



PYRAMID STATE PARK – DENMARK AREA – CANVASBACK LAKE

2020 FISHERIES FACT SHEET

LOCATION: Pyramid State Park is located south of Pinckneyville in Perry County. Canvasback Lake is a strip cut lake located on the Denmark Section of Pyramid State Park. From State Route 127 head west on Pyatt-Cutler Road. About 7 miles west of Pyramid State Park turn south into the Denmark Section.

DESCRIPTION: Facilities at this 60-acre lake include a concrete boat ramp, dock and bathrooms.

STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY – The following is a brief summary of the major sport fish species based on annual fish population surveys conducted by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. As a result of high water conductivity, electrofishing is not an effective sampling tool at this lake. All information is based on spring trap netting surveys.

Largemouth Bass – An electrofishing survey is the best way to analyze the largemouth bass population in a lake. Because electrofishing is not an option at this lake, very little is known about the bass population. No largemouth bass were collected in the 2019 spring trap netting survey.

Crappie – Canvasback Lake has an excellent crappie population consisting of both black and white crappie. Nineteen black crappie and nineteen white crappie (38 crappie total) were collected in the 2019 trap net sample. Of the 38 crappie collected in 2019, 97% were over 10 inches, 47% were over 12 inches, and 11% were over 14 inches in length. The largest crappie collected was 16.4 inches and weighed 2.9 lbs.

Bluegill Sunfish – The bluegill population is poor. Bluegill over 7 inches are present but not common.

Redear Sunfish – Redear sunfish are uncommon and rarely collected during surveys.

Channel Catfish – Channel catfish are uncommon in this lake and have not been collected since 2015.

Muskellunge (MUE) – This lake is stocked annually with MUE, although none were collected in the 2019 trap netting survey. If you catch a tagged MUE from Canvasback Lake **DO NOT REMOVE THE TAG**. Please contact Nick Abell, IDNR Fisheries Biologist by phone at 618-967-0952 or email at nicholas.abell@illinois.gov with the following information: date of catch, length of MUE, and the 5-digit tag number.

Fishing regulations:

Species	Creel Limit	Minimum Length Limit
Largemouth Bass	5 under 14” and 1 over 18”	14-18 inch protected slot (no possession)
Bluegill or Redear Sunfish	25	None
Crappie	25	None
Channel Catfish	6	None
Muskie	1	48 inches
All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only	

RECREATIONAL USE RESTRICTIONS – Fishing is prohibited from November 1 through the end of February. There are no HP boat motor restrictions at this lake, but the entire lake is a “NO WAKE ZONE” and all sizes of boat motors must operate at no-wake speed.

MAPS/CONTACTS – Fish attractor maps and a map of the 23 lakes located on the Arch Portion of Pyramid State Park can be obtained via email by sending a request to Nicholas.Abell@illinois.gov. IDNR Fish Biologist – Nick Abell 618-967-0952. Pyramid State Park 618-357-2574.