

# Walden Pond, Concord

#### **General Information**

Walden Pond is a 62-acre great pond located a little to the southeast of the junction of Routes 2 and 126 in Concord. Maximum depth is 100 feet; average depth is approximately 39 feet. Transparency is excellent, extending to at least 18 feet. Aquatic vegetation is negligible and confined to the few shallow cove areas. The shoreline is virtually undeveloped, and much of it falls within the DCR's Walden Pond Reservation.

#### **Recreational Access**

Boat access is provided by a gravel ramp maintained by the DCR. It is located just off Route 128 (71°20′7.82″W 42°26′15.59″N). There is a fee to use this ramp (seasonal passes are available) and the gate is closed every night. The parking lot can only accommodate approximately 10 vehicles with trailers, but there is a much larger parking area just across the street. No gas-powered motors are allowed on the pond, but electric motors are permitted. Almost the entire pond is open to shore fishing. Please contact DCR for additional information, fee structure, and/or restrictions pertaining to public access of Walden Pond.

#### **Fish Populations**

The following fish species were found during MassWildlife surveys: Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Chain Pickerel, Brown Bullhead, Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, and Rainbow Smelt. Many trout are stocked here every year. The majority of these fish are stocked in the spring, but the pond is also stocked with trout in the fall.

## **Fishing**

The warm water fish populations in Walden Pond are small and slow growing so trout are the name of the game here, and not only recent stockies, but also holdover fish, which sometimes grow to trophy size. Most trout are taken by standard still-fishing techniques on worms, small shiners, doughbaits and salmon eggs; others on cast or trolled spoons, spinners or streamers. Many of the largest trout are taken through the ice. This pond tends to be heavily crowded during the peak stocking seasons and on winter weekends, so go on a weekday if possible. Action in the winter can be extremely slow: only one or two fish caught over the entire pond in a whole day. The few trout caught at such times are often lunkers, however, and many anglers are willing to put in the time in an attempt to catch one of these rare trophies. Walden Pond has produced Brook, Brown, and Rainbow Trout that meet the minimum size for recognition by the Freshwater Sportfishing Awards Program.

#### **Useful Links:**

Get your Fishing License

**Freshwater Fishing** 

**Trout Stocking Information** 

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

#### Learn more:

Mass.gov/MassWildlife

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