



Mallard Lake

FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY

LOCATION – Mallard Lake is in Hanover Park, in Dupage County. Parking lot is off of Schick Road west of Gary Avenue.

DESCRIPTION – Mallard Lake is an 89 acre man-made lake with a maximum depth of 25 feet owned by the Forest Preserve District of Dupage County (FPDDC). The lake is managed under a cooperative management agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. There is an island with bridges connecting two sides of the lake. There are two handicapped accessible fishing piers and several access paths. Carry in watercraft are allowed with permit (see reverse side). No gasoline powered motors allowed. A smaller 9 acre pond (Cloverdale Pond) is also accessible at Mallard Lake Forest Preserve.

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES - This fish community is surveyed every four years while trap-net surveys targeting muskie take place each spring. Three brush piles and a pallet style fish crib were placed in the lake in 2016. ***New regulations for FPDDC lakes and ponds take effect April 1st, 2017.**

STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY – Mallard Lake offers quality fishing opportunities largemouth bass, walleye, northern pike and muskie! A variety of forage species include: yellow perch, gizzard shad, bluegill, pumpkinseed, green sunfish, white sucker, golden shiner, and bluntnose minnows.

Muskellunge – Catch rates for spring net surveys have been highly variable since annual monitoring began. The 2018 survey only yielded one 24 inch muskie despite setting seven nets over two nights. We have caught as many as 26 fish with the same effort. The largest muskie sampled was 45.7 inches; but anglers have reported 48 inch fish. Muskie are stocked every other year at a rate of one fish per acre (90 fish).

Walleye – Some very nice walleye have shown up in recent surveys and 2018 was no exception. Twenty six walleye were caught in the 2018 spring survey for the highest catch rate since monitoring began in 2011. The walleye ranged in length from 9.6 to 23.7 inches with the largest weighing 5.2 pounds – tying the largest captured since 2011. Twenty-seven percent of the catch was longer than the 16 inch legal length limit.

Northern Pike - Northern pike are stocked annually or biennially and fish over the 24 inch legal limit have been caught in two out of five of the last spring trap-net surveys.

From the 2016 survey...

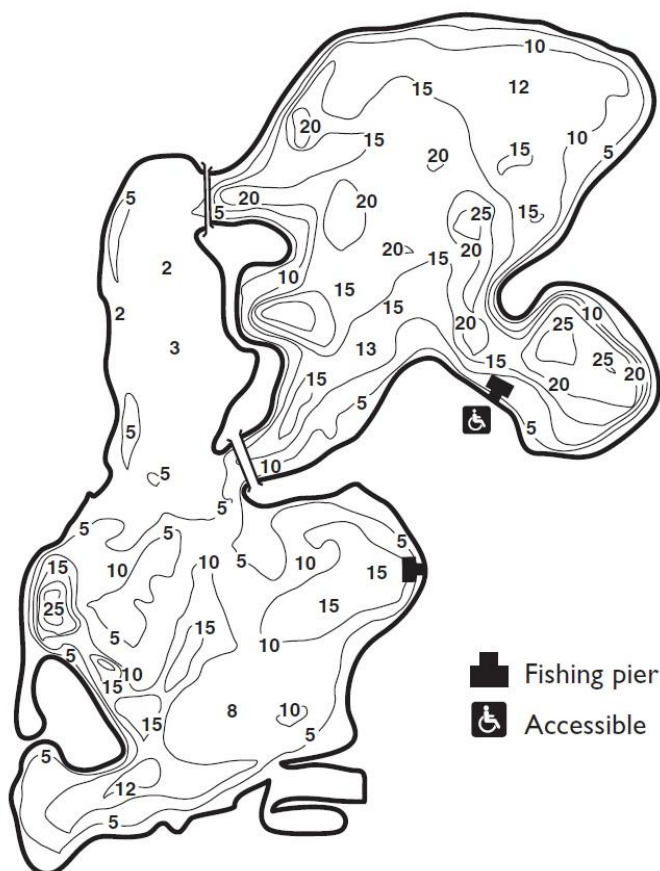
Largemouth Bass – The largemouth bass population has improved since the 2012 fish survey. Catch rates and numbers of adult fish are higher than they've been in the last two surveys. Bass were caught at a rate of 134 fish per hour. This is higher than the management goal of 60 fish per hour but the population shows no signs of stunting. Bass ranged in length from 4.3 to 17.8 inches, with average bass measuring 11.3 inches. Forty-nine percent of the bass were in the 10-14 inch length group while 18% of the bass measured longer than 14 inches.

Bluegill and Panfish – As in previous years, bluegill catch rate was low and no fish longer than six inches were captured. Other species contribute to the panfish fishery at Mallard to make up for a lack of bluegill. Pumpkinseed, black crappie, and yellow perch are all present in the lake and large individuals of those species are present. Yellow perch over the nine inch minimum length limit were caught in spring trap-nets.

Channel Catfish – Channel catfish are stocked sporadically. Lack of channel catfish catch in our surveys suggests high angler harvest or low sampling gear efficiency.

Summary of Catch at Mallard Lake – April 28th, 2016 – 60 minutes DC electrofishing

Species	Number Collected	Length (Inches)		Avg.	Weight (pounds)	
		Min	Max		Min	Max
Largemouth bass	134	4.33	17.80	11.32	0.02	3.29
Bluegill	72	1.57	5.79	4.20	0.03	0.14
Yellow perch	19	3.03	6.69	5.08	0.05	0.12
Bluntnose minnow	10	1.26	3.23	2.29		
Pumpkinseed	8	4.61	6.02	4.93	0.05	0.12
Walleye	5	9.76	22.17	15.76	0.30	3.47
Common carp	4	24.06	25.79	24.91		
Black crappie	3	8.74	10.39	9.42	0.34	0.46
Channel catfish	3	9.02	12.40	10.97	0.20	0.52
Green sunfish	3	2.56	7.13	5.52	0.27	0.30
White sucker	3	7.09	12.24	10.26	0.10	0.73
Muskie	2	14.45	34.09	24.27	0.45	8.88
Black bullhead	1	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.54	0.54
Golden shiner	1	5.12	5.12	5.12		
Total # fish captured	268					



Site Specific Regulations

Largemouth bass – 14-18 protected slot limit. Four fish possession limit. Three fish under 14 inches. One fish over 18 inches.

Channel catfish – 6 fish per day, 12 inch minimum length limit.

Crappie – 15 fish per day, no minimum length limit

Bluegill and Redear Sunfish – 25 fish daily harvest limit.

Muskie – 1 fish over 48 inches

Walleye – 3 fish over 16 inches

Northern Pike – 3 fish over 24 inches

This map courtesy of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County - "Fishing in Dupage County"

-For more information or if you have questions call the District's Fisheries Ecologist Dan Grigas at (630) 933-7668 or IDNR Fisheries at (815) 675-2386 ext. 214 or go to: www.dupageforest.com

-For boating permit, go to – 3S580 Naperville Rd. in Wheaton or call (630) 933-7248

-For general information on fishing in Illinois visit the IDNR Fisheries Division at: www.ifishillinois.org
AND purchase your fishing license online at: www.dnr.illinois.gov