



IDNR Fisheries

Lake Status Summary

Ashland New City Reservoir

Location: Ashland New Reservoir is in Northwest Morgan County, 3 miles southwest of Ashland off Route 123 and Collins Road, 21 miles northwest of Springfield.

Area: 10 acres

Lake history and characteristics: The Ashland New Reservoir is owned by the Village of Ashland and was constructed in 1978 as a secondary water supply. The Village of Ashland entered into a formal Cooperative Management Agreement with IDNR in 1988. The first step taken was a complete rehabilitation of the lake and subsequent restocking. The lake is 10 acres and has a maximum depth of approximately 20 feet. Boats are allowed with electric trolling motors only (No gas motors allowed on boat). There is a one-lane gravel ramp on the north end of the lake and the entire shoreline is accessible to bank fishing.

Largemouth Bass: The 2021 electrofishing survey yielded 110 Largemouth Bass per hour of electrofishing. Fish ranged from 3.1-19.6" and weighed up to 3.48lbs. The structural indices are all slightly below the goal, however the catch rate exceeds the management plan objectives. In 2018, Largemouth Bass were collected at a rate of 114 fish/hour with fish measuring 5.7-18.9" and weighing up to 3.48lbs. Most Largemouth Bass collected in 2018 ranged from 10-14". 23.4% of Largemouth Bass exceeded 15".

Bluegill: In 2021 Bluegill were collected at a rate of 54 fish per hour of electrofishing. Bluegill ranged from 1.5-8.1". 92.8% of the catchable Bluegill population exceed 7" and 21.4% exceeded 8". The catch rate in 2021 (CPUE=54) was only 26% of the catch rate in 2018 (CPUE=206). In 2018, 20.5% of the catchable Bluegill population exceeded 7" and 2.9% exceeded 8". The current Bluegill/Redear Sunfish regulation is 10 fish/day. This quality bluegill fishery should provide anglers with excellent fishing opportunities for years to come.

Redear Sunfish: Redear Sunfish were collected at a rate of 6 fish per hour during the 2021 electrofishing survey. These fish ranged from 8.0-9.0". In 2018, 11 Redear Sunfish were sampled ranging from 7-10". The Redear Sunfish population looks to be healthy, however a higher catch rate is desired.

Channel Catfish: One Channel Catfish was collected during the 2021 survey. This fish measured 11.9". No Channel Catfish were collected during the 2018 survey. IDNR will continue to stock non-vulnerable Channel Catfish biennially, or as State Hatchery production allows, to maintain angling opportunities for this species.

Other fish species: Other species present in this lake include Black Crappie, Common Carp, Golden Shiner, and White Crappie.

Fishing Regulations: see the Illinois Fishing Information Booklet or www.IFISHILLINOIS.org for updates.

Two pole and line fishing only and each pole must not have more than 2 hooks or lures attached while fishing.

Channel Catfish - 6 Fish Daily Harvest Limit

Bluegill or Redear Sunfish (14) – 10 Fish Daily Harvest Limit

Aquatic vegetation and/or chemical treatment:

- None

Fisheries Management Activities Completed:

- Conducted an electrofishing survey consisting of (1) 30 minute pulsed-DC run utilizing a standard sampling protocol on 6/2/2021. Water Temperature was 70.0F. A total of 93 fish were collected, representing 7 species.
- Hatchery stocked 250 8" Channel Catfish on 8/12/2020.
- Conducted an electrofishing survey consisting of (1) 30 minute pulsed-DC runs utilizing a standard sampling protocol on 6/5/2019. Water Temperature was 78.8F. A total of 179 fish were collected, representing 5 species.
- Hatchery stocked 200 8" Channel Catfish on 8/29/2019.