

OPEN FILE REPORT # 5

# **NATURAL LAKES IN OHIO**

**(LARGER THAN FIVE ACRES)**

By

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**INTRODUCTION**

Due to the numerous requests received concerning natural lakes in Ohio, the following report has been assembled. It is based on existing Division of Water publications and file information, mostly on Inventory of Ohio's Lakes (1980) by Daniel F. Bowell. It has been revised based on review by the Division of Natural Areas & Preserves.

The term "natural lake" may seem clear enough; however, determining what is and is not a "lake" and whether it is or is not "natural" can be rather difficult. For purposes of this report, a lake is a body of water deep enough to stratify thermally and with adequate fetch (distance across) to create wave action.

Water bodies described as marshes or swamps are thus omitted from this report, since they lack adequate water depth to be considered lakes. Water bodies with very small surface areas are also not considered lakes, since they lack sufficient fetch to create wave action. It is quite possible that water bodies smaller than five surface acres may fit the definition of "lake"; they are omitted from this report simply because there is no existing inventory information on them.

Many (probably most) of Ohio's natural lakes have been altered to some degree by human activities. Some lakes have been drained, some completely inundated by manmade reservoirs--these have been omitted from this report. Some lakes have been enlarged by the addition of levees or dikes--these are included in this report as noted. Some lakes have had outlet control structures installed or outlet streams enlarged, thereby controlling lake levels--these are also included.

The vast majority of Ohio's natural lakes formed in the aftermath of the most recent ice age. A few are post-glacial in origin, created from cutoff stream oxbows. In the following list, the lakes are glacial in origin unless noted otherwise.

Lakes are listed by the county and township in which they are located. Counties are listed alphabetically. Counties not included in the list do not have natural lakes within their boundaries.

<u>COUNTY/TOWNSHIP</u> <u>NAME OF LAKE</u>	<u>SURFACE ACRES</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
<b>Ashland County</b>		
Clear Creek Township		
Spring Lake	29	
Mud Lake	35	
Lake Township		
Round Lake	25	
Metcalf Lake	12	
Unnamed lake	5	connected to Metcalf Lake
County total	<u>106</u>	5 lakes

**Champaign County**

Concord Township		
Sayres Lake	7	Big Pond & Little Pond
Goshen Township		
Fudger Lake	6	enlarged
Baker Lake	8	enlarged
Harrison Township		
McQuery Lake	6	
Rush Township		
Brush Lake	15	
Salem Township		
Breed Loves Pond	7	
County total	<u>49</u>	6 lakes

**Clark County**

Bethel Township		
Crystal Lake	20	enlarged
Pleasant Township		
Haddix Lake	7	2 ponds
County total	<u>27</u>	2 lakes

**Defiance County**

COUNTY/TOWNSHIP	<u>NAME OF LAKE</u>	<u>SURFACE ACRES</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
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Milford Township			
	Big Lake	15	
	Little Lake	10	
	Ladd Lake	10	
	County total	<u>35</u>	3 lakes

**Geauga County**

Bainbridge Township			
	Geauga Lake	50	
Burton Township			
	Snow Lake	11	
	Lake Kelso	26	
Claridon Township			
	Lake Aquilla	27	
Munson Township			
	Bass Lake	128	
Newbury Township			
	Punderson Lake	101	
	Little Punderson Lake	26	enlarged
	Kiwanis Lake	8	
	Restful Lake	11	
	County total	<u>388</u>	9 lakes

**Guernsey County**

Valley Township			
	Fishel Lake	19	oxbow lake
	County total	<u>19</u>	1 lake

**Holmes County**

Washington Township			
	Odell Lake	107	

COUNTY/TOWNSHIP <u>NAME OF LAKE</u>	<u>SURFACE ACRES</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
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Long Lake	42	
County total	<u>149</u>	2 lakes

**Licking County**

Washington Township Smoot Lake	5	
County total	<u>5</u>	1 lake

**Logan County**

Harrison Township Silver Lake	35	
Miami Township Black Lake	27	
Rushcreek Township Rushcreek Lake	21	
Union Township Braden Lake	14	
McMillen Lake	5	
Doke Lake	6	
Ruby Lake	5	
Twin Lake (1)	5	
Twin Lake (2)	5	
Newell Lake	5	
Lemon Lake	5	
County total	<u>133</u>	11 lakes

**Lorain County**

Camden Township Camden Reservoir	9	
County total	<u>9</u>	1 lake

COUNTY/TOWNSHIP <u>NAME OF LAKE</u>	<u>SURFACE ACRES</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
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**Medina County**

Westfield Township Chippewa Lake	324	
County total	<u>324</u>	1 lake

**Ottawa County**

Danbury Township Meadowbrook Lake	45	
County total	<u>45</u>	1 lake

**Pickaway County**

Pickaway Township Hitler Pond	6	oxbow lake
Davenport Pond	10	oxbow lake
County total	<u>16</u>	2 lakes

**Portage County**

Aurora Township Aurora Pond	345	enlarged
Sunny Lake	63	enlarged

**Portage County--continued**

Franklin Township Brady Lake	70	
Lake Phippen	143	
Lake George	12	
Ferry Lake	8	
Stewart Pond	29	enlarged

COUNTY/TOWNSHIP <u>NAME OF LAKE</u>	<u>SURFACE ACRES</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
West Twin Lake	91	
East Twin Lake	67	
Ravenna Township		
Collins Pond	6	
Lake Hodgson	190	enlarged
Rootstown Township		
Muzzy Lake	82	
Crystal Lake	25	
Sandy Lake	90	enlarged
Suffield Township		
Unnamed or name not known	10	
Wingfoot Lake	262	enlarged
County total	<u>1,493</u>	16 lakes

### **Richland County**

Mifflin Township		
Sites Lake	7	
County total	<u>7</u>	1 lake

### **Scioto County**

Bloom Township		
Unnamed or name not known	5	oxbow lake
County total	<u>5</u>	1 lake

### **Seneca County**

Bloom Township		
L. Ensley & D. Genert Pond	6	
County total	<u>6</u>	1 lake

### **Stark County**

COUNTY/TOWNSHIP <u>NAME OF LAKE</u>	<u>SURFACE ACRES</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
Canton Township		
Meyers Lake	134	
Jackson Township		
Nobles Pond	5	
Lake Township		
Lake O'Pine	16	enlarged
Congress Lake	200	enlarged
Perry Township		
Sippo Lake	88	
Plain Township		
Unnamed or name not known	9	
County total	<u>452</u>	6 lakes

**Summit County**

Barberton Township		
Lake Anna	12	
Summit Lake	100	
Bath Township		
Bath Pond	13	
Copley Township		
Black Pond	7	
White Pond	18	
Shocalog Lake	7	
Yellow Pond	5	

**Summit County--continued**

Coventry Township		
Grape Lake	14	
Unnamed or name not known	5	
Lake Nesmith	80	
Franklin Township		
Unnamed or name not known	5	
Luna Lake	61	
Unnamed or name not known	5	
Green Township		
Unnamed or name not known	6	



COUNTY/TOWNSHIP	<u>NAME OF LAKE</u>	<u>SURFACE ACRES</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
	Unnamed or name not known	5	
	Unnamed or name not known	8	
	Singer Lake	62	
	Unnamed or name not known	5	
	Unnamed or name not known	5	
	Unnamed or name not known	6	
	Turkeyfoot Lake	318	
Hudson Township			
	Unnamed or name not known	5	
	Unnamed or name not known	11	
Silver Lake Township			
	Silver Lake	91	
	Crystal Lake	25	
Springfield Township			
	Rubber City Sand & Gravel	13	
	Springfield Lake	200	
	Unnamed or name not known	6	
Stow Township			
	Unnamed or name not known	5	
	Wyoga Lake	60	
Tallmadge Township			
	Alder Pond	15	
Twinsburg Township			
	Unnamed or name not known	13	
	Unnamed or name not known	10	
	Unnamed or name not known	5	
	County total	<u>1,206</u>	34 lakes
<b>Wayne County</b>			
Baughman Township			
	Fox Lake	40	
	Little Fox Lake	7	
Chippewa Township			
	Dohner Lake	17	
Clinton Township			
	Browns Lake	6	
	County total	<u>70</u>	4 lakes
<b>Williams County</b>			

<u>COUNTY/TOWNSHIP</u> <u>NAME OF LAKE</u>	<u>SURFACE ACRES</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
Northwest Township		
Nettle Lake	94	
Mud Lake	10	oxbow lake
County total	<u>104</u>	2 lakes

## SUMMARY

There are 110 natural lakes in Ohio larger than five acres, covering a total surface area of 4,658 acres. These lakes occur in 21 of Ohio's 88 counties. Summit County has the most lakes with 34, followed by Portage County with 16, and Geauga County with nine. Portage County has the largest area covered by natural lakes with 1,493 acres, followed by Summit County with 1,216 acres, and Stark County with 452 acres.

The 20 largest natural lakes in Ohio are:

1. Aurora Pond, Portage County	345 acres
2. Chippewa Lake, Medina County	324 acres
3. Turkeyfoot Lake, Summit County	318 acres
4. Wingfoot Lake, Portage County	262 acres
5. Congress Lake, Stark County	200 acres
6. Springfield Lake, Summit County	200 acres
7. Lake Hodgson, Portage County	190 acres
8. Lake Pippen, Portage County	143 acres
9. Meyers Lake, Stark County	134 acres
10. Bass Lake, Geauga County	128 acres
11. Odell Lake, Holmes County	107 acres
12. Punderson Lake, Geauga County	101 acres
13. Summit Lake, Summit County	100 acres
14. Nettle Lake, Williams County	94 acres
15. West Twin Lake, Portage County	91 acres
16. Silver Lake, Summit County	91 acres
17. Sandy Lake, Portage County	90 acres
18. Sippo Lake, Stark County	88 acres
19. Muzzy Lake, Portage County	82 acres
20. Lake Nesmith, Summit County	80 acres