

CONTACT INFORMATION



Fraser's Mills Fish Hatchery

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Visitor Interpretation Centre

Fraser's Mills' Visitor Interpretation Centre provides an opportunity for visitors to learn more about the hatchery, Inland Fisheries activities and other aspects of recreational sportfishing in Nova Scotia.

Hatchery Operation

Many adult fish (broodstock) are kept on site to supply eggs to the hatchery and aquaculture operations. About 7 million eggs are spawned every year from the four species of fish.

Eggs are collected in early November and incubated over the winter until they hatch in mid-March.



Alevins nourish themselves on their attached yolk sac for 4 to 6 weeks.



When the yolk sac is gone, the **fry** are kept in troughs and fed small particles of food.



Once they are 4 cm long, they are moved outdoors to grow in ponds and raceways over the summer.

By fall, trout are called **fingerlings**, or **parr**, and are reared in long raceways or circular tanks until they reach 15 cm, usually by October.



Fall fingerlings are ready to be stocked during the Fall Stocking program.

Yearlings are about 20 cm long, and kept over the winter for the spring stocking program.

A selection of **adult** trout are kept at the hatchery for two years to supply eggs for the hatchery program. A female adult produces approximately 2 000 eggs for every kilogram of body weight!



Trout Derbies



More than 50 derbies receive trout from the hatchery each spring. These social events are cherished by many communities as a means of introducing youngsters to the enjoyment that angling can provide.

FRASER'S MILLS FISH HATCHERY




NOVA SCOTIA

Fisheries and Aquaculture

Fraser's Mills Fish Hatchery

Angling is an important part of Nova Scotia's heritage and approximately 100,000 Nova Scotians enjoy sportfishing as a healthy outdoor recreational activity.



Fraser's Mills Fish Hatchery is one of three hatcheries operated by the Province of Nova Scotia, which collectively stock in excess of 1 million fish annually in over 400 sites throughout the province.

25% of Nova Scotia's recreational sportfishery relies on hatchery production.

Species Raised

Brook Trout
(Speckled Trout)



Nova Scotia's provincial fish is also the most popular sportfish in the province!

Rainbow Trout



Introduced from the west coast of North America over 100 years ago, Rainbow trout provide an exceptional urban fishery and can be angled during the winter in many locations.

Brown Trout



Established in Nova Scotia since the early 20th century originally from Europe, sea-run Brown trout provide a great early spring fishery.

Atlantic Salmon



Called the "King of Sportfish", Landlocked or sea-run Atlantic salmon are stocked as fry or smolts in selected rivers as part of the Atlantic Salmon Enhancement Program.

Atlantic Salmon Eggs



Hatchery History

- Built in 1928 as part of the Government of Canada's hatchery system, Fraser's Mills Fish Hatchery has been rebuilt since the Province of Nova Scotia assumed its operation and the management of Inland Fisheries in 1982.
- The Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture's stocking program is the most visible and popular of Inland Fisheries' management activities. A complete list of stocking activities can be found on our website (see contact information on back).

