



Omaha Township City Reservoir

Gallatin County, Illinois.

Fisheries Fact Sheet

Omaha Township Reservoir is a small reservoir (27 acres) located approximately 2 miles northwest of the city of Omaha in Gallatin County. Omaha Township Reservoir was constructed by the damming of an unnamed ravine in the 1960's to create a potable water supply for Omaha Township. For years, the residents in and around Omaha used the city reservoir for water and never needed the township lake for water. In 2002, the water needs in and around Omaha were met by well water and currently neither, the city or township, reservoirs are used as a water source. Omaha Township Reservoir has a surface area of 27 acres, maximum depth of 16 feet, with an approximate average depth of 7 feet. The reservoir has a water shed consisting of agriculture and woodlands and has a shoreline distance of approximately 1.0 mile. Recent survey data suggests Omaha Township Reservoir is currently supporting a balanced fishery. Fish most commonly sought after by anglers include largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, channel catfish and crappie.

Largemouth bass - Largemouth bass population indices are near recommended ranges and a good representation of size structure exists. Bass abundance is good, as measured by catch per unit of effort of electro fishing, as the average number of bass caught in recent surveys is 117 bass per hour. Many fish between 0.5 to 1.5 pounds are present with larger bass sampled and reportedly being caught by anglers. Bass fishing is expected to be good. Currently, there is a 14 inch minimum size limit for bass and the creel limit is 6 fish per day.

Bluegill – Bluegill numbers at Omaha Township Reservoir are excellent. Abundance as measured by the average catch per unit of effort of electro fishing, in recent samples, is 309 fish per hour. Bluegill size structure remains constant as most catchable fish are between 5.5 and 6.5 inches. Bluegill fishing at Omaha Township Reservoir is expected to be fair to good. Currently there are no size or creel limits for sunfish at Omaha Township Reservoir.

Crappie – Black and white crappie are present in Omaha Township Reservoir and fishing as reported from anglers has been fair. Anglers should target crappie around structure using minnows and jigs. Currently there are no size or creel limits for crappie at Omaha Township Reservoir.

Channel catfish – Anglers continue to report good catches of channel catfish. Many fish reported and collected during electro fishing surveys are 16 inches or better. Fishing prospects for channel catfish are expected to be good to excellent. A daily catch limit of six fish applies. Additional fisheries information can be obtained on the I Fish Illinois web site, <http://www.ifishillinois.org> or by consulting the Illinois Fishing Information booklet or by calling IDNR District Biologist Kurt Daine at 618-949-3432.