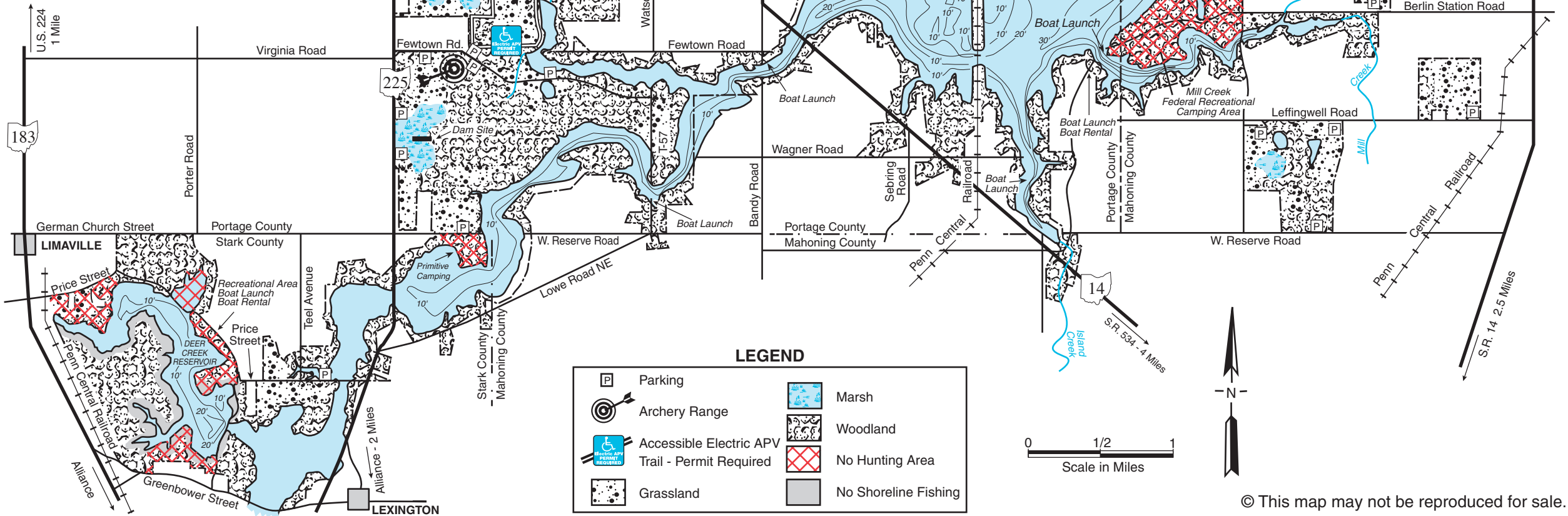
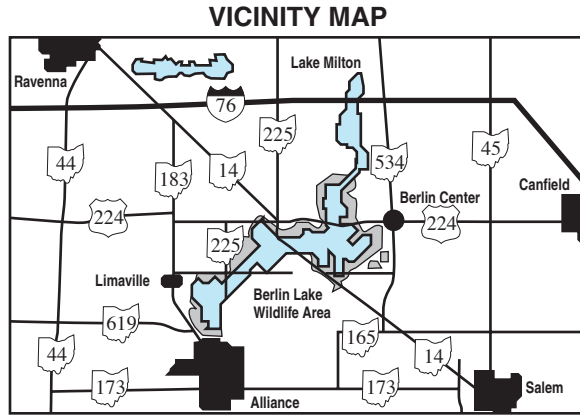
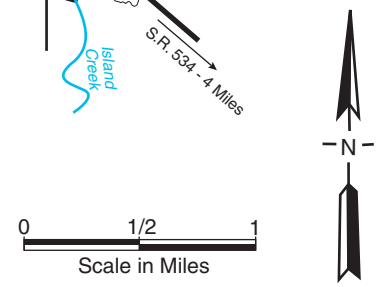


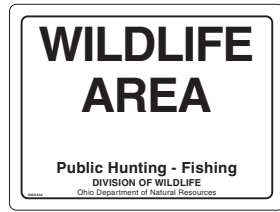
Division of Wildlife
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
BERLIN LAKE WILDLIFE AREA
Stark, Mahoning, and Portage Counties



LEGEND

	Parking		Marsh
	Archery Range		Woodland
	Accessible Electric APV Trail - Permit Required		No Hunting Area
	Grassland		No Shoreline Fishing





BERLIN LAKE WILDLIFE AREA

Mahoning, Portage, and Stark Counties

DISTANCE FROM MAJOR POPULATION CENTERS

15 miles from Alliance
16 miles from Warren-Youngstown
20 miles from Niles
25 miles from Kent
30 miles from Akron

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

This 8,518-acre wildlife area is situated in northeast Ohio on lands adjacent to Berlin Lake. The area is scattered, lying both north and south of U.S. Route 224. The western part can be reached from State Route 225, the central portion from State Route 14, and the eastern portion from U.S. Route 224 and Bedell Road.

At full summer pool (elevation 1,024.7 feet), the surface water area of Berlin Lake totals 3,590 acres. Approximately 4,928 land acres are available for public hunting. The topography of the land ranges from flat to gently rolling. The soils are poorly drained and low in productivity.

Nearly 60 percent of the wildlife area consists of second growth hardwoods. The timber stands are mainly pin oak, hickory, elm, ash, and red maple. Swamp white oak, other maples, beech, birch, and sycamore are present in lesser numbers. Much of the remainder of the area is cropped with cereal grains and meadow rotations to provide nesting and protective cover for upland game species.

HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The Berlin Lake project was authorized in 1938 to provide flood control and a water supply for industry downstream. Full operation of the project, by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, was initiated in 1944. In 1946, the Division of Wildlife was granted a license for fish and wildlife management on the 6,935 acres in the project area. The state began additional land acquisition in 1956 for public hunting and currently owns over 1,200 acres.

The wildlife management plan provides for the maintenance and protection of existing woodlands, establishment of regular crop rotations, improvement of open fields for nesting, and establishment of food patches for general wildlife use. Permanent wildlife cover has been provided by planting trees and shrubs along field borders and in odd areas and by establishing brushy field dividers.

The primary purpose of the wildlife area is to provide general public hunting and fishing. Other uses which have become popular include dog training and hunting dog field trials.

FISH AND WILDLIFE

Berlin Lake contains diverse sport fish populations which include largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, white bass, walleye, white crappie, black crappie, bluegill, channel catfish, brown bullhead, and muskellunge.

Cottontail rabbit, ring-necked pheasant, squirrels, woodchuck, raccoon, muskrat, mink, white-tailed deer, and opossum are the principal upland game and fur species. During fall migration, sizable flights of woodcock augment local production. Waterfowl occur on the lake and on the ponds and beaver marshes on the area. Beaver have become fairly common. The impoundments on the area provide excellent habitat not only for beaver, but for many furbearers, shorebirds, and waterfowl. During migration, bald eagles may be seen on Berlin Lake along with a great variety of songbirds.

HUNTING AND FISHING

Upland game species are well distributed throughout the wildlife area as a result of fairly uniform distribution of crop fields, shrubby coverts, grasslands, and woods. After the opening of the upland game season, hunting dogs are recommended because the fields are large and cover is extensive. The best rabbit hunting is in the brushy uplands along edges or borders. There are several good squirrel woods on the area. Brushy areas with open wet meadows provide the best opportunity for woodcock hunting.

Fishing in Berlin Lake is good. Walleye, bass, and crappies predominate. Spring is the best time to fish; live bait and spinning lures are the most effective. During April, May, and June, crappies, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass are taken in shallow water around submerged willows and brush. In July and August largemouths are caught in deeper water over bottom obstructions. Walleyes are taken in shallow water in early spring and then in deeper water when the water warms to 70° in June. A hydrographic fishing map (Publication 217) for Berlin Lake is available upon request.

PUBLIC USE FACILITIES

Public facilities include roads and parking lots situated throughout the area. A dog training ground is maintained for year-round use. Several boat launching sites and commercial boat liveries provide fishing access to Berlin Lake.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further information may be obtained from the Area Manager, Berlin Lake Wildlife Area, 1806 Bonner Road, Deerfield, Ohio 44411; telephone (330) 654-2392; or Wildlife District Three Office, 912 Portage Lakes Drive, Akron, Ohio 44319; telephone (330) 644-2293.

TURN IN A POACHER

Ohio's TIP, "Turn In a Poacher," program is helping to curtail poaching throughout the state. TIP is designed to involve the public in reporting wildlife violations. Citizens who observe wildlife violations should call the TIP toll-free hotline, 1-800-POACHER.