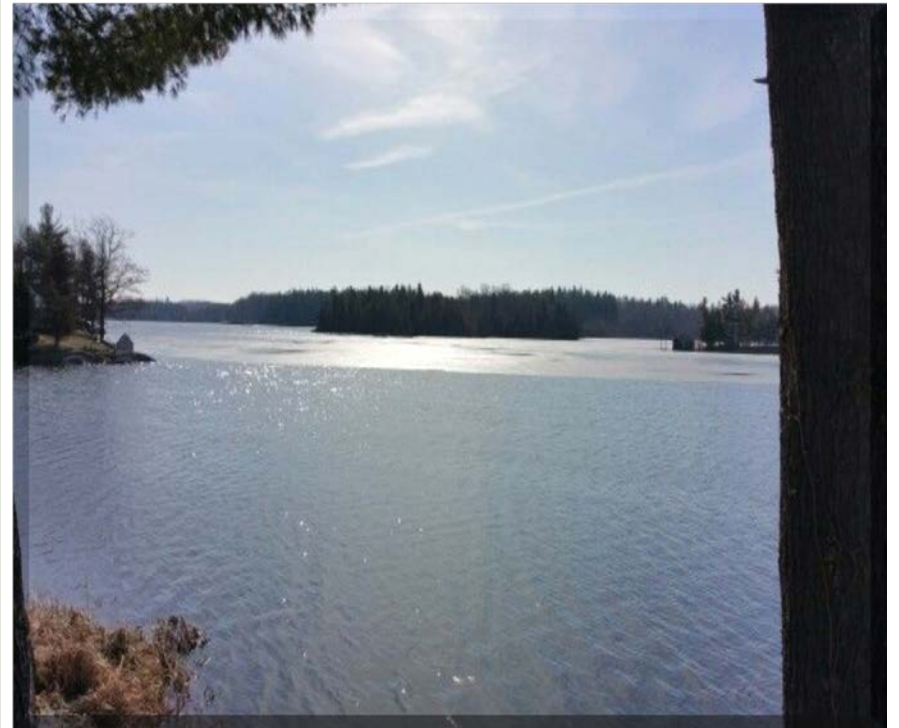


Moon Lake



General Lake Information

Moon Lake Association

reestablished 2015

Location: Town of Theresa

County: Jefferson

Basin: St. Lawrence River

Size: 243 acres

Shoreline Length: 4.3 miles

Watershed Area: 1,280 acres

Lake Origins: Natural

Retention Time: ? years

Mean Depth: 12 feet

Max Depth: 20 meters

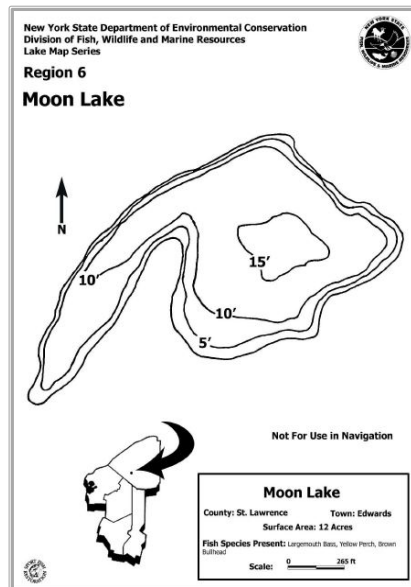
Public Access: DEC hand launch

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

Major Tributaries: none

WQ Classification B - contact recreation

Sampling Years: 1992 - 1996





The Moon Lake Story

This story of how Moon Lake got its name came from the *History Of Theresa*, by Ronald Sinclair. The story starts with a rumor that Moon Lake got its name because of the shape, but a glance at a map can picture, in no stretch of the imagination, any shape of the moon in the outline of these waters. Well, the truth is that the name came from a very early family that had settled near the lake. The foundation of the Moon home still remains in the middle of an old pasture from which, if you look out in the distance, you can see the waters of Moon Lake. The hill, just north, has long been known as Moon Hill.

A great deal of the property around the lake was owned by families of the Village of Theresa. Early on Mr. Webster built six cottages; he lived in one and rented the rest for local fisherman and their families.

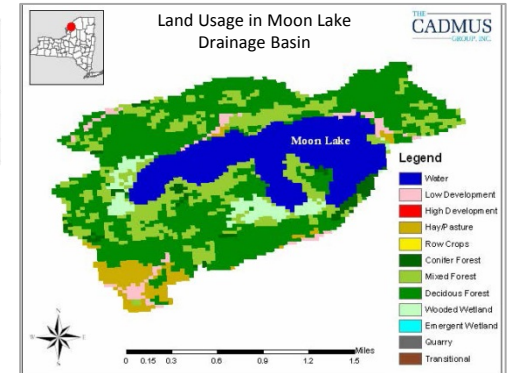


Photo of old hunting camp
1850's near Moon Lake.

Of all the Indian River Lakes, Moon Lake has the most extensive study of Total Phosphorous affecting the lake. The study goes back to the early 1990's with several sources being observed, from agriculture to residential septic systems. As a fertilizer, excess phosphorous can create a number of problems including increased weed growth, algae blooms and oxygen depletion.

Source Category	Total Phosphorus (lbs/yr)
Hay/Pasture	8
Forest	6
Groundwater	55
Septic Systems	101
TOTAL	170

Year	Total Phosphorus ($\mu\text{g/L}$)
1992	25
1993	32
1994	29
1995	28
1996	25



As part of CSLAP, a limited number of water quality samples were collected during the summers of 1992-1996. The results from these sampling efforts show eutrophic conditions in Moon Lake, with concentrations of phosphorus in the lake being higher than the state guidance values, which increases the potential for nuisance summertime algae blooms.

