

**BUCKEYE LAKE – Fairfield County, (2,816 acres), unlimited horsepower**

**Bluegill** – good population, 6-8", vegetated eastern half of lake best. Try using a nightcrawler suspended by a bobber. Ice fishing is effective. OUTLOOK – GOOD.

**Carp** – good population, best choice in central Ohio to fish for large carp. Try using prepared bait fished on the bottom along brushy areas. OUTLOOK – EXCELLENT.

**Channel catfish** – excellent population, including some to 20 pounds. Try prepared baits, shrimp or cut bait, especially in July and August. Just after ice-out, try cut bait on the windward side of the lake. Note: no bag limit, only one fish 28 inches and larger. OUTLOOK – GOOD.

**Crappie** – abundant population of both blacks and whites, 7-11". Try shoreline cover in the spring and fall using minnows suspended by a bobber. East end of lake can be best. OUTLOOK – GOOD.

**Flathead catfish** – improving population. This is the best reservoir in central Ohio to fish for big flatheads, an underutilized fishery. Fishing large chubs, small carp and suckers at night just off the bottom is productive. Note: no bag limit, one 35" and greater. OUTLOOK – GOOD.

**Hybrid striped bass** – Hybrid striped bass in Buckeye Lake grow to about 6" their first year, to 13" their second year, and to about 18" their third year. Some hybrids have been taken through the ice. Try using chicken livers in all areas of the lake, especially the north shore between Seller's Point and the north boat ramp. OUTLOOK – EXCELLENT.

**Largemouth bass** – fair population. Fish 11-20" long, good "early" lake due to shallow, fast warming water. Try Cranberry Marsh and canals using crank baits and tubes in the spring, use spinner baits in the fall. 12" minimum length limit. OUTLOOK – FAIR.

**Saugeye** – first introduced experimentally in 1993. Due to good success, annual stockings have continued. Buckeye was second in the state in Fish Ohio awards issued in 2004. Saugeyes can be taken throughout the year. Use a jig tipped with a minnow. Also try casting or trolling minnow imitations or shallow running crank baits. OUTLOOK – EXCELLENT.