



This is another occasional electronic newsletter for all members of CCA MD. It is designed to deliver important information quickly. We also encourage you to seek information on the chapter website, www.ccamd.org.

Anglers must register with NOAA; no cost

In an effort to collect more accurate data that will allow better management of the fishing resource, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is implementing the National Saltwater Angler Registry, which will impact Maryland anglers who fish tidal waters beginning in January.

“Currently, data collected on the number of fish recreational anglers catch is incomplete, and this data is the basis for making management decisions to protect our fishing resource,” said Tony Friedrich, CCA MD executive director. “The better the data; the better the decisions. Thus, it benefits all anglers if we have the most complete information possible.”

Registration will cost nothing for anglers and can be completed either online or via the telephone starting Jan. 1. However, all anglers fishing for anadromous species in tidal waters or for any fish in Federal waters beginning Jan. 1 will have to be registered. This registration is in addition to holding a fishing license.

Those under 16 years of age or anyone fishing solely on licensed charter, party or guide boats will not need to register. Other exclusions include those holding a Migratory Species Angling permit or those fishing under a valid commercial license.

Anglers will be asked to provide their name, birth date, address, telephone number, and regions where they expect to fish. They can register online by going to www.countmyfish.noaa.gov and selecting “Click Here to Register,” which will be on that page by Jan. 1; or they can phone 1-888-674-7411. Please remember that registrations can not be made until Jan. 1.

Registration is anticipated to be part of the Maryland saltwater fishing license in 2011, according to Friedrich.

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