

# Penny Road Pond Population Survey



Located in Barrington Hills on the south side of Penny Rd. west of Old Sutton Rd. This small 7-acre pond has a maximum depth of 4.6 feet and is connected to Spring Creek. The fish population of Penny Road Pond includes Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, sunfish, and bullhead.

## Fish Population Survey

Fish population surveys are periodically conducted on Forest Preserves lakes in order to assess the health of the lake and the fish population in it. Surveys last anywhere from a few hours to a few days depending on the size of the lake.

Water samples are collected and analyzed for each survey. The information collected over the years will show trends in the lake's health. If any unusual readings are found, further tests may be done, or the Illinois DNR and EPA may be asked to investigate.

Fish are collected during surveys to assess the health of the population. Several methods are used to collect fish, these include experimental gill nets, Fyke or trap nets and the use of an electro-fishing boat. All fish collected are measured, weighed and a scale sample is collected when applicable. These scale samples are used to age the fish. All fish are then returned to the lake when possible.

The information listed below was collected during the most recent survey. It is only a snapshot in time. Many factors such as temperature, wind, rain and even moonlight can affect the species and number of fish that are collected. The Forest Preserves' Fisheries Section looks at data from many years when assessing a lake's fish population and assumptions from just one year of data therefore should not be made.

The dates of the survey along with the type of equipment used and the length of time it was fished is listed below. The "Total Population" tables & charts show all species collected and includes not only game fish but also forage fish. A healthy balanced population of forage fish and predatory (game) fish is needed in order to support a healthy overall fish population. Ideally, 30 to 40% of a lake's total fish population should be made up of forage fish in order to support a healthy predatory fish population. The species of forage fish varies from lake to lake, Gizzard Shad may be the main forage fish in one lake, while Bluegill/sunfish may be the main forage fish in another

Individual species tables are included only for the game fish that were collected. Game fish are those fish most sought after by anglers.

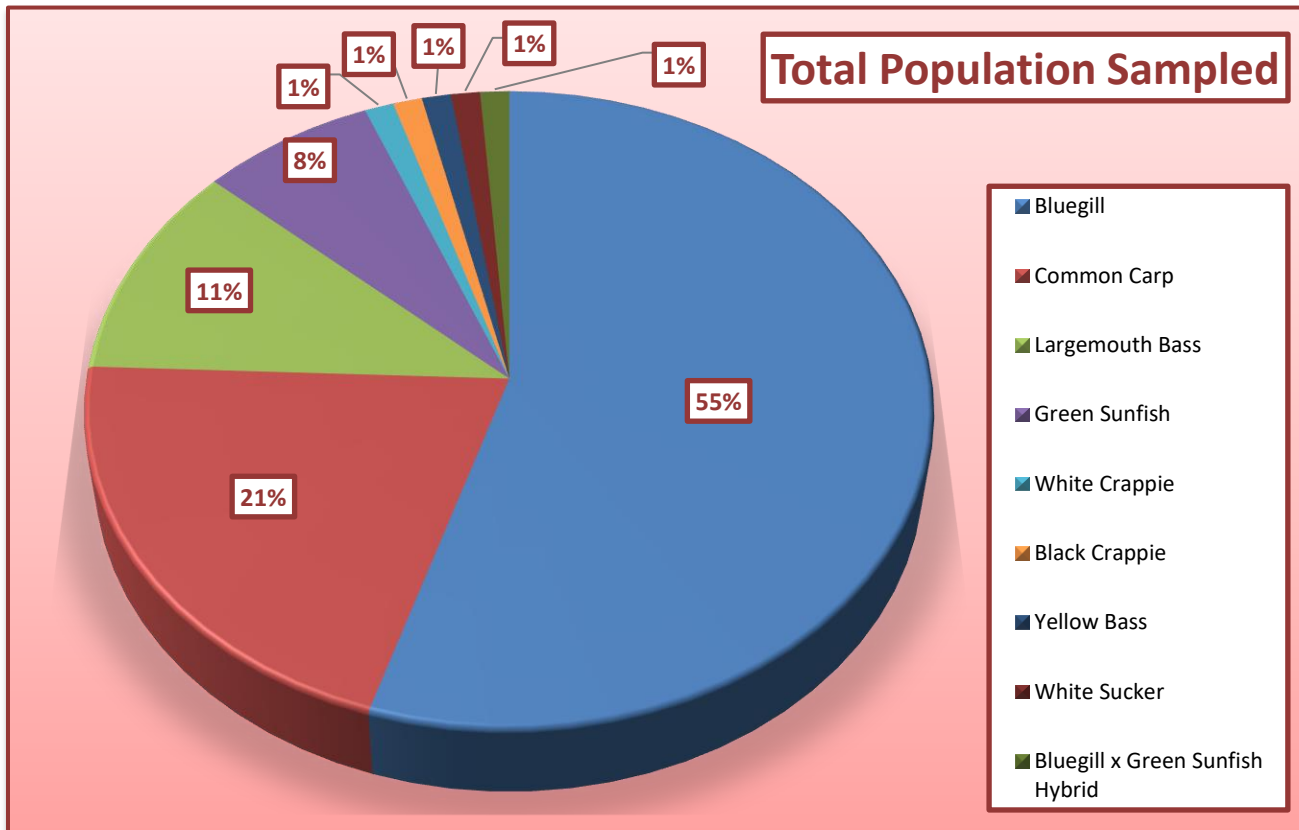
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**Date of survey: June 22, 2023**  
**Electro-fishing time: 25 minutes**  
**0 Fyke nets fished: 0 hours**  
**0 feet of gill nets fished: 0 hours**

## Total Population

Species	Number	Percent
Bluegill	45	54.88%
Common Carp	17	20.73%
Largemouth Bass	9	10.98%
Green Sunfish	6	7.32%
White Crappie	1	1.22%
Black Crappie	1	1.22%
Yellow Bass	1	1.22%
White Sucker	1	1.22%
Bluegill x Green Sunfish Hybrid	1	1.22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>100.01%</b>



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## Bluegill

1/2-Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
2.5	10	22.22%	0.01	0+
3.0	11	24.44%	0.02	1+
3.5	1	2.22%	0.04	1+
4.0	1	2.22%	0.05	1+
4.5	1	2.22%	0.06	1 -2+
5.0	2	4.44%	0.09	2+
5.5	15	33.33%	0.13	2+
-	-	-	-	-
6.5	1	2.22%	0.17	3+
<b>Totals</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>99.98%</b>		

## Common Carp

1/2-Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
15.0	1	5.88%	2.00	NA+
-	-	-	-	-
16.0	4	23.53%	1.85	3+
16.5	1	5.88%	2.72	4+
17.0	2	11.76%	2.50	4+
17.5	2	11.76%	2.39	4+
18.0	4	23.53%	2.91	4+
-	-	-	-	-
19.0	2	11.76%	3.22	5+
-	-	-	-	-
20.0	1	5.88%	4.31	5+
<b>Totals</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>99.98%</b>		

# Penny Road Pond Population Survey



## Largemouth Bass

1/2-Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
3.0	1	11.11%	0.01	0+
-	-	-	-	-
7.0	1	11.11%	0.17	1+
-	-	-	-	-
8.5	2	22.22%	0.28	2+
-	-	-	-	-
9.5	1	11.11%	0.42	2+
-	-	-	-	-
11.0	1	11.11%	0.63	3+
11.5	1	11.11%	0.70	3+
-	-	-	-	-
12.5	1	11.11%	1.22	3+
-	-	-	-	-
16.0	1	11.11%	2.07	6+
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>99.99%</b>		

## Green Sunfish

1/2-Inch Group	Number Collected	% of Population	Average Weight lbs.	Age
1.5	2	33.33%	0.004	0+
2.0	3	50.00%	0.005	0+
2.5	1	16.67%	0.01	0+
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>100.00%</b>		

## Other Species collected

Species	Number	Length	Weight	Age
Black Crappie	1	9.0	0.29	2+
White Crappie	1	7.5	0.20	2+
Yellow Bass	1	7.0	0.15	1+
Green Sunfish x Pumpkinseed Hybrid	1	5.0	0.10	2+

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## Fisheries Survey Overview

The 2023 survey of Penny Road Pond was difficult due to drought conditions and low water levels. Bluegill made up more than 50% of the total population sampled. These fish ranged in size from 2.5-inches up to 6.5-inches with almost 45% of the Bluegill sampled being over 5.0-inches. Normally when this pond has been surveyed in the past more Largemouth Bass are collected but due to the water conditions the bass were in deeper water and difficult to sample. The bass that were collected ranged from 3.0-inch young-of-year fish up to six year old 16-year old fish.

If you're interested in fishing for carp, this may be the pond for you. With its influence from Poplar Creek, this pond has a good population of larger Common Carp. Only two crappie were sampled in 2023. This population is larger than indicated by the fish collected. Crappie can be difficult to sample because they are found in more open water at this time of the year.

Additional surveys need to be conducted when water levels and weather condition are better in order to get a better idea of this fishery.