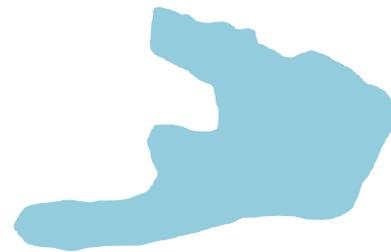




IDNR – Fisheries 2017 Lake Status Summary Lake Williamsville



Location: Located on the east edge of Williamsville. 20 miles north of Springfield.

Area: 18 acres

Lake history and characteristics: The Division of Fisheries entered into a formal Cooperative Management Agreement with the Village of Williamsville in 1986. The lake was drained completely in 1984 and restocked with breeder largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish and non-vulnerable channel catfish. Lake Williamsville has a maximum depth of 13 ft and an average depth of 5 ft. The dam is rip-rapped and most of the shoreline is gently sloping. The lake also contains dense beds of aquatic vegetation. Below is a list of fish species that are doing well in Lake Williamsville.

Largemouth bass: The largemouth population remains much as it has for the past fifteen years. It is characterized by having a high density of small bass in poor body condition. Largemouth bass relative weights are poor ($W_r = 89$ in 2017) suggesting that the population is still stunted and overpopulated. No bass over 12" were collected in 2013. One 13" bass was collected in 2017. A high density, low body condition population is fun for anglers, but there is little chance of catching a quality bass. However, the stunted predator population has helped produce a nice bluegill fishery in past years. High densities of hungry bass allow for control of the bluegill population through predation. Bluegill that avoid predation grow quickly to large sizes.

Bluegill: The numerous bass in the lake have had a positive impact on the bluegill over the last several years. However, the 2013 spring survey showed a high density of bluegill and a reduced body condition ($CPUE = 300$, $W_r = 96$). In 2017, a lower density of bluegill were collected ($CPUE = 132$), and body condition remained stable ($W_r = 97$). Seventeen percent of bluegill collected during the 2013 spring survey measured over 6", while 3% measured over 7". Only 6% of bluegill collected in 2017 exceeded 6", and none exceeded 7". The bluegill population indices do not fall within the management goals. Samples taken in 2013 and 2017 were poor. Clear water and fish avoiding our gear may explain poor sampling efficiency.

Channel catfish: One channel catfish was collected in the spring 2017 survey. Two channel catfish were collected in the spring 2013 population survey. Gill nets would sample the channel catfish population more effectively, but using this gear is unlikely due to time and man-power constraints. Non-vulnerable sized channel catfish are stocked biennially so it is assumed they are doing well. Anecdotal information from local anglers reflects the same. On July 21, 2016 Little Grassy Fish Hatchery stocked 450 – 7" channel catfish.

Other fish species: A total of 8 fish species have been collected in Lake Williamsville since 1989. While their numbers and potential for successful angling are low, anglers may catch common carp, green sunfish, or green sunfish x bluegill hybrid.

Fishing Regulations: see the Fishing Regulation Booklet or IFISHILLINOIS.org for updates

2 pole and line fishing only

Channel catfish - 6 fish daily harvest limit

Aquatic vegetation and/or chemical treatment:

- Conducted an aquatic plant herbicide treatment on 6/9/2017

Fisheries Management Activities Completed:

-Conducted a spring population survey utilizing standard sampling protocol on 6/9/2017

-Hatchery stocked 450 - 7" channel catfish on 7/21/2016



West-Central Illinois