



# Cloverdale Pond

## 2021 FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY

**LOCATION** – Cloverdale Pond is located in Mallard Lake Forest Preserve in Hanover Park, in Dupage County. Parking lot is off of Schick Road west of Gary Avenue.

**DESCRIPTION** – Cloverdale Pond is a 12.0-acre gravel and clay pit. The lake is generally shallow (average depth of 5 ft.), but it has sufficient deep areas to support fish during summer and winter temperature extremes (maximum depth 15 ft.). Several clearing along the shoreline are available for bank fishing. Cloverdale Pond is an open system due to its connection with the Keeneyville Ditch, and ultimately the West Branch of the DuPage River. The lake is managed under a cooperative management agreement between the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County (FPDDC) and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR).

**MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES** – This fish community is surveyed every four years. District staff may treat for aquatic vegetation if it becomes too thick. A 60-minute electrofishing survey took place on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021. No stocking has occurred at Cloverdale Pond recently as the Bass and Bluegill populations are self-sustaining. Site specific regulations are in place (see reverse of this summary).

**STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY** – The most recent survey shows Cloverdale Pond to be an all around good fishery. Bluegill and Black Crappie numbers were down slightly from the previous survey, but Largemouth Bass numbers still look good. Since it is a bit of a hike (0.6 miles) from the parking area, be prepared to hike in with your gear and fish Mallard Lake on your way out!

**Largemouth Bass** – The Largemouth Bass population looks good in Cloverdale Pond. While slightly lower than the previous survey in 2017, abundance and size structure still looked good in 2021. Bass were caught at a rate of 73 fish per hour. Largemouth Bass ranged in length from 4.8 to 19.9 inches, with the heaviest fish weighing just under five pounds. Nineteen percent of the Bass caught measured longer than 15 inches. Management goals continue to be met for the Largemouth Bass population in Cloverdale Pond.

**Bluegill** – Bluegill continue to be very abundant in Cloverdale Pond. A fifteen-minute subsample collected 89 Bluegill for an estimated catch rate of 356 fish per hour. This number has been as high as 522 fish per hour at this location. We like to see the catch rate around 120 fish per hour for a healthy Bluegill population. Only four percent of the Bluegill were longer than six inches. Relative weight was still high, so the abundant Bluegill are getting plenty to eat. Redear Sunfish were collected for the first time in Cloverdale Pond, most likely moving in from Mallard Lake. Redear and Pumpkinseed contribute a small proportion to the panfish catch.

**Crappie** – Black Crappie numbers were low in 2021 with only seven Crappie in the sample. This lake is a great example of how quickly Black Crappie populations can fluctuate in small waterbodies. We caught 28 in a similar sample at the same time of the year during our 2017 survey, while only catch 10 in 2013. Size structure was similar as they averaged 7.1 inches in 2021 compared to 7.0 and 7.3 in the two previous surveys. Black Crappie over 14 inches have been collected at this location.

**Channel Catfish** – One 20-inch Channel Catfish was captured in the survey. Channel catfish are typically not collected in our spring-time electrofishing surveys despite being stocked annually in many area lakes and ponds. Additional Channel Catfish stocking will be recommended to diversify the catch and control the over-abundant bluegill population.

**Other Species** – Yellow bass are moderately abundant at Cloverdale Pond. Anglers are encouraged to harvest this species as they have been known to “take over” small ponds. A summary of the catch is provided on the following page. Fathead Minnow, Gizzard Shad and White Sucker also occur in Cloverdale Pond.

**2021 Electrofishing Survey of Cloverdale Pond - 60 minutes DC EF - April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Species	Number Collected	Length (Inches)			Weight (pounds)	
		Min	Max	Avg.	Min	Max
Bluegill	89	1.4	6.5	4.5	0.0	0.2
Largemouth Bass	73	2.4	19.9	11.7	0.1	4.7
Yellow Bass	69	4.8	8.7	7.1	0.1	0.3
Common Carp	14	18.1	23.0	20.6		
Black Crappie	7	6.2	8.6	7.6	0.1	0.4
Redear Sunfish	3	6.7	7.2	6.9	0.2	0.3
Yellow Bullhead	1	9.4	9.4	9.4	0.4	0.4
Black Bullhead	1	9.7	9.7	9.7	0.4	0.4
Channel Catfish	1	20.4	20.4	20.4	3.7	3.7
Pumpkinseed	1	4.4	4.4	4.4	0.1	0.1
# of Fish Collected	259					

**List of site specific regulations for all FPDDC lakes and ponds:**

Two pole and line fishing only.

\*Largemouth Bass – 14-18-inch protected slot limit; 4 fish daily creel limit with 3 fish that can be harvested under 14 inches and 1 fish 18 inches and larger.

\*Bluegill – No minimum length limit; 25 fish daily creel limit

Channel Catfish – 12-inch minimum length limit; 3 fish daily creel limit.

\*White and black crappie – No minimum length limit; 15 fish daily creel limit.

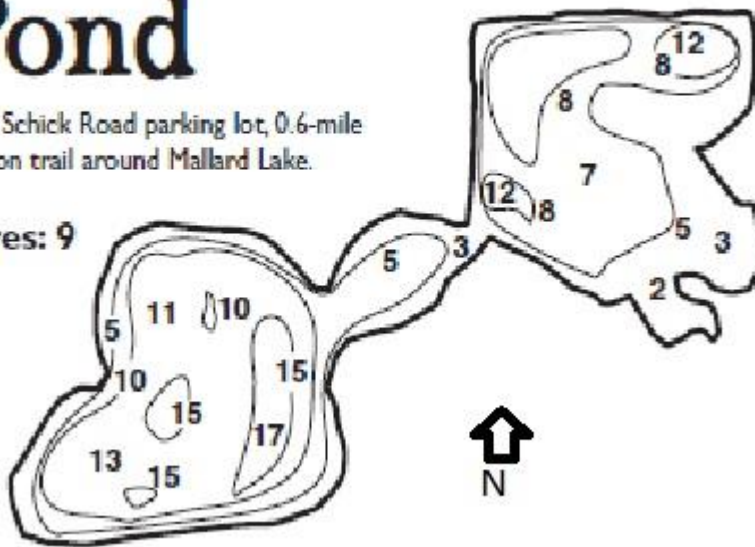
Northern pike – 24-inch minimum length limit; 3 fish daily creel limit (statewide regulation).

\* indicates new for 2017

# Cloverdale Pond

From Schick Road parking lot, 0.6-mile walk on trail around Mallard Lake.

**Acres: 9**



This map courtesy of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County - "Fishing in Dupage County"  
 For more information call the District at (630) 933-7200 or IDNR Fisheries at (815) 675-2386 ext. 214