

Derby Pond

23.1 acres
Woodside

The number of largemouth bass has improved at Derby Pond with fish over 15 inches becoming more abundant. Growth was average, with 12 inches achieved by age three. Bass from age 1 to age 7 were collected in 2011, but 2008 and 2009 year classes were particularly abundant. The spring 2009 population estimate of largemouth bass was 880 (confidence interval 359-2,200) or 38 bass per acre.

The high slot limit (bass 15 to 18 inches protected, only one larger than 18 inches can be harvested) was in place here for a number of years but was dropped (effective 4/10/10) due to the reluctance of anglers to harvest small bass. Release rates for largemouth bass have been reported at more than 90% statewide.



Bluegill abundance has increased substantially in recent years with the majority of the fish over 6 inches. Bluegill over 8 inches are not uncommon here and growth above average. Moderate numbers of black crappie were also present. Crappie size structure was good with 9 to 11 inch fish most common. The total panfish electrofishing catch increased from 277 per hour in 2006 to 571 by 2011, due primarily to bluegill and yellow perch. Larger bluegill often concentrate in areas along the shoreline adjacent to the road and up toward the islands during the spring and fall months.

An occasional citation yellow perch has been reported to the Delaware Sportfishing Tournament. The center of the pond where the two arms meet is a good location for both crappie and yellow perch. American eel and chain pickerel were common, with brown bullhead and carp observed in lesser numbers.

VEGETATION

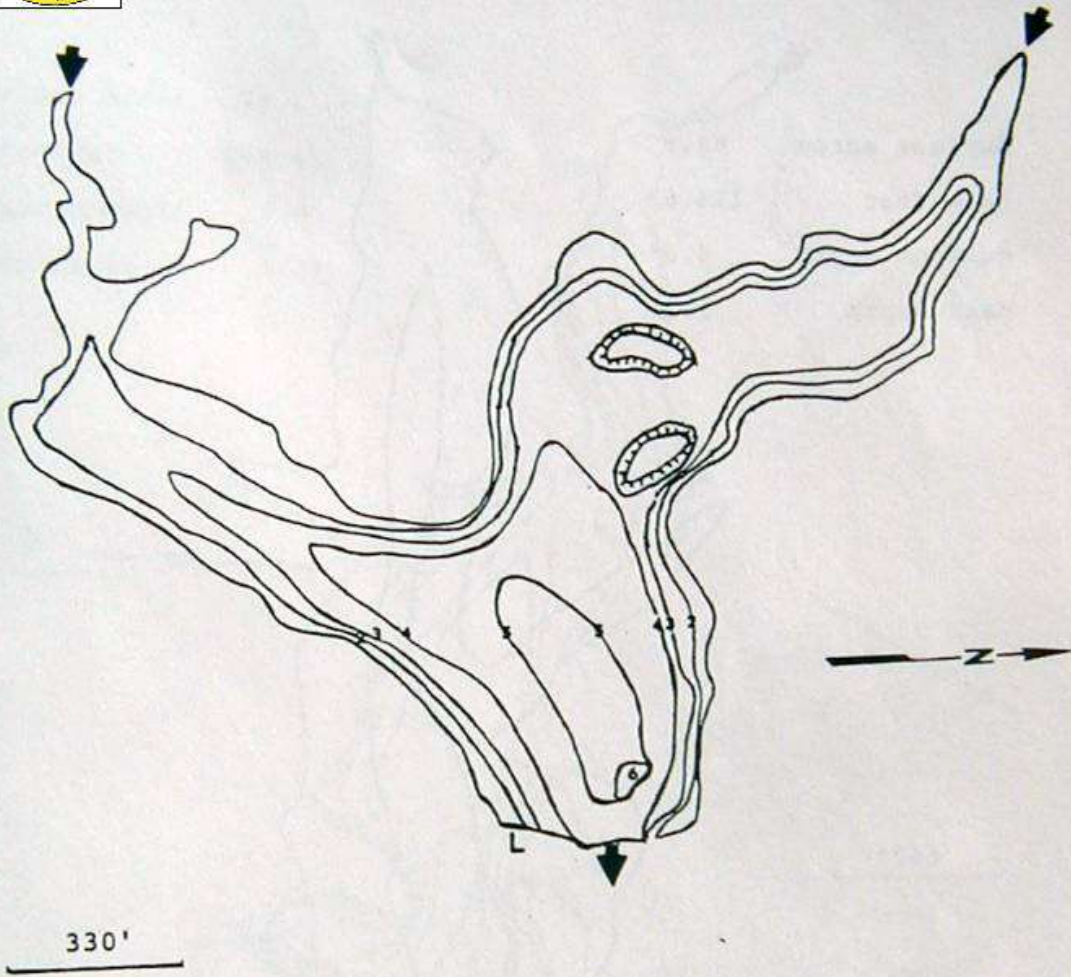
The aquatic vegetation of this pond consists of spatterdock with some floating mats of algae. Large numbers of Canada geese in the pond have denuded some of the shoreline areas of vegetation and undoubtedly have contributed to the nutrient load within the pond. Mats of filamentous (thread-like) green algae were observed in many areas throughout the pond and often require herbicide treatment. The edges of spatterdock beds often hold bass during the summer months.

SPECIAL CONDITION

The protected slot limit of 15 to 18 inches for largemouth bass has been removed from this pond so the statewide bag limit of 6 bass and minimum size of 12 inches is in place.



DERBY POND



Surface acres	23.1
Acre-feet	50.85
Maximum depth	6.0'
Mean depth	2.2'

Legend	
Water flow	➔
Launching ramp	L
Island	☀