



# PYRAMID STATE PARK – CAPTAIN AREA - MERGANSER LAKE

## 2014 FISHERIES FACT SHEET

**LOCATION:** Pyramid State Park is located south of Pinckneyville in Perry County. Merganser Lake is located on the Captain Section of Pyramid State Park. Merganser Lake is located just south of Cutler off of Trico Road. Merganser Lake has a 10 HP motor limit.

**DESCRIPTION:** This 20 acre strip cut has a gravel boat launch. There are no docks or bathroom facilities.

**STATUS OF THE SPORT FISHERY** – The following is a brief summary of the major sport fish species based on annual fish population surveys conducted by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. Please note that fishing is prohibited from October 28 through February 28.

**Largemouth Bass (LMB)** – An electrofishing survey is the best way to analyze the LMB population in a lake. Because electrofishing is not an option at Merganser Lake very little is known about the LMB population. No LMB were collected during 2013 spring trap netting.

**Crappie** – Merganser Lake has an excellent crappie population consisting of both black and white crappie. Of the 23 crappie collected in the 2013 spring trap netting survey, all 23 were over 9 inches and only 3 were under 10 inches in length.

**Bluegill Sunfish** – No bluegill were collected during 2013 spring trap netting. No bluegill over 8 inches have ever been collected during surveys.

**Redear Sunfish** – No redear sunfish have ever been collected from this lake.

**Channel Catfish** – The channel catfish population appears to be good. Three catfish (15 to 22 inches) were collected during the 2013 spring trap netting survey.

**Fishing regulations:** For further information on Merganser Lake site specific fishing regulations please see page 27 of the 2013-2015 Illinois Fishing Information guide.

Species	Creel Limit	Minimum Length Limit
Largemouth Bass	5 under 14” and 1 over 18”	14-18 inch protected slot (no possession)
Bluegill or Redear Sunfish	25	None
Crappie	25	None
Channel Catfish	6	None
All Fish	2 Pole and Line Fishing Only	
Live Bait	All live bait in excess of 8” must be rigged with a quick set rig.	

**RECREATIONAL USE RESTRICTIONS** – Fishing is prohibited from October 28 through February 28.

**MAPS** - Maps of 23 lakes located on the Arch Portion of Pyramid State Park can be obtained via email by sending a request to [Shawn.Hirst@illinois.gov](mailto:Shawn.Hirst@illinois.gov).

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