

From: MassWildlife <mass.wildlife@mass.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 10:27 AM
To: info@jpowersco.com
Subject: Spring Trout Stocking, New License Fees Proposed, and More



New License Fees Proposed

For the first time since 1996, MassWildlife is proposing changes to freshwater fishing, hunting, and trapping license fees.

"We couldn't conserve fish and wildlife in Massachusetts without the support of hunters, anglers, and trappers. We recognize this has been a difficult year for everyone, and we don't make this proposal lightly," said MassWildlife Director Mark S. Tisa. "Responsible fiscal management gave us 25 years without fee increases, however it's critical for us now to address MassWildlife's current and future financial needs."

License fees provide essential support for MassWildlife's education programs, scientific management of fish and wildlife, trout and pheasant stocking, and the management of over 226,000 acres of wildlife lands open to the public for hunting, fishing, trapping, and wildlife watching.



MassWildlife Director Mark S. Tisa

MassWildlife has scheduled information sessions on March 9, 17, and 25 for the public to ask questions and learn more about MassWildlife's programs, how MassWildlife is funded, and why a license increase is needed. MassWildlife anticipates scheduling formal public hearings later this spring.

[View the proposed fees, read FAQs, get info session details, and learn how to provide feedback...](#)

Spring Trout Stocking

MassWildlife staff are stocking nearly 500,000 brook, rainbow, brown, and tiger trout across Massachusetts this spring. Stocking is scheduled to begin in March, and over 75% of the trout will be over 12 inches!

[Find stocked waters near you...](#)



Arches Receive Designation

Two keystone arch bridges located on MassWildlife's Walnut Hill Wildlife Management Area in Middlefield and Becket have been named National Historic Landmarks. The designation reflects the recognition of these bridges as an irreplaceable part of our nation's heritage.

[Read more...](#)



2021 Youth Turkey Hunt

The 2021 Youth Turkey Hunt Day will be on April 24. Changes have been made to the Youth Turkey Hunt Program in 2021 to ensure the safety of volunteers and youth participants in accordance with current COVID-19 guidelines.

[Learn more...](#)



New Heritage Hub Launched

MassWildlife is pleased to announce a new online portal called "Heritage Hub" for reporting observations of animals, plants, natural communities, and vernal pools. The Heritage Hub replaced the old Vernal Pool & Rare Species (VPRS) System with new, user-friendly features.

[Learn more...](#)



Black Bears Are Now Active

With spring approaching, black bears are now active and searching for food. If you have bird feeders or keep chickens, bee hives, or livestock, take precautions now to keep bears wild and out of neighborhoods.

[Learn what precautions to take...](#)



Drivers: Watch for Amphibians

This spring, be mindful of amphibians as they emerge from their winter retreats and travel to breeding sites. As they migrate across the landscape, they often cross roads. Avoid traveling on small roads near wetlands and vernal pools on rainy nights.

[Learn more...](#)



Report Winter Fish Kills

Thick ice and snow can lead to decreased oxygen levels in ponds, causing a fish kill. If you see dead fish, report it. While most fish kills are caused by natural events, it's important for biologists to rule out other causes like pollution.

[Learn how to report a fish kill...](#)



Want to help endangered wildlife this tax season? [Learn how.](#)

Upcoming events

- **March 9:** MassWildlife Funding Information Session
- **March 13:** Talk on Bald Eagles & Moths at the Cape Cod Natural History Conference
- **March 17:** MassWildlife Funding Information Session
- **March 19:** Talk on White-tailed Deer and the Future of our Forests at the MA/RI Land Conference
- **March 23:** Fisheries and Wildlife Board Meeting
- **March 25:** MassWildlife Funding Information Session

[Click here for all event details.](#)

MassWildlife offices remain closed to the public until further notice. MassWildlife will continue to implement recommendations from the Department of Public Health regarding future closures or event cancellations. [Learn more.](#)

MASSWILDLIFE

Who we are

The Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife) is the state agency responsible for the conservation of all freshwater fish and wildlife in the Commonwealth, including endangered species. MassWildlife restores, protects, and manages land for wildlife to thrive and for people to enjoy.

Connect with us

Questions? Call us at (508) 389-6300 or [email us](#)

Press inquiry? Contact Marion Larson at (508) 389-6311 or marion.larson@mass.gov

Visit us at Mass.gov/MassWildlife

Find a [MassWildlife office](#) near you



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