

Application to Conduct a Free Sport Fishing Clinic

dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/learn-to-fish/free-clinics

This application is for groups or organizations interested in hosting a learn to fish clinic event that is free to the public or for a specific age or special needs group (e.g. part of a K-12 school program, youth camp, or a youth organization such as the Girl or Boy Scouts). Approved free sport fishing clinics waive the requirement of participants to possess a fishing license or enroll in the recreational marine fishing registry (during program hours only). For a complete list of rules on hosting a clinic, see below.

Please note: there is a separate application for events held for veterans or activity-duty military members of the Armed Forces of the United States available at the webpage link above.

RULES FOR DEC PERMITTED FREE SPORT FISHING CLINICS

1. Event coordinators must complete an [application form](#) (page 2) and **submit to the DEC Bureau of Fisheries at a minimum of 1 month prior to the event.**
2. Event must be conducted by a formal group or organization, not an individual.
3. 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.
4. Events shall be publicized via flyers, newspaper articles, local access TV, etc. to maximize public participation.
5. All adults assisting with a children's fishing clinic must be screened against the [Public Registry of Sex Offenders](#).
6. Except as noted under item 7, events must be open to the general public.
7. 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.
8. No admission may be charged for free fishing events. Parking fees associated with events held at public parks are acceptable.
9. The event location should be large enough to handle the attendance anticipated and should have bathroom facilities.
10. Derbies or other competitive fishing events will not be considered for free fishing status.
11. Freshwater fishing regulations remain in effect.
12. **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. A report form will be provided with the letter of approval for the clinic.



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<https://dec.ny.gov/things-to-do/freshwater-fishing/learn-to-fish/free-clinics>

Name of Event Event Date Alternate (Rain) Date

Start Time End Time Waterbody

Event Location (ie. Lunkerville State Park)

Address City State Zip County

Organization Name/Group Anticipated Number of Attendees Targeted Age Group

Primary Contact Primary Contact Phone Number Primary Contact Email Address Driver License Number/Non-Driver ID

Address City State Zip County

Brief Description of Event
(include details such as pre-registration requirements, parking fees, loaner rods vs. bring your own, etc.)

Should This Event be Posted on the DEC Public Website? Yes No **If Yes, Provide Contact Information and Any Additional Details For The Event Posting (If different from above)**

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.

Print Name Applicant's Signature Date

Mail or email your completed application to:

NYS Department of Environmental | Conservation Bureau of Fisheries 625 Broadway, 5th Floor Albany, NY 12233-4753 | fwfish@dec.ny.gov