

# Common Freshwater Fish Species

in New York City

## Black Crappie

Average 10". Often in large schools. Fish in weedy areas. Use live minnows, small jigs, spinners, and plugs. Set hook lightly to avoid tearing the soft mouth.



## Chain Pickerel

Average 15-18". Found in Ohrbach and Oakland lakes. Use weedless spoons, spinner baits, and soft plastics rigged weedless. Be careful of sharp teeth.



## White Perch

Average 5-9" in lakes and ponds, 12" or more in tidal waters. Found in murky ponds and lakes; tidal streams in late winter and spring. Use worms, grubs, small lures or flies.



## Yellow Perch

Average 6-10". Range from shallow, weedy ponds to deeper lakes. Use small tubes or curly tail jigs, live minnows, and worms. Be careful of sharp fin rays and gill covers.



## Largemouth Bass

Average 12-16". Find near weeds, logs, or docks in shallow water. 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.



## Brown Bullhead

Average 8-14". Nocturnal. Found at bottom of lakes, ponds and rivers. Use worms and other live bait fished on the bottom.



## Common Carp

Average 18-28". Find in most lakes and ponds and many tidal streams; prefer warmer water with a soft bottom. Use worms, corn or bread dough on bottom.



## Sunfish (Bluegill and Pumpkinseed)

Average 6-8". Easy to catch. Fish under docks, near weeds, and logs in lakes, ponds, and rivers. Use worms, grubs, crickets, or small jigs. Great for beginner fly anglers with small poppers.



Bluegill



Pumpkinseed

# Common Marine Fish Species

in New York City

## Striped Bass

Up to 4.5 ft., 70 lbs. Found in rocky areas, jetties, drop-offs and current boundaries. Striped bass travel the Hudson and East Rivers in the spring and fall. Use clams and bunker chunks or large plugs, spoons or jigs.



## Bluefish

Up to 3.5 ft., 25 lbs. Schools of young bluefish ("snappers") may be under piers in late summer/early fall. Use live bait, swimshads, tins and plugs, with wire leaders. For snappers, use spearing, squid strips, or small shiny lures and a popper.



## Fluke (Summer Flounder)

Up to 37" (18" average). Fish over flat, sandy or muddy bottoms. Drift or bounce a spearing bait or bucktail along the bottom.



## Black Sea Bass

Up to 10 lbs. Found in rocky or other structured environments. Try bottom fishing with clam or squid around rocks.



## Blackfish (Tautog)

In spring, fish in shallow local waters, and rocky, sheltered areas near structure (i.e., pilings, jetties). Use bottom rigs with crabs or clams.



## Porgy (Scup)

In spring, fish inshore and around jetties, piers, artificial reefs and offshore ledges. Bottom fish with small hooks baited with clam or squid in a Hi-Lo rig.



## Oyster Toadfish

Found throughout NYC on sand, mud, rocks, and vegetation. Use bottom rigs and a variety of baits, especially clam.



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## American Eel

Up to 3 ft. Found in all of NYC's marine waters and many freshwater ponds. Bottom fish with bait, particularly off piers.



## Sea Robin

Up to 18". Fish over sandy-bottom areas. Try any bait or small lure over sand. Sharp spines on the rear portion of the head.



## Little Skate

Up to 20" excluding tail. Find on sandy or gravelly bottoms. Bait, bucktails, or small lures intended for fluke will catch skates.

