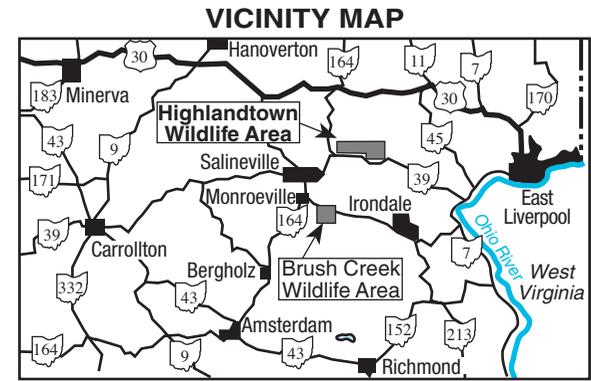
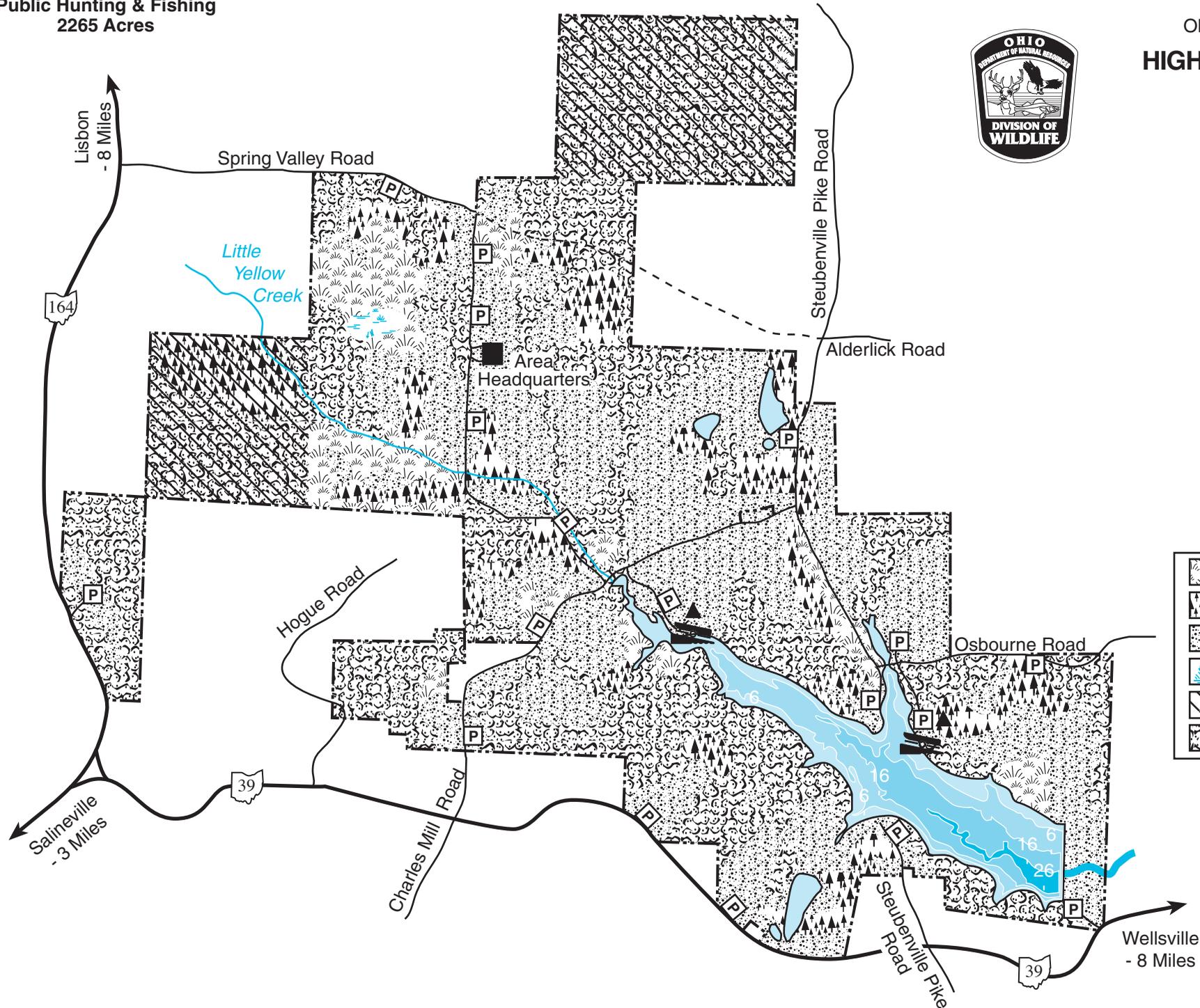


Public Hunting & Fishing
2265 Acres

Division of Wildlife
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
HIGHLANDTOWN WILDLIFE AREA
Columbiana County

Publication 57
(R908)

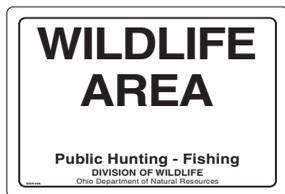


LEGEND

	Brushland		Boat Ramp
	Conifers		Latrine (seasonal)
	Grassland		Parking
	Marshland		Abandoned Road
	State Forest Land		State Property Boundary
	Woodland		



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HIGHLANDTOWN WILDLIFE AREA

Columbiana County

DISTANCE FROM MAJOR POPULATION CENTERS

30 miles from Steubenville
37 miles from Canton
38 miles from Youngstown
60 miles from Akron
93 miles from Cleveland

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

This scenic 2265-acre wildlife area lies 8 miles south of Lisbon and 3 miles northeast of Salineville in southern Columbiana County. It can be reached by State Route 164 from Lisbon and by State Route 39 from Salineville and Wellsville.

The terrain is steeply rolling, with some flat hilltops and valley floors. Elevations vary from 1,060 to 1,340 feet above sea level. Highlandtown Lake, 170 acres in size, is on the upper headwaters of Little Yellow Creek.

Second growth hardwoods and conifers which cover most of the area are interspersed with brushy coverts, former croplands, and some meadow and grain crops.

HISTORY AND PURPOSE

Purchase of land for this wildlife area began in 1956. Additional land was acquired as funds became available, until the area reached its present size. Highlandtown Lake was completed in 1966.

Fish management work included stocking the lake as needed and annual fishing surveys to monitor the biological development of the lake and its management needs. Considerable lake bottom habitat improvement work was done prior to impoundment of the lake.

Game management activities include planting of shrubs and conifers, protection and improvement of existing woodland, selection of areas which will be allowed to return to woodland through natural succession, and management of existing open fields based upon land capability. Crop rotations and contour strip cropping patterns have been developed to improve food and cover conditions for wildlife.

FISH AND WILDLIFE

Highlandtown Lake (170 acres) received its initial stocking of muskellunge, largemouth bass, channel catfish, and bluegills in 1967. This lake is now stocked in alternate years with channel catfish. Yellow perch, white crappies, black crappies, and brown bullheads are also present.

Cottontail rabbits and squirrels - both fox and gray - are the principal game species. Ruffed grouse, wild turkey, deer, woodchucks, and most of the furbearers are common. Woodcock and waterfowl frequent the area.

HUNTING, TRAPPING, AND FISHING

There are many good squirrel woods on the area. The best rabbit hunting and quail hunting is in the brushy uplands along field edges and borders. Woodcock hunting is productive. Brushy areas, cutover timber stands, pines, and wooded areas produce some good grouse, wild turkey, and deer hunting. Raccoon hunting and trapping are good throughout the area. Waterfowl hunting is productive on the lake and on the man-made and beaver ponds.

Public hunting is also available on 404 acres of Yellow Creek State Forest, situated in two tracts on the west and north sides of the wildlife area.

Fishing at Highlandtown Lake is excellent for bluegills and for bass less than 15 inches (15-inch minimum length limit). Fishing for crappies and yellow perch is also good. Several ponds supplement the largemouth bass and bluegill fishing opportunity available in the lake.

UNUSUAL FEATURES

Visitors will find many unusual plants. A high point of land north of State Route 39 off Township Road 776 provides an excellent panoramic view of the lake and the surrounding area.

PUBLIC USE FACILITIES

Parking sites are well distributed. Boat launching ramps and latrines (seasonal) are situated at two locations on the north side of Highlandtown Lake.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further information may be obtained from the Area Manager, Highlandtown Wildlife Area, 16760 Spring Valley Road, Salineville, Ohio 43945; phone (330) 679-2201 or from the Wildlife District Three Office, 912 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron, Ohio 44319; phone (330) 644-2293.

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.