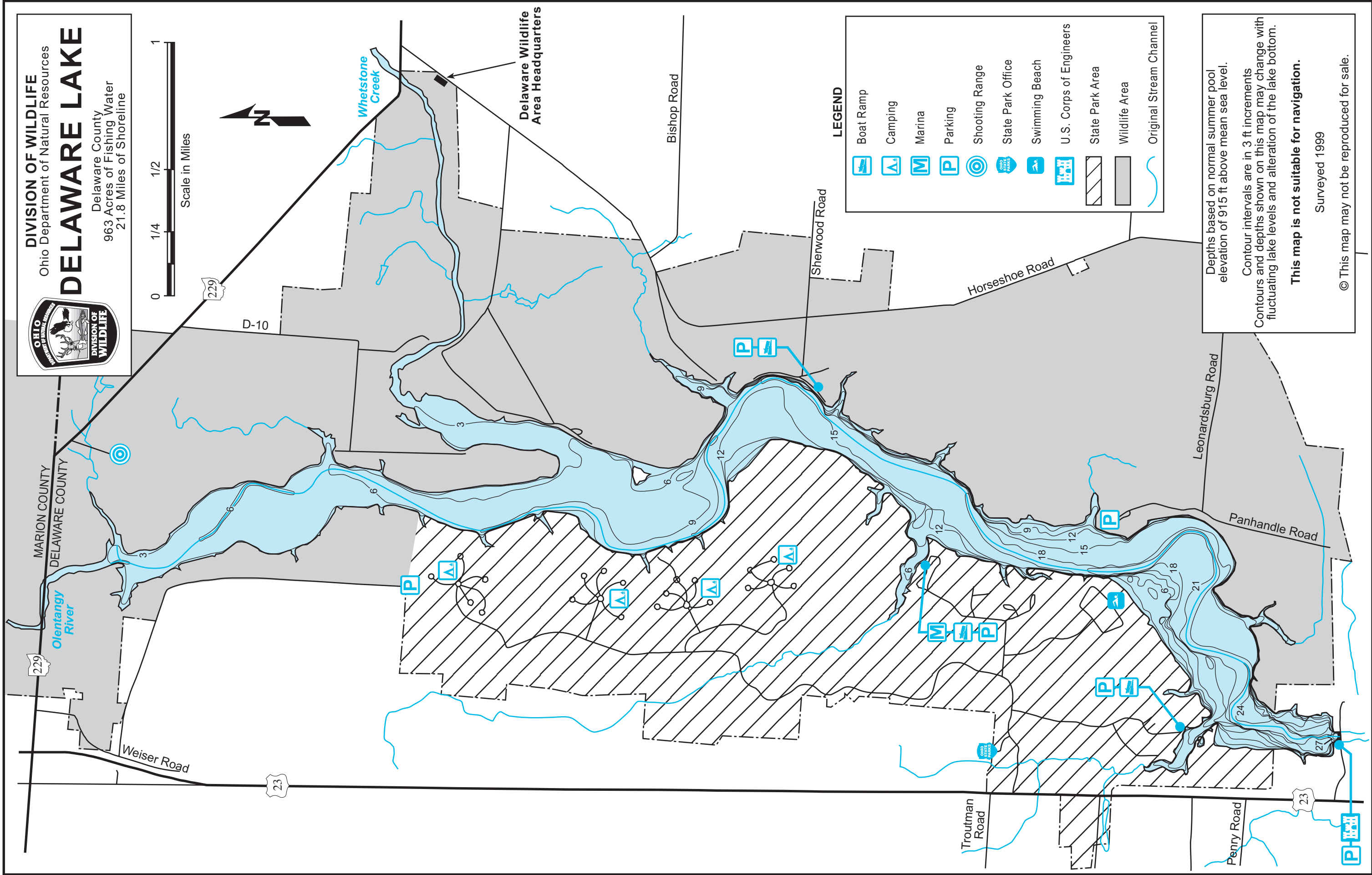




**DIVISION OF WILDLIFE**  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

# DELAWARE LAKE

Delaware County  
963 Acres of Fishing Water  
21.8 Miles of Shoreline



**LEGEND**

- Boat Ramp
- Camping
- Marina
- Parking
- Shooting Range
- State Park Office
- Swimming Beach
- U.S. Corps of Engineers
- State Park Area
- Wildlife Area
- Original Stream Channel

Depths based on normal summer pool elevation of 915 ft above mean sea level.  
Contour intervals are in 3 ft increments  
Contours and depths shown on this map may change with fluctuating lake levels and alteration of the lake bottom.

**This map is not suitable for navigation.**

Surveyed 1999

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# DELAWARE LAKE

## Delaware County

### LOCATION

Delaware Lake is in Delaware County, about 4 miles north of the city of Delaware. It is accessible from State Routes 23, 229, and 42.

### HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

Delaware Lake was constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for flood reduction, water supply, recreation, and fish and wildlife management. The lake was first filled in spring 1951. Today, 963 acres of water are impounded behind Delaware Dam. The dam retains water from two major tributaries, the Olentangy River and Whetstone Creek, and has a drainage area of about 247,000 acres. Due to the large watershed, compared to the size of the lake, Delaware Lake experiences water level changes up to 20 feet. The use of Delaware Lake as a water supply is expected to increase dramatically due to the rapid development of the metropolitan area north of Columbus.

### FISHES OF INTEREST TO ANGLERS

Delaware Lake has populations of largemouth bass, white and black crappie, bluegill, channel catfish, white bass, saugeye, carp, and bullheads. Saugeye fingerlings are stocked annually by the ODNR Division of Wildlife. Gizzard shad is the main forage species.

### METHODS OF FISHING AND BEST FISHING SITES

Delaware Lake is one of the best lakes in Ohio for anglers seeking good numbers and sizes of white and black crappie. When seeking crappies, use minnows and jigs fished in areas with brushy cover. Largemouth bass tournament fishing is popular and Delaware Lake is consistently one of the top 10 lakes in the state for bass tournament results. To catch saugeyes, try fishing the tailwater area in late fall and early spring. For white bass, try fishing Whetstone Creek in May with spinner baits. For channel catfish, use nightcrawlers fished on the bottom at night especially during the summer.

### RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The ODNR Division of Parks and Recreation operates and maintains parking lots, boat ramps, boat docks, campgrounds, a swimming beach, picnic areas, and hiking trails on the west side of the lake. The Division of Wildlife operates and maintains parking lots, a boat ramp, shooting range, and public hunting area primarily on the east side of the lake.

Note: There are currently no horsepower limits at Delaware Lake, however limits and other boating regulations are subject to change. Boaters should contact the Division of Wildlife for current information.

### FISH OHIO

Anglers who catch a big fish should enter their prize in the Fish Ohio angler recognition program. A fish qualifies for an award if it meets the minimum size requirement set for the Fish Ohio program. Applications are available from the Division of Wildlife and from many tackle and bait stores.

### FISH MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

The Division of Wildlife's fish management activities include stocking, conducting angler creel surveys, constructing fishing piers, renovating boat ramps and parking areas, and monitoring fish populations with nets, seines, and electrofishing gear. These activities are vital to providing adequate public access and determining the management practices necessary to produce good quality fishing.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The nearest district office is Wildlife District One, 1500 Dublin Road, Columbus, Ohio 43215 telephone 614-644-3925. The Division also has a Web site for information on fishing regulations, tips, maps and other wildlife related information ([www.ohiodnr.com](http://www.ohiodnr.com)). To get other maps or publications call toll free 1-800-WILDLIFE.

### TURN IN A POACHER

Ohio's TIP, "Turn In a Poacher," program is helping to control poaching throughout the state. TIP is designed to involve the public in reporting wildlife violations. Citizens who observe wildlife violations should call the TIP toll-free hotline, 1-800-POACHER.



## ODNR DIVISION OF WILDLIFE DISTRICT OFFICES

**WILDLIFE CENTRAL OFFICE**  
2045 Morse Road, Bldg. G  
Columbus, Ohio 43229-6605  
Phone: (614) 265-6300

**WILDLIFE DISTRICT ONE**  
1500 Dublin Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
Phone: (614) 644-3925

**WILDLIFE DISTRICT TWO**  
952 Lima Avenue  
Findlay, Ohio 45840  
Phone: (419) 424-5000

**WILDLIFE DISTRICT THREE**  
912 Portage Lakes Drive  
Akron, Ohio 44319  
Phone: (330) 644-2293

**WILDLIFE DISTRICT FOUR**  
360 East State Street  
Athens, Ohio 45701  
Phone: (740) 589-9930

**WILDLIFE DISTRICT FIVE**  
1076 Old Springfield Pike  
Xenia, Ohio 45385  
Phone: (937) 372-9261

ODNR Division of Wildlife Internet address: [www.ohiodnr.com](http://www.ohiodnr.com)  
Toll free 1-800-WILDLIFE

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