



Pinckneyville City Lake

2021 FISHERIES FACT SHEET

LOCATION: Pinckneyville City Lake is located in Perry County about 3 miles northwest of Pinckneyville off Route 127 North. Turn west onto Lake Road.

DESCRIPTION: Facilities at this 165-acre lake include a concrete boat launch, floating dock, and bathrooms. There is a 10 HP motor limit on this lake. All boats must be operated at no wake speeds.

STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY – The following is a summary of game fish populations based on the annual fish community survey conducted during Fall 2020 by IDNR. In addition to a one-hour electrofishing survey, trap nets were also deployed overnight to collect more information on the crappie population.

Largemouth Bass – Pinckneyville City Lake possesses an excellent largemouth bass fishery. During the 2020 fall electrofishing survey, a total of 121 largemouth bass were collected during 1 hour of electrofishing, easily surpassing the goal of 60/hour. 40% of fish collected were over 14 inches, 32% were over 16 inches, and 17% were over 18 inches. The largest bass collected was 22 inches and weighed 6.6 lbs. Body condition rapidly increases when the bass in this lake reach 14 inches and remains high thereafter. This suggests that largemouth bass likely become able to utilize the abundance of adult gizzard shad present once they reach 14 inches.

Crappie – Pinckneyville City Lake contains both black and white crappie. Of the 97 crappie collected during the 2020 survey, only 14% were over 9 inches and 7% were over 10 inches. The largest crappie collected was only 11.2 inches and weighed 0.7 lbs.

Bluegill – The bluegill population structure can be considered poor relative to other lakes in the region. During the 2020 fall survey, 322 bluegill were collected, of which only 7% were over 7 inches and less than 1% were over 8 inches. Body condition was considered poor across all size ranges. Bluegill appear to be overpopulated and stunted due to an overabundant gizzard shad population. Stockings of additional piscivore species (i.e. hybrid striped bass or saugeye) may be attempted in the future to reduce the abundance of gizzard shad and improve panfish growth.

Redear Sunfish – The redear fishery in Pinckneyville City Lake has improved in recent years. Of the 57 redear collected in the 2020 fall survey, 26% were over 8 inches, with a few fish in the sample over 9 inches. The largest redear was 9.1 inches long and weighed 0.5 lbs.

Channel Catfish – No channel catfish were collected during the 2020 survey. However, numbers of quality-size fish have been collected during past surveys. Starting in 2021, gill net surveys will be conducted to sample the channel catfish population more effectively. One thousand 6-8-inch channel catfish were stocked during August of 2020 to supplement the fishery.

Fishing regulations:

Species	Creel Limit	Minimum Length Limit
Largemouth Bass	1	18"

PHONE NUMBERS: Illinois Department of Natural Resources Fish Biologist – Nick Abell 618-967-0952.