



South Spring Lake

2017 FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY

LOCATION – South Spring Lake is located at the southwest corner of the intersection of McCoy Drive and South Frontenac Street - 1.1 miles west of Route 59 in Aurora.

DESCRIPTION – South Spring Lake is second of three “in-stream detention” lakes created on Waubensee Creek for the purpose of flood control and recreation. South Spring Lake has a surface area of 11.8 acres and a maximum depth of 7.5 ft. and an average depth of 4.2 ft. South Spring Lake may avoid winter and summer oxygen depletion because of its small size and continual inflow of water from the creek. The lake is located immediately downstream and across the street (McCoy Dr.) from Spring Lake. The lake is owned and maintained by the Fox Valley Park District (FVPD) as a community park in a residential setting. Parking is available across McCoy Drive at Spring Lake Park or the lake can be accessed from the Waubensee Creek Trail (FVPD).

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES: The FVPD has entered into a cooperative management agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to facilitate fisheries management activities. An electrofishing survey took place in May of 2017. Site specific regulations apply (see reverse side).

STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY – Abundant bluegill and largemouth bass should provide plenty of fishing action for the angler who is willing to do a little walking to find un-fished water. This lake has never produced trophy fish in our surveys, but certainly has the potential due to the connectivity of the three lakes in the system.

LARGEMOUTH BASS – Catch rate for largemouth bass was 107 fish per hour which is higher than the desired goal of 60 fish per hour we like to see in area lakes. While this high catch rate may suggest the bass population is overcrowded, size structure doesn’t show any signs of overcrowding (stunted fish). This catch rate is higher than in previous years, indicating good reproduction and survival of bass in this lake (previous surveys in 2006 and 2012). The largemouth bass ranged in length from 5.5 to 16.5 inches with the largest fish weighing 2.6 pounds (Table 2). The average length in the sample was 11.2 inches. Only nine percent of the catch was longer than fifteen inches. This lake likely lost some adult bass during the harsh winter of 2013-14, when several area lakes and ponds experienced winter kill.

BLUEGILL – Bluegill catch rate was extremely high at 660 fish per hour - over five times higher than the desired goal of 120 fish per hour. When bluegill numbers get too high the population can become stunted with small fish. The bluegill in the sample ranged from 1.6 to 6.1 inches with an average length of 4.4 inches. Only six percent of the catch measured longer than six inches.

BLACK CRAPPIE - Six black crappie were captured in the survey. They measured between four and seven inches. This lake is not stocked with or managed for crappie at this time. Due the connectivity of the system, black crappies could move into the system during high water and abundance can vary greatly in a span of a few years. Black crappies have not been over abundant in any of the last three surveys

CHANNEL CATFISH – Channel catfish were not captured in this survey. Channel catfish were stocked in 2012 and 2014 which means there should be harvestable size catfish available in this lake.

COMMON CARP – Five common carp were captured. They ranged in size from 10 to 24 inches, averaging 16 inches. Common carp dislodge vegetation and cloud the water with their feeding behavior of “rooting” through the substrate. Unlimited harvest is encouraged for this detrimental species.

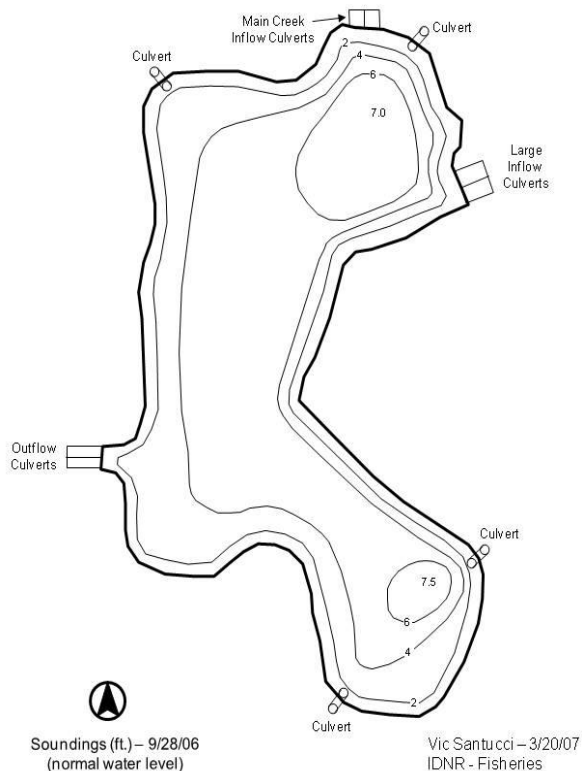
ADDITIONAL FISH SPECIES: Multiple forage species are present in the lake; golden shiner, gizzard shad, bluntnose minnow, redear sunfish, quillback carpsucker, white sucker, black and yellow bullhead and fathead minnow were also captured.

Summary of Catch – South Spring Lake Survey on May 8th, 2017 – 25 minutes DC electrofishing

Species	Number Collected	Length (Inches)			Weight (pounds)	
		Min	Max	Avg.	Min	Max
Bluegill* (ten minute sample)	110	1.61	6.10	4.41	0.04	0.18
Largemouth bass	45	5.51	16.46	11.24	0.06	2.62
Golden shiner	13	3.98	7.28	5.72	0.02	0.16
Gizzard shad	11	4.45	12.87	10.13	0.02	0.68
Black crappie	6	4.72	6.97	6.31	0.04	0.16
Bluntnose minnow	6	2.09	2.91	2.55		
Common carp*	5	10.00	24.13	15.98	0.58	8.24
Redear sunfish	2	7.60	7.99	7.80	0.24	0.30
Quillback carpsucker	2	17.32	19.84	18.58	2.36	4.64
White sucker	2	10.00	11.34	10.67	0.47	0.56
Black bullhead	1	8.82	8.82	8.82	0.42	0.42
Fathead minnow	1	3.66	3.66	3.66		
Yellow bullhead	1	6.97	6.97	6.97	0.18	0.18
Total # of fish collected	205					

South Spring Lake

Fox Valley Park District
DuPage County
T38N R9E S29NE1/4



SITE SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

All fish – 2 pole and line fishing only
Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass –
 15 inch minimum limit – 3 fish daily
 creel limit
Channel catfish – six fish daily creel
 limit

- For more information call the Fox Valley Park District at (630) 897-0516 or IDNR Fisheries at (815) 675-2386 ext. 214 or visit: <http://www.foxvalleyparkdistrict.org/lakes-and-fishing-2/>
- For general information on fishing in Illinois visit the IDNR Fisheries Division at: www.ifishillinois.org
- To purchase your fishing license go to: www.dnr.illinois.gov