Fishing in Central Pennsylvania

Buying a Pennsylvania Fishing License:

A Pennsylvania fishing license can be purchased at any sporting goods store (including Walmart) or local fly shop.

- A list of participating stores by county can be found at [http://fishandboat.com/flagent.htm](http://fishandboat.com/flagent.htm).
- Licenses can also be purchased online through the Outdoor Shop [http://fishandboat.com/outdoorshop.htm](http://fishandboat.com/outdoorshop.htm).
- Non-resident License Cost:
  - 1 year: $52.70
  - 7 day: $34.70
  - 3 day: $26.70
  - 1 day: $26.70
- Trout / Salmon Permit: $9.70 (Must have this permit to fish for trout)

Local Fly Shops

Spring Creek

Flyfisher's Paradise
2603 E College Ave, State College, PA 16801
(814) 234-4189

“2014 marks our 40th year in the fly fishing business. Over the course of those years, Flyfisher's Paradise fly shop in State College, PA has maintained its commitment to providing the best quality merchandise at competitive prices, combined with perhaps the finest and fastest service in the industry. With our staff's decades of experience in both fly fishing and fly tying, we strive to answer your questions as knowledgeably and accurately as we can. Our intimate knowledge of the local streams Spring Creek, Penns Creek, Big Fishing Creek and Little Juniata River is second to none. Your Pennsylvania fly fishing source for hatch information and stream reports”.

TCO Fly Shop
2030 East College Ave, State College, PA 16801
(814) 689-3654

TCO is committed to providing superior customer service. Our goal is to provide each client the
same excellent experience whether that experience is on-line, in any of our stores, on the stream with our guides or at any of our educational events. We continue to grow based on a winning mix of quality products, service excellence and passion for education.

**Penns Creek**

**The Feathered Hook**  
516 Main Street, Coburn, PA 16832  
(814) 349-8757  
[www.thefeatheredhook.com](http://www.thefeatheredhook.com/)

Since 1989, the philosophy of The Feathered Hook has been simple: to help every person who comes to fly fish central Pennsylvania's streams to achieve their goals, catch more fish, and enjoy themselves all the more. We specialize in wild trout that are stream bred and raised and use all public water for our guiding. The Feathered Hook is centrally located to fly fish brown trout and brookies on the world-class limestone streams of Pennsylvania, including Penns Creek, Elk Creek, Pine Creek, Big Fishing Creek, and Spring Creek.

**The Little Juniata (“Little J”)**

**Spruce Creek Outfitters**  
4910 Spruce Creek Rd, Spruce Creek, PA 16683  
(814) 632-3071  
[www.sprucecreekoutfitters.org](http://www.sprucecreekoutfitters.org/)

“At Spruce Creek Outfitters we are dedicated to providing you with the finest quality equipment, fly fishing instruction, and service. Our staff has more than 100 combined years of fly fishing experience and will provide you with the friendly, individual attention you deserve. Come join us for a day of fly fishing instruction on the pristine waters of the Little Juniata River. Your time with us just might be the fishing experience of a lifetime!”

**Stream Conditions**
Each fly shop has links and hatch recommendations:

- **Spring Creek**: [http://www.flyfishersparadise.com/stream-reports/spring-creek](http://www.flyfishersparadise.com/stream-reports/spring-creek)
- **Penns Creek**: [http://www.flyfishersparadise.com/stream-reports/penn-s-creek](http://www.flyfishersparadise.com/stream-reports/penn-s-creek)
Stream Comments

- Spring Creek – Probably the most highly fished stream in Pennsylvania and has excellent public access along most of its 20 mile flow. Designated a “High Quality Wild Trout” stream it is never stocked and contains large numbers of wild brown trout and the occasional rainbow. It is “catch and release” in all sections with a “no wading/fly fishing only” section at Fisherman's Paradise. The Saturday evening barbeque will be held at Spring Creek Park – in Houserville next to the stream. The Spring Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited (SCCTU) has done multiple in-stream projects to help to maintain the quality of this watershed.

- Penns Creek - Significantly larger than Spring Creek and located approximately 35-45 mins NE of State College, “Penns” boasts an extreme diversity of macro-invertebrates (bugs). It’s known throughout the trout fishing world for the infamous Green Drake hatch. Large sections of the stream from the village of Coburn downstream are not stocked and contain “Special Regulation” for catch and release, trophy and slot limits for all tackle fishing. Public access is excellent throughout the Special Regs sections. The size and quality of the brown trout on this stream make for a fantastic experience.

- “Little J” - The largest of the three streams, located 30 minutes south of State College the “J” is designated “High Quality Wild Trout” water and is regulated for “catch and release” all tackle angling, starting just downstream of Tyrone to it’s confluence with the Frankstown branch of the Juniata River, a 20 mile stretch. The village of Spruce Creek is a good point of access and offers good public access. It boasts outstanding nymphing and dry fly fishing for mostly wild brown and the occasional rainbow. It is also known for it’s challenging wading, especially at higher flows. It is favored by many locals – but the reality is that each of these streams has its fans.

- In addition to these streams, the area also boasts Fishing Creek and Bald Eagle Creek. Both of these streams are within a half hour drive from State College and have excellent reputations.

Caution- the New Zealand mud-snail has been discovered in Spring Creek.

The extent is currently unknown, but they have been found in multiple stretches. Please take a moment to look at the precautions that should be taken if you fish in Spring Creek and then go to another stream anywhere in the east.

At a minimum it’s a good idea to give your gear a good scrub down with a stiff bristle brush before you leave the stream. It does not replace the cleaning techniques, but may leave this invasive species where it found you.
• Locations of the New Zealand Mud-Snail throughout the country: http://nas.er.usgs.gov/taxgroup/mollusks/newzealandmudsnaildistribution.aspx


• Instruction on how to clean - http://wdfw.wa.gov/ais/potamopyrgus_antipodarum/