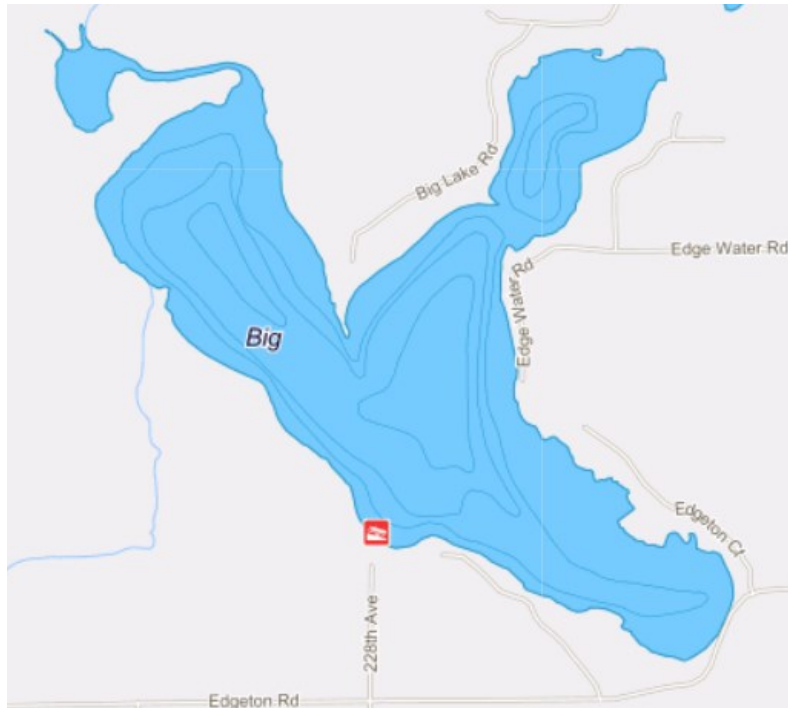


Big (Stearns County)

OVERVIEW

Big Lake is a 458 acre lake located three miles southwest of the City of Richmond. It has a maximum depth of 42 feet with an average depth of 15 feet. Big Lake has good water quality and excellent water clarity with a 10 year average summer Secchi reading of 10 feet. The Big Lake watershed is 20,371 acres with land use consisting of 65% agriculture, 17% pasture, 6% marsh/open water, 5% forest, 4% residential, and 3% grassland. Walleye fingerlings are stocked every other year. There is one public access and two private accesses located on the lake. A standard survey was conducted in 2017 to monitor changes in the fishery from the last survey completed in 2012.

Big Lake has a diverse aquatic plant community. While no submerged plant survey was conducted in 2017, the last submerged plant survey conducted in 2012 found 13 species of aquatic plants growing to a depth of 9.5 feet. Muskgrass and sago pondweed were the most common. Emergent plants were mapped in 2017 and found to cover approximately 15% of the lake. Species found were bulrush spp. (2 acres), cattail spp. (36 acres), white waterlily (29 acres), and yellow water lily (2 acres).



Water Resources Helpful Links

Click on each of the below links to go to relevant and specific information

[Fisheries Survey](#)

[Water Clarity](#)

[Water Quality](#)

[Lake Depth](#)

[Area Recreational Compass](#)

[Aquatic Invasive Species Map](#)

