



Long Pond
BREWSTER & HARWICH

716 Acres

Not To Be Used For Navigational Purposes

2-83

Long Pond
Brewster/Harwich
Barnstable County
Cape Cod Watershed

Latitude: 41.72574 N Longitude: 70.06669 W



716 Acres

Depth: 23 Feet Average
66 Feet Maximum

Primary Gamefish:
Smallmouth Bass

www.mass.gov/masswildlife

General Information:

Long Pond in Brewster and Harwich is a 716 acre natural great pond, the largest freshwater pond on Cape Cod. It has an average depth of 23 feet and a maximum depth of 66 feet. Transparency is good, extending to 14 feet, and aquatic vegetation is scarce. The bottom is composed of sand and rubble. The pond's 6.4 miles of shoreline is moderately developed with houses, seasonal cottages and beaches. Three small ponds are connected to the main pond by small channels: Black, Smalls and Greenland Ponds. The entire system drains into the Herring River. During the summer, dissolved oxygen levels drop below 2 ppm at 34 feet and deeper.

Access:

There are so many Long Ponds in Massachusetts it is easy to get confused, but this one is located just north of Route 6 on the Brewster/Harwich border. It can be reached by taking Exit 10 from Route 6 and heading north on Route 124. Access is provided by three boat ramps: two in Harwich and one in Brewster. The Harwich ramps are located off Long Pond Road and are next to town beach areas. The Brewster ramp can be reached from Route 124 by taking Crowells Bog Road to Mammon Drive. This ramp is also next to a town beach. From Memorial Day to Labor Day, parking is restricted to town residents with a sticker.

Management History:

Around 1912, a survey reported yellow perch, white perch, catfish, eels, black bass, and herring were reported in Long Pond as well as several motor and sailboats. Prior to 1948, Long Pond has been stocked with smallmouth bass and brown bullheads. Striped bass were stocked by private parties in 1971 under a permit issued by the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. Alewives provide the forage base for the pond after travelling from Nantucket Sound via the Herring River and Herring River Reservoir, Hinckleys Pond and Seymour Pond. In fall 2007, the deeper areas of the pond were treated with alum to control phosphorus and thus reduce algae blooms.

Fish Populations:

A 1972 survey reported white perch, yellow perch, white sucker, American eel, smallmouth bass, golden shiner, brown bullhead, pumpkinseed and alewife. The pond was surveyed in 1972, 1980, and 1982. The most recent complete fish survey was in August 19, 1992 and twelve species were reported: alewife, American eel, banded killifish, white sucker, yellow perch, smallmouth bass, white perch, brown bullhead, largemouth bass, pumpkinseed and tessellated darter. Despite concerns about increasing acidity, successful reproduction of bass was noted in the 1992 and more recent surveys.

Fishing:

Long Pond is relatively infertile with a limited standing crop of gamefish. It is an excellent smallmouth bass pond, however, and produces individuals in the 3 to 5 pound range fairly frequently. Unfortunately, it is difficult to fish during the summer due to heavy recreational boating and swimming pressure. Best bet for smallmouth fanciers is to fish during the spring months. Use dark jigs or bucktails with a very slow retrieve, or use bait such as grass shrimp or crawlers. Anglers are encouraged to practice catch and release to maintain good, fishable stocks of smallmouth. If you're fishing for the table, concentrate on the yellow perch and white perch. There are some very nice ones in here.

Updated: December 21, 2007 S.T.H.