



Golden Oaks Pond

FISHERIES STATUS SUMMARY

LOCATION – Golden Oaks Pond is located on the west side of Aurora. From Orchard Road, head east on Sullivan Road, turn south (right) on Golden Oaks Parkway and then east (left) on Lone Oak Trail. Golden Oaks Pond is accessible through the park on the left.

DESCRIPTION – Golden Oaks Pond is an 4 acre dug retention pond with a maximum depth of 12 feet. The lake is owned and maintained by the Fox Valley Park District (FVPD) as a community park in a residential setting. Winterkill should not be an issue at this lake due to its 12 foot depth and flow through from storm sewers. The shoreline is mowed in several areas to allow access for shore fishing. A playground and basketball court are located at the adjacent park. See the reverse side for a bathymetric map.

MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES: The FVPD has entered into a cooperative management agreement with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to facilitate fisheries management activities. Site specific regulations apply (Six fish daily creel on channel catfish and a three fish, 15 inch minimum limit on largemouth bass). The IDNR conducted a 15 minute electrofishing survey on May 22, 2014. A new channel catfish stocking program (700 four inch catfish every other year) should offer great fishing for this species in the future.

STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY – Largemouth bass and bluegill are abundant in this residential pond and easy access should make for a great place to take a kid fishing! The capture of a smallmouth bass and a flathead catfish suggest a local angler is bucket stocking this pond from the Fox River.

LARGEMOUTH BASS – In our 2014 electrofishing survey, 22 largemouth bass were found in fifteen minutes of shocking (88 fish per hour). A healthy bass population typically boasts a catch rate of at least 60 bass per hour of electrofishing. Average bass length in this lake was a little longer than some of the surrounding FVPD lakes at 13.0 inches. The catch ranged in size from 6.8 inches to a nice 18.6 inch fish that weighed in at a healthy 3.4 pounds. Sixty-eight percent of the sample was longer than 12 inches and 27% of the catch was over the legal limit (15 inches). Multiple sizes (year classes) indicate successful reproduction in this pond. All of the bass numbers from the 2014 survey look better than when the lake was last surveyed in 2009.

BLUEGILL – Bluegill were vary abundant and captured at a rate of 296 fish per hour. Bluegill ranged in size from 2.1 to 5.6 inches, with an average size of 4.5 inches. The results of the survey suggest harvest of larger bluegill may be affecting the size structure. A healthy bass and catfish population should help keep this bluegill population from getting out of control.

CHANNEL CATFISH – No channel catfish were captured in this survey. Fishing for channel catfish should be better in the future as 700 four and a half inch channel catfish were stocked in 2012 and 2014.

COMMON CARP – Five common carp were measured from a sub-sample. They ranged in size from 17.1 to 20.8 inches, averaging 19.0 inches. The heaviest one weighed 3.8 pounds. Common carp abundance does not appear to be extreme at this time but unlimited harvest is encouraged for this detrimental species.

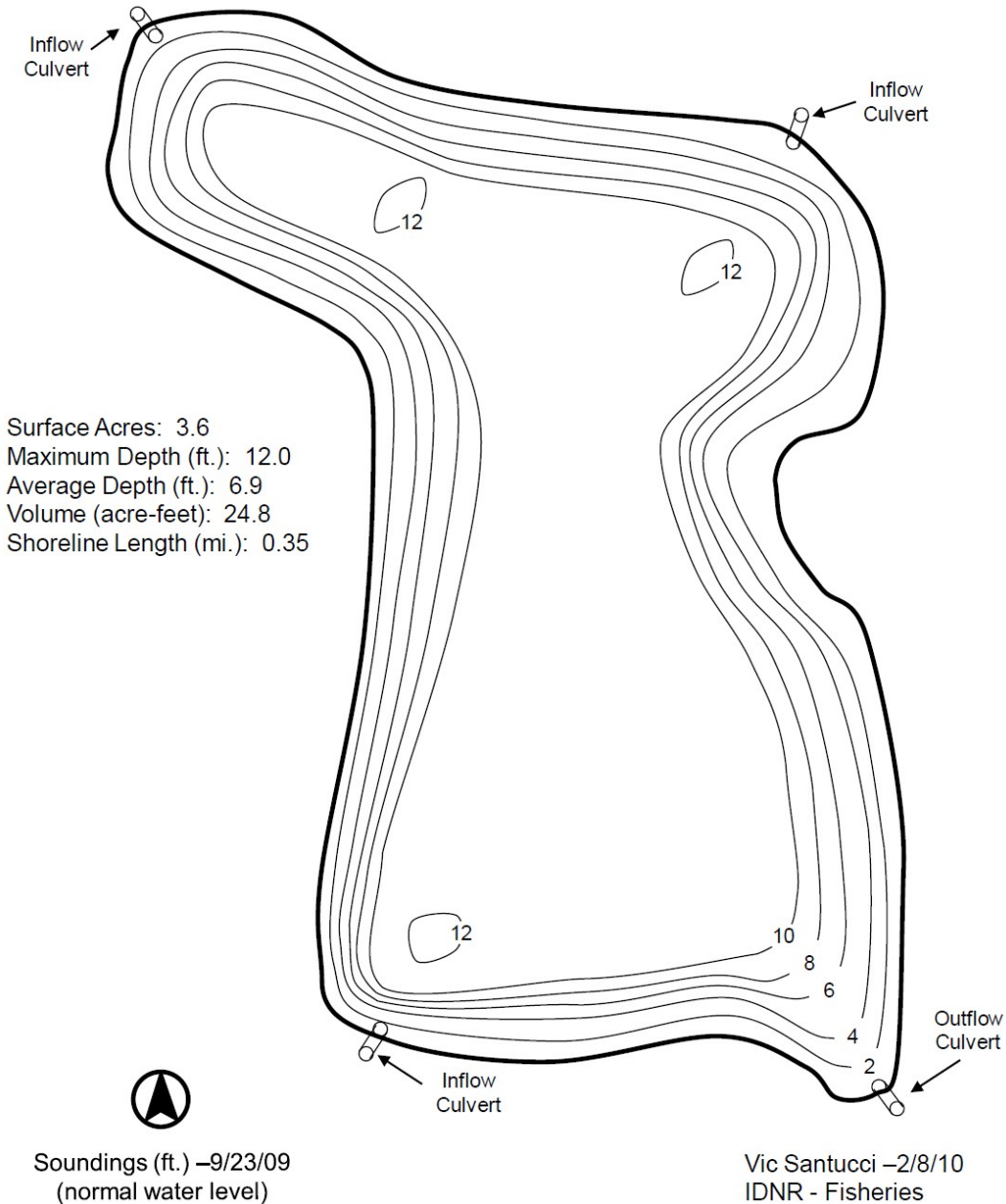
ADDITIONAL FISH SPECIES: Smallmouth bass and flathead catfish (from illegal bucket stocking) also occur in Golden Oaks Pond. Black crappie and green sunfish were found in the 2009 survey.

Golden Oaks Pond Survey on May 22nd, 2014

15 Minutes D.C. Electrofishing

Species	Number Collected	Length (inches)			Weight (pounds)	
		Min	Max	Avg.	Min	Max
Bluegill	74	2.05	5.63	4.54	0.04	0.13
Largemouth bass	22	6.77	18.62	13.01	0.12	3.44
Common carp*	5	17.05	20.87	19.02	2.33	3.78
Flathead catfish	1	17.24	17.24	17.24	1.97	1.97
Smallmouth bass	1	13.86	13.86	13.86	1.30	1.30
Total # of fish collected	103					

* 5 min. subsample



For more information call the Fox Valley Park District at (630) 897-0516 or IDNR Fisheries at (815) 675-2386 ext. 214 or visit:

<http://www.foxvalleyparkdistrict.org/lakes-and-fishing-2/>

For general information on fishing in Illinois visit the IDNR Fisheries Division at: www.ifishillinois.org

To purchase your fishing license go to: www.dnr.illinois.gov