I ♥ NY

Guide To Capital District Fishing

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY | Department of Environmental Conservation

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New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation
625 Broadway
Albany, NY 12233

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When it comes to having a memorable fishing experience, you don’t need to travel far. New York's Capital District boasts a host of quality fishing opportunities, many right in your own backyard. Whether it’s taking a youngster fishing for sunfish, trying to catch that lunker bass, or casting a fly for an eager trout, the Capital District has something for every type of angler.

Protect Your Waters

Help Stop the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species and Fish Diseases

Follow these simple guidelines to properly clean boats and fishing equipment.

1

INSPECT your boat, trailer and other fishing and boating equipment and remove all plant and animal material clinging to it.

2

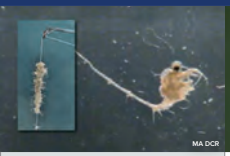
DRAIN AND DRY everything that came into contact with water. Dry equipment for at least 5 days before using it in another water body. **Be sure to completely drain your boat, including baitwells and livewells.**

3

DISINFECT the boat's bilge area, all water-holding compartments, and other equipment with hot water at least 140°F or steam for at least 30 seconds before launching into another water body.

IF YOU CAN'T DRY OR DISINFECT YOUR BOAT, thoroughly flush all water-holding compartments with water before launching. Don't let rinse water run into a water body.

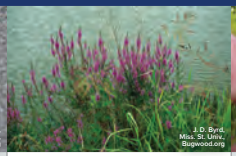
Watch for these Aquatic Invasive Species of Concern



Spiny Waterflea

Water Chestnut

Zebra Mussel



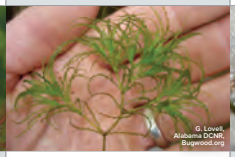
Purple Loosestrife

Hydrilla

European Frog-bit

Fanwort

Variable Leaf Milfoil



Brittle Naiad

Curlyleaf Pondweed

Eurasian Watermilfoil

Asian Clam

More information on equipment disinfection and how you can prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species: **www.dec.ny.gov/animals/48221.html**

Common Capital District Fish Species

Sunfish (Bluegill and Pumpkinseed)

Popular with anglers because they are easy to catch.

ID	Habitat
6"- 8", occasionally over 10". Bluegill - dark spot at the back of dorsal (top) fin. Pumpkinseed - wavy turquoise bands on cheeks, red spot on the gill cover.	Around docks, weeds, logs and other cover in most NYS warmwater lakes, ponds and rivers.

Fishing Tips

Fish around cover with worms, grubs, crickets, or small jigs. Great for beginner fly anglers with small poppers. Very popular to ice fish for using small jigs tipped with grubs.

Rock Bass

These members of the sunfish family are nicknamed “redeyes” and are a favorite panfish of anglers.

ID	Habitat
Bright red eyes and blotchy mottling on sides. 6-10".	Rocky and gravelly areas in lakes and ponds.

Fishing Tips

Easily caught using live bait, small spinners, plugs, and poppers in rocky areas.

Black Crappie/White Crappie

Excellent eating; often found in large schools.

ID	Habitat
Black crappie - flat, diamond-shaped bodies, dark mottled coloration. White crappie - similar to black crappie, may be a more faded silver color, vertical barring apparent in some. Average 10 inches, but fish over 14 inches are taken each year.	Black crappie are most common in weedy waters. White crappie prefer murkier waters.

Fishing Tips

Use live minnows, small jigs, spinners and plugs. Easiest to catch during the spring when they move into shallow cover-filled areas to spawn. Often found in flooded brush.

Largemouth Bass

New York State's number one sportfish.

ID	Habitat
Jaw extends beyond eye; deep notch between the spiny and soft sections of the dorsal (top) fin. Average 15-18", but fish over 20" are not uncommon.	Weeds, logs or docks in shallow parts of warm-water, weedy lakes and rivers throughout NYS. In hot weather, look in deeper water off weedlines and dropoffs.

Fishing Tips

In heavy cover, use weedless spoons, plastic frogs or plastic worms and tubes rigged weedless. In open water, use top-water baits, spinnerbaits and diving plugs.

Smallmouth Bass

Known as the hardest fighting freshwater fish. Hooked fish are famous for their aerial show.

ID	Habitat
Jaw does not extend past eye; very shallow notch separating spiny and soft sections of dorsal (top) fin. Average 12-15", but fish over 20" are not uncommon.	Near rocky underwater islands and shoals in cooler, deeper, rockier lakes and rivers. Look in deeper water during hot weather.

Fishing Tips

Commonly caught with tubes, curly tail jigs, spinner baits or live crayfish around cover. Use top water plugs during early morning and evenings.

Northern Pike

These toothy predators have the ability to grow over 40 pounds.

ID	Habitat
Long, narrow body with light, bean-like markings along the sides. Average 18-30", but can grow over 40".	Found in shallow weedy areas in the spring and fall. Look near deep weedbeds, humps, shoals in lakes during summer.

Fishing Tips

Large spoons, spinners and rattling plugs; red-and-white is a good color choice. Popular fish with ice anglers using tip-ups baited with large shiners.

T. Knepp/USFWS

Chain Pickerel

A smaller, aggressive relative of the northern pike; a favorite of ice anglers.

ID	Habitat
Long, narrow body with chain-like markings on their sides. Dark, vertical bar under each eye. Average 15-18", but can grow over 24".	Shallow, warm, weedy lakes.

Fishing Tips

Commonly caught by ice anglers using tip-ups baited with shiners. Weedless spoons, spinner baits and soft plastics rigged weedless are very effective during open water season.

Striped Bass

This migratory species provides an immensely popular fishery in the Hudson River each spring when they move upriver to spawn. Often reach sizes up to 40 lbs.

ID	Habitat
Silvery body with seven to nine dark horizontal lines running along their sides.	Tidal portion of the Hudson River (below Troy Dam) from March-June.

Fishing Tips

Troll swimming plugs or spoons or bottom fish with live or cut herring.

When fishing for striped bass or other migratory fish of the sea, anglers 16 years and older must first enroll in the free Recreational Marine Fishing Registry. Find out more on page 9 of this guide.

White Perch

A cousin of the striped bass- the smallest member of the true bass family.

ID	Habitat
Silvery-gray body that lacks horizontal stripes. White underside. Average 5-9" in lakes and ponds. Can exceed 12" in tidal waters.	Primarily found in murky, shallow areas of rivers, lakes and reservoirs.

Fishing Tips

Commonly caught on worms, grubs, small lures or flies.

Yellow Perch

One of the most widely distributed, popular and delicious panfish in New York State.

ID	Habitat
Distinctive yellow sides and black barring. Average 8-10", but fish over 14" are sometimes caught. Beware of sharp fin rays and gill covers.	Found in a variety of waters from shallow, weedy ponds to large, deep lakes.

Fishing Tips

Use small tube or curly tail jigs, live minnows and worms. Very popular to fish for through the ice on small jigs tipped with grubs.

Walleye

Considered to be one of the tastiest freshwater fish, walleye are the largest members of the perch family.

ID	Habitat
Large, silvery eyes, white tip on the lower lobe of tail. Can exceed 14 pounds in New York State. Average 15-18", but can grow over 20".	Large lakes and rivers. Their light-sensitive eyes force them to stay in deeper sections during the day, but they will move to the surface to feed during low-light periods and at night.

Fishing Tips

During open-water periods, drift or troll with plugs, live bait or jigs. Also popular with ice anglers. Live minnows tend to work best through the ice.

Rainbow Trout

A colorful native of the Pacific Coast, rainbow trout have been introduced into many coldwater lakes and streams in New York State.

ID	Habitat
Pink stripe along their sides during the spawning season; black spots on back, dorsal (top) fins and both lobes of tail fin.	Stocked in select waters around the Capital District.

Fishing Tips

Commonly caught on flies, spoons, spinners and live bait. A phoebe© spoon or rooster tail© spinner works well for stocked fish. Can generally be found in deeper, colder water of lakes and ponds (especially in summer months). In rivers and streams, fish behind large boulders and around undercut banks. Prefers faster water than other trout species.

Brown Trout

The wary brown trout is one of the more challenging trout to catch.

ID	Habitat
Brown with black, and often red, spots on sides. Average 9-15", but can grow over 18".	Primarily found in streams, but also in ponds and lakes. Stocked in select waters around the Capital District.

Fishing Tips

Can be caught on a variety of flies, spoons, spinners and live bait. A phoebe© spoon or rooster tail© spinner works well for stocked fish. Can generally be found in deeper, colder water of lakes and ponds (especially in summer months). In rivers and streams, fish behind large boulders and around undercut banks.

Brook Trout

Also called speckled trout, the brook trout is New York's official state freshwater fish.

ID	Habitat
Dark olive-green background with light wavy markings on the back and tan or red spots on the sides. Rarely exceed 9" in streams, but can grow over 15" in ponds.	Live in small to moderate sized streams, lakes and ponds in cool, clean water.

Fishing Tips

Brook trout are easy to catch on worms or synthetic baits, as well as spinners, small spoons and flies. DEC has Public Fishing Rights (PFR) on select area streams that have wild populations.

Brown Bullhead/Channel Catfish

Both species are nocturnal, feeding most actively at night.

ID	Habitat
Brown bullhead: broad, flat head and dark barbels (whiskers), range 8-14". Channel catfish: over 10-20 pounds with a distinctly forked tail.	Bottom of lakes, ponds and rivers.

Fishing Tips

Worms and other live bait fished on the bottom. Fishing is usually better in the evening.

Common Carp

Carp are becoming popular with anglers who enjoy a challenge and a strong fight.

ID	Habitat
Large, heavy scales and two short barbels at the corners of the mouth. Can reach 30+ pounds.	Larger lakes and rivers; prefer warmer water with a soft bottom.

Fishing Tips

Fish with worms, corn, or bread dough on bottom.

Fishing License Information

All residents and non-residents 16 years of age or older must have a valid New York State fishing license. Before fishing in the marine and coastal district waters, or when fishing in the Hudson River and its tributaries for “migratory fish of the sea,” e.g. striped bass, anglers must enroll in the annual no-fee recreational marine fishing registry. Note that anyone actually fishing or assisting another angler (no matter what their age) must have a fishing license, even if they release the fish that they catch. An annual New York State fishing license is valid for 365 days from the date of purchase. Anglers may also purchase a 1-day or 7-day license. Lifetime licenses are also available to New York State residents. Licenses are available from over 300 license-issuing agents, including major sporting goods and discount stores, tackle shops and many town clerks’ offices.

Licenses may also be purchased online at www.dec.ny.gov/permits/6101.html and by phone at 1-866-933-2257.

FISHING CLOSE TO HOME

Use the locator map and corresponding table to choose a fishing destination you won't soon forget!

Streams that have Public Fishing Rights (PFR) are identified by the purple segments. See page 19 for species present in these waters. Maps of access locations can be downloaded from DEC's website at www.dec.ny.gov

Albany County

1. Ann Lee Pond
2. Basic Creek Reservoir
3. Buckingham Pond
4. Colonie Town Hall Pond
5. Rensselaer Lake/ Six Mile Waterworks
6. Thompson's Lake
7. Tivoli Lake
8. Washington Park Pond
9. Van Schaick Pond

Rensselaer County

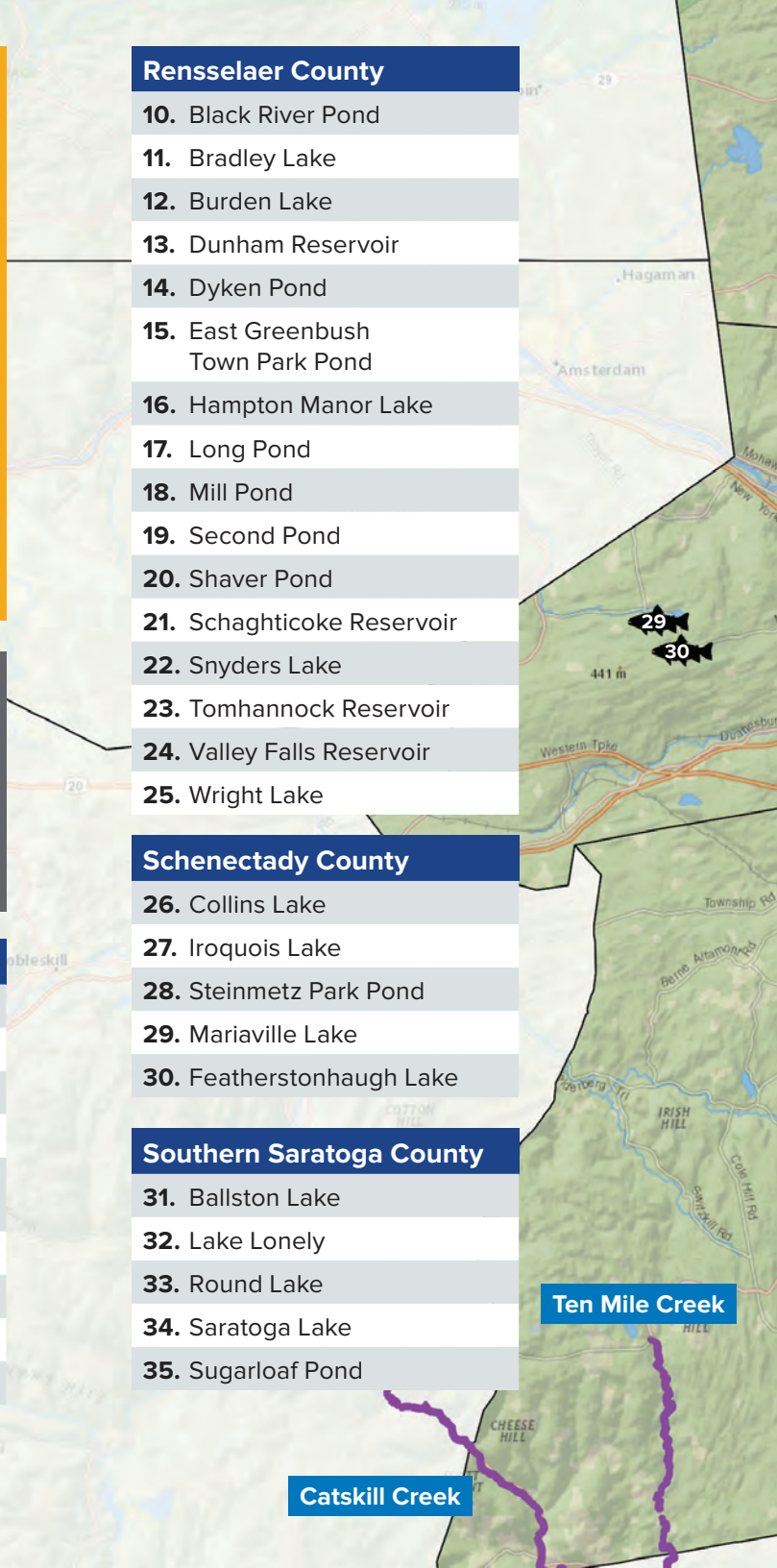
10. Black River Pond
11. Bradley Lake
12. Burden Lake
13. Dunham Reservoir
14. Dyken Pond
15. East Greenbush Town Park Pond
16. Hampton Manor Lake
17. Long Pond
18. Mill Pond
19. Second Pond
20. Shaver Pond
21. Schaghticoke Reservoir
22. Snyders Lake
23. Tomhannock Reservoir
24. Valley Falls Reservoir
25. Wright Lake

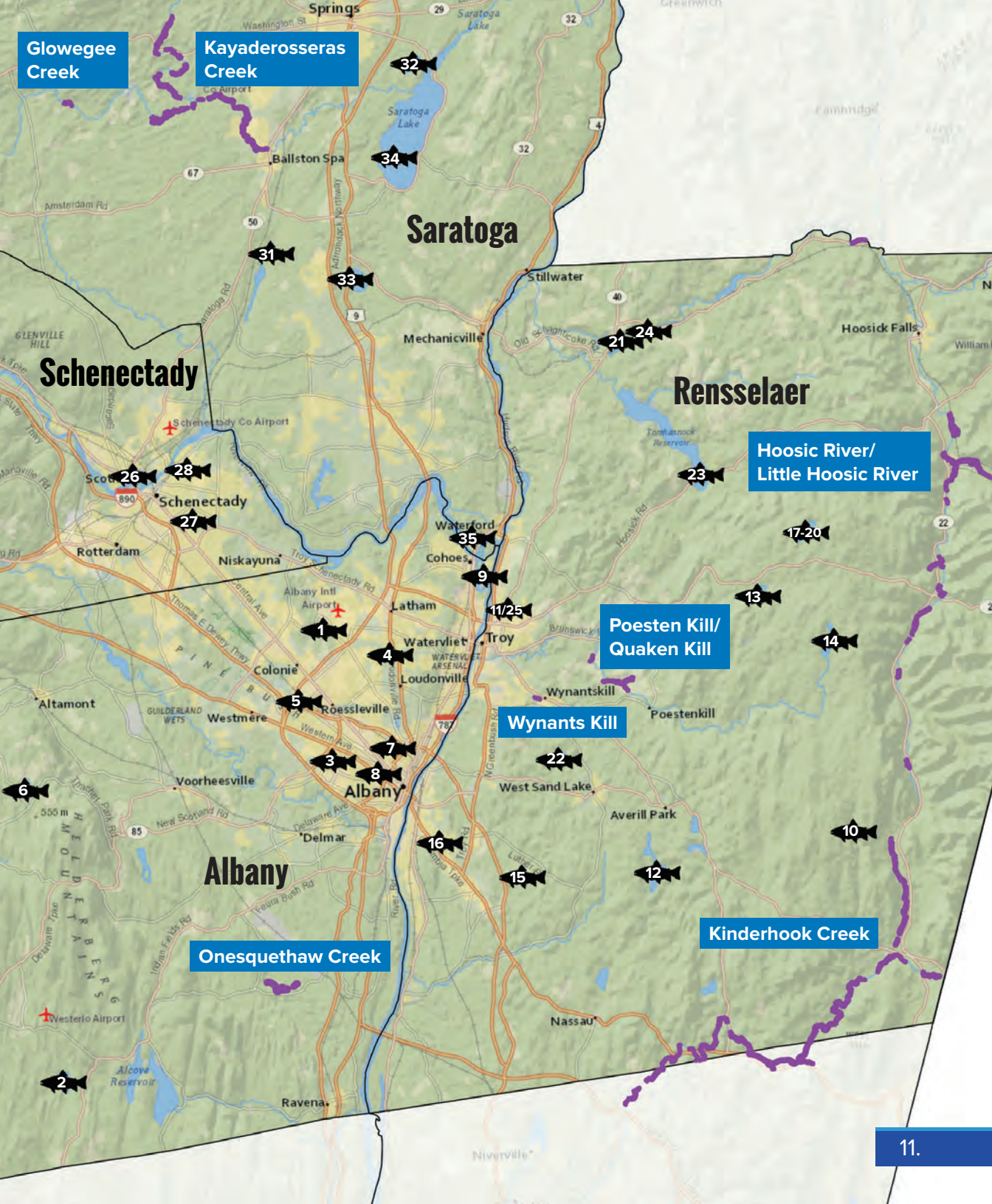
Schenectady County

26. Collins Lake
27. Iroquois Lake
28. Steinmetz Park Pond
29. Mariaville Lake
30. Featherstonhaugh Lake

Southern Saratoga County

31. Ballston Lake
32. Lake Lonely
33. Round Lake
34. Saratoga Lake
35. Sugarloaf Pond




Glowegee Creek
Kayaderosseras Creek
Saratoga
Schenectady
Rensselaer
Albany
Hoosic River/ Little Hoosic River
Poesten Kill/ Quaken Kill
Wynants Kill
Kinderhook Creek
Onesquethaw Creek
Ballston Spa
Saratoga Lake
Stillwater
Mechanicville
Hoosick Falls
Schenectady
Rotterdam
Niskayuna
Waterford
Cohoes
Latham
Troy
Watervliet
Colonie
Loudonville
Wynantskill
Poestenkill
Altamont
Westmere
Rensselaer
Voorheesville
Albany
West Sand Lake
Averill Park
Delmar
Nassau
Ravena
Niverville
Schenectady Co Airport
Albany Intl Airport
Westerlo Airport
Alcove Reservoir
Tomhannock Reservoir
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Lakes and Ponds - Places to Fish

ALBANY COUNTY

Location:	Fish Species:
1. Ann Lee Pond 11 acres, off Heritage Lane, Colonie	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing	**Amenities:** Nature trails
2. Basic Creek Reservoir 239 acres, off Route 404/ Bear Swamp Road, Westerlo	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye, White Perch, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing only; access permit must be obtained from City of Albany (518) 434-5300	**Restrictions:** Open dawn to dusk, ice fishing prohibited, worms/artificial lures only
3. Buckingham Pond 5 acres, off Berkshire Blvd., Albany	Bluegill, Black Crappie, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Pumpkinseed, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing	**Amenities:** Playground, picnic area
4. Colonie Town Hall Pond 1 acre, on New Loudon Road, Latham	Bluegill, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed
Access: Shore fishing	
5. Rensselaer Lake/ Six Mile Waterworks 32 acres, off Fuller Road, Colonie	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Carp, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Rainbow Trout (stocked), Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing; hand carry boats only	**Restrictions:** Gas motors prohibited.
Amenities: Two fishing platforms, restrooms, playground, pavilion, picnic area, nature trails	
6. Thompson's Lake 120 acres, Route 157/Thompson's Lake Road, East Berne	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Brown Trout (stocked), Carp, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Rainbow Trout (stocked), Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch
Access: Beach launch, 0.3 miles north of Route 157A and Beaver Dam Road; shore fishing and hand launch at Thompson's Lake State Park (day-use fee in season).	
Amenities: Campground, nature trails, picnic area, playground	**Restrictions:** 15-horsepower limit from May 15-September 15
7. Tivoli Lake 4 acres, Tivoli Nature Preserve off Northern Boulevard, next to Livingston Middle School, Albany	Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed
Access: Shore fishing	**Amenities:** Nature trails
8. Washington Park Pond 5 acres, off Madison Avenue, Albany	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing	**Amenities:** Playground, picnic tables, restrooms, walking paths
9. Van Schaick Pond 1.25 acres, off Park Avenue, Cohoes	Bluegill, Largemouth Bass, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Pumpkinseed,
Access: Shore fishing	**Amenities:** Picnic tables

Location:	Fish Species:
10. Black River Pond 35 acres, off Miller Road/Route 35, Cherry Plain State Park, Cherry Plain	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing; hand launch	**Restrictions:** No motors permitted
Amenities: Camping, nature trails, picnic tables, playground, pavilion, boat rentals, restrooms	
11. Bradley Lake 9 acres, off Frear Park Road, Troy (parking across from tennis courts)	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Rock Bass, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, White Perch, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing only	**Amenities:** Nature trails, playground
12. Burden Lake 374 acres, off Burden Lake Road on 2nd Dyke Road, Averill Park	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Redbreast Sunfish, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye, White Crappie, White Perch, Yellow Perch
Access: Shoreline fishing off roadway, hand launch	
13. Dunham Reservoir 98 acres, Grafton Lakes State Park off Route 2, Grafton	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Redbreast Sunfish, Smallmouth Bass, White Crappie, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing or trailer launch on Johnson Road off Route 2; hand launch on Dunham Road off Route 2	**Restrictions:** Electric motors only
14. Dyken Pond 134 acres, on Dyken Pond Road, Cropseyville	Brown Bullhead, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Yellow Perch, Walleye
Access: Hand launch located off Deer Run Way on west shore	**Restrictions:** Electric motors only
Amenities: Environmental education center, nature trails, restrooms	
15. East Greenbush Town Park Pond 6 acres, off Elliot Road, East Greenbush	Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rainbow Trout (stocked)
Access: Hand launch, shore fishing	**Amenities:** Playground, pavilion, picnic area, nature trails
16. Hampton Manor Lake 13 acres, on Lake Shore Drive, East Greenbush	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing, hand launch	**Amenities:** Playground, restrooms
17. Long Pond 122 acres, off Route 2 in Grafton Lakes State Park, Grafton	Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Brown Trout (stocked), Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing or hand launch on North Long Pond Road off Route 2, hand launch near beach area	
Amenities: Picnic areas, nature trails, playgrounds, boat rentals, restrooms, day-use fee in season	
Restrictions: Electric motors only	

RENSSELAER COUNTY

Location:	Fish Species:
18. Mill Pond 19 acres, off Route 2 in Grafton Lakes State Park, Grafton	Bluegill, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing and hand launch on North Long Pond Road off Route 2	
Amenities: Picnic areas, nature trails, playgrounds	**Restrictions:** No motors permitted
19. Second Pond 31 acres, off Route 2 in Grafton Lakes State Park, Grafton	Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Brown Trout (stocked), Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch
Access: Hand launch. Multiple walk-in access trails with parking off the main Parkway Road and off Shaver Pond Road. Boat rentals available.	
Amenities: Picnic areas, nature trails, playgrounds, day-use fee in season	**Restrictions:** Electric motors only
20. Shaver Pond 44 acres, Grafton Lakes State Park, Grafton	Brown Bullhead, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rainbow Trout (stocked), Rock Bass
Access: Shore fishing, hand launch, multiple walk-in access trails with parking off the main Parkway Road and off Shaver Pond Road. Shore fishing or boat rentals available.	
Amenities: Picnic areas, nature trails, playgrounds, day-use fee in season	**Restrictions:** No motors permitted
21. Schaghticoke Reservoir 147 acres, on Fishersman's Lane, Schaghticoke	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Channel Catfish, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, White Crappie, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing, hand launch	
22. Snyders Lake 108 acres, off Geiser Road, North Greenbush	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye (stocked), White Crappie, White Perch, Yellow Perch
Access: Hand launch inside Town of North Greenbush Park	**Restrictions:** Town access restrictions apply
23. Tomhannock Reservoir 1,720 acres, off Route 7 on Reservoir Road, Pittstown	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye, White Perch, Yellow Perch
Access: Numerous pulloffs and shoreline access points on Reservoir Road **MUST OBTAIN ACCESS PERMIT FROM CITY OF TROY (518) 279-7134, NO BOATING OR WADING**	
24. Valley Falls Reservoir 59 acres, off Route 67 (North Street), Valley Falls	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, White Crappie, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing, hand launch on Fire House Road, Buskirk	
25. Wright Lake 8 acres, off Oakwood Avenue on Wright Lake Road, Troy (parking also available in Frear Park)	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, White Perch, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing	**Amenities:** Nature trails, playground

SCHENECTADY COUNTY

Location:	Fish Species:
26. Collins Lake 56 acres, off Route 5, Scotia	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, White Crappie, White Perch, Yellow Perch
Access: Hand launch (east side of lake on Washington Ave.), hard surface ramp (south side of lake off Schonowee Ave.), shore fishing	**Amenities:** Pavilion, playground, picnic area, restrooms
27. Iroquois Lake 7 acres, in Central Park off Iroquois Way, Schenectady	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing	**Amenities:** Playground, picnic area, pavilion, restrooms
28. Steinmetz Lake 3 acres, off Lenox Road and Hendrickson Avenue, Schenectady	Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed,Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing	**Amenities:** Playground, pavilion
29. Mariaville Lake 197 acres, off Route 159/Mariaville Road, Mariaville	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch
Access: Hand launch at the general store on Route 159, ask for permission. Boat launch located by island for residents only.	
30. Featherstonhaugh Lake 40 acres, off Route 159/Mariaville Road on Judith Lane, Duanesburg	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Largemouth Bass, Pumpkinseed, Yellow Perch
Access: Hand launch, shore fishing	**Amenities:** Nature trails, fishing platform

SOUTHERN SARATOGA COUNTY

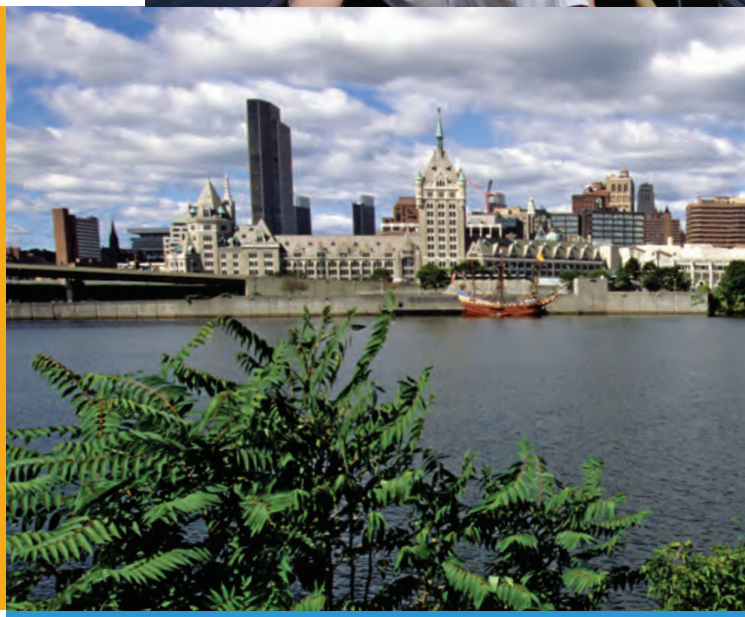
Location:	Fish Species:
31. Ballston Lake 274 acres, Ballston Center	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Yellow Perch
Access: Fishing pier and hand launch east of Route 50 on Outlet Road. Trailer launch (fee) at local restaurant on Lake Road (east side of lake).	
32. Lake Lonely 140 acres, off Crescent Avenue, Saratoga	Black Crappie, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye
Access: Unimproved trailer at boat livery (fee)	
33. Round Lake 321 acres, off Route 9, Round Lake	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Carp, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Yellow Perch,
Access: Shore fishing, hard surface ramp for launching trailered boats; separate canoe/kayak launch.	
34. Saratoga Lake 321 acres, off Route 9P, Saratoga Springs	Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, Pumpkinseed, Redbreast Sunfish, Rock Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Walleye, Yellow Perch
Access: Shore fishing and hard surface ramp (fee)	
35. Sugarloaf Pond 7 acres, off Columbus Avenue, Waterford	Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Pumpkinseed
Access: Shore fishing	

River Fishing

The Capital District boasts two large river systems that actually converge within it. The Hudson and Mohawk rivers both offer a host of fishing opportunities, either from shore or boat. See the list of river access sites on the following page. Keep in mind that fishing from shore is available at most boat launch sites.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Hudson River below the Troy dam is an estuary, so much like the ocean, it has high and low tides throughout the day. Before you head out fishing or boating, be sure to check tide information at www.noaa.gov



Nobody likes arriving at a fishing spot and finding litter all over the place. Help keep our waterways beautiful. Bring a trash bag and carry out what you carry in. While carrying out your own trash, pick up something someone else left behind. Imagine how clean our waterways would be if everyone picked up just a few extra items when they leave.

HUDSON RIVER

NOTICE: Catch-and-release fishing only. Due to elevated PCB levels, all fish caught between the Troy dam and Bakers Falls in the Village of Hudson Falls must be returned immediately to the water. This includes tributaries in this section of the river, up to the first barrier impassable by fish, such as a dam. (This includes sites highlighted in yellow below.)

Albany County

- Corning Preserve - On Colonie Street, off Route 787 in City of Albany. ***Hard surface ramp. Shore fishing.***
- Henry Hudson Park - Off Route 144, ½ mile north of Cedar Hill. Turn east onto Lyons Road in Henry Hudson Park and go to the end. ***Hard surface ramp. Fishing Pier.***
- Next to Plaza 23 Truck Stop on Church Street off Broadway in Albany. ***Fishing Pier.***
- Off Route 144/Main Street in Coeymans. Turn east onto Westerlo Street. ***Hard surface ramp. Shore fishing.***

Rensselaer County

- Off Forbes Avenue, just north of the train station in the City of Rensselaer. ***Hard surface ramp. Shore fishing.***
- Off Route 4 in Lansingburgh, at the far west end of 123rd Street. ***Hard surface ramp. Shore fishing.***
- Off Route 127/River Road at the corner of Marion and River Bend roads, 1 mile north of the 126th Street Bridge in Troy. ***Beach launch.***
- Schodack Island State Park - Off Route 9J, over the bridge on Schodack Landing Way to the park. ***Hard surface ramp. Shore fishing. Day-use fee in season.***
- Lock 4 Canal Park-Off Stillwater Bridge Road, turn south at the east end of the bridge towards the mouth of the Hoosic River on Canal Road in Schaghticoke. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***

Saratoga County

- Peebles Island State Park - Delaware Avenue, Waterford. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- Battery Park, south of Route 32/Broad Street at the end of First Street in Waterford (access also to Mohawk River). ***Hard surface ramp.***
- Lock C1 - Off Route 4/Route 32 on Lock One Road in Waterford. ***Hard surface ramp. Shore fishing.***
- Lighthouse Park - On Route 4/Route 32 in Waterford. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- Lock C2 - Off Route 4/Route 32, on NYS Bicycle Route 9 in Mechanicville, 2½ miles south of Route 63. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- Off North Main Street, on Terminal Street in Mechanicville. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- Stillwater Riverfront Park- Off Route 4 (north of Wrights Loop) in Town of Stillwater. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- On Route 4 (south of Hanehan Road), 4½ miles south of Schuylerville. ***Beach launch. Shore fishing.***
- Fort Hardy Park - On Route 29/ Ferry Street, 0.2 mile east of Route 4/Route 32 in Schuylerville. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- Fort Hardy Park - Off Saratoga Street on Tow Road in Schuylerville. ***Hard surface ramp.***
- Hudson Crossing - Off Route 4/Route 32, on Route 42 in Schuylerville. ***Hand launch.***
- Off Reynolds Road/Route 197 on County Route 29 (West River Road) in Moreau. ***Hard surface ramp.***

MOHAWK RIVER

Albany County

- Freddies Park - Parking area just before the bridge on the right when heading north on Route 9/Loudon Road in Cohoes; 6½ miles north of Latham. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- Colonie Town Park - From Route 9/Loudon Road, off Old Loudon Road, on Schermerhorn Road in Latham. ***Hard surface ramp. Shore fishing.***

Saratoga County

- Peebles Island State Park - Delaware Avenue, Waterford. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- Halfmoon Crescent Park - From Route 9/Loudon Road in Clifton Park, to Vischer Ferry Road and a slight left onto Old Canal Road. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- From Route 9/Loudon Road in Clifton Park, to Vischer Ferry Road and a slight left onto Old Canal Road. Continue onto Towpath Road, just before junction at Clamsteam Road. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- Off Riverview Road, south of Droms Road in Clifton Park, part of Mohawk Landing Nature Preserve. ***Hand launch. (800' portage)***
- Battery Park, south of Route 32/Broad Street at the end of First Street in Waterford (access also to Hudson River). ***Hard surface ramp.***
- Alcathy's Boat Launch - At end of Flightlock Road in Waterford, just after Lock 6, heading west from Route 97/ Fonda Road. ***Hard surface ramp. Shore fishing.***
- Riverside Park - Off Ingersoll Avenue in Schenectady. ***Shore fishing.***
- Maalwyck Park - Off Route 5 in Glenville. ***Shore fishing.***

Schenectady County

- At the end of Freeman's Bridge, off Route 50 south in Glenville. ***Hard surface ramp.***
- On the south shore, off Route 7 in Vischer Ferry. Take Lock Seven Road to the end. ***Hard surface ramp. Shore fishing.***
- On the west shore at the end of Old Rice Road in Rotterdam, 1 mile north of I-890, Exit 2 or 2A. ***Hand launch. Access at end of breakwall below lock. Shore fishing.***
- Lock 9 State Canal Park - On the north shore, off Route 5 at the north end of Route 103 bridge in Rotterdam Junction. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- Off Rosendale Road in Niskayuna in Lions Park. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- Aqueduct Park - Off Route 146/Balltown Road on Aqueduct Road in Niskayuna. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- Gateway Landing Park - Off Route 5/State Street in Schenectady. ***Hand launch. Shore fishing.***
- Rotterdam Kiwanis Park - Off Route 5S/River Road in Rotterdam. ***Hard surface ramp. Shore fishing.***

Public Fishing Rights (PFR)

PFR are permanent easements of land that have been purchased by DEC from willing landowners, giving anglers the right to fish and walk along the bank (usually a 33'-foot-wide strip on one or both banks of the stream). This right is for the purpose of fishing only and no other purpose. Fishing privileges may be available on some other private lands with permission of the landowner. Courtesy toward the landowner and respect for their property will ensure their continued use.

The waters listed below have public fishing rights segments on them. Be sure to look for the sign while you're out fishing to ensure you are in the right location and have legal access to the stream bank.

DEC stocks a number of area rivers and streams that have public fishing access. Stocking summaries are available on DEC's website at http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/7739.html. If you're unsure of where you can fish, it's always best to ask landowner permission first.

Albany County	
Water	**Species Present**
Catskill Creek	Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout
Ten Mile Creek	Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout
Onesquethaw Creek	Brown Trout

Rensselaer County	
Water	**Species Present**
Hoosic River, Little Hoosic River	Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout, Brook Trout
Kinderhook Creek	Brown Trout, Brook Trout
Poesten Kill, Quaken Kill	Brown Trout, Brook Trout
Wynants Kill	Brown Trout, Brook Trout

Saratoga County	
Water	**Species Present**
Glowegee Creek	Brown Trout
Kayaderosseras Creek	Brown Trout

FOR MORE INFORMATION

on Public Fishing Rights, including downloadable maps, visit www.dec.ny.gov or scan the QR code.