

# Application to Conduct A Free Sport Fishing Clinic

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/89811.html>

<b>Name of Event</b>		<b>Event Date</b>		<b>Alternate Event Date</b>	
<b>Start Time</b>	<b>End Time</b>	<b>Waterbody</b>			
<b>Event Location (ie. Lunkerville State Park)</b>					
<b>Address</b>		<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Zip</b>	<b>County</b>
<b>Organization Name/Group</b>			<b>Anticipated Number of Attendees</b>	<b>Targeted Age Group</b>	
<b>Primary Contact</b>		<b>Primary Contact Phone Number</b>	<b>Primary Contact Email Address</b>		<b>Driver License Number/Non-Driver ID</b>
<b>Address</b>		<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Zip</b>	<b>County</b>

<b>Brief Description of Event</b>	
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I have read the rules for conduct of free sport fishing clinics at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/> and certify that this event will be conducted in a manner consistent with these rules. I also certify that all individuals over the age of 18 assisting with the clinic have been screened against the New York State Sex Offender Registry at <http://www.criminaljustice.ny.gov/nsor/> and that no one on this registry is assisting or otherwise involved with the free sportfishing clinic. Pursuant to ECL Section 3-0301(2)(Q), false statements made on this application are punishable pursuant to Section 210.45 of the New York State Penal Law.

<b>Print Name</b>	<b>Applicant's Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
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**Mail your completed application to:**  
 NYS Department of Environmental Conservation • Bureau of Fisheries • 625 Broadway, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor • Albany, New York 12233-4753

## RULES FOR DEC PERMITTED FREE SPORT FISHING CLINICS

- Event coordinators must fill out and submit to the DEC Bureau of Fisheries an Application to Conduct a Free Sport Fishing Clinic a minimum of 1 month prior to the event.
- Event must be conducted by a formal group or organization, not an individual.
- Events must have an educational focus, including instruction in recreational angling and its benefits. Events may also include instruction and other information pertaining to fish identification, ethics and aquatic ecology and habitat. DEC educational materials should be utilized whenever possible. Curricula will be sent to approved groups.
- Events shall be publicized via flyers, newspaper articles, local access TV, etc. to maximize public participation.
- All adults assisting with a children's fishing clinic must be screened against the Public Registry of Sex Offenders.
- Except as noted under item 7, events must be open to the general public.
- Fishing events associated with a specific age or special needs group, held as part of a K-12 school program, youth camp or a youth organization such as the Girl or Boy Scouts will be eligible for free fishing event status, as long as there is no additional charge for participation in the event.
- No admission may be charged for free fishing events. Parking fees associated with events held at public parks are acceptable.
- The event location should be large enough to handle the attendance anticipated and should have bathroom facilities.
- Derbies or other competitive fishing events will not be considered for free fishing status.
- Freshwater fishing regulations remain in effect.
- A report indicating the number and approximate ages of event participants must be provided to the Bureau of Fisheries within 30 days of the completion of the event. Failure to do may result in denial of future applications.

## **2021 Safety Guidelines for DEC Permitted Free Sport Fishing Clinics**

In the light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, additional safety precautions must be taken to help ensure the safety of both clinic organizers and participants. Organizers and participants for approved free sportfishing clinics must comply with the following safety guidelines. Failure to do so will result in denial of future applications.

If you cannot adhere to these guidelines, please do not apply.

Participants not adhering to the guidelines should be politely asked to abide by them or they must leave.

- Programs will be limited to no more than 25 total participants.
- Preregistration required.
- A mask covering nose and mouth must be worn at all times
- A minimum of six feet must be maintained between instructors and participants.
- A minimum of six feet must be maintained between participants except those that are of immediate family
- Equipment will not be allowed to be shared during event. Equipment must be properly disinfected or "quarantined" for 7 days prior to use in another program. (For disinfection recommendations email [fwfish@dec.ny.gov](mailto:fwfish@dec.ny.gov).)
- With the exception of members of the same household/party, bait cups will not be shared.
- A handwashing station or hand sanitizer must be provided. Participants should be encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer.
- Anglers will be instructed on unhooking their own fish. If unable to do so, program staff may assist provided that 6' of distance is maintained.