



2010 Fishing Forecast

Delaware Lake

Delaware County
1017 Acres- Unlimited HP, Fishing



Compared to Other Inland Lakes and Reservoirs

Species	FISH POPULATION STATUS			Stocked	Anglers Seeking(%)
	Overall Numbers	This size or Larger	Largest Sampled		
Largemouth Bass	Fair	12"	19.1"	<input type="checkbox"/>	45.1
Crappie	Good	8"	12.9"	<input type="checkbox"/>	24.4
Channel Catfish	Poor	16"	26.5"	<input type="checkbox"/>	6.1
White Bass	Good	6"	13.7"	<input type="checkbox"/>	0.0

Largemouth Bass **OUTLOOK: GOOD**

Overall population size continues to increase. Electrofishing surveys in 2009 indicated the largest year class of age 1 fish in many years. Thirty two percent of largemouth bass were 12" or larger and 7% were 15" or longer. Angler catch rates have been steady for 4 years but with this large group of fish, now age 2, catch rates are expected to increase.

Crappie **OUTLOOK: GOOD**

White crappie accounted for 68% of crappie caught in the fall trap nets in 2009. Of these white crappie 16% were 9" or longer. Likewise for black crappie 17% were 9" or larger. Angler catch rates for crappie should increase in 2010 over 2009 because of abundant crappie just below the minimum length limit that will grow to legal sizes this spring and summer. Focus fishing efforts on woody cover by drop-offs.

Channel Catfish **OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT**

A good population of channel catfish is present. Catch rates in fall gill nets in 2009 were greater than state average. A large number of catfish are about to grow to the 15" size range. Some catfish this past fall measured 27".

White Bass **OUTLOOK: GOOD**

Spring fishing for white bass in the Whetstone Creek can be very good. Use inline spinners and jigs with spinners for good results. Population size has remained consistent with a group of fish over 13 inches.

NOTES:

Due to a fishery that has not been successful for many years, saugeye will no longer be stocked in Delaware Lake.