Tenth in size (1772 acres) among the eleven Finger Lakes, Honeoye Lake is located 28 miles south of Rochester in southwestern Ontario County.

Fish Management

Modern fisheries management at Honeoye Lake began with the placement of seasons, bag limits and size limits on gamefish. Records indicate that Honeoye was first stocked with walleye around the turn of the century. Today, the dominant sport species are walleye, largemouth bass and smallmouth bass, with walleye the only species stocked (8.7 million fry annually) into the lake by DEC.

Honeoye Lake is a highly regarded fishing lake. In addition to its excellent sportfish opportunities, the lake also supports an outstanding panfish fishery for bluegill, pumpkinseed, yellow perch and black crappie.

Current management emphasis for Honeoye Lake is to maintain a relatively high density of predator species. Periodic fishery surveys are conducted to monitor fish populations.

Angler Diary Keepers Wanted

An ongoing angler diary cooperator program for sportfish provides DEC fisheries staff with useful data on population trends. If you are interested in signing up as a cooperator, please contact the DEC Region 8 office.

Special Regulations

Consult your Freshwater Fishing Regulations Guide - Statewide General Regulations and Finger Lakes Regulations Sections for creel limits, size limits, seasons and other Honeoye Lake fishing regulations.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
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Honeoye Lake

Public Boat Launches

Conesus Lake

Honeoye Lake

DEC

Conesus Lake, the most westerly of the 11 Finger Lakes, is located in Livingston County, 2 miles west of Livonia and 25 miles south of Rochester. Honeoye Lake is located 28 miles south of Rochester in southwestern Ontario County. Both of these smaller Finger Lakes offer excellent angling opportunities for warmwater fish.
Conesus Lake is located in Livingston County, 2 miles west of Livonia and 25 miles south of the City of Rochester. Conesus Lake is 3420 acres in size.

**Fish Management**

Conesus Lake has traditionally been a productive fishery for warmwater fish. Northern pike, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, and walleye comprise the sportfishery; bluegills, pumpkinseed, yellow perch and brown bullhead are the most abundant panfish.

Over the years the species balance has shifted. During the 1960’s, Conesus produced an outstanding walleye fishery which diminished in the 1970’s. During the same time, Conesus was locally famous for its remarkable yellow perch ice fishing. However, this fishery declined throughout the 1980’s most likely due to a population explosion of newly arrived, unwanted alewives that directly competed with young perch for their preferred food – large zooplankton (microscopic animals). It is also likely that the abundant alewives consumed perch fry.

Currently, Conesus Lake produces excellent fishing for both bass species, northern pike, bluegills and sunfish. Based on on-going DEC studies, the walleye population has increased in response to annual stockings of hatchery fingerlings. The yellow perch population remains depressed. Additionally, beginning in 1991, DEC began stocking Conesus with tiger muskies – a fast growing sterile hybrid between northern pike and muskellunge. Early indications are that this striking fish will add an element of excitement to the fishery.

**Special Regulations**

Consult your Freshwater Fishing Regulations Guide – Statewide General Regulations, Finger Lakes Regulations and Livingston County Regulations Sections for creel limits, size limits, seasons and other Conesus Lake fishing regulations.

**Boat Launch Sites**

*Boat launch sites operated by the DEC are FREE to the public, however; boat launch sites operated by other agencies may charge a fee.*

**Conesus Lake**

1 - Pebble Beach Site - On Pebble Beach Road, 1 mile south of Route 20A in the Hamlet of Lakeville. Car top boat launch. Parking for 120 cars. Operated by the DEC.

2 - Sand Point - On Route 20A at Vitale Park in the Hamlet of Lakeville. Car top boat launch. Parking for 50 cars. Operated by the Town of Livonia and the DEC.

3 - Conesus Lake Public Boat Launch - From Route 390, Exit 8, three miles east on Route 20A, four miles south on East Lake Road. Concrete ramp. Parking for 45 cars & trailers. Operated by the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

4 - Conesus Inlet Wildlife Management Area - south end of Conesus Lake, off Route 256. Car top boat launch. Parking for 40 cars. Operated by DEC.