



Arrowhead Lake

Fisheries Fact Sheet

Arrowhead Lake is a 30-acre city-owned impoundment located on the east edge of Johnston City, Illinois in Williamson County. The lake is partially surrounded by forest, has a lakefront campground, improved boat ramp, and perimeter walking trail.

Largemouth bass: Largemouth bass were collected at a rate of 32 per hour in spring 2021 dipping below the management plan goal of 60 per hour. Percentage of 12-inch and larger bass was very high at 70%, and this index exceeded the management plan goal for the fourth year in a row. 47% of bass sampled were larger than the upper end of the lake's slot limit of 15 inches. Bass body condition was right at management goals.

Bluegill: Bluegill were collected from Arrowhead Lake during the 2021 survey at a rate of 388 per hour, which was much higher than the previous ten years. Fifty-six percent of bluegill were larger than 6 inches. Bluegill body condition was very good.

Redear: Redear were less abundant than bluegill, as usual, in 2018, and 72 were collected per hour. Ninety-four percent of redear were larger than 7 inches in length, and 55% were larger than 8 inches. Redear body condition remained good.

Crappie: Very small numbers of black and white crappie were included in the 2021 Arrowhead Lake sample. Crappie body condition remained substandard.

Channel catfish: Channel catfish were collected at a rate of 10 per hour during the 2021 Arrowhead Lake electrofishing survey, a slight decrease compared to the previous year. Channel catfish were in fair condition. Channel catfish are stocked every other year to sustain the population.

Regulations in effect: Largemouth bass – 12 to 15-inch protective slot, 2 bass per day under 12 inches and 1 per day over 15 inches. Channel catfish – 6 per day creel. Black and white crappie – 15 per day creel. Electric motors only. Consult the Illinois Fishing Information booklet for additional regulation information.

Additional Fisheries Information can be obtained by calling IDNR District Biologist Luke Nelson at 618-364-5381, or by contacting the campground at 618-983-3535.