

# Rogers Lake

**Town(s):** Lyme/Old Lyme

260 acres

**Description:** Rogers Lake is a natural lake within the Connecticut River Drainage Basin. The water level was raised 4 ft. by a concrete and masonry dam across the outlet. The lake has two deep basins connected by a shallow area of less than 6 ft. **Watershed:** 4,819 acres of mostly woods and wetland with some residential development. Rogers is fed by Grassy Hill Brook from the north and by several other small streams. The outlet is through the dam at the southern end of the lake. It flows into Mill Brook, a tributary of the Lieutenant River. **Shoreline:** The shore is lined almost entirely by residences. There is a town park located on the southern shore. **Depth:** Max 63 ft., Mean 19 ft. **Transparency:** Clear; 11 ft. in late summer. **Productivity:** Moderate (mesotrophic). **Bottom type:** Mud, sand, gravel and rubble. **Stratification:** Occurs with a thermocline forming between 16 and 30 ft. Late summer oxygen levels are marginal (5 ppm) to a depth of 20 ft. Oxygen then declines to less than 3 ppm in deeper water. **Vegetation:** Dense growths of tapegrass, variable-leaved water-milfoil, and water-nymph are found near the shore to depths of 6 ft. in many areas of both basins. Southern naiad is present. Bladderwort also occurs in the shallower midsection of the lake. Patches of white water-lily, yellow pond-lily and water-shield are present.

**Access:** A state-owned boat launch is located on the eastern shore, 100 yds. upstream into Grassy Hill Brook. The channel leading from the launch to the lake is very shallow when the lake level is low. Facilities at the launch include a ramp with concrete slabs, parking for 20 cars and chemical toilets (seasonal). **Directions:** Exit 70 off I-95, Rte. 1 east for 2.5 miles, left (north) on Grassy Hill Rd., launch is on left. **Shore:** Public access is restricted to the launch area.

**Fish:** Rogers Lake is stocked during the spring and fall with 10,200 catchable size **brown** and **rainbow trout**. A small number of brown trout hold over to the following year despite low summer oxygen levels. Some large **walleye** (greater than 20") were still present at time of writing (see Management below). **Largemouth bass** are abundant in all sizes. Densities of bass in the 12-19" size range are particularly high in the lake. **Chain pickerel** densities are slightly less than average for all sizes. **Black crappie** and **yellow perch** are uncommon at smaller sizes, with densities of larger crappie and perch (greater than 10") being near average. **Sunfish** (mostly bluegill, some pumpkinseed) densities are higher than average, but sunfish greater than 8" are rare. **Brown bullheads** are common with slightly higher than average numbers of larger (12 to 14") fish. Small **American eels** are abundant, but larger eels (greater than 15") are less common. Forage fish include abundant populations of alewives and golden shiners. Other fish species present at low densities are tessellated darter, bridled shiner, common carp, spottail shiner, banded killifish, fourspine stickleback and creek chubsucker.

**Fishing:** Should be excellent for largemouth bass, good to excellent for trout with a chance for a holdover; good for bullheads, and fair for other species. Expect walleye fishing to be slow, but fish caught will be large (to 8 pounds).

**Management:** Trophy Trout Lake; special seasonal length and creel limits on trout (see current *Connecticut Anglers' Guide*). From 1993 to 1998, Rogers Lake was stocked annually in the fall with fingerling walleyes. Although growth rates were good, survival of stocked walleyes was poor. Because of this and the proximity of other successful walleye lakes (Gardner and Saltonstall), stocking was discontinued in 1999.

**Boating:** Speed limit 6 mph sunset to 10:00 a.m. except 12 mph sunset to 10:00 a.m. November 1 to May 14. Motors limited to 135 hp (see current *Connecticut Boater's Guide*). ▼

	ALL SIZES	BIG FISH	GROWTH
<b>Gamefish</b>			
Largemouth bass	A	A	Avg
Brown trout	C	U	Avg
Rainbow trout	C		
Chain pickerel	C	C	Avg
Walleye	U	U	> Avg
<b>Panfish</b>			
Black crappie	C	C	> Avg
Yellow perch	C	C	Avg
Brown bullhead	C	C	
<b>Sunfish</b>			
Bluegill	C	U	< Avg
Pumpkinseed	C	U	< Avg
<b>Other</b>			
Tessellated darter	U		
Bridled shiner	U		
Common carp	R		
Golden shiner	A		
Spottail shiner	U		
Banded killifish	U		
Fourspine stickleback	U		
Alewife	A		
Creek chubsucker	R		
American eel	A		

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

