

Finfish/Crustaceans Requirements

There a high demand for seafood at CT Farmers' Markets. The Connecticut Department of Agriculture has reviewed state statutes and taken into consideration the view points of both the CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the CT Seafood Council.

Seafood is considered "Farm Products" as defined by state statute. The CT Seafood Council and the DEEP have an understanding that CT seafood being caught/harvested by fisherman in boats that are landed in Connecticut is to be considered Connecticut Caught. Out-of-state fishermen are not permitted to participate in Connecticut's certified farmers' markets. The definition of certified farmers' market is covered on page 3-3 in this reference guide.

Anyone wishing to sell finfish at a Connecticut farmers' market must have the appropriate commercial fishing license from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) and/or Federal permits issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service.

The following is a list of the specific licenses issued by the CT DEEP that may be required depending upon the operation:

- Commercial Blue Crab License
- Commercial Horseshoe Crab License
- Commercial Landing License
- Seafood Dealer's License
- Commercial Fishing License
- Commercial Lobster Pot License
- Commercial Finfish License

Please refer to the CT DEEP Marine Fisheries Manual (<http://www.ct.gov/dep/lib/dep/fishing/saltwater/marinecirc.pdf>). This manual is provided to inform commercial and recreational fishermen about Connecticut statutes and regulations that govern the taking of lobsters, marine and anadromous finfish, squid and crabs.

Federal permits are required to fish for, harvest and possess fish in federally regulated waters. These permits are:

- Federal Vessel Permit
- Federal Dealer Permit

For information pertaining to molluscan shellfisheries (oysters, clams, bay scallops and conch), see Chapter 18: Shellfish of this manual or contact the Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Aquaculture.

You must also check with your local health department as to specific requirement regarding set up and sales at the farmers' market.

For more information please contact:

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

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