



# Spring Lake

## 2021 FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY

**LOCATION** – Spring Lake is located north of McCoy Drive 1.1 miles west of Route 59 in Aurora.

**DESCRIPTION** – Spring Lake is a 23.7-acre in-stream detention lake created on Waubensee Creek for flood control and recreation. The lake has a maximum depth of 14.5 feet. Spring Lake is the upstream-most lake in a series of three lakes built by impounding the Waubensee Creek. Spring Lake is located in a Fox Valley Park District (FVPD) park and natural vegetation buffer is maintained around the shoreline within the park. Bank erosion was not an issue where buffer was present, but eroding banks were evident along portions of shoreline adjacent to homes where lawns were mowed to the lake's edge. There is an improved park with a concrete boat ramp, ADA accessible fishing pier and public restrooms.

**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 2021. Channel Catfish have been stocked by the IDNR in five of the last ten years. Site specific regulations apply (see reverse side).

**STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY** – Numbers of Largemouth Bass were down from the last survey most likely due to an early spring fish kill. Several dead adult Bass were observed during the May 2021 Survey. Bluegill numbers were still high should provide plenty of action at this family friendly park.

**LARGEMOUTH BASS** – Largemouth Bass were caught at a rate of 50 fish per hour, which was lower than the desired catch rate of 60 fish per hour. Catch rates may have been down due to a Largemouth Bass specific fish kill in early 2021 as seven dead adult bass were observed during the survey. Size structure did look better than it did in our last survey (2017) with 19% of the bass in the sample measuring longer than 15 inches. While the heaviest fish in the 2021 survey was just over three pounds, Largemouth Bass over five pounds have been caught in previous surveys of Spring Lake.

**BLUEGILL** – Bluegill abundance has been high in recent surveys of Spring Lake. Catch rates have ranged from 248 to 405 fish per hour. Bluegill were caught at a rate of 306 fish per hour in the 2021 survey. Bluegill ranged in length from 2.4 to 6.1 inches, with an average length of 4.8 inches. About five percent of the Bluegill in the sample measured longer than six inches.

**BLACK CRAPPIE** – Four small Black Crappie were caught in the 2021 survey. They measured between 7 and 8.4 inches. 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. Overabundance has not been an issue in Spring Lake as it has in other nearby lakes.

**CHANNEL CATFISH** – Channel Catfish were not captured in this survey. Channel Catfish were stocked (3000 to 4000 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 Six Common Carp were captured in this survey. Carp were very abundant and ranged in length from 12.9 to 22.2 inches, averaging 17.7 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. While less abundant in our survey, Gizzard Shad, Golden Shiner, and Bluntnose Minnow should provide alternative forage for Largemouth Bass. Yellow and Black Bullheads are also present in Spring Lake.

**Summary of Catch - Spring Lake Survey on May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 25 minutes DC electrofishing**

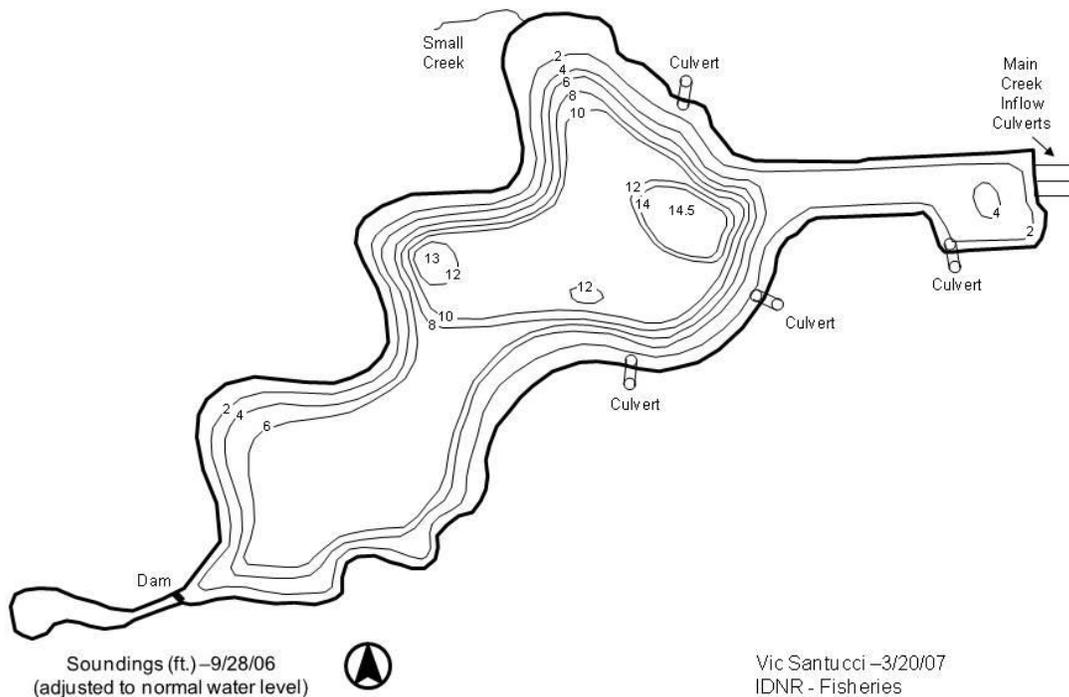
Species	Number Collected	Length (Inches)			Weight (pounds)	
		Min	Max	Avg.	Min	Max
Bluegill	52*	2.4	6.1	4.8	0.0	0.2
Largemouth Bass	21	6.7	17.6	12.8	0.1	3.4
Common Carp	6	12.9	22.2	17.7	1.2	5.8
Black Crappie	4	7.0	8.4	7.6	0.2	0.3
Gizzard Shad	3	11.9	13.0	12.5	0.6	0.8
Yellow Bullhead	3	8.0	8.4	8.1	0.3	0.3
Golden Shiner	2	4.4	7.0	5.7	0.0	0.2
Bluntnose Minnow	1	3.1	3.1	3.1		

Total # of fish caught 92

\* indicates 10 minutes sub-sample

## Spring Lake

Fox Valley Park District  
DuPage County  
T38N R9E S20SE1/4



-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](http://www.ifishillinois.org)

-To purchase your fishing license go to: [www.dnr.illinois.gov](http://www.dnr.illinois.gov)

### 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