

Avery Pond

Town(s): Preston

35.7 acres

Description: Avery Pond is a natural lake within the Thames River Drainage Basin. **Watershed:** 2,015 acres of mostly woods and wetland with minor amounts of agricultural and residential development. There is, however, increasing development within the watershed associated with a large casino and conference center. The pond is fed by a marsh from the north, which is fed by the outlet stream from Amos Lake. It also receives water from bottom springs and surface runoff. It drains southeast into Indiantown Brook, which eventually flows into Poquetanuck Cove. **Shoreline:** Only the western shore has been developed with residences. To the north and east, the shoreline is undeveloped woods and marshes; to the south is extensive agricultural and marshland. **Depth:** Max 11 ft., Mean 8.2 ft. **Transparency:** Very turbid; reduced to 2.5 ft. in summer due to algal blooms and a tea-colored stain. **Productivity:** High to very high (eutrophic-highly eutrophic). **Bottom type:** Sand, gravel and organic muck. **Stratification:** Does not occur due to limited depth. **Vegetation:** Extremely dense carpets of Robbin's pondweed grow to depths of 8 ft. Scattered floating mats of white water-lily and yellow pond-lily occur along the shoreline.

Access: A state-owned boat launch is located on the northern shore. Facilities at the launch include a paved ramp and parking for 10 cars. **Directions:** Exit 85 off I-395, Rte. 164 south for 2.5 miles past the intersection with Rte. 165, left (east) on Lynn Dr., becomes a gravel road, launch at end of road. **Shore:** Public shore access is restricted to the boat launch area.

Fish: Largemouth bass densities are below average for all sizes. Small chain pickerel are very abundant, but densities of catchable size fish (greater than 13") are less than average. Yellow perch and black crappie densities are less than average. Sunfish (mostly bluegill, some pumpkinseed) are very abundant in the 5-7" size range, but larger fish are rare. Brown bullhead are at average densities in the 9-11" size range, with large fish being uncommon. American eels are common. The primary forage fish species are alewives and golden shiners (moderate densities). Other fish species present are spottail shiner and creek chubsucker.

Fishing: Should be fair to poor for all fish species except sunfish. Sunfish action should be fast; however, there are few large ones.

Management: Statewide regulations apply for all species (see current Connecticut Anglers' Guide).

Boating: Speed limit 8 mph, no water-skiing (see current Connecticut Boater's Guide).

Avery Pond Fish Species and Abundance

| | ALL SIZES | BIG FISH | GROWTH |
|------------------|-----------|----------|--------|
| Gamefish | | | |
| Largemouth bass | C | U | Avg |
| Chain pickerel | A | C | < Avg |
| Panfish | | | |
| Black crappie | U | U | Slow |
| Yellow perch | C | C | Avg |
| Brown bullhead | C | U | |
| Sunfish | | | |
| Bluegill | A | U | < Avg |
| Pumpkinseed | C | U | < Avg |
| Other | | | |
| Golden shiner | C | | |
| Spottail shiner | U | | |
| Alewife | C | | |
| Creek chubsucker | C | | |
| American eel | C | | |

A=Abundant, C=Common, U=Uncommon, R=Rare

