

General Lake Information

Lake Association: no known association

Location: Village of Antwerp

County: Jefferson

Basin: St. Lawrence River

Size: 159 acres

Shoreline Length: 2.9 miles

Watershed Area: 640 acres

Lake Origins: Natural

Mean Depth: 6.6 feet

Max Depth: 15 feet

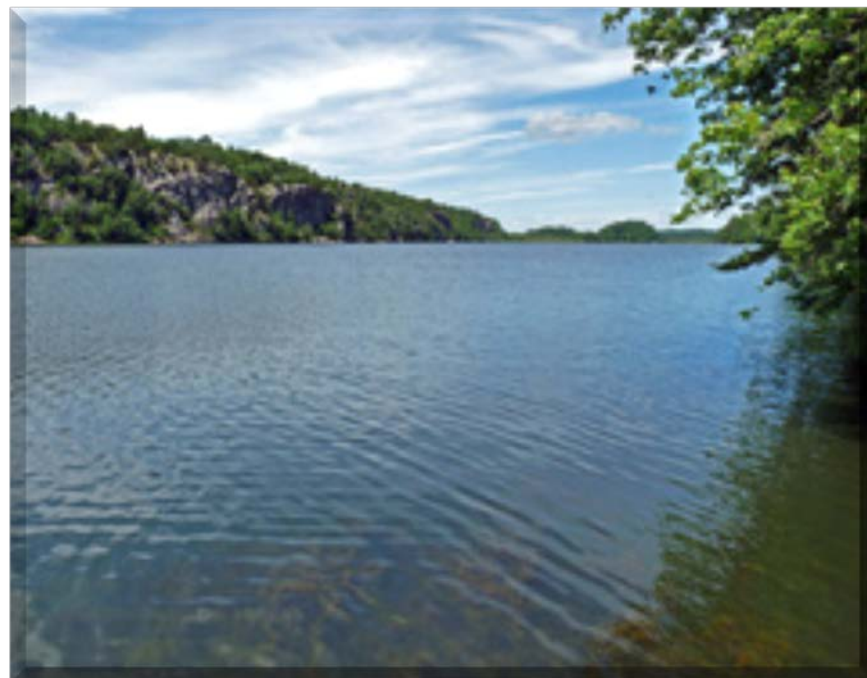
Public Access: DEC hard surface ramp

Fish Species Present: Northern Pike, Largemouth Bass, Tiger Muskellunge, Northern Pike, Black Crappie, Bluegill, Brown Bullhead, Yellow Perch

CSLAP Participant: No

Because Payne Lake does not actively participate in the CSLAP program, no water quality data is publicly available.

Payne Lake



Payne Lake is one of those gems of the Indian River Lakes. . It's a gem because it has very few residents and a well maintained state launch. River It is bordered on the west side by Pulpit Rock State Forest which will leaves that side of the lake environmentally protected. Payne Lake does not outlet into the Indian River, but rather the Oswegatchie River.



Brief History of Payne Lake

Payne Lake is located in the Village of Antwerp, just outside the hamlet of Oxbow. Early settlers used to speak of the lake on the Oxbow Road as Vrooman's Lake, after the early hunter and settler who is one of the men credited with the founding of the hamlet of Oxbow. Peter Vrooman built a log house on the big bend of the Oswegatchie River in the early 1800s which he opened as a public house for travelers making their way through the new country. Roselle Payne built a steam sawmill on the shore of the lake in 1850. The mill cut hemlock for the plank roads that were being constructed around the area. As time went people in the area started to refer to the lake as Payne Lake.



Payne Lake's high cliffs have been known to have nesting eagles.



Payne Lake is a very shallow lake with a mean depth of 6.5 feet and the deepest place in the center at 15 feet. The nutrient content is high and it is considered a eutrophic lake. It is susceptible to algae blooms. In 2014 and 2015, the lake was listed as having a blue green algae bloom. There is little information about the official water quality content of Payne Lake.