You need to register if
- You hatch fish eggs or hold live fish for any of the following purposes:
  - Sale or distribution
  - Stocking into state waters
  - Fishing
  - Bait or fertilizer
  - Use as food for humans or animals
  - Education, demonstration or research
- You hold live fish or fish eggs owned by someone else.

You do not need to register if
- Fish/eggs are ornamentals and are not mixed with non-ornamentals or reared for bait, or food for humans or animals.
- You hold live bait fish under a DNR bait dealer license and only sell the fish at retail.
- Fish/eggs are in a fully enclosed building, solely for education, display, or research in that building, not commingled with fish/fish eggs for other purposes, no untreated water used to hold fish or eggs is discharged to state waters, and all dead fish/offal from the building are disposed of by rendering, composting, municipal solid waste disposal or means approved by the department.
- You exhibit live fish publicly for 15 days or less in a calendar year, or longer with our authorization.
- You hold live fish or eggs for 30 days or less at a food processing plant, retail food store or restaurant pending slaughter or sale to consumers, provided that they are not commingled with fish/fish eggs used for other purposes, no untreated water used to hold fish or eggs is discharged to state waters, and all dead fish/offal are disposed of by rendering, composting, municipal solid waste disposal or means approved by the department.
- You are only transporting live fish or fish eggs to or from a fish farm.
- You hold fish at a temporary fishing event, if certain requirements are met.
- You hold live fish solely for the purpose of sale as pets, if certain criteria are met.
- You temporarily hold live fish in a Wisconsin DNR fish egg collection station located in waters of the state, solely for the purpose of collecting eggs, if certain requirements are met.

If you have a private fish pond
- By registering your private pond, you are entitled to stock your pond without a DNR permit.
- If you register, you do have to meet all of our requirements for fish farms.
- A WI DNR aquatic pesticide or herbicide use permit may still be required.
- Registration is not intended for ponds that do not contain fish.
- Whether you register or not, you still must meet DNR requirements if your pond has an inlet or outlet connecting it to public or natural waters.

Fish farm types
- Type 1 registration allows:
  - Fishing, including public fee fishing
  - Collecting eggs from your own brood stock
  - Obtaining live fish or fish eggs from a source other than your own farm (except from a wild source)
  - Selling or distributing live fish/fish eggs to a food processing plant, retail store, or restaurant that meets certain requirements.
  - Raising bait for personal use at your fish farm
  - Moving live fish between Type 1 fish farms that you operate in Wisconsin
  - Selling live fish/fish eggs off-site to consumers for food provided certain requirements are met.
### Fish farm types

- **Type 2 registration allows:**
  - All the activities allowed under Type 1
  - Raising bait for sale or trade
  - Raising, buying, trading, or importing live fish/fish eggs for resale, stocking, processing, or exchange
  - Distributing fish/fish eggs (not produced on your fish farm) from inside this state to outside this state

- **Type 3 registration allows:**
  - All the activities allowed under Types 1 and 2
  - Obtaining, selling or distributing live fish or fish eggs from a wild source of species susceptible to Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia.

### If you have fish farms at more than one location

- A “location” is a single parcel of land, or two or more contiguous parcels of land. “Contiguous” means “touching,” but a road, river, railroad, or section line does not break the contiguity.
- Each location must be a separate registration, on a separate form.
- You do not have to register all your locations as the same type of fish farm.
- Call us before moving fish or eggs between locations to see if you need a fish health certificate.

### If you have more than one fish farm at the same location

- You can register more than one fish farm on the same parcel or on contiguous parcels if we certify the farms as medically separated. Call 608-224-4887 to request certification.
- There is a $400 (per day) fee for inspection.
- Each farm may be considered separate for purposes of disease control and movement; this means that you might need a fish health certificate to move fish or eggs between the farms. Contact us before moving fish or eggs.

### Annual fees

- **Type 1 registration:**
  - $37.50 for one registration
  - $50 for two or more registrations

- **Type 2 and Type 3 registration:**
  - $125 for 1-5 registrations
  - $150 for 6-10 registrations
  - $200 for 11-20 registrations
  - $300 for more than 20 registrations

- Primary and secondary schools and veterans eligible for the veteran’s fee waiver program under s. 45.44, Wis. Stats., are exempt from fees.

### Completing the application for registration

- Be sure to complete all areas of the form, on both sides of each page. If you don’t, it will delay your registration.
- You also need to register as a livestock premises if there are fish/fish eggs in the pond or you intend to stock the pond this registration year. Call 1-888-808-1910 or go to www.wiid.org to register your premises. Without this livestock premises code on your fish farm registration, processing will be delayed.
- A check or money order for the appropriate fee must accompany your application. We will not issue your registration certificate without payment.

### Send the application and payment to:

- WDATCP
- PO Box Lockbox 93598
- Milwaukee, WI 53293-0598
- 608-224-4887 if you have questions about completing the application.
| Ownership changes | ✔ Registration is not transferable. The new owner must apply to register the farm, even if the registration was up-to-date under the previous owner. |
| Other changes | ✔ If there are changes in any of the information you provided on your registration application, you must contact us. Call 608-224-4887 and ask for the aquaculture program associate. |
| Keeping records | ✔ You need to keep the following records of all fish/fish egg shipments to or from your farm for five years:  
  - Name, address, fish farm registration number (if any), and premises identification number (if any) of the person who shipped the fish/eggs, or to whom you delivered fish/eggs  
  - The date that you received or delivered fish/eggs  
  - The location where you received or delivered fish/eggs  
  - The size or class, quantity, and species of fish/eggs received or delivered  
  - Import permits issued by DATCP for movement of fish into Wisconsin from another state  
  - Fish health certificates  
  ✔ You do not need to keep records on the sale of live fish/eggs sold directly to a consumer for food or bait. |
| Moving fish | ✔ Health certificates are required to import live fish or fish eggs into Wisconsin from another state, or to move certain fish or fish eggs within Wisconsin.  
  ✔ Health certificates are issued for:  
    - An individual shipment of fish/fish eggs, which expires 30 days after it is issued.  
    - A fish farm inspection, which expires one year after it is issued.  
  ✔ Health certificates:  
    - Must be completed by a veterinarian or fish health inspector qualified to do fish health inspections, after a full inspection  
    - Must include results from a qualified laboratory for required disease testing  
    - Must be sent to us within 7 days after completion  
    - Are available by calling 608-224-4887 |
| Importing fish | ✔ Importing non-native species of non-ornamental fish, such as tilapia, requires DNR approval.  
  ✔ Import permits are required from the department to import live fish/fish eggs into Wisconsin from another state if the fish/fish eggs are either coming from or going to the wild. If you register your fish farm, you may import fish/fish eggs from a fish farm in another state without an import permit as long as you have a health certificate. |
| Using pesticides | ✔ You need to be certified by the Agricultural Resource Management Division of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection to apply restricted-use pesticides to destroy aquatic plants, microorganisms, or other pests. This is in addition to your fish farm registration. Call 608-224-4500 for information about pesticide applicator certification.  
  ✔ There may be other federal, state or local regulations for use of pesticides. |
| Processing and selling fish for food | ✔ To process or sell fish for human food, you will need to work with a food safety inspector and obtain appropriate licenses from the Food Safety Division of Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Call 608-224-4700. |
For more information

✓ Rules and statutes
  • Animal Health statute: http://www.legis.state.wi.us/statutes/Stat0095.pdf (see 95.60)
  • Animal diseases and movement rule:
    http://www.legis.state.wi.us/rsb/code/atcp/atcp010.pdf (see subchapter VIII)

✓ DATCP aquaculture veterinarian
  Dr. Myron Kebus, 608-224-4876, myron.kebus@wisconsin.gov

✓ DATCP aquaculture license/permit program associate
  608-224-4887, DATCPfishfarms@wisconsin.gov

✓ DATCP online fish farm website information
  http://datcp.wisconsin.gov, click on “Animals” tab and look for “fish farms”

✓ University of Wisconsin aquaculture specialists
  • Northern Region: Ron Johnson, 814-515-2570, ron.johnson@ces.uwex.edu
  • Southern Region: Jim Held, 920-648-2902, jaheld@wisc.edu

✓ DATCP food safety information
  608-224-4700, DATCPfood@wisconsin.gov

✓ DATCP pesticide information
  608-224-4500, DATCPagriculture@wisconsin.gov

✓ DATCP marketing information
  Mike Bandli, 608-224-5136, mike.bandli@wisconsin.gov