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Subject: : Paflyfish General Forum

Topic: : Maryland stream laws

Re: Maryland stream laws

Author: : skeeter

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URL:

PA and MD have the same stream laws in that "technically" the only stream/river/watercourse that is open to the public, when access is given (usually by public right of way) for wading purposes, is when the stream/river is deemed navigable by the Army Corp of Engineers. There are only a hand full of navigable waterways in W. Md and these streams are "usually" designated Use I or I-P (see [http://wildtroutstreams.com/md\\_cnty\\_maps/Garrett\\_Cnty\\_DUs.pdf](http://wildtroutstreams.com/md_cnty_maps/Garrett_Cnty_DUs.pdf)) (Also [http://www.mde.state.md.us/assets/doc...ntstormwater/Appnd\\_D9.pdf](http://www.mde.state.md.us/assets/doc...ntstormwater/Appnd_D9.pdf)) These are really just guidance tools for water quality as it relates to wetland/waterway permitting administered by the MDE but once again the ACOE has the final say of what is navigable - but they don't put that in writing.

Unfortunately you are best off asking for permission to access and fish the stream. Just because it isn't posted with signage doesn't mean it is open to the public. Asking is always the best policy. And really it is easy - usually they have some good advice for you too.