

CT DEEP 2014 FISHING UPDATES & NOTES 12/30/2014



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Seeforellen strain Brown Trout -This fish was recently stocked into Highland Lake.

NEW FOR 2015-

- **2015 fishing, hunting and trapping licenses for 16 and 17 year olds are ½ price** (most hunting permits, stamps and tags will also be ½ price for 16 and 17 year olds). The 2015 fishing, hunting and trapping licenses are now available and can be purchased directly online using DEEP's Online Sportsmen Licensing system (www.ct.gov/deep/sportsmenlicensing) or in person at one of the many participating town halls, tackle retailers and DEEP offices.
- **Annual registration now required for fishing and hunting guides** who provide services in CT (\$100.00 registration fee). Guides can register online or in person at the same locations where hunting and fishing licenses and permits are available.

DECEMBER TROUT STOCKING UPDATE.

- **DEEP stocked 400 Giant 5 year old broodstock Seeforellen Brown Trout** (averaging 15 pounds each, with some possibly exceeding 20 pounds), into eight lakes this December (just before Christmas). **Black Pond** (Meriden/Middlefield), **Cedar Lake** (Chester), **East Twin Lake** (Salisbury), **Highland Lake** (Winchester), **Long Pond** (Ledyard/North Stonington), **Mashapaug Pond** (Union), **Squantz Pond** (New Fairfield) and **West Hill Pond** (Barkhamsted/New Hartford) were each stocked with 50 of these trout.
- On December 12 & December 16, DEEP stocked **approximately 7,000 brown trout** from the Quinebaug Valley State Fish Hatchery. These trout averaged 11 inches in length each and were stocked into **Amos Lake** (Preston)(1,500 fish), **Bigelow Pond** (Union)(1,000 fish), **Black Pond** (Woodstock)(1,000 fish), **Highland Lake** (Winchester)(1,500 fish) and **West Branch Reservoir** (Colebrook/Hartland)(2,000 fish).
- From November 25th through December 3rd, **approximately 26,000 rainbow trout** were stocked. These fish are catchable size, averaging 11 inches in length each and were stocked into **Black Pond** (Meriden/Middlefield) (2,200 fish), **Coventry Lake** (Wangumbaug Lake, Coventry)(2,200 fish), **Crystal Lake** (Ellington)(2,000 fish), **East Twin Lake** (Salisbury)(2,200 fish), **Gardner Lake** (Salem/Montville/Bozrah)(2,200 fish), **Highland Lake** (Winchester)(2,200 fish), **Mashapaug Lake** (Union)(2,200 fish), **Mohawk Pond** (Cornwall/Goshen)(1,100 fish), **Squantz Pond** (New Fairfield)(2,200 fish), **Stillwater Pond** (Torrington)(1,100 fish), **Tyler Pond** (Goshen)(1,200 fish), **West Hill Pond** (New Hartford/Barkhamsted)(2,000 fish) and **West Side Pond** (Goshen)(1,000 fish).
- Trout stocking updates can be also found on the web at [Fall Stocking Reports](#) and on our Fish and Wildlife Facebook Page at www.facebook.com/CTFishandWildlife.

NOTES & ADDITIONAL UPDATES.

- **BASHAN LAKE** The drawdown of Bashan Lake for dam repairs is ongoing. Bashan Lake is currently drawn down 12-16 feet. The state boat launch currently remains open for anglers to access the lake on foot. Anglers are however advised that until a good freeze occurs, the newly exposed sediments in some areas will be very soft and unstable, and could be very difficult to traverse. Please exercise caution.
 - **BESECK LAKE** Some refill is ongoing but the lake remains drawn down significantly.
 - **WINTER DRAWDOWNS (eastern CT)...** “Winter” drawdowns of a number of Eastern CT lakes are in progress. Reported lake depth status for the following water bodies is current as of Wednesday, December 17th: **Ashland Pond** (down 25 inches), **Lower Bolton Lake** (down 12 inches), **Middle Bolton Lake** (down 9 inches), **Gardner Lake** (down 13 inches), **Hopeville Pond** (down 24 inches) and **Mashapaug Lake** (down 23 inches).
 - **GLASGO POND.** Glasgo Pond is still down several feet but refill is ongoing. Launching of boats may be difficult.
 - **HIGHLAND LAKE.** An 8 foot drawdown of Highland Lake is ongoing (some refill has begun).
 - **TYLER POND.** A 3 foot drawdown is ongoing.
 - **CANDLEWOOD LAKE DRAWDOWN.** Currently the lake is down approximately 4.5 feet below the minimum “summer” level (as required under the FERC license). At this level, the Lattins Cove state launch cannot be used for the launching of trailered boats and the Squantz Cove launch is very difficult to use. The lake is scheduled to for a “deep” drawdown this winter. Typically “deep” (7-9 feet) and “shallow” (3-4 feet) drawdowns occur at Candlewood Lake in alternating years.
 - **FISHING SEASONS.** Anglers are reminded that the fishing season closed on December 1st at a number of areas including **BUNNELLS POND** (Beardsley Park), **GREAT HOLLOW POND** (Wolfe Park), **LAKE MCDONOUGH**, the **MALTBY LAKES**, **LAKE SALTONSTALL**, **MOHEGAN PARK POND** (Spaulding Pond, Norwich), **LAKE CHAMBERLAIN** and most designated “children’s areas”. Additionally, **SAUGATUCK RESERVOIR** will close after **December 31st**. *(Please refer to the 2014 CT Angler’s Guide for complete regulations).*
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For Boating Safety information: Please refer to the 2014 Connecticut Boater’s Guide, found online at www.ct.gov/deep/boatersguide.

For Current Connecticut Recreational Fishing Regulations: Anglers should consult the 2014 Connecticut Anglers Guide which is 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. **The 2015 Angler’s Guides are expected to be available in late March/early April.**

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DEEP Fishing Report- DECEMBER UPDATES & NOTES



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