



2021 Data Report for

Fox Lake, Muskegon County

Site ID: 610321

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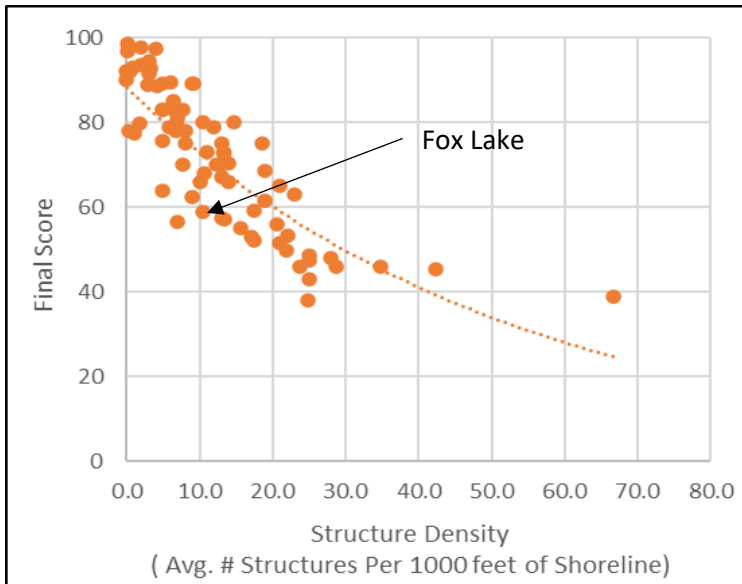
Fox Lake, Muskegon County 2021 Score the Shore Results



The Score the Shore Habitat Assessment was conducted on Fox Lake in 2021.

This assessment involves rating 1000 foot sections of shoreline for aquatic vegetation, shoreline vegetation, erosion, and erosion control practices (like sea walls). Each shoreline section is given three scores ranging from 0-100 for the categories of Littoral, Riparian, and Erosion Management. The three scores are averaged to produce a average section score. Then a total score is given to the entire lake by averaging all of the average section scores. A score of 0 indicates a shoreline that has been extremely disturbed by human impacts and no natural shoreline remains. A score of 100 indicates a shoreline that is nearly pristine.

How does your lake compare to others in the program?



Fox Lake	
Number of Sections:	6
Number of Structures:	63
Structure Density:	10.5
Final Score:	59

All 78 Participating Lakes from 2015-2021:	
Avg. Number of Sections:	16
Avg. Number of Structures:	214
Avg. Structure Density:	12.2
Avg. Final Score:	72

Note about graph to the left: The dotted line sets your average expectation of the score of your lake. If your lake is lower than the dotted line, then your shoreline health is lower than average compared to lakes with similar amount of shoreline development. And vice-versa in regards to a lake above the dotted line.

Analysis specific to Fox Lake:

Overall, the lakeshore habitat of Fox Lake scored lower than average when compared to other lakes in the program. All of the 1000 foot sections scored either Fair or Poor: 5 fair, and 1 poor.

All three of the scoring categories came out approximately the same on Fox Lake (Average scores: Littoral 58, Riparian 53, Erosion Control 65) This means that there is no particular strength to the habitat on Fox Lake; but rather all components of habitat are slightly degraded to some degree.

To improve scores, residents should work on all three categories. Keep native plants in the shallows, allow unvegetated areas to grow on the shoreline, and remove sea walls whenever possible. You can get plenty of ideas for improving shoreline health from the Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership (<https://www.mishorelinepartnership.org/>).

