



# Ramsey Lake

## Fisheries Fact Sheet

Ramsey Lake was constructed in Ramsey Lake State Park near Ramsey, IL in 1949.

**Location:** Ramsey Lake is located in Fayette County, approximately 2 miles northwest of Ramsey Illinois.

**Area:** Ramsey Lake has a surface area of 46 acres, a maximum depth of 22 feet, and a mean depth of 8 feet. The lake has 2.8 miles of shoreline and a watershed of 1,500 acres.

**Status of the Sport Fishery:** The sport fish population in Ramsey Lake is comprised of largemouth bass, bluegill, redear sunfish, black crappie, saugeye (walleye/sauger hybrids), and channel catfish. The lake also contains green sunfish and yellow bullheads. The fish population is surveyed annually, and summaries below are based on the results of the recent population survey and four-year trends in the population indices.

**Largemouth Bass** – After improvements to the size structure in 2017, the bass population has declined slightly to be more reminiscent of the 2015 and 2016 population structures. The catch per effort rose in 2018 to 225 fish/hr., but the condition of these fish declined ( $Wr = 88$ ). Currently, 15% of the adult population exceeds 14” in length. The number of larger fish in the population is still below a desirable level, but is expected to improve further in the coming years.

**Bluegill** - The body condition of bluegill in the population improved this year ( $Wr = 93$ ), but the size structure declined. Survey data indicate that 36% of the adult population is currently over 6” in length and 5% are over 8”. This lake should provide good bluegill fishing in the coming year.

**Crappie** - Black crappie condition was very good ( $Wr = 100$ ). The size structure of the population was good and fish over 10” in length comprised 40% of the adult crappie in our sample. With good growth rates the population should remain strong over the next few years.

**Channel Catfish** – Catfish are abundant in Ramsey Lake and should provide good fishing opportunities in the coming year. Most fish will range from 1.5 – 4 lbs. with larger fish over 5 pounds. This lake provides excellent bank fishing opportunities. The best places to fish include the dam, the upper ends of the lake, and in the backs of coves.

**Fishing Regulations: All Species** - Two pole and line fishing only.

Species	Daily Creel Limit	Minimum Length Limit
Largemouth Bass	6	14”
Channel Catfish	6	
Bluegill or Redear Sunfish	25	
White, Black, or Hybrid Crappie	10	9”

**Additional Regulations:** No gas motors are allowed.

**Contacts:** Ramsey Lake State Park 618/423-2215, IDNR 618/393-6732.

**Updated 01/07/19**