



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

*Marine Resources Commission
2600 Washington Avenue
Third Floor
Newport News, Virginia 23607*

Douglas W. Domenech
Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven G. Bowman
Commissioner

April 29, 2010

Contact: John M.R. Bull
Virginia Marine Resources Commission
(757) 247-2269 (office)
(757) 509-0969 (cell)

Free Fishing Days Established for June 4-6

NEWPORT NEWS, VA. – You may fish without a license during the first weekend in June. Take advantage of the free fishing days, June 4-6, 2010, and enjoy the great outdoors with your family and friends without having to spend money for a saltwater license.

Steven G. Bowman, head of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, has declared that weekend to be free saltwater fishing days, as permitted by state law.

“This is a terrific chance to discover the joy of fishing and boating,” said Bowman. “Fishing produces memories that can last a lifetime and can foster a deeper appreciation for our natural environment. We should all strive to be stewards of our natural resources.”

No fishing license of any kind will be required for recreational saltwater rod and reel fishing during free fishing days. All fishing regulations, including size, season, catch limits and gear restrictions, will remain in effect.

A Virginia saltwater fishing license costs only \$12.50 a year for state residents. It’s a bargain, and the money supports valuable fisheries work across the state.

“We’re proud of the work we do to protect our natural resources, and we hope everyone takes advantage of free fishing days so that they may learn the joys of fishing in Virginia,” said Bowman, Commissioner of the agency that manages the state’s saltwater fisheries. “That is what our conservation efforts are all about.”

An Agency of the Natural Resources Secretariat

www.mrc.virginia.gov

Telephone (757) 247-2200 (757) 247-2292 V/TDD Information and Emergency Hotline 1-800-541-4646 V/TDD

The state Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has declared the weekend of June 4-6, 2010 to be free fishing days in the state's freshwaters as well, except in designated stocked trout waters.

For size, season and catch limits of saltwater species, please go to <http://www.mrc.virginia.gov/regulations/swrecfishingrules.shtm>

To purchase a fishing license online – and for freshwater fishing regulations and information on Virginia lakes, rivers, boating access and more – go to www.HuntFishVA.com

#####