Lake Kenosia (Danbury), Batterson Park Pond (Farmington/New Britain), Burr Pond (Torrington) and Scoville Reservoir (Wolcott), and stocked (14-18 inch fish averaging 2 lbs apiece) for the first time are five newly designated community fishing Waters, Beaver Park Lagoon (New Haven), Birge Pond (Bristol,

**ZEBRA MUSSELS REMINDER**

**Zebra mussels are now found in a number of locations scattered throughout the Housatonic River and its impoundments including Lake Lillinonah (since 2010), Lake Zoar (since 2010) and Lake Housatonic (since 2011).**

Prior to their discovery in Lakes Lillinonah and Zoar in 2010, zebra mussels had been found (1998) in CT only in East Twin Lake and West Twin Lake (Salisbury). Anglers fishing in any of these waters and western Connecticut in general **should use extra care to avoid transporting water, aquatic vegetation, and possibly zebra mussels to new locations.** Information

For more information including precautions that should be taken to prevent the spread of zebra mussels to additional waters, visit [www.ct.gov/deep/invasivespecies](http://www.ct.gov/deep/invasivespecies) or the Aquatic Invasive species section of the 2014 CT angler's Guide( [www.ct.gov/deep/anglersguide](http://www.ct.gov/deep/anglersguide)).



Mirror Lake (Meriden, really good catfishing reported at this lake), Rowans Pond (Middletown) and Stanley Quarter Pond (New Britain).

**KOKANEE SALMON** are providing some action at East Twin Lake (good) and West Hill Pond (fair).

**WALLEYE** are being found at Lake Saltonstall, Batterson Park Pond, Squantz Pond and Saugatuck Reservoir.

**BLACK CRAPPIE** fishing is good throughout the state, with reports from Lake Saltonstall, Saugatuck Reservoir, Great Hollow Pond, Highland Lake and a number of southeastern CT waters (including Oxoboxo Lake, Avery Pond, Long Pond).

**NORTHERN PIKE.** Good reports for Hopeville Pond and a few catches reported from Bantam Lake, but little action reported at Pachaug Pond and Quaddick Lake.

#### TROUT

**RIVERS & STREAMS** - Conditions for fishing this weekend should be fairly good with dry weather in the forecast. Flows in most areas had been dropping and were at or below typical early June levels, however today's (Thursday, 6/5) rains have refreshed flows throughout the state (see stream flow graphic on page 4). Flows in some areas are currently moderately high but most areas should be at comfortable levels during the weekend (streamflows for a number of areas can be found at <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ct/nwis/rt>).

Good reports last week from the Salmon River (catches here include several tiger trout), Blackledge River, Shetucket River, Eightmile River (in the "Hopyard" ), Five Mile River (Thompson-Putnam-Killingly), Hammonaset River (nymphs -pheasant tails working), West Branch Salmon Brook, West Branch Farmington River and Farmington River.

**Farmington River** – Trout fishing has been good. West Branch flows are moderate and fishable, currently 385 cfs at Riverton with the Still River adding another 146 cfs.

**Hatches/patterns** include Tan Caddis (#16-18), *Vitreus* (a.k.a. Sulphur/pale evening dun, #14-16), Blue Wing Olives (#18-22, mid-late afternoon), March Brown (#10-14), Blue Quill (#16-18) and Green caddis (#16-18). Evenings look for rusty spinners (#12-18). Streamers and nymphing are working well.

**Housatonic River** – Fishing was good last week. This week's rains have however increased flows to levels too high for most anglers to be comfortable wading, currently 1,850 cfs at Falls Village and 2,240 cfs at Gaylordsville. Flows should begin to drop for the weekend. Morning water temperatures have warmed to the lower 60's°F (and rising some through the day).

**Hatches/patterns** include Alder caddis (#10-12), Sulphurs (#16-18), Blue Wing Olive (#18-20, cloudy days; early morning; spinner fall in evening), *Isonychia* (#8-10 evening, just starting), Cahill (#12-14), Adams (#10-12, evening), green caddis (#14-20, early morning & evening), March Brown (#10-12, spinner) and golden stoneflies.

#### REMINDER TO ANGLERS-

**FISHING IN OR CASTING INTO PERMITTED SWIM AREAS IS PROHIBITED.**

State regulations prohibit fishing in or into a swim area that's been permitted by DEEP. Additionally, vessels cannot be operated within a permitted swim area, and there's a 100 foot "no-wake" zone around the perimeter. Swim areas that have been permitted by DEEP will be marked by white buoys with orange markings, and there should be a permit number posted on the buoys. They may or may not have small orange barrier floats to further demarcate the area. Should questions arise concerning the validity of the swim area (*no permit numbers or the area appears to have been changed/enlarged or keeps moving*), please contact DEEP's Boating Division at 860-434-8638.



**LAKES & PONDS** – Trout fishing has been fairly good in a number of areas throughout the state, with reports from Cedar Lake (some nice action, no really big fish lately), Wononskopomuc Lake (around 20 feet, 3-colors), Candlewood Lake (trout action continues to be steady), Highland Lake (fish are finally moving deeper), East twin Lake (good, “beads on riggers”), Lake Saltonstall and Quonnipaug Lake (fair to good action, nothing really big).

### CONNECTICUT RIVER

Flows are on the turbid side and somewhat higher than typical early June levels, but comfortable for boating and fishing. **STRIPED BASS** can be throughout the river and have been producing some good action with legal size fish being caught all the way to the Massachusetts border (including a recent 42 lb beauty at the border). Although there’s plenty of bunker, action at the mouth has been slow.

**AMERICAN SHAD** catches are declining. As of Tuesday (June 3), approximately 304,000 shad have been counted at the Holyoke Dam fishway (MA) this spring. **CHANNEL CATFISH** (up to 15 lb fish) are providing some nice action. **NORTHERN PIKE** catches have been reported in the river coves downstream to Haddam (smaller fish), many by anglers targeting stripers. Some catches also from the Mattabesett River. **SMALLMOUTH BASS** has been fair to good in the Enfield area. **LARGEMOUTH BASS** fishing has been fair to good from below Hartford (coves) to Salmon river cove (good here) with a number of 3-4 lb fish caught.

### NOTES & NOTICES:

**BESECK LAKE** A 13 foot drawdown to facilitate dam repairs is ongoing.

**GLASGO POND** A canoe/kayak race event is scheduled for Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, from 9:30 am through 1:30 pm. Boaters should use extra caution during the event (the course laps both Glasgo Pond and Doanneville Pond). Although this event will be using the state boat launch on Glasgo Pond, room will be available to the general public to launch. Boaters should however use additional caution on the lake.

#### LAKE & POND BATHYMETRIC MAPS

Bathymetric maps of many of Connecticut’s public access lakes and ponds can be found online at:

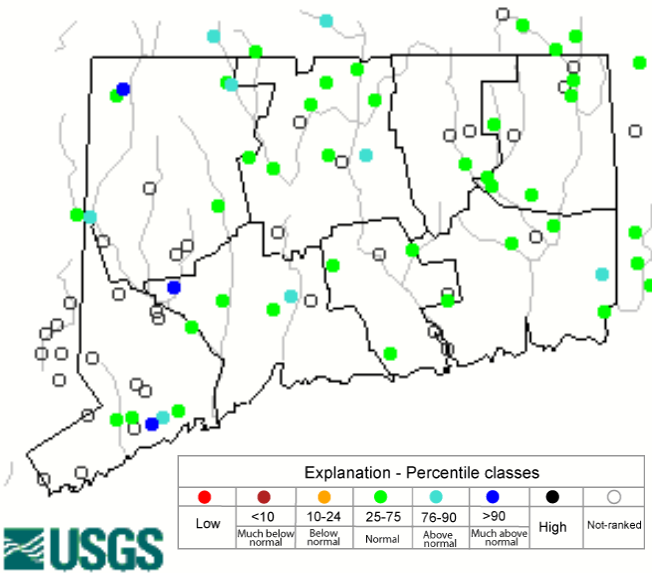
[www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/fishing/general\\_information/lakebathymetrymaps.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/fishing/general_information/lakebathymetrymaps.pdf)

Both plain line maps and maps overlaying an aerial photo available.



## Stream flow conditions as of 6/5/2014

Thursday, June 05, 2014 16:30ET

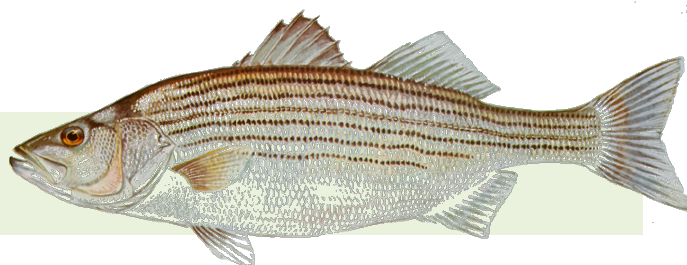


Data in the state graphic to the left are generated by the United States Geologic Survey (USGS) and are available on line at: <http://waterdata.usgs.gov/ct/nwis/rt>.

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”.

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## MARINE FISHING REPORT



Surface water temperatures in Long Island Sound (LIS) remain in the low to upper 50'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>

**STRIPED BASS** fishing overall is good. Dawn and dusk is prime time for large stripers on the reefs and rip areas. Live lining eels or bunker has been the ticket. There is plenty of bunker throughout LIS including the tidal rivers to hold fish. Striper areas include the Watch Hill reefs, lower Thames River, the Race, Plum Gut, Pigeon Rip, outer Bartlett Reef, Black Point, Hatchett Reef, lower Connecticut River (Great Island), Long Sand Shoal, Cornfield Point, Southwest Reef (outer), Sixmile Reef, Falkner Island area, the reefs off Branford, New Haven Harbor (including Sandy Point), Charles Island area, Housatonic River, buoys 18 and 20 off Stratford Point, Stratford Shoal/Middle Ground, Bridgeport Harbor, Penfield Reef, around the Norwalk Islands, and Cable and Anchor Reef.

See page 60 of the 2014 CT Angler's Guide for [Connecticut Tides](#)

**BLUEFISH** fishing is fair to good. Bluefish spots include the Race, Plum Gut, Sluiceway, Gardiners Bay, Peconic Bays, and the north shore of Long Island. Fresh bunker chunks on three way rigs or speed squidding diamond jigs work well.

**SUMMER FLOUNDER** (fluke) fishing is fair to good. Squid are throughout LIS. Mid to western LIS, anglers reported 3 to 5 lb fish being common. Fluke spots include south shore of Fishers Island (Isabella Beach, Wilderness Point), Watch Hill to Napatree Point, off the Stonington breakwater, mouth of the Mystic River to Groton Long Point, Thames River channel, Gardiners Bay over to Greenport, NY, Twotree Channel, Black Point/Niantic Bay, Long Sand Shoal, Westbrook-Clinton area, Falkner Island area, New Haven Harbor to West Haven, off the mouth of the Housatonic River, Norwalk Islands, and across over to Port Jefferson, NY.

**Anglers Please Note:** *New York has the same summer flounder (fluke) regulations as Connecticut (18 inch minimum, 5 fish daily creel limit). Rhode Island has an 18 inch minimum length, but with an 8 fish daily creel limit. However, since Rhode Island has a higher daily creel limit than Connecticut and New York, make sure you abide by the state with the most restrictive regulation when crossing (by boat) state boundaries.*

**WINTER FLOUNDER** fishing remains slow overall. However, flounder sharpies have limited out in the Niantic Bay area and the Brothers by the Fourmile River mouth.

**SCUP** (porgy) fishing is fair to good on the major reefs throughout LIS.

**HICKORY SHAD** fishing remains good in the lower Connecticut River by the DEEP Marine Headquarters fishing pier and in Clinton Harbor.

**WEAKFISH** fishing is fair to good in New Haven Harbor by the breakwaters over to Milford Point.




**Special note- BONUS STRIPED BASS FISHING PROGRAM**

The Bonus Striped Bass Voucher Program will run **May 1 through December 31** in 2014. Vouchers **will be available beginning May 1 at DEEP Offices and Facilities listed below.** There is a limit of one voucher annually per fishing license holder. However, for convenience one person may pick up at most two vouchers by presenting valid fishing licenses for two anglers. Children are also eligible to receive a voucher by signing up for a free [Youth Fishing Passport](#). Vouchers will be available on a first come first serve basis for as long as supplies last.

DEEP Offices/Facilities	Address	Town	State	Zip
<a href="#">Marine Headquarters</a> , M-F 8am-4pm, 860-434-6043	333 Ferry Road	Old Lyme	CT	06371
<a href="#">Eastern District</a> , M-F 8:30am-4pm, 860-295-9523	209 Hebron Ave	Marlborough	CT	06447
<a href="#">Western District</a> , M-F 8:30am-4pm, 860-485-0226	230 Plymouth Rd	Harwinton	CT	06791
<a href="#">Franklin WMA</a> , M-F 8:30am-4:30pm, 860-642-7239	391 Route 32	Franklin	CT	06254
<a href="#">Sessions Woods WMA</a> , M-F 8:30am-4pm, 860-675-8130	341 Milford Street (Rte 69)	Burlington	CT	06013
<a href="#">CTDEEP Main Office</a> , M-F 9am-4pm, 860-424-3105	79 Elm Street	Hartford	CT	06106
<a href="#">Sherwood Island State Park</a> , M-S 8am-4:30pm, 203-226-6983	Route 1 north to the Sherwood Island Connector in Westport	Green Farms	CT	06838

The striped bass bonus fishery is an opportunity to harvest a limited number of smaller (22 inch to less than 28 inches) striped bass during May through December, both in the Marine and Inland Districts of Connecticut state waters only. The Bonus fishery was approved by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Striped Bass Management Board which oversees the conservation of the species throughout its range. Amendment 6 to the Striped Bass Fishery Management plan currently allocates a 23,750 pound commercial striped bass quota to Connecticut which is being used in this program to provide this additional recreational fishing opportunity since commercial striped bass harvest is prohibited in this state. The unused commercial quota equates to 4,025 fish available for harvest under this program.

Anglers are also encouraged to use this program to introduce a friend, neighbor or child to fishing: *"Share the Experience – Take Someone Fishing"*. The department is also interested in encouraging and enhancing urban and shore fishing opportunity which the bonus striper program is especially well suited for. Bass fishermen generally may want to hold onto a voucher to use if an undersized fish intended for release is deep hooked or otherwise

2014 Connecticut Bonus Striped Bass Voucher		0001
		
<p><i>To be completed upon harvest of a qualifying fish!</i></p>		
<p>Date: <input type="text"/> / <input type="text"/> <b>2014</b></p> <p style="font-size: small;">(mm) (dd)</p>		
<p>Total length: <b>22" 23" 24" 25" 26" 27"</b></p> <p style="font-size: x-small;">Please circle one length. Drop fractional lengths; for example, mark 23 1/4" as 23"</p>		
<p><small>I understand this voucher authorizes the possession of one bonus striped bass harvested today. I also understand this voucher is not valid until I have recorded today's date and the total length of the bonus striped bass I have harvested and until I have signed this voucher in ink and recorded my Conservation ID #. I further understand that any striped bass less than 28 inches total length in my possession without a completed and signed voucher is a violation subject to fine and suspension of my sportfishing and hunting privileges. I will return this voucher to DEEP Marine Fisheries within 48 hours of harvesting a bonus striped bass.</small></p>		
<p><b>Sample Only!</b></p>		
Signature	Conservation ID #	Questions?
<p style="font-size: x-small;">A bonus striped bass is a striped bass at least 22 inches but less than 28 inches total length harvested from Connecticut waters between May 1 and December 31 and accompanied by a valid voucher.</p>		<p style="font-size: x-small;">Web: <a href="http://www.ct.gov/deep/saltwaterfishing">www.ct.gov/deep/saltwaterfishing</a> Phone: 860-434-6043 E-mail: <a href="mailto:deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov">deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov</a></p>

unlikely to survive. Alternatively, anglers should consider taking a smaller bonus fish home for a meal and releasing the larger (28"+) "spawner" fish.

### **Program Regulations**

- A bonus striped bass is at least 22 inches but less than 28 inches.
- One voucher is good for one (1) bonus striped bass, and only one voucher may be used per day.
- Open Season: May 1 through December 31, 2014.
- Important: To be valid, the voucher card must be filled out and signed immediately upon harvest of a qualifying fish.
- Vouchers must be retained with the striped bass until the fish is taken to your home or other location where it is to be consumed.
- Mail the voucher back to Marine Fisheries. The voucher is already addressed and postage paid for return on the reverse side. It's free, so please mail it back to assure continuation of this program.
- Vouchers are valid in Connecticut state waters only.
- The normal limit of two (2) striped bass 28 inches or greater may also be harvested.

A total of 4,025 vouchers will be made available at DEEP offices/facilities, distributed by ENCON Officers, and CT DEEP Marine Angler Survey creel agents. There is no fee for the vouchers. A limited number of vouchers will be reserved for programs such as "Take a Kid Fishing", "Take a Veteran Fishing", Municipal youth and urban fishing programs. Please contact Marine Fisheries ([deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov](mailto:deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov) or telephone: 860-434-6043) if your organizations supports such a program and you would like to receive vouchers.

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### **DEEP WEEKLY Fishing Report**



### **Connecticut Department of ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106  
[www.ct.gov/deep](http://www.ct.gov/deep)

*Black crappie & striped bass images courtesy  
Duane Raver/USFWS.*