



DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

BELMONT LAKE

Belmont County
114 Acres of Fishing Water
6.7 Miles of Shoreline

Depths based on normal summer pool elevation of 1,085 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.

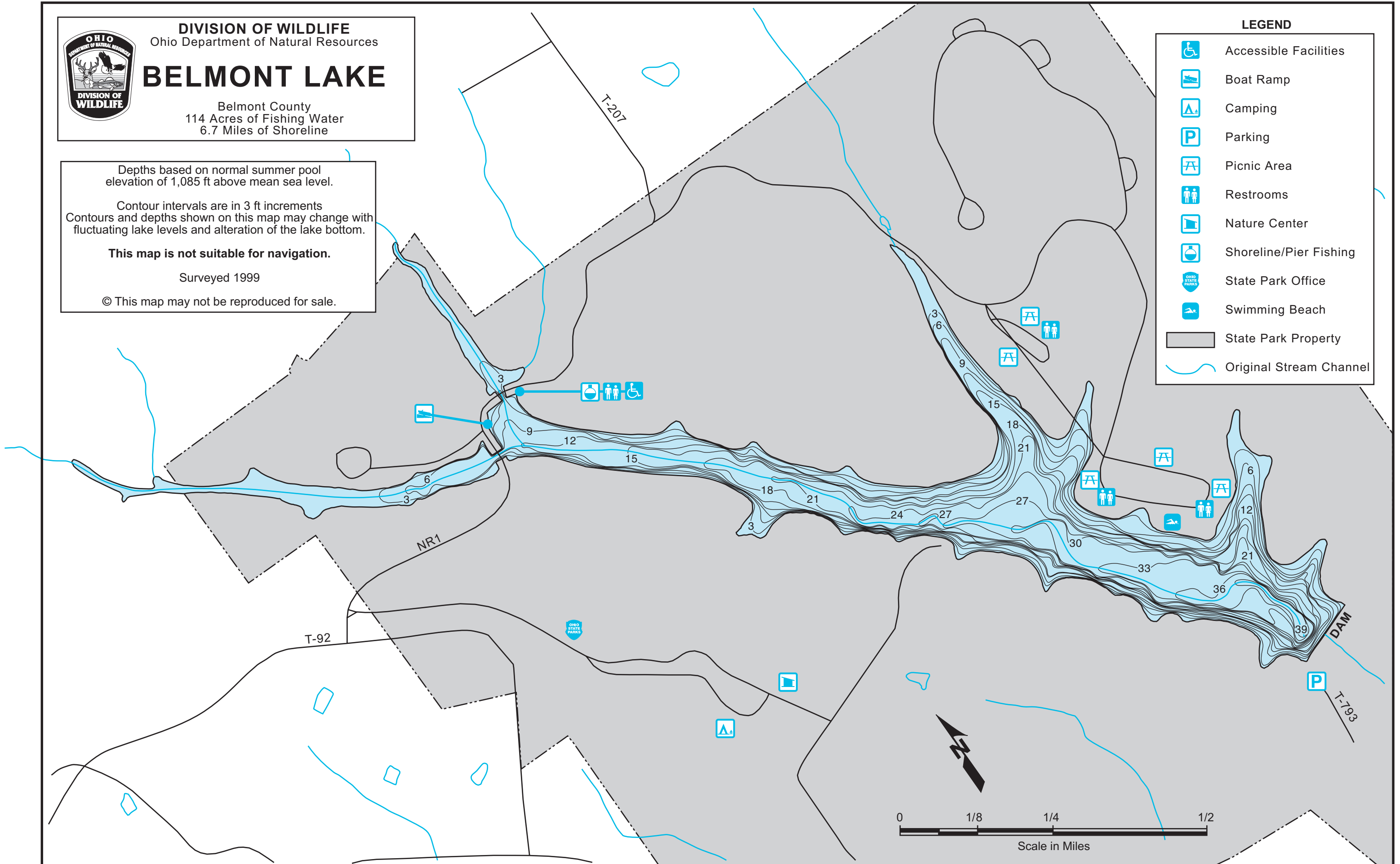
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Surveyed 1999

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LEGEND

- Accessible Facilities
- Boat Ramp
- Camping
- Parking
- Picnic Area
- Restrooms
- Nature Center
- Shoreline/Pier Fishing
- State Park Office
- Swimming Beach
- State Park Property
- Original Stream Channel



BELMONT LAKE

Belmont County

LOCATION

Belmont Lake is part of Barkcamp State Park which is located in Belmont County. The entire lake lies within Union Township. The dam impounding Barkcamp Creek was completed in 1963, resulting in the 117-acre Belmont Lake. Belmont Lake is located one mile east of the village of Belmont off Township Road 92.

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

Belmont Lake was created as part of Barkcamp State Park for recreational purposes. The area around Belmont Lake consists of sandstone hills and valleys which are covered by second growth forest. This area was one of the earliest areas settled in Ohio and has a rich local history.

FISHES OF INTEREST TO ANGLERS

Belmont Lake is home to many fish species that are of interest to anglers. Largemouth bass are found in good numbers with most fish averaging 12 inches. Bass up to 20 inches and larger can be found as well. Bluegill are plentiful and can be found throughout the lake. Channel catfish are stocked every other year, resulting in a quality fishery. Saugeye were first stocked in 2001 and hopefully will develop into an additional fishery for anglers. Catchable rainbow trout are stocked in the spring and are popular with local anglers.

METHODS OF FISHING AND BEST FISHING SITES

Largemouth bass angling is typically best in the spring and fall. As springtime water temperatures warm up, bass will move into shallow water areas in preparation for spawning. Spinnerbaits, rubber worms, crankbaits, and fig/pig combinations work well. Warm, summer temperatures push bass somewhat deeper during the day and nighttime fishing may be worth a try. Cooler, fall temperatures will trigger bass to move back in the shallow water areas. Fishing success may pick up as bass prepare for winter.

Bluegill can be caught throughout the lake from early spring until fall. Popular methods include waxworms and redworms fished below a bobber. Conditions permitting, ice fishing for bluegill can be productive and add fishing opportunities during the winter months.

Channel catfish angling picks up by mid-June. Nightcrawlers, chicken livers, or prepared catfish baits work well when fished on the bottom. Night fishing for catfish is a popular method for catfish anglers.

Saugeye can be found shallow in the spring, fall, and winter. Shallow mud or sand flats are good areas to explore as well as shoreline areas with rip-rap. Twister-tail jigs tipped with a minnow or nightcrawler and hopped along the bottom work well.

Catchable rainbow trout can be found throughout the lake soon after stocking. Prepared trout bait, cheese, marshmallows, and corn fished below a bobber or on the bottom with a small hook and split-shot can be used to catch these fish. Small inline spinners also work well.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Boat launching facilities, camping, and picnicking facilities are located nearby. Seasonal boat dock rental is also available. Electric Motors only.

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 ODNR Division of Wildlife and from many tackle and bait stores.

FISH MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

The ODNR Division of Wildlife's fish management activities include stocking, population monitoring with nets, electrofishing surveys, creel census, felling trees, and preparing Christmas tree piles to act as fish attractors, and conducting general physical and chemical water quality analyses. A continuing check of water quality and fish populations is vital in determining the management practices necessary to produce quality fish for the public.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Questions and inquiries can be directed to Wildlife District Four, 360 East State Street, Athens, Ohio 45701 telephone (740) 589-9930. The Division of Wildlife also has a Web site for information on fishing regulations, tips, maps, and other wildlife related material (www.ohiodnr.com). To get other maps or publications call toll free 1-800-WILDLIFE. For additional information about Barkcamp State Park or other state parks, visit www.ohiodnr.com.

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

Toll free 1-800-WILDLIFE

Bob Taft, Governor • Samuel W. Speck, Director • Steven A. Gray, Chief
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