

TURNER POND
New Bedford/Dartmouth
Bristol County
Buzzards Bay Watershed
Latitude: 41.6843736 N Longitude: 70.9741866 W



55 Acres
Depth: *4 feet Average*
20 feet Maximum
Primary Gamefish:
Chain Pickerel

General Information:

Turner Pond is an infertile 55 acre impoundment of the Pasakamansett River. This warmwater pond is characterized by dark brown water, poor transparency (about 1.5 feet) and a mud bottom. Emergent aquatic vegetation covers nearly half the surface in summer. Average depth is four feet and the maximum depth is 20 feet. The shoreline (2.3 miles) is undeveloped. The pond's water is very acidic (pH 4.2 to 4.9) due to drainage from the Acushnet Cedar Swamp.

Access:

Turner Pond is located just to the northwest of the New Bedford Municipal Airport. The majority of the pond is part of the Acushnet Cedar Swamp State Reservation. The pond is easily accessible for shore fishing and for the launching of cartop boats and canoes. Old Fall River Road runs along the dam end of the pond and High Hill Road cuts through the middle of the pond. Some parking is available on adjacent conservation land and along the roadsides.

Management History:

An August 26, 1912 survey reported that the pond was dry in the summer except for the river channel and was also known as Turner's Mill Pond and the Pond at North Village. Due to its artificial status, the pond has not received much fisheries management over the years. It was stocked with small numbers of chain pickerel in 1971 and largemouth bass in 1973. Fish surveys in 1972, 1981 and 1988 all indicated a sparse fish population consisting of the following species: yellow perch, brown bullhead, pumpkinseed, chain pickerel, black crappie, golden shiner, tessellated darter and American eel. Liming the pond has been ruled out as a management option due to the ponds mud bottom.

Fish Populations:

The most recent survey was conducted in August of 1992 and captured banded sunfish, golden shiner, black crappie and yellow perch. Previous surveys also noted chain pickerel, brown bullhead, tessellated darter and American eel. Anglers also report largemouth bass.

Fishing:

Despite angler reports of some nice largemouth bass, fisheries surveys indicate that the entire fish population of Turner Pond is sparse, dominated by yellow perch in poor condition. During the summer, the oxygen levels of the deeper areas are poor and fish are confined to the top 8 feet of water or shallower. While the scenery is nice, the fishing is poor, and likely to deteriorate further as the more species succumb to the acidic conditions.

Updated: March 8, 2007 S.T.H

Restrictions: *There is a public health fish consumption advisory on Turner Pond due to [high mercury levels](#). The general public is advised to limit consumption of fish from Turner Pond to two meals per month. Children under 12, pregnant women and nursing mothers should refrain from eating fish from Turner Pond. For further information on fish consumption advisories, call the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Environmental Health Assessment (617) 624-5757. <http://www.state.ma.us/dph/beha/fishlist.htm>*