Current Water Quality Standards

**SA Shellfish:**
The best usage of Class SA waters is shellfishing for market purposes, primary and secondary contact recreation and fishing. These waters shall be suitable for fish propagation and survival.

**SB Bathing:**
The best usage of Class SB waters are primary and secondary contact recreation and fishing. These waters shall be suitable for fish propagation and survival.

**SC Bathing/Fishing:**
The best usage of Class SC waters are fishing. These waters shall be suitable for fish propagation and survival. The water quality shall be suitable for primary and secondary contact recreation, although other factors may limit the use of these purposes.

**Boating/Fishing:**
The best usage of Class I waters are secondary contact recreation and fishing. These waters shall be suitable for fish propagation and survival.

**SD Fish Survival:**
The best usage of Class SD waters is fishing. These waters shall be suitable for fish survival. This classification may be given to those waters that because of natural or man-made conditions, cannot meet the requirements for primary and secondary contact recreation and fish propagation.

### New York State

**Saline Surface Water Quality Standards**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Bacteria (when disinfection is practiced)</th>
<th>Dissolved Oxygen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Coliform</td>
<td>Fecal Coliform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SA</strong></td>
<td>≤70 MPN/100 mL</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SB</strong></td>
<td>≤1,200/100 mL</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SC</strong></td>
<td>≤2,400/100 mL</td>
<td>≤500/100 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I</strong></td>
<td>≤2,400/100 mL</td>
<td>≤500/100 mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SD</strong></td>
<td>≤2,400/100 mL</td>
<td>≤500/100 mL</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Applicable to coastal waters. Does not apply to tributaries.*

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**Notes:**
- **SA Shellfish:**
  - Median: 70 MPN/100 mL
  - Monthly median: ≤1,200/100 mL
  - Monthly geometric mean: ≤500/100 mL

- **SB Bathing:**
  - Median: ≤1,200/100 mL
  - Monthly median: ≤2,400/100 mL
  - Monthly geometric mean: ≤500/100 mL

- **SC Bathing/Fishing:**
  - Median: ≤2,400/100 mL
  - Monthly median: ≤2,400/100 mL
  - Monthly geometric mean: ≤200/100 mL

- **I Boating/Fishing:**
  - Median: ≤2,400/100 mL
  - Monthly median: ≤2,400/100 mL
  - Monthly geometric mean: ≤200/100 mL

- **SD Fish Survival:**
  - Median: ≤2,400/100 mL
  - Monthly median: ≤2,400/100 mL
  - Monthly geometric mean: ≤10,000/100 mL

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**Map:**
- **New York State:**
  - Saline Surface Water Quality Standards
  - AQH: Arthur Kill; BN: Bayonne; HU: Hudson; KV: Kill Van Kull; NY: New York; RB: Rockaway; SA: Shellfish; SB: Bathing; SC: Bathing/Fishing; I: Boating/Fishing; SD: Fish Survival

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**Legend:**
- **Blue:** Median: ≤70 MPN/100 mL
- **Green:** Median: ≤2,400/100 mL
- **Yellow:** Median: ≤2,400/100 mL
- **Red:** Median: ≤2,400/100 mL

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**Natural Water Quality:**
- Dissolved Oxygen (DO):
  - Median: ≤4.8 mg/l (daily average)
  - Monthly geometric mean: ≤3.3 mg/l (acute, never less than)

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**References:**
- New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
- New York City Department of Environmental Protection
Fecal Bacteria Improvements

Fecal Coliform Bacteria:  
- <100 cfu/100mL  
- 100–200  
- 201–2,000  
- >2,000  

Data from Harbor Survey Program
Dissolved Oxygen Improvements

Dissolved Oxygen:
- Red: <3.0 mg/L
- Yellow: 3.0–3.9
- Green: 4.0–4.9
- Blue: ≥5.0

Data from Harbor Survey Program
# Health Advice on Eating Fish You Catch

## NYC Upper Bay, Rivers and Kills

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waterbody</th>
<th>Fish</th>
<th>Men Over 15 &amp; Women Over 50</th>
<th>Women Under 50 &amp; Children Under 15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arthur Kill</td>
<td>American eel</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bronx River</td>
<td>Atlantic needlefish</td>
<td>Up to 1 meal/month</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East River</td>
<td>Blue crabs</td>
<td>Up to 1 meal/month</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gowanus Canal</td>
<td>Bluefish</td>
<td>Up to 1 meal/month</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harlem River</td>
<td>Carp</td>
<td>Up to 1 meal/month</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudson River south of Tappan Zee Bridge</td>
<td>Channel catfish</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kill Van Kull</td>
<td>Gizzard shad</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newark Bay</td>
<td>Goldfish</td>
<td>Up to 1 meal/month</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newtown Creek</td>
<td>Rainbow smelt</td>
<td>Up to 1 meal/month</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raritan Bay west of Wolfe's Pond Park</td>
<td>Striped bass</td>
<td>DON'T EAT: Newark Bay, Arthur Kill, Kill Van Kull</td>
<td>Up to 1 meal/month; other waters listed to the left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper New York Bay</td>
<td>White catfish</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White perch</td>
<td>White perch</td>
<td>Up to 1 meal/month</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crab or lobster tomalley</td>
<td>Crab or lobster tomalley</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other fish not listed</td>
<td>Other fish not listed</td>
<td>Up to 4 meals/month</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## NYC Lower Bay, Ocean and Sound

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waterbody</th>
<th>Fish</th>
<th>Men Over 15 &amp; Women Over 50</th>
<th>Women Under 50 &amp; Children Under 15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic Ocean</td>
<td>American eel</td>
<td>Up to 4 meals/month</td>
<td>Up to 1 meal/month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica Bay (excluding Paerdegat Basin)</td>
<td>Bluefish</td>
<td>Up to 4 meals/month</td>
<td>Greater than 20&quot;, up to 1 meal/month; Less than 20&quot;, up to 4 meals/month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Island Sound</td>
<td>Striped bass</td>
<td>Up to 4 meals/month</td>
<td>Up to 1 meal/month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower New York Bay</td>
<td>Weakfish</td>
<td>Greater than 25&quot;, up to 1 meal/month; Less than 25&quot;, up to 4 meals/month</td>
<td>Greater than 25&quot;, DON'T EAT; Less than 25&quot;, up to 1 meal/month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raritan Bay east of Wolfe’s Pond Park</td>
<td>Crab or lobster tomalley</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica Bay (Paerdegat Basin and 200 yards from its mouth)</td>
<td>All fish, All crabs</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
<td>DON'T EAT</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The public is also reminded that all New York City waters are closed to shell fishing.

Check the DEC website for regulations and special restrictions for certain species: [www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/fishing.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/fishing.html)
Visit [www.health.ny.gov/fish](http://www.health.ny.gov/fish) for the latest fish advisory information.