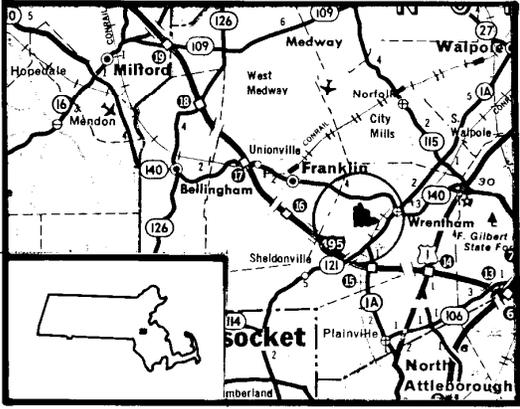


LOCATION



LAKE PEARL
 (WRENTHAM)
 Area = 218 Acres

NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATIONAL PURPOSES

LAKE PEARL (Wrentham)

General Information:

This large, 212-acre lake is located a quarter mile south of Route 140 in Wrentham. Maximum depth is 34 feet; average depth 12 feet. Transparency is fair to good at eight feet, although summer blooms of algae occasionally turn the water green. About a third of the bottom is composed of sand, but the rest is almost all muck. Aquatic vegetation is surprisingly scant. The shoreline is moderately developed with year round and seasonal homes.

Public access and parking is good thanks to a town-operated gravel ramp located off Gilmore Street. The bottom around this ramp is sandy and suitable for wading. Recreational usage of the water is high throughout the year and boat traffic is heavy during the spring and summer months.

Fish Populations:

The last fisheries survey, conducted in 1980, recorded eight species: largemouth bass, chain pickerel, bluegill, pumpkinseed, white perch, golden shiner and white sucker. The pond is also stocked heavily with trout — primarily rainbows, but sometimes browns and brookies — during both the spring and fall. It also receives stockings of broodstock salmon whenever these fish are available.

Fishing:

Lake Pearl is best known as a popular trout pond. Fishing pressure for stocked trout is very high during April and May, and may have increased with the introduction of the bonus Atlantic salmon. Anglers who are after trout but don't like the pressure of crowds should sample this pond in the fall, when the pressure is down but there are still plenty of trout available. Summer fishing — at least during the day — is virtually impossible due to the popularity of this pond with water-skiers and other speedy recreational users.

Despite its image as trout water, Lake Pearl conceals abundant bass, pickerel and panfish populations. Ice fishermen bag trophy chain pickerel relatively frequently, and also report good catches of perch and bass. While big bass are uncommon, on rare occasions this pond has given up trophies weighing up to nine pounds. Most of these have been taken by late night summer anglers, a few by ice fishermen.

April 1993