

HALFWAY POND Plymouth Plymouth County

Buzzards Bay Watershed





232 Acres

Depth: 9 feet Average 13 feet Maximum

Primary Gamefish:

Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass

General Information:

Halfway Pond is a 232-acre natural warmwater pond with an average depth of nine feet and a maximum depth of 13 feet. Transparency is good at 10 feet. There are almost three miles of shoreline, only lightly developed. The bottom is primarily sand and vegetation is common on the eastern side of the island. Halfway Pond is supplied with water by groundwater, a small stream in the northwest corner, and reportedly a pipe to Long Pond. Halfway Pond serves as the headwaters for the Agawam River and is also used as a water source for cranberry bogs.

Access:

Access to Halfway Pond is provided by the Wildlands Trust of Southeastern Massachusetts and can be located on the western shore of the pond off of Mast Road. Parking is limited to just two or three cars, and boaters will have to stick with canoes and other cartop craft. Substantial amounts of shoreline are open to fishing, however. The island in the middle of the pond is a research preserve owned by the Nature Conservancy and is open only by prior permission.

Management History:

Halfway Pond in Plymouth was stocked with landlocked salmon from Maine in the 1870s. A July 1912 pond survey reported white perch, herring, suckers, sunfish, red (yellow) perch, catfish, eels and trout. Prior to 1946, the pond had been stocked with smallmouth bass, bullheads, white perch, yellow perch, pickerel, crappie and sunfish. A July 1946 survey reported pumpkinseeds, white sucker, yellow perch, golden shiner, chain pickerel, brown bullhead, white perch and tesselated darters. In the 1950's and 1960's, netting operations were used to thin panfish and sucker populations and also used to supply yellow perch for stocking other waters. Fish surveys were conducted in 1946, 1979, 1987 and 2000.

Fish Populations:

A July 17, 2000 fish survey found alewife, white sucker, yellow perch, pumpkinseed, bluegill, banded killifish, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, tesselated darter, white perch, and American eel. A September 1987 survey also reported chain pickerel, golden shiner, bridle shiners and fallfish. In the 2000 survey, yellow perch and alewives were the most abundant fish species and largemouth bass and smallmouth bass were the most abundant gamefish.

Fishing:

While smallmouth bass are still found in good numbers in Halfway Pond, the dominant black bass species now appears to be the largemouth bass. Some nice sized largemouth bass were present along with white perch and yellow perch and a few nice smallmouth bass. Panfish such as bluegill and pumpkinseeds were plentiful. Other nearby ponds in Plymouth include Long Pond, Little Long Pond and Gallows Pond.