



DIVISION OF WILDLIFE  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

# HARGUS CREEK LAKE

AT A.W. MARION STATE PARK

Pickaway County  
132 Acres of Fishing Water  
4.6 Miles of Shoreline

Depths based on normal summer pool elevation of 821.5 ft above mean sea level.

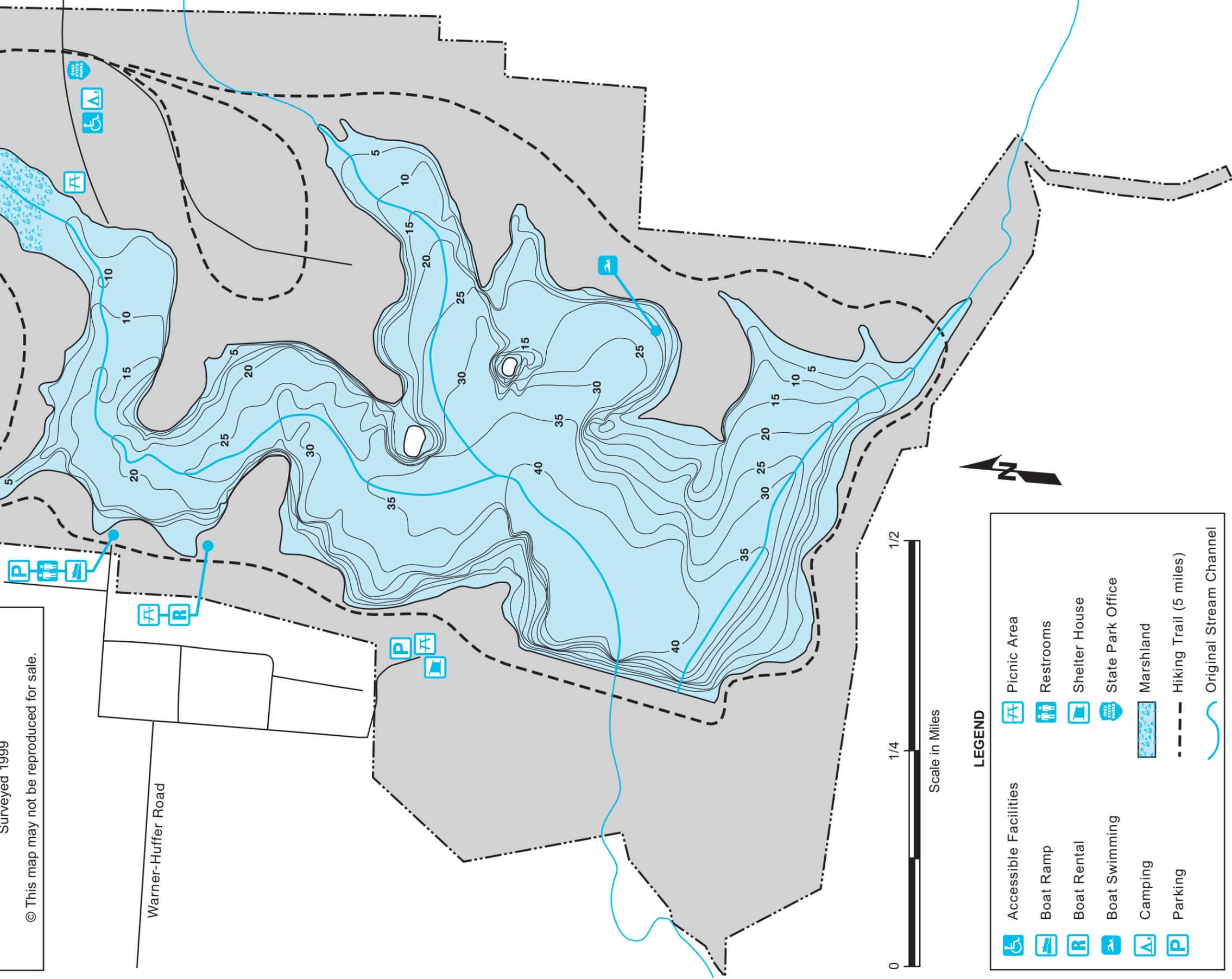
Contour intervals are in 5 ft increments  
Contours and depths shown on this map may change with fluctuating lake levels and alteration of the lake bottom.

**This map is not suitable for navigation.**

Surveyed 1999

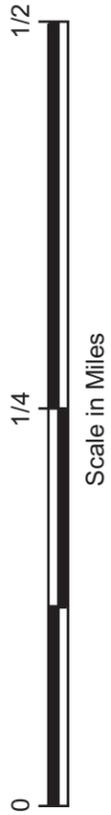
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Warner-Huffer Road



**LEGEND**

	Accessible Facilities		Picnic Area
	Boat Ramp		Restrooms
	Boat Rental		Shelter House
	Boat Swimming		State Park Office
	Camping		Marshland
	Parking		Hiking Trail (5 miles)
			Original Stream Channel



# HARGUS CREEK LAKE

## Pickaway County

### LOCATION

Hargus Creek Lake is in Pickaway County, approximately 3 miles northeast of Circleville, and about 25 miles south of Columbus. The lake is accessible from U.S. Route 22 and S.R. 188.

### HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

Due largely to the fertile soils of the Pickaway Plains, early inhabitants were attracted to the region, which has become A.W. Marion State Park and Hargus Creek Lake. Ancient circular earthworks on the site of what is now the city of Circleville shows an early human presence.

In 1948, construction began on the dam for Hargus Creek Lake and by 1950, the area became part of the newly created Division of Parks and Recreation. In 1962, the park was renamed the A.W. Marion State Park in honor of the first director of the Department of Natural Resources, a Pickaway County native.

Because of the steep natural terrain, Hargus Creek Lake is a deep lake for its size (132 acres). Average depth is about 20 feet with a maximum depth of about 40 feet. Shorelines are heavily wooded with considerable underwater woody cover.

### FISHES OF INTEREST TO ANGLERS

Hargus Creek Lake has populations of largemouth bass, bluegill, crappie, channel catfish, and carp. Channel catfish yearlings are stocked at least bi-annually in Hargus Creek Lake. Gizzard shad is the main forage species.

### METHODS OF FISHING AND BEST FISHING SITES

Bluegill fishing is good especially in the vegetated portions of the lake. Try using nightcrawlers fished under a bobber. The largemouth bass population is dense (15" minimum length limit) with many medium-sized fish. Fish the edges of weed beds and woody shoreline cover for largemouth bass. For channel catfish, try fishing prepared baits, nightcrawlers or soft crawfish lake wide in June and July.

Zebra mussels, an aquatic nuisance species of mussels, were discovered in Hargus Creek Lake in 1992. If you boat there, please help prevent their spread to other lakes by allowing your boat to thoroughly dry out after use.

Grass carp are used in Hargus Creek Lake to reduce vegetation levels. Although they do not readily bite, please release any grass carp accidentally caught.

### RECREATIONAL FACILITIES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The Division of Parks and Recreation operates and maintains parking lots, boat ramps and docks, swimming beaches, and picnic areas. Outboard motors on boats are limited to electric motors only.

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 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 requirements set for the Fish Ohio program. Applications are available online at FishOhio.org.

### FISH MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

The ODNR Division of Wildlife's fish management activities include stocking, conducting periodic angler surveys, constructing fishing access facilities, improving in-lake fish habitat, monitoring fish populations with nets, seines, and electrofishing gear, and regulation enforcement. These activities are vital to providing adequate public access and determining the management practices necessary to produce quality fishing.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The nearest Division of Wildlife District Office is Wildlife District One, 1500 Dublin Road, Columbus, Ohio 43215 telephone 614/644-3925. The Division of Wildlife also has a Web site for information on fishing regulations, tips, maps, and other wildlife related information ([www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife](http://www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife)). To get other maps or publications call toll free 1-800-WILDLIFE. For information on state park facilities at A.W. Marion State Park, contact Deer Creek State Park, 20635 Waterloo Road, Mt. Sterling, Ohio 43143 telephone 740/467-2690.

### TURN IN A POACHER

Ohio's TIP, "Turn In a Poacher," program is helping to control 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**  
2045 Morse Road, Bldg. G  
Columbus, Ohio 43229-6693  
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) 589-9930

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



ODNR Division of Wildlife internet address: [wildohio.com](http://wildohio.com)  
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