



**DIVISION OF WILDLIFE**  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources

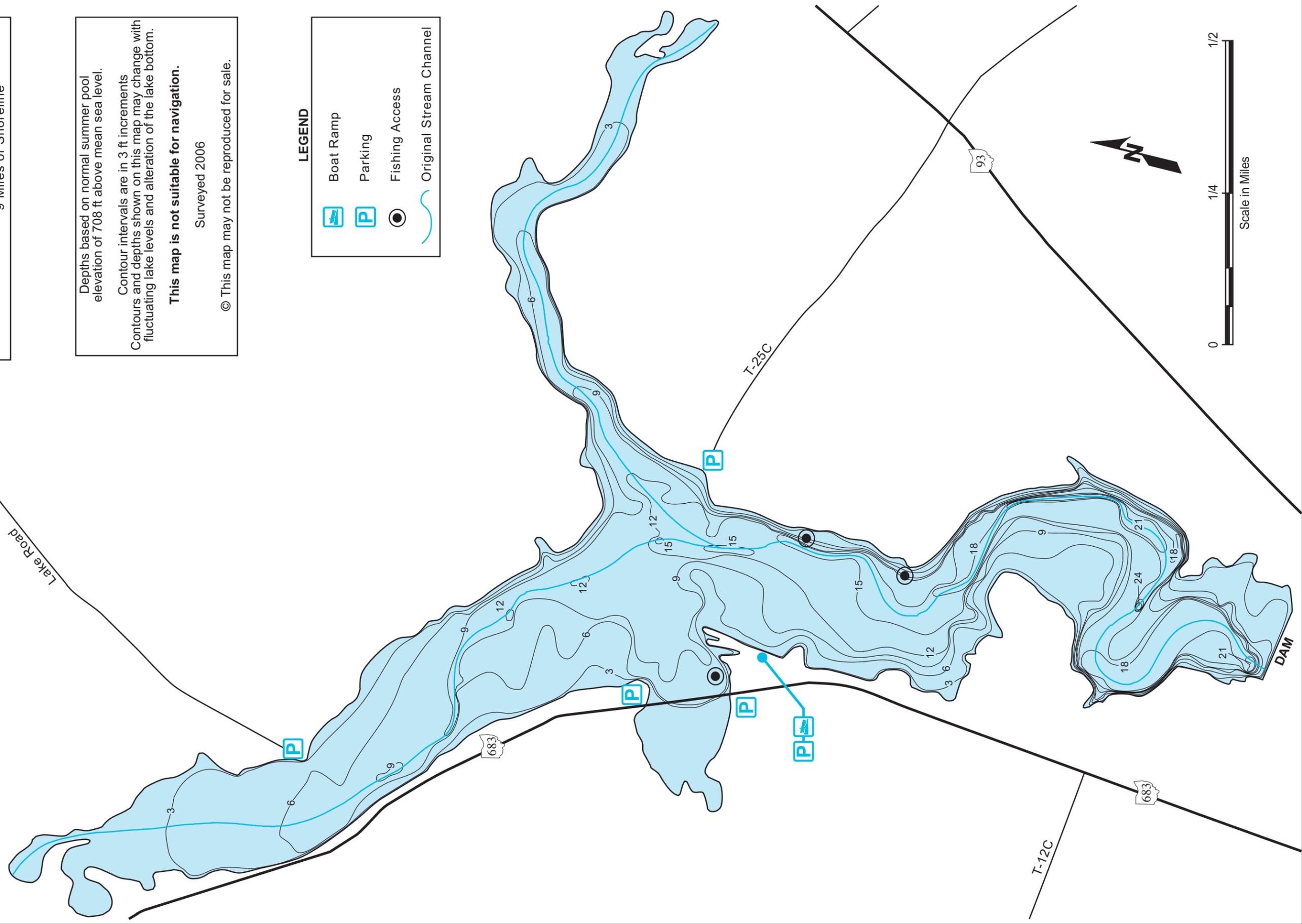
# LAKE RUPERT

Vinton County  
327 Acres of Fishing Water  
9 Miles of Shoreline

Depths based on normal summer pool elevation of 708 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 2006  
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### LEGEND

- Boat Ramp
- Parking
- Fishing Access
- Original Stream Channel



# LAKE RUPERT

Vinton County



## LOCATION

Lake Rupert is located within the 1,298-acre Wellston Wildlife Area. This public area is in Clinton and Richland townships, Vinton County approximately one mile north of Hamden. Lake Rupert lies along State Route 683, one half mile north of the intersection with State Route 93.

## HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

Lake Rupert was built in 1969 as a cooperative effort of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) and the city of Wellston to provide a water supply for the city and general public recreation. In 1979, the ODNR Division of Wildlife received ownership of the area from the city. The topography includes gently rolling, reverting old fields and woodland. The lake encompasses 327 acres at normal pool with a shoreline length of nine miles. The maximum depth is 24 feet.

## FISH OF INTEREST TO ANGLERS

Lake Rupert has populations of largemouth bass, channel catfish, crappie, bluegill, redear sunfish, and saugeye. The Division of Wildlife stocks channel catfish yearlings in alternate years; saugeye fingerlings are stocked annually. Gizzard shad is the main forage species

## METHODS OF FISHING AND BEST FISHING SITES

Better largemouth bass fishing can be found in the spring and fall. As springtime water temperatures warm up, bass will move into shallow water areas to feed and to prepare for spawning. Fish near shallow structure such as tree stumps, fallen trees, or weed bed edges. Spinnerbaits, rubber worms, crankbaits, and jig/pig combinations work well. Warm summer water temperatures will usually push fish into deeper depths. Fishing during the early morning hours or in the evening will provide better results. Cooler, fall temperatures will trigger bass to move back in the shallow water areas. Fishing success may pick up as bass prepare for winter.

Bluegill can be caught throughout the lake from early spring until fall. Popular methods include waxworms or redworms fished below a bobber. Look for spawning beds in shallow water during the spring and throughout the summer. Many bluegill concentrate in these areas.

Channel catfish angling picks up by mid-June. Nightcrawlers, chicken livers, or prepared catfish baits work well when fished on the bottom. Night fishing for catfish is a popular method for catfish anglers.

Saugeye fishing is best starting in fall and continuing through early spring. Rip-rap areas along the bank as well as main lake points are good areas to fish. Lead head jigs tipped with a twister, stickbaits, and crankbaits are popular with saugeye anglers in addition to live baits such as minnows.

## RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

A boat ramp with courtesy dock is located off the State Route 683 entrance. Lake Rupert has an unlimited horsepower restriction; however, motors 10 horsepower or greater must be operated at idle speed only. Parking areas are located on the east and west sides of the lake for shore anglers. Hunting is permissible throughout the wildlife area.

## 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 online at FishOhio.org.

## FISH MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

The Division of Wildlife's fish management activities include stocking, population monitoring with nets, electrofishing surveys, angler surveys, felling trees, and preparing Christmas tree piles to act as fish attractors. Additionally, fish management personnel conduct general water quality analyses. A continuing check of water quality and fish populations is vital in determining the management practices necessary to produce quality fish for the public.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Questions and inquiries can be directed to Wildlife District Four, 360 East State Street, Athens, Ohio 45701; telephone 740-589-9930. The Division of Wildlife also has a Web site for information on fishing regulations, tips, maps, and other wildlife related material ([www.wildohio.com](http://www.wildohio.com)). To get other maps or publications call toll free, 1-800-WILDLIFE.

## TURN IN A POACHER

Ohio's TIP, "Turn In a Poacher," program is helping 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**  
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)  
Toll free 1-800-WILDLIFE

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