

Virginia Small Impoundment Bass Rankings – 2023



Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) aquatic biologists spend considerable effort and resources to manage, enhance, and protect Largemouth Bass populations in Virginia’s public fishing reservoirs, lakes, and ponds. Most of these waters are sampled each year, or every few years, to assess current Largemouth Bass or Smallmouth Bass population parameters such as age and growth, spawning success, and size distribution. These population samples are generally collected using daytime, boat electrofishing gear targeting bass and are conducted in a manner that allows several comparisons to be made concerning fish populations. Since many Virginia anglers target Largemouth Bass, and fish larger than 15 inches are considered “preferred” nationwide; the following summary contains information about bass over 15 inches collected per hour of electrofishing (CPUE). Memorable sized Largemouth Bass are larger than 20 inches. A few small impoundments contain Smallmouth Bass instead of Largemouth Bass. Smallmouth Bass larger than 14 inches are considered “preferred” and Smallmouth Bass larger than 17 inches are considered “memorable”.

Several factors can bias these data (e.g., weather conditions, fish behavior), but samples were conducted with efforts to minimize these biases. The following is a summary of these data with lakes ranked by CPUE of Largemouth Bass greater than 15 inches and 20 inches and Smallmouth Bass greater than 14 inches and 17 inches. Lakes are divided into the four management regions of the state. Those lakes ranked at the top of the table will provide excellent opportunities for anglers to catch quality Largemouth Bass. You might notice that some of the large lakes are ranked lower than you might expect. Smaller lakes or ponds normally have higher sampling efficiency and will thus rank higher based on this evaluation. This is a guide for anglers to use and not necessarily the entire picture of Virginia bass fisheries, but it will provide a good place to start. If you have specific questions about a particular waterbody or its regulations, don't hesitate to contact the local DWR Regional Office or check out the DWR website www.dwr.virginia.gov. We hope you find this useful.



Region 1 (Southeast - Tidewater)

Rank	Waterbody	County	Acres	Year	CPUE-P	CPUE-M
1	Trashmore	Virginia Beach	52	2019	46	13
2	Deep Run Park Pond (Lower)	Henrico	2	2019	46	9
3	Lakeview Reservoir	Colonial Heights	42	2022	44	5
4	Lee Hall Reservoir	Newport News	230	2022	44	4
5	Fountain Lake	Richmond	10	2019	38	7
6	Harwood's Mill	York	265	2022	37	4
7	Woodstock Pond	York	7.5	2021	36	7
8	Dorey Park Pond	Henrico	5	2019	32	1
9	Wilcox	City of Petersburg	22	2022	27	2
10	Smith	Virginia Beach	222	2017	26	1
11	Courthouse Pond	Hanover	3	2020	26	0
12	Southern (Lone Star Lakes)	Suffolk	25	2019	24	6
13	Swift Creek	Chesterfield	156	2021	24	5
14	Waller Mill	York	360	2021	23	2
15	Deep Run Park Pond (Upper)	Henrico	2	2019	21	0
16	Gardy's Millpond	Northumberland	75	2022	17	4
17	Swan Lake	Richmond	13	2019	16	0
18	Oak Grove	Chesapeake	70	2019	15	2
19	Shields Lake	Richmond	7	2019	15	0
20	Belle Isle Pond	Richmond	5	2019	15	0
21	Armistead Pointe Pond	City of Hampton	3	2020	15	0
22	Crump Park Pond	Henrico	2	2020	14	0
23	Three Lakes Park #1	Henrico	7	2022	12	2
24	Northwest River Park	City of Chesapeake	7	2018	12	0
25	Butler Tract (Lone Star Lakes)	Suffolk	42	2018	12	0
26	Echo	Henrico	12	2021	12	0
27	Bryan Park Pond	Richmond	6	2021	7	0
28	Speight's Run	Suffolk	197	2015	6	0
29	Airfield	Sussex	62	2018	6	0
30	Finger (Lone Star Lakes)	Suffolk	22	2016	4	0
31	Harrison	Charles City	82	2020	2	0
32	Emporia	Emporia	210	2015	1	0
33	Sandy Bottom	City of Hampton	12	2021	0	0
34	Forest Hill Park Pond	Richmond	4	2019	0	0

DWR Region 1 Office
3801 John Tyler Memorial Hwy
Charles City, VA 23030
(804) 829-6580

Region 2 (Southside)

Rank	Waterbody	County	Acres	Year	CPUE-P	CPUE-M
1	Burton	Pittsylvania	76	2022	68	23
2	Wilcks	Prince Edward	42	2020	68	7
3	Connor	Halifax	110	2022	44	6
4	Great Creek	Brunswick	212	2021	37	3
5	Ft Pickett Reservoir	Nottoway	384	2021	33	5
6	Bear Creek	Cumberland	42	2019	32	12
7	Fairystone	Patrick	168	2020	29	4
8	Stonehouse	Amherst	41	2022	27	14
9	Nottoway	Nottoway	188	2022	25	4
10	Gordon	Mecklenburg	157	2022	25	3
11	Brunswick	Brunswick	150	2022	24	3
12	Banister	Halifax	400	2020	23	7
13	Horsepen	Buckingham	19	2022	21	6
14	Thrasher	Amherst	36	2021	18	1
15	Modest Creek	Lunenburg	29	2022	16	9
16	Prince Edward (TLSP)	Prince Edward	27	2022	16	3
17	Nottoway Falls	Lunenburg	60	2022	14	6
18	Goodwin (TLSP)	Prince Edward	13	2022	14	4
19	Holliday	Buckingham	145	2020	13	0
20	Slate River Watershed	Buckingham	38	2021	11	1
21	Victoria	Lunenburg	15	2016	11	0
22	Amelia	Amelia	100	2022	9	1
23	Mill Creek	Amherst	189	2022	8	1
24	Nelson	Nelson	40	2022	7	2
25	Martinsville	Henry	175	2022	4	1

DWR Region 2 Office
1132 Thomas Jefferson Rd
Forest, VA 24551-9223
(434) 525-7522

Region 3 (Southwest)

Rank	Waterbody	County	Acres	Year	CPUE-P	CPUE-M	
1	Rural Retreat	Wythe	90	2021	46	3	
2	Gatewood	Pulaski	162	2021	30	1	
3	North Fork Pound	Wise	154	2022	14	1	
4	Witten	Tazewell	52	2022	10	2	
5	Lovill's Creek	Carroll	55	2020	9	1	
6	Lincolnshire	Tazewell	20	2022	6	2	
7	Laurel	Dickenson	12	2020	4	1	
8	Hungry Mother	Smyth	108	2022	4	0	
9	Bark Camp	Scott	48	2022	2	0	
10	Hidden Valley	Washington	62	2021	2	0	
11	Bear Creek (Wise)	Wise	46	2022	1	1	
12	Keokee	Lee	92	2020	1	1	
13	Falls Mill Lake	Tazewell	101	2022	1	0	
14	Laurel Bed	Russell	330	2022	0	0	*

DWR Region 3 Office
1796 Highway Sixteen
Marion, VA 24354
(276) 783-4860

***Smallmouth Bass (>14", >17")**

Region 4 (Northcentral/Northwestern)

Rank	Waterbody	County	Acres	Year	CPUE-P	CPUE-M
1	Sleeter Lake	Loudon	101	2019	83	3
2	Pelham	Culpeper	255	2020	69	8
3	Germantown	Fauquier	109	2021	69	2
4	Burke	Fairfax	218	2022	54	0
5	Mountain Run	Culpeper	75	2022	41	2
6	Clearbrook Lake	Frederick	3	2022	37	0
7	Motts	Spotsylvania	160	2020	35	4
8	Brittle	Fauquier	77	2022	35	2
9	Toiter Creek	Albemarle	66	2020	32	5
10	Rivanna River	Albemarle	450	2022	31	6
11	Fluvanna Ruritan	Fluvanna	50	2022	30	5
12	Ni	Spotsylvania	411	2019	30	5
13	Beaverdam Creek	Loudon	350	2022	30	2
14	Shenandoah	Rockingham	36	2021	30	1
15	Silver	Prince William	25	2022	30	0
16	Curtis	Stafford	91	2021	29	6
17	Hunting Run	Spotsylvania	420	2021	29	4
18	Lake Sherando	Augusta	4	2022	26	2
19	Orange	Orange	124	2020	26	1
20	Abel	Stafford	185	2020	22	5
21	Robertson	Rockbridge	26	2022	18	2
22	Powhatan (lower)	Powhatan	37	2021	16	4
23	Powhatan (upper)	Powhatan	34	2021	16	2
24	Arrowhead	Page	34	2022	16	0
25	Frederick	Frederick	117	2022	14	1
26	Fairfax	Fairfax	28	2018	14	0
27	Beaver Creek	Albemarle	104	2020	9	1
28	Laura	Shenandoah	44	2021	7	0
29	Chris Green	Albemarle	62	2020	6	2
30	Albemarle	Albemarle	35	2021	5	3
31	Gordonsville (Bowler's Mill)	Louisa	75	2022	5	2
32	Northeast Creek	Louisa	187	2022	4	1
33	Lake Newman	Rockingham	8	2022	4	0
34	Walnut Creek	Albemarle	45	2020	3	0
35	Ragged Mountain	Albemarle	170	2022	1	0

DWR Region 4 Office
P.O. Box 996, 517 Lee Highway
Verona, VA 24482
(540) 248-9360

or **1320 Belman Rd**
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
(540) 899-4169