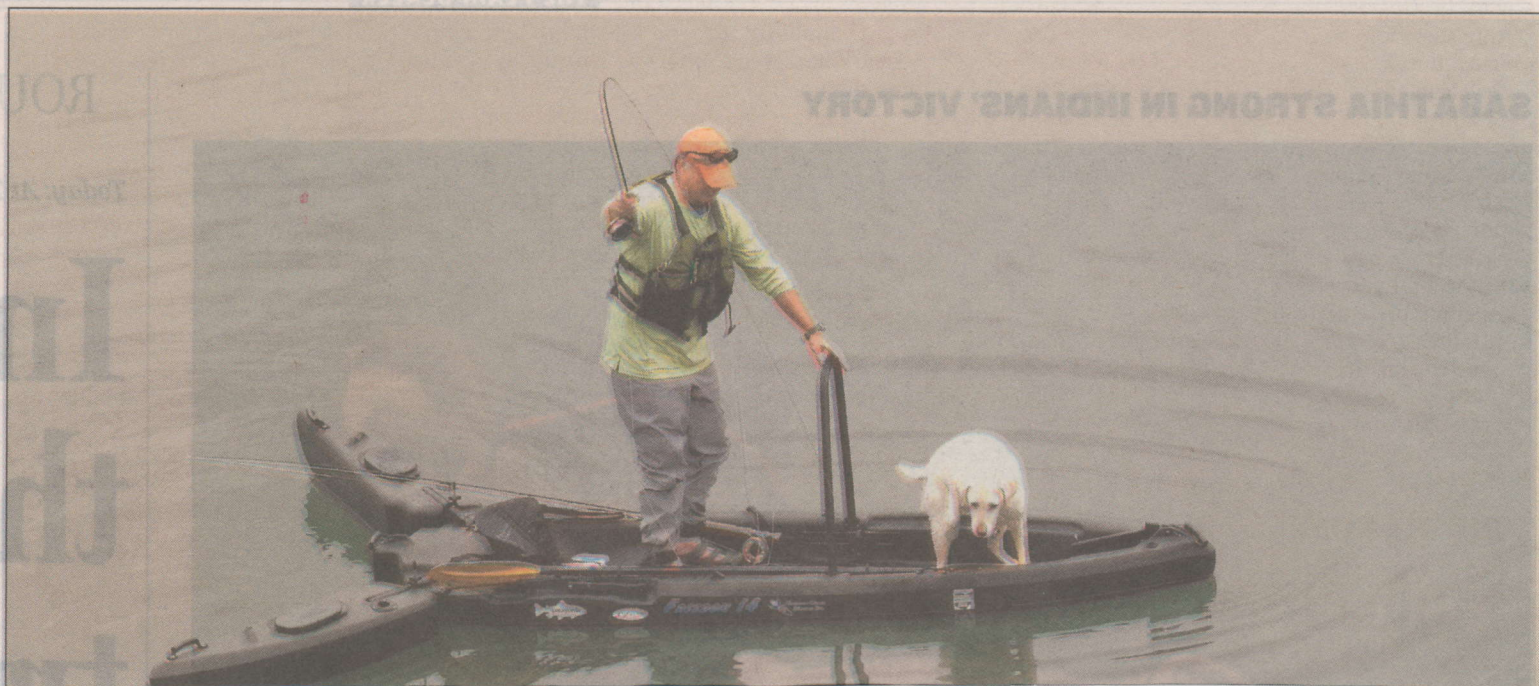


# D'ARCY'S DESTINATIONS



*Plain Dealer outdoor writer D'Arcy Egan looks at interesting places to go in the Great Outdoors*



## Few yawns found on Lake Shawn

### What

Fishermen can wear themselves out catching a wide variety of game fish from Lake Shawn's well-stocked waters in Southeastern Ohio's Belmont County. The catch-and-release fishing guarantees consistent catches of striped and white bass hybrids called "wipers," large-mouth and smallmouth bass, jumbo bluegills, catfish, trout and even yellow perch. All methods of sport fishing are allowed on the 35 acres of water, with warm-water fly fishing now a big hit.

Ospreys nesting nearby also enjoy snaring Lake Shawn's fish.

### When

Lake Shawn is open for fishing year-round, and has an exclusive hunting camp. The trophy white-tailed deer and wild turkey of Belmont County lure outdoorsmen from around the country, but reservations for hunting Lake Shawn's 200 acres of forest and fields are limited. Lots of public hunting ground is nearby. Fish are stocked from hatchery ponds on the property.

### Where

Lake Shawn is on Ohio 148 in Jacobsville, six miles west of Powhatan Point on the Ohio River. It is in Southeastern Ohio's Appalachian foothills and adjacent to Captina Creek, which offers fast-water fishing for wild smallmouth bass. It is about a 2½-hour drive from Cleveland or Columbus.

### Who

Owned by Independence Councilman Anthony Togliatti and Bob Togliatti of Lakewood, the brothers are carrying on a tradition of providing great fishing to the public begun in 1962 by their colorful uncle, the late Ray Brubaker. It is ru-



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF LAKE SHAWN

**Lake Shawn in Southeastern Ohio has become a fishing and hunting destination, offering game-rich sport hunting and ponds stocked with fish.**

mored Uncle Ray bought the strip-pit lakes with \$6,000 in poker winnings, hosted late-night poker parties at the lake cabins and held cock fights there until he was stopped by police. Ray's widow, Ida Brubaker, is just down the road at Brubaker's, a gas and grocery stop in Powhatan Point.

### Why

Fishermen like to catch fish, and a fish on the end of the line is a snap at Lake Shawn. It is a great location for anglers who want to bring a youngster and be assured they'll have the chance to battle a big bluegill or a hybrid striper. The bluegills are trophies and always hungry. The bass range to 5 pounds, the catfish to more than 30 pounds. Featured are the wipers, raised in holding ponds and re-

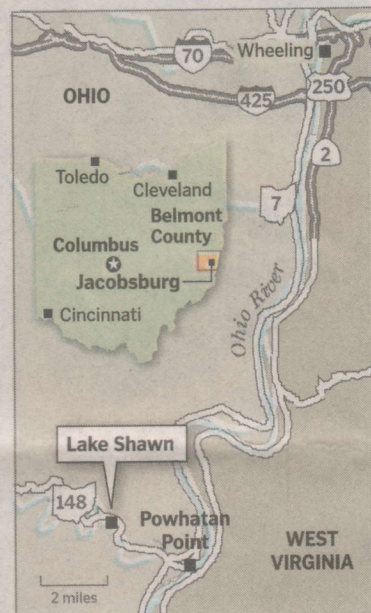
leased after they grow to catchable size.

### The cost

The daily fishing rate is \$100, \$50 for kids under 12. The fee includes a 15-foot flat-bottomed, electric-powered boat. Overnight and two-day fishing packages are available for two (\$425-\$575), three (\$525-\$775) and four anglers (\$650-\$975). There are special rates for corporate and group outings, which can include pig and lamb roasts. Two spacious renovated rental cabins with kitchens can each accommodate five to seven sportsmen. Swimming in the ponds and hiking the area is encouraged.

### Information

Visit [lakeshawn.com](http://lakeshawn.com) or call



SOURCES: ESRI, TeleAtlas THE PLAIN DEALER

1-800-856-6098.

### Fishing tackle

A 5-weight fly rod or light spinning tackle with 8-pound test line are good choices. Anglers with spinning tackle can use live bait, but will catch almost as many fish with small spinners, spoons and jigs, especially tube jigs and other small, soft-plastic lures. Bring a selection of smaller flies for bluegills, especially surface poppers, and dark-colored wooly buggers and wooly worms for most anything that swims. A fast-sinking fly line is best for the deeper wipers, which seem to prefer a fast-moving steamer fly and can be picky about fly colors.

*D'Arcy Egan covers the outdoors for The Plain Dealer. Log on to [cleveland.com/outdoors](http://cleveland.com/outdoors) to read archived editions of D'Arcy's Destinations.*

To reach this Plain Dealer reporter: [degan@plaind.com](mailto:degan@plaind.com), 216-999-5158