



## Fairy Stone Lake 2010

Fairy Stone Lake is a 168-acre reservoir located within Fairy Stone State Park. The park is located approximately 20 minutes Northwest of Martinsville, Virginia. Fishing is only one of the attractions offered at the park. The park also provides guests with other options such as lodging, camping, swimming, hiking, picnic facilities, and john boat or canoe rentals.

Fairy Stone Lake borders Philpott Reservoir and contains warmwater species such as largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill and redear sunfish. Unlike Philpott Reservoir, outboard motor use is prohibited. However, boats with outboard motors can be used as long as the motors are trimmed up and are not in use and electric trolling motors are used. Fishing regulations are governed by state fishing regulation.

Currently the bass population is dominated by adult bass averaging 14 inches with an occasional bass reaching 20 inches. Based on VDGIF electrofishing sampling, the size structure declined from 2004-2008 with fewer bass between 17-21 inches. However, the number of bass less than 17 inches has substantially increased. This reservoir currently provides very good largemouth bass fishing opportunities, especially for 12-16 inch fish.

Fairystone supports a poor crappie fishery. Crappie at this reservoir are low in number with most fish falling between 6-8 inches. This lake does occasionally produce big black crappie but overall growth is slow with below average numbers.

The number of bluegill has been increasing but the quality of the bluegill has slightly decreased. Despite the reduction in large bluegill, there are still good numbers of bluegill up to six inches and a few available over seven inches. Redear sunfish comprise a similar size structure as bluegill but contribute little to the fishery due to low numbers. Since this lake does not contain shad, the sunfish provide most of the bass forage. The increase in bluegill numbers is an indication that the bass population is not overcrowded. Angling opportunities for sunfish at Fairy Stone Lake should remain good as long as shad are not introduced into the lake.

Currently, there are no plans to change the management or regulations at Fairy Stone Lake. The Fairy Stone Lake fishery can be characterized as average when compared to other small lakes in the state.