

Fish Consumption Regulations and Recommendations

Massachusetts Regulations / U.S. EPA Recommendations for Eating Fish, Shellfish and Lobster Caught in Three Fish Closure Areas Around New Bedford Harbor

Closure Area 1

Inner Harbor:

North of the hurricane barrier and Ft. Phoenix Beach State Reservation — Includes Palmer Island

| If you catch... | then... |
|---|---------------|
| Any shellfish, lobster, or fish, including bottom feeders | Do not eat it |

Closure Area 2

Outer Harbor:

South of the hurricane barrier to Ricketsons Point and tip of Scotcut Neck (Wilbur Point) — Includes Clarks Cove

| If you catch... | then... |
|---|--|
| Fish: | |
| Black sea bass  | Eat no more than one meal per month |
| All bottom-feeding fish including:  Eel   Scup   Flounder | Do not eat it |
| All other fish | U.S. EPA has no data yet so we cannot make a recommendation |
| Lobster  | Do not eat it |
| Shellfish (clams, quahogs, mussels etc.) | Eat no more than one meal per month. Exception – Shellfish caught in Clarks Cove: eat no more than one meal per week |

NOTE: Pregnant women, nursing mothers, children under age 12, and women who may become pregnant should not eat fish, shellfish or lobster caught in Closure Area 2, except they can safely eat one, and only one, meal per month of shellfish caught in Clarks Cove.

Closure Area 3

Buzzards Bay:

South of Ricketsons Point and the tip of Scotcut Neck (Wilbur Point) To Mishaum Point in Dartmouth and West Island South Point in Fairhaven — Includes area south of the West Island Causeway

| If you catch... | then... |
|---|---|
| Fish: | |
| Black sea bass  | Eat no more than one meal per month |
| All bottom-feeding fish including:  Eel   Scup   Flounder | There are no eating restrictions There are no eating restrictions Do not eat it There are no eating restrictions |
| All other fish, including all other bottom-feeders | U.S. EPA has no data yet so we cannot make a recommendation |
| Lobster  | Do not eat it |
| Shellfish (clams, quahogs, mussels etc.) | There are no eating restrictions |

NOTE: Pregnant women, nursing mothers, children under age 12, and women who may become pregnant should not eat fish or lobster caught in Closure Area 3. They can safely eat one, and only one, meal per month of shellfish caught in Area 3.