



### Basic Stocking Plans for Established Ponds

#### **Bluegill/Largemouth Bass/Channel Catfish option**

Traditional stocking plan that will produce a fine fishery for quality largemouth bass as well as a good fishery for bluegill, redear sunfish, and channel catfish. Channel catfish will need to be restocked periodically since reproduction is limited in ponds.

This stocking plan is for a newly built or newly renovated pond that **does not** have an established fish population (yes, that includes those few bass your brother-in-law put in to help you get started).

Species Stocked	Size to Stock	When to Stock	Stocking Rate per Acre	
			Plan to Feed	Don't Plan to Feed
Bluegill	1-2 inch	Spring or Fall	500	500
Channel Catfish	4-6 inch	Spring or Fall	300	150
Redear Sunfish	1-2 inch	Spring or Fall	250	250
Fathead Minnows	Adult	Spring or Fall	5 Lbs	5 Lbs
Largemouth Bass	2-3 inch	The next Fall following stocking other fishes (example, first fish stocked Fall 2003, bass stocked Fall 2004)	75	75

#### **Hybrid Sunfish/Largemouth Bass/ Channel Catfish Option**

This option will produce a high quality panfish fishery with a fair quality fishery for largemouth bass. It is an ideal option for a fishing pond for children or for ponds smaller than two acres. Largemouth bass in this option are primarily used to control the reproduction of the hybrid sunfish. Channel catfish and hybrid sunfish will need to be restocked periodically since reproduction is limited. Redear sunfish or hybrid redear sunfish should be stocked to control snails. Note: there is no advantage to stocking hybrid sunfish in ponds with bluegill; you should chose one or the other based on what type of fishery you desire.

This version of the stocking plan is for a newly built or newly renovated pond that **does not** have an established fish population (yes, that includes those few bass your brother-in-law put in to help you get started).

Species Stocked	Size to Stock	When to Stock	Stocking Rate per Acre	
			Plan to Feed	Don't Plan to Feed
Hybrid Sunfish	1-2 inch	Spring or Fall	500	500
Channel Catfish	4-6 inch	Spring or Fall	300	150
Redear Sunfish	1-2 inch	Spring or Fall	250	250
Fathead Minnows	Adult	Spring or Fall	5 Lbs	5 Lbs
Largemouth Bass	2-3 inch	The next Fall following stocking other fishes (example, first fish stocked Fall 2003, bass stocked Fall 2004)	50	50