

Long Pond, Lakeville/Freetown

General Information

Long Pond is a huge, shallow, warmwater pond, covering 1,780 acres. It is the largest natural pond in Massachusetts. The pond is fed by numerous small streams and drains via Long Pond River (also known as the Snake River) into Assawompset Pond (a water supply for Taunton and New Bedford) which in turn feeds into the Nemasket River. Average depth is six feet and the maximum depth is only 15 feet. Transparency is five feet. The 11 miles of shoreline are heavily developed with year round homes. The water color is stained and aquatic vegetation is found in cove areas. Boaters should be cautioned that there are numerous submerged rocks.

Recreational Access

The town of Freetown manages an Office of Fishing and Boating Access concrete boat ramp and associated parking area with space for 47 trailers located off Route 18 in Freetown on the Southeast corner of the pond (70°55'45.9"W 41°46'59.2"N). Please contact town of Freetown for additional information and/or restrictions pertaining to public access of Long Pond.

Fish Populations

The following fish species were found during MassWildlife surveys: Largemouth Bass, Bluegill, Chain Pickerel, Yellow Perch, White Perch, Pumpkinseed, White Sucker, Alewife, Blueback Herring, Brown Bullhead, Golden Shiner, Tessellated Darter, and Lake Chubsucker.

A large population of invasive Asian clams (Corbicula sp.) has been found in the pond and anglers should take care to empty live wells and remove aquatic plants from boats and trailers before leaving the pond.

Fishing

Long Pond is a good largemouth bass pond and a popular site for bass tournaments. Fishing is also good for white and yellow perch. Some big chain pickerel are taken occasionally, and it would not be a bad bet for bullhead angling. The town of Freetown collects a parking fee on Saturday, Sundays and holidays. Long Pond has produced Brown Bullhead, Chain Pickerel, Largemouth Bass, Black Crappie, Yellow Perch, White Perch and Sunfish that meet minimum sizes for recognition by the Freshwater Sportfishing Awards Program.

Other nearby ponds include Tispaquin Pond in Middleboro, Snipatuit Pond and the Rochester Rearing System Ponds in Rochester. Shorefishing is also allowed on specific areas of Assawompset Pond, Poksha Pond and Great Quitticas Pond.

Useful Links:

Get your Fishing License

Freshwater Fishing

Trout Stocking Information

<u>Freshwater Sportfishing Awards</u> <u>Program</u>

Learn more:

Mass.gov/MassWildlife

Connect with us:

Facebook.com/MassWildlife

Your local MassWildlife office:

195 Bournedale Road Buzzards Bay, MA 02532 (508) 759-3406

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