



Lake Patterson

FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY

LOCATION – Lake Patterson is located at the Oakhurst Forest Preserve on Fifth Avenue in Aurora, approximately ½ mile east of Farnsworth Avenue (1680 Fifth Avenue, Aurora IL).

DESCRIPTION – Lake Patterson is a 48 acre dug lake with a maximum depth of 20 feet and an average depth of 9 feet. The lake is owned by the Forest Preserve District of Kane County (FPDKC). Lake Patterson is the larger part of 55 acre wetland complex that designed for flood control. There is good shoreline fishing access available via a gravel trail around the lake. Electric motors are allowed and a boat ramp is available.

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES: In 2014, the FPDKC entered into a cooperative management agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to facilitate fisheries management activities. Channel catfish are occasionally stocked to supplement the population. Site specific regulations apply. A 40 minute electrofishing survey took place in May of 2018.

STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY – Patterson lake does offer boat access (electric motors only) which is extremely rare in the Chicagoland Area. The FPDKC is working on improving the boat launch facility at this lake. Overall, this fishery looks great. Bass and bluegill numbers look good and northern pike have been stocked a few times in the past years so don't be surprised if you hook into one of these toothy fish.

LARGEMOUTH BASS – Largemouth Bass catch rate was lower in the 2018 survey than it was in the 2014 survey but size structure was much better in the more recent survey. Forty bass were caught at a rate of sixty fish per hour, which is exactly the management goal for this lake. Bass ranged in the length from 5.8 to 19.9 inches with an average length of 13.3 inches. Twenty four percent of the sampled stock measured longer than 15 inches. The heaviest bass weighed 5.0 pounds.

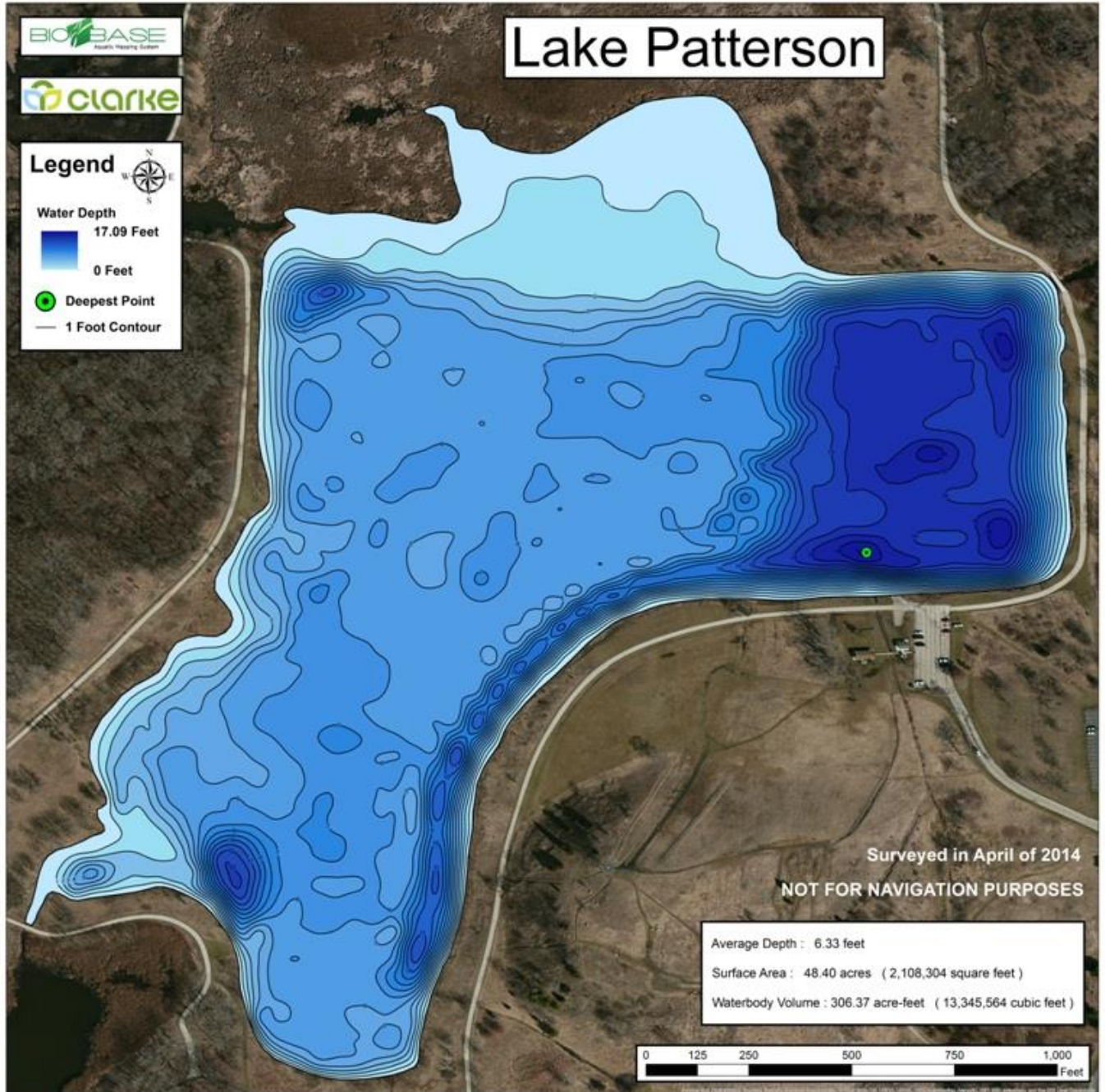
BLUEGILL – Bluegill were caught at a rate of 96 fish per hour. This is a lower catch rate than in the previous survey from 2014 but it is nothing to cause alarm. Size structure looked good with 31% of the stock measuring longer than six inches. Several fish in the seven to eight length groups were present in the sample. The average bluegill in the sample was 5.9 inches long.

CHANNEL CATFISH – No channel catfish were captured in this survey but they have been previously stocked. Fishing for channel catfish should be better in the future as 10,000 four and a half inch channel catfish were stocked in 2012 and 2014.

Other Species – Common carp and northern pike were also captured but not overly abundant. Black crappie and golden shiner have been sampled in previous surveys. Black crappie were abundant in the 2014 sample with 20% of the catch measuring longer than nine inches.

Patterson Lake - 2018 Spring EF Survey - 40 minutes electrofishing

Species	Number Collected	Length (Inches)			Weight (pounds)	
		Min	Max	Avg.	Min	Max
Largemouth bass	40	5.8	19.9	13.3	0.1	5.0
Bluegill	16	3.8	8.6	5.9	0.1	0.4
Common carp	3	23.7	26.7	25.3	6.0	9.0
Northern pike	1	18.5	18.5	18.5	1.3	1.3
Total # of fish	60					



For more information call the Forest Preserve District of Kane County at (630) 232-5980 or IDNR Fisheries at (815) 675-2386 ext. 214 or visit: www.kaneforest.com
 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