



# Pontoosuc Lake, Pittsfield/Lanesboro

## General Information

Pontoosuc Lake is a 511 acre great pond located north of the center of Pittsfield at the corner of North St. and Hancock Rd. The average depth of Pontoosuc Lake is 15 feet with a maximum of 40 feet and water transparency is typically 11 feet but can diminish following rain. The bottom is composed of muck and gravel, with the gravel predominating in the south end. Aquatic vegetation, which was abundant, has been greatly reduced in recent years by an aggressive vegetation control program. The shoreline is densely developed and the lake supports heavy recreational use throughout the year. Pontoosuc Lake is drawdown annually during fall and winter so use caution when navigating during these times as depth varies seasonally.

## Recreational Access

The city of Pittsfield Manages a Public a double concrete ramp (73°14'50.072"W 42°29'5.627"N) and adjacent parking area suitable for 30 trailers off of Hancock Road on the extreme southern end of the lake. Shoreline access is limited to areas of Pontoosuc Lake Park which is located adjacent to the boat ramp along Hancock Rd. Please contact the offices of the city of Pittsfield for additional information, and/or restrictions pertaining to public access of Pontoosuc Lake.

## Fish Populations

The following fish species were found during MassWildlife surveys: Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Northern Pike, Chain Pickerel, Common Carp, Yellow Perch, White Perch, Black Crappie, Bluegill, Pumpkinseed, Rock Bass, Brown Bullhead, Yellow Bullhead, White Sucker, Common Shiner, and Golden Shiner. Pontoosuc Lake is also stocked annually in spring and fall with trout.

## Fishing

While there is local angling interest in the spring stocked trout and the heavily fished largemouth bass population, this lake's biggest claim to fame is its ability to consistently produce large Northern Pike and Tiger Muskellunge (when stocked). Northern Pike are known to reproduce naturally here with the majority of these fish caught through the ice in winter. The carp fishery has also increased in popularity in recent years, with fish visible in the shallows during the spring spawning season. Recent reduction in aquatic vegetation has reduced cover for largemouth bass in many sections of the Lake. Pontoosuc Lake has produced Largemouth Bass, Smallmouth Bass, Northern Pike, Tiger Muskellunge, Chain Pickerel, Common Carp, Yellow Perch, White Perch, Black Crappie, Sunfish, Bullhead, and Brown Trout that meet minimum sizes for recognition by the Sportfishing Awards Program.

## Useful Links:

[Get your Fishing License](#)

[Freshwater Fishing](#)

[Trout Stocking Information](#)

[Freshwater Sportfishing Awards Program](#)

## Learn more:

[Mass.gov/MassWildlife](#)

## Connect with us:

[Facebook.com/MassWildlife](#)

## Your local

### MassWildlife office:

88 Old Windsor Road  
Dalton, MA 01226  
(413) 684-1646

## STOP AQUATIC HITCHIKERS!

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.  
Clean all recreational equipment.  
[ProtectYourWaters.net](#)

Updated: 2018



# Lake Pontoosuc

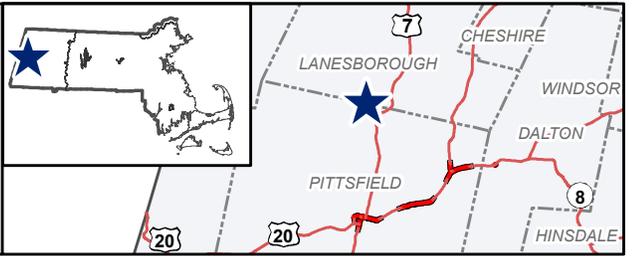
511 Acres

Lanesboro/Pittsfield

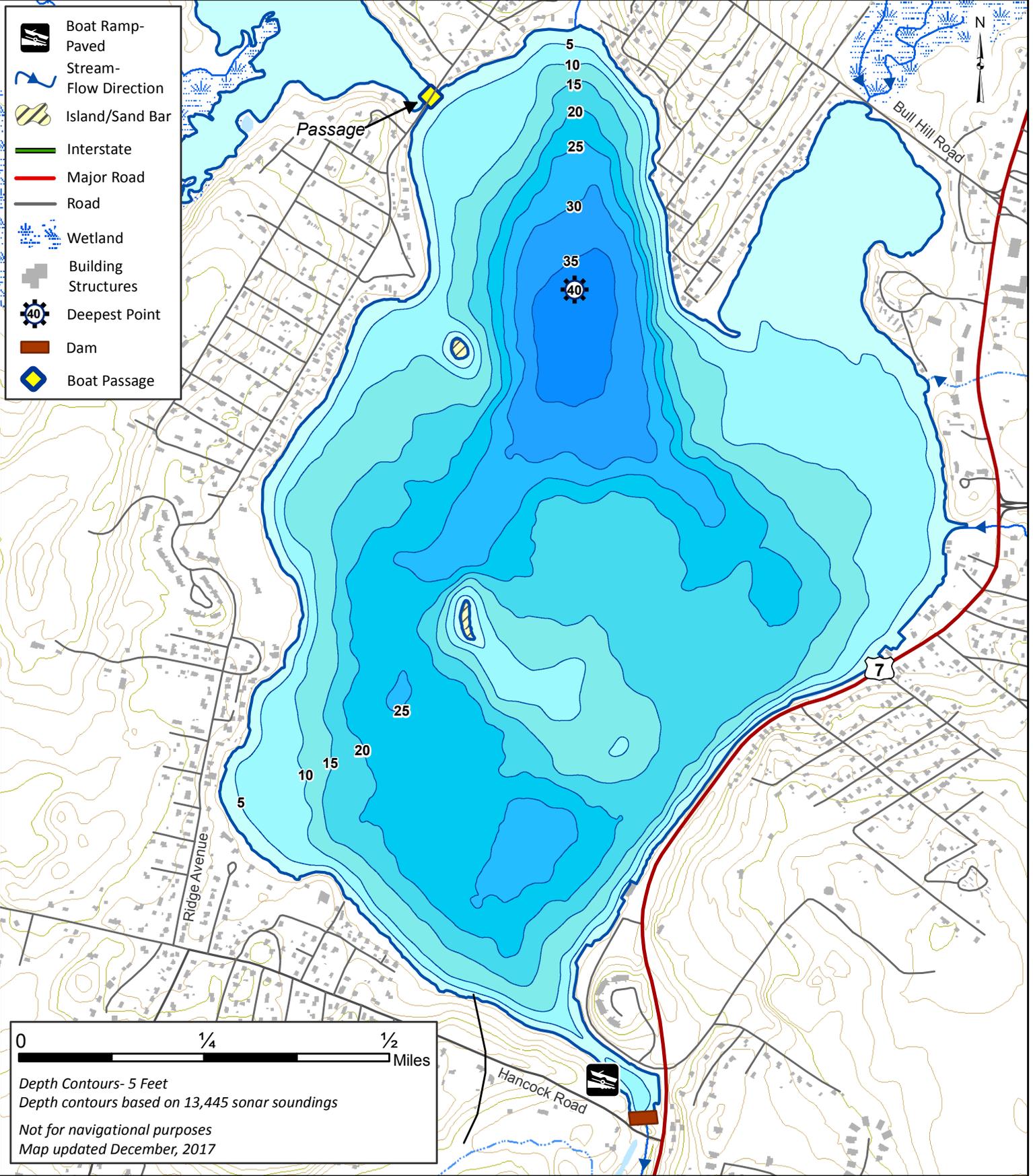
Housatonic River Watershed

Coordinates: 73°14'50.072"W 42°29'5.627"N

USGS Quads: Pittsfield East/West, Hancock, Cheshire



- Boat Ramp-Paved
- Stream-Flow Direction
- Island/Sand Bar
- Interstate
- Major Road
- Road
- Wetland
- Building Structures
- Deepest Point
- Dam
- Boat Passage



Depth Contours- 5 Feet  
 Depth contours based on 13,445 sonar soundings  
 Not for navigational purposes  
 Map updated December, 2017