



Waubonsee Lake

2021 FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY

LOCATION – Waubonsee Lake Park is located on the east side of Kautz Road 0.2 miles north of Montgomery Road in Aurora.

DESCRIPTION – Waubonsee Lake is a 16 acre lake and the downstream most in a series of three lakes formed by impounding the Waubonsee Creek. These lakes were built as flood control and serve as a detention system for the area. Waubonsee Lake has a maximum depth of 9.5 feet and an average depth of 4.1. The lake is owned and maintained by the Fox Valley Park District (FVPD) as a community park in a residential setting. There is a jogging/bike path around the lake which connects to the Spring Lake complex to the northeast.

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES: The FVPD has entered into a cooperative management agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to facilitate fisheries management activities. A dredging project was completed in 2017 to deepen the lake. Channel Catfish have been stocked by the IDNR in five of the last ten years. An electrofishing survey took place in May of 2021. Site specific regulations apply (see reverse side).

STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY – Abundant Bluegill and Largemouth Bass should provide plenty of quality catches in Waubonsee Lake. Our most recent survey showed a good number of Bass over 12 inches and a Bluegill population that had plenty of fish over six inches.

LARGEMOUTH BASS – Largemouth Bass abundance was rated as “Fair” based on the goal of 60 fish per hour. Bass were captured at a rate of 41 fish per hour. Catch rate for Bass was slightly lower than it was in our 2017 survey (58 fish per hour). Largemouth bass ranged in length from 5.0 to 18.3 inches, with the heaviest fish weighing 3.9 pounds. The average length in the sample was 12.0 inches. Twelve percent of the catch was longer than fifteen inches.

BLUEGILL – Bluegill abundance was high and size structure was skewed toward small individuals in recent surveys. Bluegill remained abundant in our 2021 survey and the largest fish was only 6.5 inches long. Eighteen percent of the Bluegill were longer than six inches. Redear Sunfish and Pumpkinseed are also present in smaller numbers in Waubonsee Lake and could potentially add to your panfish catch.

BLACK CRAPPIE – Three Black Crappie in the seven to eight-inch length range were caught in the 2021 survey. This lake is not stocked with or managed for crappie at this time. Black Crappie tend to be very cyclical in their abundance in area lakes and ponds. Crappie over ten inches have been caught in previous surveys of Waubonsee Lake. White Crappie have also been sampled in Waubonsee Lake.

CHANNEL CATFISH – Channel Catfish were not captured in this survey. Channel Catfish have been stocked (3000 to 3400 individuals) in five of the last ten years which means there should be harvestable size catfish available in this lake. Channel Catfish are not frequently captured in our Spring electrofishing surveys.

COMMON CARP – A sub-sample four Common Carp were captured in this survey. Carp were very abundant and ranged in length from 17.2 to 25.5 inches, averaging 23 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. Bluntnose Minnow, Gizzard Shad, Golden Shiner, Pumpkinseed, Quillback Carpsucker, Redear Sunfish and White Sucker have been captured in Waubonsee Lake. Black and Yellow Bullhead are also present in this lake.

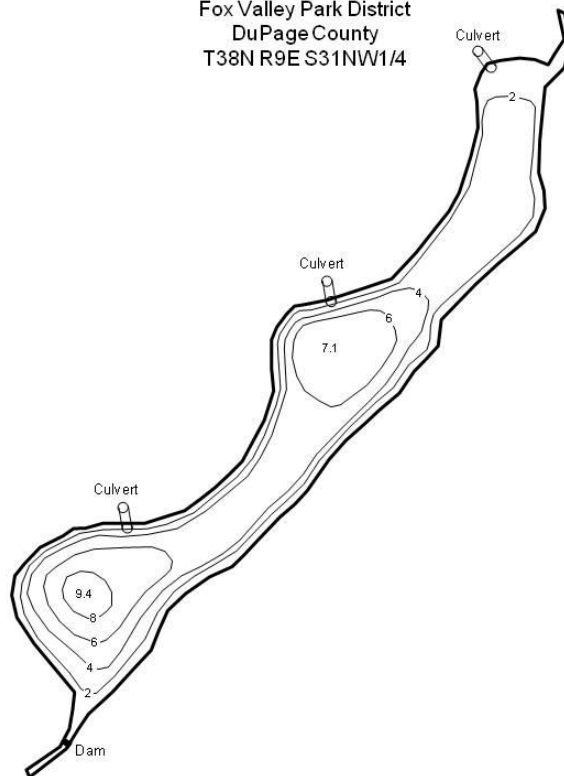
Summary of Catch – Waubonsee Lake Survey on May 6th, 2021 – 35 minutes DC electrofishing

Species	Number Collected	Length (Inches)			Weight (pounds)	
		Min	Max	Avg.	Min	Max
Bluegill*	50	3.2	6.5	5.2	0.0	0.2
Largemouth Bass	25	5.0	18.3	12.0	0.1	3.9
Common Carp	4	17.2	25.5	23.0	3.1	8.5
Gizzard Shad	4	12.6	14.7	13.8	0.8	1.2
Black Crappie	3	7.4	8.4	7.8	0.2	0.3
Quillback	2	17.5	18.8	18.1	2.7	3.7
Redear Sunfish	2	6.5	6.9	6.7	0.2	0.2
Pumpkinseed	1	3.1	3.1	3.1		
Yellow Bullhead	1	9.3	9.3	9.3	0.3	0.3
Total # of Fish Collected	92					

* 15-minute sub-sample

Waubonsee Lake

Fox Valley Park District
DuPage County
T38N R9E S31NW1/4



Soundings (ft.) – 9/21/06
(adjusted to normal water level)

Vic Santucci – 3/19/07
IDNR - Fisheries

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