

*Natural. Valued. Protected.*

Lake Fact Sheet – Parry Sound District

# Belle Lake

Location:	
<b>MNR District:</b> .....	Parry Sound
<b>Geographic Township:</b> .....	Ferguson
<b>Municipal Township:</b> .....	McDougall
<b>Watershed:</b> .....	Shawanaga River
<b>Fisheries Mgmt Zone:</b> .....	15

Basin and Terrain Characteristics:	
<b>Lake Survey Year:</b> .....	1980
<b>Surface Area:</b> .....	57.7 hectares
<b>Maximum Depth:</b> .....	12.8 meters
<b>Mean Depth:</b> .....	5.1 meters
<b>Perimeter:</b> .....	4.2 km
<b>Island shoreline:</b> .....	0.1 km
<b>Littoral Zone:</b> .....	not calculated
<b>Shoreline Development:</b> .....	6 Cottages (at time of 1980 survey)
<b>Access Points:</b> .....	Road (Private)
<b>Water Level:</b> .....	Not Regulated (i.e. no dams present)
<b>Crown Land:</b> .....	50% Shoreline

Water Quality:	
<b>Secchi reading:</b>	2.7 meters
<b>Colour:</b>	Yellow/Brown
<b>Alkalinity:</b>	6.8mg/l - Level 3 Moderately Sensitive (MOE, 1989)
<b>pH:</b>	7.5
<b>M.E.I.:</b>	3.9 (1985)
<p><b>“Guide to eating fish”:</b> Fish in watersheds draining into Georgian Bay generally have high levels of mercury. This is due to natural, high background levels of mercury present in the watershed – not man-made contamination. A precautionary approach to fish consumption is recommended. We recommend you search the guide for an alternate large lake in your watershed (i.e. Lorimer Lake) and apply those consumption guidelines to Belle Lake. Extra caution should be exercised by women of child-bearing age and for children.</p>	
<p>The Guide to Eating Ontario Sport Fish is available electronically at: <a href="http://www.ene.gov.on.ca">www.ene.gov.on.ca</a>.</p>	

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### Fisheries:

**Game Fish Species:** Smallmouth Bass, Largemouth Bass, Yellow Perch, Northern Pike

**Other species present:** White Sucker, Cisco, Pumpkinseed, Pearl Dace, Northern Redbelly Dace

**Introduced Species:**

- Northern Pike - reported introduced around 1985.
- Walleye were planted in 1929 by Dept. of Lands & Forests, but introduction was unsuccessful.

**Stocking Record:** The lake is not currently being stocked.

1929 Yellow Pickerel (50,000 fry)

### Summary of Fisheries Studies / Reports:

None present. Last survey work was 1980 - Aquatic Habitat Inventory.

### Management Prescription:

- Manage as a natural, self-sustaining largemouth bass, smallmouth bass and northern pike fishery.
- Generic Fishing Regulations for FMZ-15 (Sport Fishing Regulations) apply.

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Refer to Lake Fact Sheet Interpretation document for explanation of content.

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