

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

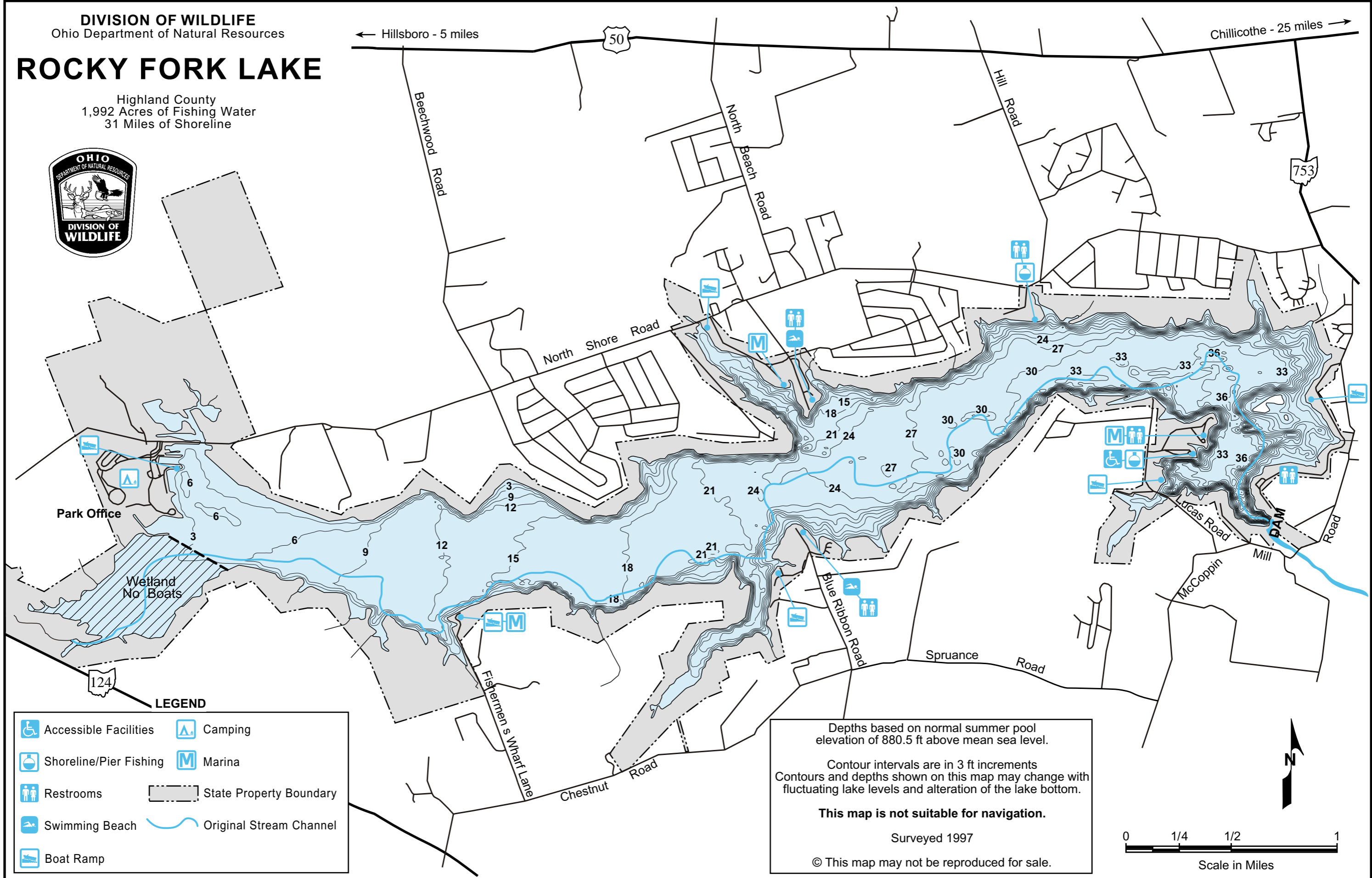
ROCKY FORK LAKE

Highland County
1,992 Acres of Fishing Water
31 Miles of Shoreline



← Hillsboro - 5 miles

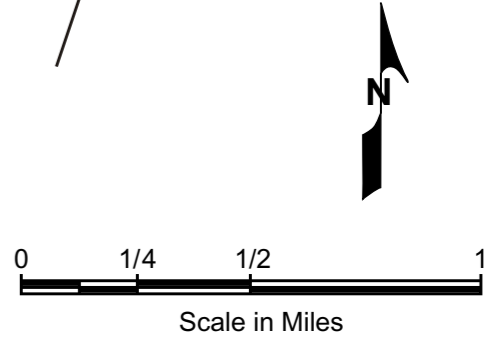
Chillicothe - 25 miles →



LEGEND

- Accessible Facilities
- Camping
- Shoreline/Pier Fishing
- Marina
- Restrooms
- State Property Boundary
- Swimming Beach
- Original Stream Channel
- Boat Ramp

Depths based on normal summer pool elevation of 880.5 ft above mean sea level.
Contour intervals are in 3 ft increments
Contours and depths shown on this map may change with fluctuating lake levels and alteration of the lake bottom.
This map is not suitable for navigation.
Surveyed 1997
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ROCKY FORK LAKE

Highland County



LOCATION

Rocky Fork Lake is in Highland County, approximately 5 miles east of Hillsboro, 25 miles west of Chillicothe, and 55 miles east of Cincinnati. The lake is accessible from U. S. Route 50 and State Routes 124, 506, and 753.

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

Rocky Fork Lake was impounded on Rocky Fork Creek in 1951. The Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Recreation, constructed this 1,992-acre lake for public recreation. The lake is in the Scioto River watershed and has a drainage area of 70,399 acres.

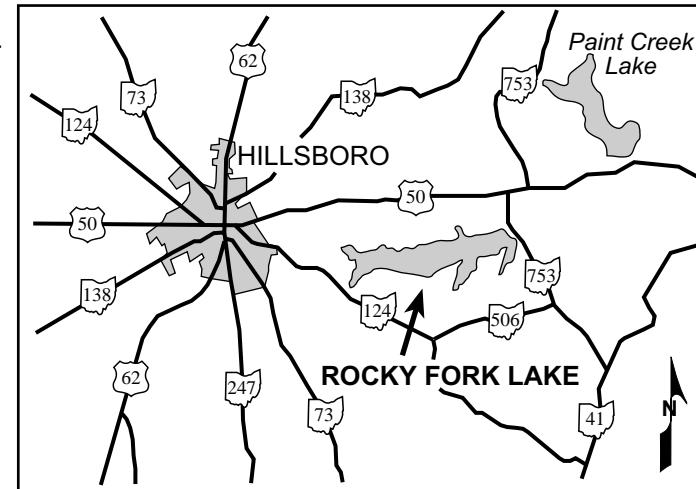
Rocky Fork Lake has a average depth of about 15 feet, with a maximum depth of about 40 feet. Prior to impoundment, the present lake bottom was mainly agricultural fields. Many tree stumps were left standing in the upper end of the lake during construction. Steep, rocky shorelines are present in some sections of the lower half of the lake. Since construction, the upper-third of the lake has become much shallower due to siltation.

FISHES OF INTEREST TO ANGLERS

Rocky Fork Lake has good populations of largemouth bass, bluegill, crappie, walleye, channel and flathead catfish, bullheads, and carp. A few smallmouth bass are also present. Gizzard shad is the main forage species.

METHODS OF FISHING AND BEST FISHING SITES

Largemouth bass are taken on diving and surface lures, plastic worms, jigs, and live worms around fallen trees and stumps, along rocky shorelines, and in bays. Bluegill anglers using redworms and waxworms have good catches around fallen trees and along drop-offs. Live minnows and small plastic grub jigs are good for crappies near the shoreline brush and fallen trees, and along steep shorelines with submerged cover. Walleye anglers are successful using live nightcrawlers or minnows near the bottom, or trolling deep diving lures in the lower half of the lake near points and drop-offs. Excellent catches of channel catfish, bullheads, and a few flathead catfish are taken on nightcrawlers, soft craws, chicken livers, and cut baits in the upper end and near the eastern shore.



RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The Division of Parks and Recreation operates and maintains parking lots, boat ramps and docks, concessions, a meeting facility, swimming beaches, picnic areas, hiking trails, and campgrounds. Campgrounds provide electric, non-electric, and full hook-up sites along with drinking water, flush toilets, shower facilities, trailer waste dump stations, and picnic tables. There are no horsepower restrictions for boats.

Note: Horsepower limits and other boating regulations are subject to change. Boaters should contact the ODNR Division of Wildlife for current information.

FISH OHIO

Anglers who catch a big fish should enter their prize in the Fish Ohio angler recognition program. A fish qualifies for an award if it meets the minimum size requirement set for the Fish Ohio program. Applications are available from the ODNR Division of Wildlife and from many tackle and bait stores.

FISH MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

The ODNR Division of Wildlife's fish management activities have included stocking, installing fish habitat structures, conducting creel surveys, constructing fishing piers, and monitoring populations with nets, seines, and electrofishing gear. These activities are vital to providing adequate public access and determining the management practices necessary to produce quality fishing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The nearest district office is Wildlife District Five, 1076 Old Springfield Pike, Xenia, Ohio 45385-1238 telephone (937) 372-9261. The Division also has a Web site for information on fishing regulations, tips, maps, and other wildlife related information (www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife). To get other maps or publications call toll free 1-800-WILDLIFE. For information on state park facilities, contact Rocky Fork State Park, 9800 North Shore Drive, Hillsboro, Ohio 45133-9205; telephone (937) 393-4284.

TURN IN A POACHER

Ohio's TIP, "Turn In a Poacher," program is helping to curtail poaching throughout the state. TIP is designed to involve the public in reporting wildlife violations. Citizens who observe wildlife violations should call the TIP toll-free hotline, 1-800-POACHER.



ODNR DIVISION OF WILDLIFE DISTRICT OFFICES

WILDLIFE CENTRAL OFFICE

1840 Belcher Drive
Columbus, Ohio 43224
Phone: (614) 265-6300

WILDLIFE DISTRICT ONE

1500 Dublin Road
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: (614) 644-3925

WILDLIFE DISTRICT TWO

952 Lima Avenue
Findlay, Ohio 45840
Phone: (419) 424-5000

WILDLIFE DISTRICT THREE

912 Portage Lakes Drive
Akron, Ohio 44319
Phone: (330) 644-2293

WILDLIFE DISTRICT FOUR

360 East State Street
Athens, Ohio 45701
Phone: (740)594-2211

WILDLIFE DISTRICT FIVE

1076 Old Springfield Pike
Xenia, Ohio 45385
Phone: (937) 372-9261

ODNR Division of Wildlife internet address: www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife

Toll free 1-800-WILDLIFE

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