



# Herrin #1 Lake

## Fisheries Fact Sheet

Herrin #1 Lake is a 60-acre city-owned impoundment located on the southwest edge of Herrin, Illinois in Williamson County. The lake is partially surrounded by homes and a golf course and has an improved boat ramp. A fairly significant oxygen-related fish kill occurred in Herrin #1 Lake in September 2010, and the fish community has rebounded well.

**Largemouth bass:** Abundance of largemouth bass in Herrin #1 Lake, based on electrofishing catch-per-unit-effort, nearly doubled in 2017 compared to the previous year. Largemouth bass were collected at a rate of 230 per hour. Of these, 37% were over 12 inches, which did not make the management plan goal, and 8% were larger than the lake's 15 inch minimum length limit. Bass body condition decreased slightly and was just beneath the management plan goal range.

**Bluegill:** Like bass, bluegill were collected from Herrin #1 Lake during the 2017 survey at a rate nearly double that of the previous year, and quality of these fish remained relatively high. The bluegill electrofishing catch rate was 400 per hour, and 78% were over 6 inches (greatly exceeding the management plan goal). Also, seventy percent were larger than 7 inches, and 11% exceeded 8 inches in length. Bluegill body condition stayed excellent.

**Redear:** Redear were not represented in the 2017 sampling of Herrin #1 Lake. These fish were also somewhat scarce the previous year, when only 8 redear were collected per hour. Size range of these fish was 5.5 to 8 inches, and body condition was excellent.

**Channel catfish:** Twenty-two channel catfish were collected per hour of electrofishing during the 2017 survey, which was up from 14 per hour in the previous year. These fish ranged from 16 to 25 inches in length, and their condition was excellent. The channel catfish population is maintained by stocking every other year.

**Crappie:** Only a few black crappie were included in the spring 2017 sample. Crappie ranged in size from 6 to 7 inches, and displayed good body condition.

**Regulations in effect:** Largemouth bass – 15 inch length limit and 3 per day creel limit. Channel catfish – 6 per day creel limit. Electric motors only. Consult the Illinois Fishing Information booklet for additional regulation information. A city permit is required for accessing Herrin #1 Lake. Contact the city clerk at 618-942-3175 for more information.

**Additional Fisheries Information** can be obtained by calling IDNR District Biologist Chris Bickers at 618-993-7094,