

Crystal Lake



Lakes Environmental Association

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Crystal Lake, originally called Anonymous Pond, is the only lake completely within the borders of Harrison. Mill Stream, which is the outlet of the lake, provided early village settlers with power to run both a grist and saw mill.

Today, excellent public access and good water quality make Crystal Lake a favorite spot for swimming, fishing and boating.

Surface Area: 446 acres

Maximum Depth: 65 feet

Mean Depth: 33 feet

Volume: 14,253 acres/feet

Watershed : 5,345 acres

Elevation: 294 feet

Shorefront lots: 127

Fishing

Crystal Lake is annually stocked with brook trout and land locked salmon from the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife.. These coldwater fish find good habitat in the lake's cool and well oxygenated deep waters. In addition, healthy bass populations, white perch, yellow perch, hornpout and chain pickerel are also found within Crystal's waters.



Crystal Lake was as smooth as glass on this sunny spring morning.

Water Quality:

B+

Although, the very bottom waters may experience some dissolved oxygen depletion, most of Crystal Lake's deep water column usually remains well oxygenated throughout the year. These conditions indicate good water quality and also provide excellent habitat for coldwater fish.

Phosphorus and chlorophyll levels in the lake are moderate. An apparent decline in water clarity, which is currently over 20 feet, is a concern. This may be due to rapid development within Crystal Lake's watershed coupled with severe erosion on several nearby roads. For these reasons, LEA has put Crystal Lake in the moderate degree of concern category.

Town	Population	Registered Boats	Licensed anglers	% Anglers in population
Harrison	2,315	537	409	18%

Sources: Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife; 2000 Census

Lakes Environmental Association

Protecting the lakes we love.

Since 1970, the Lakes Environmental Association has worked to protect the lakes and ponds of Western Maine through water quality testing, environmental education and outreach programs. Today our waters face serious threats, from erosion to invasive plants.

LEA leads the milfoil battle

Invasive aquatic plants, such as milfoil, are not native to Maine waters. Once they invade a lake or stream, they:

- Spread rapidly and kill beneficial native plants
- Form dense mats of vegetation, making it difficult to swim, fish or boat.
- Alter native fish habitats
- Lower waterfront property values.

Environmental education

LEA offers environmental education programs to seven local schools, reaching roughly 450 students. Another 2,000 people enjoy nature at LEA's Holt Pond Preserve each year.

Water Quality

LEA protects water quality by helping landowners avoid problems such as erosion and by testing the waters of 37 lakes in Western Maine with help from volunteer monitors and support from the Towns of Bridgton, Denmark, Harrison, Naples, Sweden, and Waterford.



Please join LEA

If you swim, boat, fish or simply believe Maine wouldn't be Maine without clear, clean lakes and ponds, please join LEA and protect Maine's lakes now and for future generations. Call **207-647-8580** or visit our website: www.mainelakes.org.

