

GA DNR Shellfish Program

Shellfish

A Georgia Fishing License is required to take shellfish (oysters, clams) for non-commercial purposes. Shellfish must be harvested between the hours of 1/2 hour before official sunrise and 1/2 hour after official sunset. Shellfish may only be taken with handheld implements. Recreationally harvested shellfish may not be sold.

Shellfish Limits

Oysters must measure no less than three inches from hinge to mouth, unless the oyster cannot be removed from a legal-sized oyster without destroying it. For clams, the maximum depth from one shell half to the other must be at least 3/4 inch thick.

Recreational quantity limits are up to two bushels of oysters and one bushel of clams per person per day, with a maximum limit of six bushels of oysters and one bushel of clams per boat per day.

Harvest Area Monitoring

DNR tests shellfish harvest waters monthly for harmful bacteria. When bacterial contamination is found, DNR will close the area until the contamination subsides.

For current harvest area status information call the Shellfish Sanitation Program at (912) 264-7218.



The consumption of raw or undercooked foods such as meat, fish, and eggs, which may contain harmful bacteria, may cause serious illness or death.



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Shellfish Recreational Harvest Area

Chatham County

