



Deep Quarry Lake

FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY

LOCATION – Deep Quarry Lake is located in DuPage County at the West Branch Forest Preserve on Army Trail Road, 1.6 miles east of Route 59.

DESCRIPTION – Deep Quarry Lake is a 40-acre gravel/clay pit with a maximum depth of 45 feet and an average depth of 18 feet. Deep Quarry Lake is one of 30 lakes and ponds owned and maintained for sport fishing by the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County (FPDDC). There is good shoreline fishing access available via mowed paths around the preserve. There are two wheelchair accessible fishing piers on the lake. The FPDDC has installed several fish attracting structures in this lake (see locations on bathymetric map on the reverse side of this summary).

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES: These waters are under management of the FPDDC Fishery Ecologist to provide quality sport fishing opportunities. In 1984, the FPDDC entered into a cooperative management agreement with the IDNR to facilitate management activities. Invasive zebra mussels were discovered in this lake in 2009. Channel catfish, northern pike, and walleye are stocked regularly. The FPDDC began stocking yellow perch in 2014 in an attempt to establish another sportfish species. Redear sunfish were also stocked recently in an attempt at biological control of zebra mussels. The lakes and ponds of the FPDDC are sampled every four years to monitor fish populations. Carry in boat access is allowed with a permit from the FPDDC. An electrofishing survey took place on May 12th, 2022

STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY – Largemouth bass abundance was higher in the 2022 survey but size structure was similar that 2018 with a good number of fish in the protected slot length. Bluegill are abundant but Black Crappie numbers were down from the previous survey as well (this could have been due to the timing of the survey). Crystal clear water may make fishing a little tricky, but big fish are present in this lake! Great shore fishing access makes this lake a great family fishing destination. **Due to the presence of Zebra Mussels, gear used in this lake should be cleaned and dried before using it in other waters.**

LARGEMOUTH BASS – Bass abundance and size structure looked good in the 2022 survey. While catch rates were not as high as they were in 2014, abundance was well above what is considered good for area lakes. Bass were caught at a rate of 165 fish per hour and ranged in length from 5.5 to 18.9 inches. The average bass measured 13.9 inches. The heaviest bass weighed 4.6 pounds. Forty-nine percent of the bass were longer than 15 inches. All of the bass in the sample looked healthy and fat due to pre-spawn timing of the survey.

BLUEGILL – Bluegill were captured at a rate of 273 fish per hour. Bluegill abundance has been consistently high at Deep Quarry. The Bluegill ranged in length from 2.8 to 7.6 inches with the average size bluegill measuring 4.7 inches. Size structure is not as good as it was in 2014 when 22% of the sample measured over 6 inches. Similar to 2018, only 13% of the sample measured longer than six inches in 2022. Look for timber in the water when searching for bluegill in Deep Quarry Lake.

CHANNEL CATFISH – No channel catfish were captured during the survey. This lake receives regular stockings of Channel Catfish so they are much more abundant than this survey would suggest. Shoreline electrofishing is not the best method of sampling for channel catfish in our area lakes.

ADDITIONAL FISH SPECIES:

While they didn't show up in our 2022 survey, Walleye, Yellow Perch and Northern Pike are stocked regularly and should be of legal size at this time.

Summary of Catch from the May 12th, 2022 Electrofishing Survey of Deep Quarry Lake:

Species	Number Collected	Length (Inches)			Weight (pounds)	
		Min	Max	Avg.	Min	Max
Bluegill	91	2.80	7.56	4.72	0.03	0.32
Largemouth Bass	55	5.51	18.94	13.85	0.07	4.61
Redear Sunfish	8	4.06	10.04	7.92	0.04	0.69
Common Carp	7	23.62	30.71	27.17	21.19	21.19
Black Crappie	2	4.33	12.60	8.46	0.02	1.06
Flathead Catfish	1	17.40	17.40	17.40	1.97	1.97
Tiger Muskellunge	1	31.10	31.10	31.10	6.96	6.96
# of Fish Collected	165					

Sportfishing Regulations - *new in 2017

Two pole and line fishing only.

***Largemouth bass** – 14-18-inch protected slot limit; 4 fish daily creel limit with 3 fish that can be harvested under 14 inches and 1 fish longer than 18 inches.

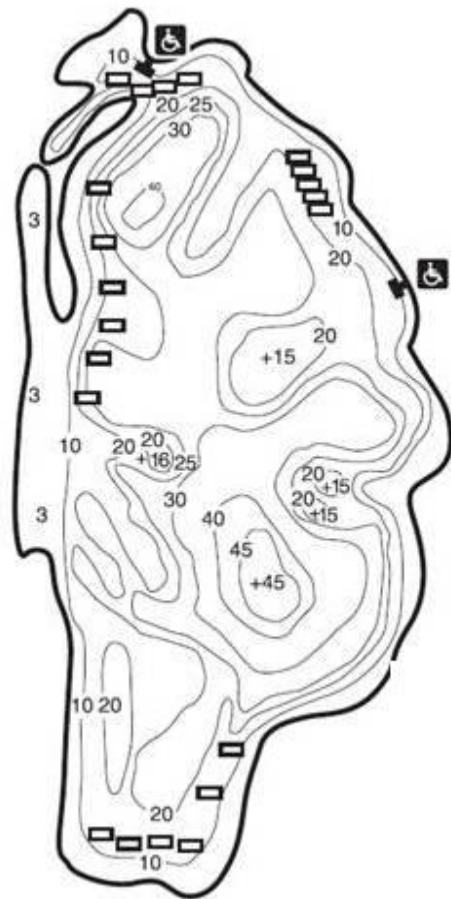
***Bluegill** – No minimum length limit; 25 fish daily creel limit.

Channel catfish – 12-inch minimum length limit; 3 fish daily creel limit.

***White and black crappie** – No minimum length limit; 15 fish daily creel limit.

Northern pike – 24-inch minimum length limit; 3 fish daily creel limit (statewide regulation).

Yellow perch – 9-inch minimum length limit; 5 fish daily creel limit.



This map courtesy of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County - "Fishing in Dupage County"

-For more information or if you have questions call the District's Fisheries Ecologist Dan Grigas at (630) 933-7668 or IDNR Fisheries at (815) 675-2386 ext. 214 or go to: www.dupageforest.org

-For information on a boat permit call visitor services (630) 933-7248 on weekdays between 8AM and 4PM or go to: www.dupageforest.org

-For general information on fishing in Illinois visit the IDNR Fisheries Division at: www.ifishillinois.org **AND** purchase your fishing license online at: www.dnr.illinois.gov