

Properly Stocked Ponds Provide Years of Fishing

A properly stocked and managed pond will provide years of quality fishing. Stocking the proper kinds, sizes, and number of fish will start a pond in the right direction. Most Ohio ponds are ideal for largemouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish; and all three provide excellent fishing and fine eating. An initial stocking of a combination of these fish is usually recommended for new or renovated ponds. Properly managed largemouth bass and bluegill will produce self-sustaining populations, whereas channel catfish usually require periodic restocking.

Channel catfish are often considered "bonus fish" because they don't interfere with the other pond fish, but shellcrackers can also be stocked as "bonus fish" in combination with bluegills and are popular because they rarely become overabundant and often grow to large sizes. However, they can be more difficult to catch than bluegill.

Another fish, which is occasionally stocked in farm ponds, is the White Amur or triploid grass carp. Unlike largemouth bass, bluegill redear shellcracker and catfish, grass carp are not stocked for sport or to eat, but to control or eliminate nuisance aquatic vegetation.

Stocking the recommended sizes and numbers of fish is very important for good fishing. Fingerling fish one to three inches long are recommended for stocking new or renovated ponds. Starting a pond off by stocking larger fish is tempting, but can lead to an "unbalanced" pond with too many fish of one kind and too few of another. Stocking larger fish can also be very expensive.

**Stocking Recommendations
For One Acre of Water**

100 Bass	200 Bluegill
100 Perch	100 Shellcracker
100 Crappie	50-100 Catfish
1000 Minnows	
10-12 White Amur	
(Depending on present vegetation)	

Belmont SWCD Fish Sale Order Form

Order Deadline
Wednesday, April 3, 2019

Send order form & payment to:
Belmont SWCD
130 West Main Street
St. Clairsville, OH 43950

Phone: (740) 526-0027

Fish Pick-up:
Thursday, April 4, 2019
3:30 – 4:30 p.m.
45420 Roscoe Road
St. Clairsville, OH 43950
(Belmont Fairgrounds)

Please bring a bucket and plastic bag with your own pond water for transport.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____

Description	Quantity	Price	Total
Largemouth Bass (2-3")	___	\$.90	___
Bluegill (2-4")	___	\$.90	___
Channel Catfish (4-5")	___	\$.80	___
Black Crappie (2-4")	___	\$.90	___
Yellow Perch (2-3")	___	\$.90	___
Redear Shellcracker (2-4")	___	\$.90	___
Hybrid Bluegill (2-4")	___	\$.85	___
Koi (6-8")	___	\$11.00	___
Fathead Minnows (200)	___	\$13.00	___
White Amur (8-10")	___	\$14.00	___

Total Due _____

For office use only:
Date _____
 Check _____ Cash
Receipt _____

No reminder will be sent! Any fish not picked up will be considered a donation.