

Fishing/ Ice Fishing

There is a wide range of opportunities available for fishing in the Pittsburgh District's lakes and rivers. In partnership with state agencies, Corps biologists monitor the water quality and fish populations in the rivers and reservoirs. Through stocking, fertilization, water treatment, habitat development, and other management techniques, a healthy fishery is maintained. Water releases from the reservoirs during the dry summer months have also resulted in an improved river fishery. Species of fish vary between projects, depending on such variables as water quality and temperature. Lake trout, bass, brown trout, muskellunge, walleye, panfish and many others are waiting to be caught.

NOTE: Fishing on all Corps lakes and on rivers requires a fishing license from the state (and Seneca Nation of Indians at Allegheny Reservoir) which has jurisdiction over the water you are fishing.

For information on boat launches, go to the "[Watercraft Sports](#)" section on this page.

Berlin Lake

Berlin Lake is renowned for its excellent walleye fishing. It is one of the few inland lakes in Ohio in which natural reproduction of walleye and muskellunge occurs. Sportsmen will also enjoy fishing for the largemouth and smallmouth bass, channel catfish, bullhead, white bass, crappie and bluegill which abound in the lake. The outflow area, though difficult to access, seasonally supports very large numbers of large sport fish.

The average depth of the lake is about 16 feet and the maximum depth is about 76 feet.

Fishing supplies are available through concessionaires located at the lake.

Conemaugh River Lake

Until recently, reduced water quality from acid mine drainage limited the sport fishery at Conemaugh River Lake. However, within the last ten years, water quality has improved noticeably, particularly in tributary bays. Species include largemouth bass, northern pike, bluegill, perch, and bullhead. In the outflow area, fishing is excellent for yellow perch (especially in the spring), and bullhead.

An indication of the extent of water quality improvement over the last ten years is the diversity of fish in the tailwaters. In 1986, only 3 species were observed, while in 1996, 26 species were observed.

The average depth of the lake is about 7 feet and the maximum depth is about 20 feet.

Crooked Creek Lake

Crooked Creek Lake is host to many species of fish. Largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, walleye, muskellunge, yellow perch, crappie, bullhead, and carp inhabit the lake. The lake supports an excellent population of largemouth bass. It is also known for its good panfish fishery, including crappie, bluegill, and

brown bullhead. The outflow area boasts of a popular fishing enhancement project - the Fishing Embayment and its associated accessible fishing pier.

The average depth of the lake is about 15 feet and the maximum depth is about 43 feet.

East Branch Clarion River Lake East Branch boasts the only location in the Pittsburgh District which contains lake trout. Once referred to as "The Dead Sea of Elk County", efforts to reduce acid mine drainage have resulted in a much improved fishery. In addition to lake trout, East Branch Lake supports good populations of smallmouth bass, walleye, and muskie. In winter, the lake is a popular ice fishing hot spot.

The average depth of the lake is about 55 feet and the maximum depth is about 147 feet.

Kinzua Dam/Allegheny Reservoir

The Pennsylvania state record for walleye and northern pike, and the New York state record for walleye and channel catfish have come from Allegheny Reservoir. The fishery is managed primarily for walleye, but it also supports good populations of northern pike, muskellunge, smallmouth bass, brown trout, yellow perch, and white bass. An intense habitat management program is attempting to revive several fish populations, including largemouth bass, black & white crappie, bluegill, channel catfish, and bullhead. For information on how to help improve fishing at Allegheny Reservoir, visit the **Kinzua Fish and Wildlife Association** Website.

The outflow area is well known for its walleye and trout fishing, and its large muskie. Trout fishing is open year round in the tailwaters. In addition, many of the lake's tributary streams host populations of wild brook and brown trout.

The average depth of the lake is about 48 feet and the maximum depth is about 132 feet.

Fishing supplies are available through concessionaires located at the lake.

NOTE: Fishing licensing for the Allegheny Reservoir falls under three jurisdictions; Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - 75% of the lake's area, Seneca Nation of Indians - 22%, and New York State - 3%. There are no reciprocal fishing agreements. Licenses are required from the appropriate agency for each portion of the lake you wish to fish. For licensing information contact:

Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

P.O. Box 1673
Harrisburg, PA 17120

New York Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Region #9, 128 South Street
Olean, NY 14760

Seneca Nation of Indians

Clerk's Office,
Haley Building
P.O. Box 231
Salamanca, NY
14779

Loyalhanna Lake

Fishing is popular at Loyalhanna with an abundance of inlets, coves, and backwater areas to entice the angler. Especially plentiful in the waters of the lake are largemouth bass, saugeye, and brown bullhead. There are also good populations of black crappie, white crappie, and bluegill.

Fishing is particularly good in the area where Serviceberry Run flows into the lake and in the outflow area below the dam. The tailwaters produce good numbers of walleye and saugeye in the spring.

The average depth of the lake is about 10 feet and the maximum depth is about 49 feet.

Mahoning Creek Lake

Mahoning Creek Lake anglers will find abundant walleye, muskie, northern pike, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass inhabiting the lake and tailwaters. As a result of improving water quality downstream, brown and rainbow trout are now stocked in the outflow by the **Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission** who lease 860 acres of land and water.

The average depth of the lake is about 32 feet and the maximum depth is about 90 feet.

M. J. Kirwan Dam & Reservoir

Fishing at Michael J. Kirwan can be a very rewarding activity. The numerous deep feeder channels and shallow shoreline provide habitat for a variety of fish species. The reservoir has yielded many trophy size walleye, muskie, and striped bass. Largemouth and smallmouth bass, crappie, and bluegills are also found in abundance. During the winter months, ice fishing is popular and many fine catches of walleye and panfish are taken. The outflow area is inhabited by large walleye, musky, channel catfish, and a variety of panfish species.

A fishing area for the physically challenged is available at the outflow area. The area is accessible by vehicle **only for the physically challenged**. Permits **must be obtained** at the Corps Resource Manager's Office on the dam access road. An accessible comfort facility is also available at the site during the recreation season, typically May through October.

The average depth of the lake is about 21 feet and the maximum depth is about 58 feet.

Mosquito Creek Lake

Renowned for its excellent walleye fishing, anglers will also find crappie, bass, northern pike and catfish

plentiful in Mosquito Creek Lake's waters. Many fishermen likewise enjoy trying their angling skills in the tailwaters below the dam. This area also supports good populations of many of the reservoir fishes. On several occasions, it has also produced large flathead catfish. Fishing through the ice during winter's freeze is very popular with fishermen, and Mosquito Creek Lake's icy waters have yielded many fine catches of walleye and panfish.

The average depth of the lake is about 11 feet and the maximum depth is about 44 feet.

Shenango River Lake

Many fishing enthusiasts are attracted to the waters of Shenango River Lake for the bass, walleye, muskellunge, and the variety of panfish that inhabit the lake. In addition, thousands of anglers are drawn to the dam's outflow area to fish for not only trout, which are stocked annually by the **Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission** during the spring and fall, but also for the large warm water sport fish that concentrate there seasonally. >

The average depth of the lake is about 11.5 feet and the maximum depth is about 34 feet.

Fishing supplies are available through private stores located near the lake.

Stonewall Jackson Lake

Stonewall Jackson Lake is the youngest project in the Pittsburgh District, and as such, many of the trees on the reservoir bottom are still standing in the bays. These backwater areas, which provide excellent fishing opportunities, are easily accessible either by boat or by foot. The Corps provides excellent fishing access in the dam outflow area where there is an accessible fishing area. The fishing at Stonewall Jackson Lake is especially good for largemouth bass.

Other species providing angling opportunities in the lake include crappie, walleye, bluegill, yellow perch, muskellunge, channel catfish, bullhead, and carp. In addition to reservoir fishes, the tailwaters contain trout stocked by the **>West Virginia Division of Natural Resources**.

The average depth of the lake is about 19 feet and the maximum depth is about 82 feet.

Tionesta Lake

Fishermen have found the variety of fishing waters in the Tionesta Lake area enticing and productive. The clear mountain streams and placid lake have yielded many fine catches of trout, muskie, walleye, bass, and several species of panfish. A newly constructed access ramp below the dam in the outflow area provides excellent accessible fishing for tailwater anglers.

Ice fishing is available but the US Army Corps of Engineers does not monitor ice conditions or thickness. Please be cautious and fish at your own risk.

The average depth of the lake is about 20 feet and the maximum depth is about 40 feet.

Tygart Lake

Tygart Lake is considered by many to be one of the best bass waters in the area and fishing its deep waters can be a rewarding and exciting experience. In addition to large and smallmouth bass, anglers will find walleye, channel and flathead catfish, crappie, bluegill, white bass, rock bass, bullhead, yellow perch, and carp.

All species of fish found in Tygart Lake are sustained through natural reproduction rather than by stocking, attesting to the exceptional water quality of the lake. Fishing for rainbow and golden trout, which were introduced into the tailwaters of Tygart Dam, is also popular with many anglers. In recent years, the lake has supported very good populations of smallmouth bass and channel catfish.

The average depth of the lake is about 63 feet and the maximum depth is about 134 feet.

Union City Dam

Since Union City Dam seasonally has a dry bed reservoir behind it, fishing opportunities are mostly limited to the tailwaters which include the stilling basin, embayment area, and the river. In spite of this, fish diversity and abundance is among the highest in the Pittsburgh District. The tailwaters supports good populations of bluegill, smallmouth and largemouth bass, walleye, bullhead, northern pike, and large carp. The river boasts a wide variety and range in size of minnows, shiners, darters, and suckers.

Woodcock Creek Lake

Woodcock Creek Lake is one of the smaller but more productive reservoirs in the Pittsburgh District. The lake contains good numbers of walleye, bass, and muskellunge. Panfish species include crappie, yellow perch, bluegill, and bullhead. The tailwaters are easily accessible and provide excellent angling opportunities for all the lake's fishes, and are also stocked seasonally with trout by the **Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission**.

The average depth of the lake is about 15 feet and the maximum depth is about 44 feet.

Fishing supplies are available through concessionaires located at the lake.

Youghiogheny Lake

For the fisherman, there are numerous coves and backwater areas along the lake which provide excellent fishing. The lake is inhabited by a large variety of game and panfish and is especially known as a hotspot for walleye and smallmouth bass.

A license has been granted to the **Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission** for fish management purposes in the Pennsylvania portion of the lake. The Fish Commission has also developed, and maintains, the Jockey Hollow Boat Launching Area. The tailwaters of the dam are very popular for trout fishing. Youghiogheny River Lake's outflow area is one of the few areas in Pennsylvania open for trout fishing year round (except for the two weeks immediately preceding Opening Day) and is stocked on a regular basis throughout the spring and summer.

The average depth of the lake is about 54 feet and the maximum depth is about 121 feet.

Fishing supplies are available through concessionaires located at the lake.