



2010 Fishing Forecast

CHARLES MILL RESERVOIR

Richland and Ashland County
1,350 Acres- 10 h.p. motor limit



Compared to Other Inland Lakes and Reservoirs

Species	FISH POPULATION STATUS			Stocked	Anglers Seeking(%)
	Overall Numbers	This size or Larger	Largest Sampled		
Channel Catfish	Excellent	16"	26.6"	<input type="checkbox"/>	23.8
Crappie	Excellent	7"	12.8"	<input type="checkbox"/>	11.8
Largemouth Bass	Good	12"	20.5"	<input type="checkbox"/>	7.4
Hybrid Striped Bass	Excellent	8"	23.3"	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.2
Saugeye	Excellent	15"	21.8"	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	0.2
Sunfish	Fair	6"	7.8"	<input type="checkbox"/>	4.7

Channel Catfish

OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT

Catfish sampling showed excellent numbers of adult fish with the largest being 26.6". Catfish can be caught nearly anywhere in the lake, but the best location is along the peninsula between the marina and the swimming beach. Also, try the area around the State Route 430 Bridge.

Crappie

OUTLOOK: GOOD

Black crappie made up 97% of the population in the Fall 2009 sampling. The average black crappie was 5", and nearly 20% of these fish were at least 7" in length. Harvested black crappie averaged 11.5" based on 2008 creel data. The best fishing areas are in the marina basin near submerged trees and around boat docks, but try any area with submerged trees. Try using a jig tipped with either a twister tail or a minnow.

Largemouth Bass

OUTLOOK: GOOD

In the spring 2009 sampling, 43% of the bass sampled were at least 12". And, 8% of the bass were at least 15". The best shoreline locations are on either side of the marina peninsula or off the rip-rap near the dam. Boat anglers should concentrate on submerged structure near the marina.

Hybrid Striped Bass

OUTLOOK: EXCELLENT

Recent surveys have shown excellent numbers of fish that averaged 9". A total of 26% of these fish were 8" or greater, and the largest fish measured was 23.3" and weighed 7.5 pounds. Try trolling in the summer or jigging weighted minnow imitations. Fishing with worms along shoreline areas in the spring and fall can also be effective. Anglers also do well using chicken livers fished on the bottom from both shore +

Saugeye

OUTLOOK FAIR

Fall sampling for adult saugeye showed excellent numbers of fish, a large increase over previous years. Nearly 47% of the fish sampled were greater than 15" and the largest fish was 21.8" in length. The best location is usually between the marina and the outlet to the western basin and around the beach area at night. Also, try fishing below the dam in the tailwater during winter and spring.

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Sunfish

OUTLOOK: FAIR

Sunfish sampling in 2003 yielded a fair population with nearly 56% of the fish measuring 6" or better.

NOTES:

Charles Mill has two concrete ramps with courtesy docks available to the public. Ice fishing is permitted. An updated lake map is available at our website: <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife/fishing/lakemaps/lmaps.htm>