

“Life is Better at the Lakes”

Location: 409 S. Whittle

Here in Olney, we are very lucky to have not one...not two....but three beautiful lakes to enjoy. For a community of our size, that's really something special!

Having these lakes available is not only a perk for residents, but they bring in visitors to us from all over, helping our local economy. Regardless, all enjoy the ample fishing, boating, and recreational opportunities provided by Olney waters.

Vernor Lake was the first to be built in the early 1900s as Olney's original water source. Currently, the 45 acre lake is used for recreational purposes only, and is the most quiet and serene of the three.

Borah Lake was constructed and finished by 1956, and replaced Vernor as Olney's water source. This lake covers 136 acres and includes a small, public swimming area near the boat launch, as well as a playground and picnic area.

East Fork Lake acts as the belle of the ball, and attracts the most visitors. This lake was built in 1970 to replace Borah as the primary water source, and was also a recreational beacon. This lake covers 935 acres with its tree-lined banks and attractive residential areas. Three City-owned parks are also located off of the water that offer picnic areas, walking trails, and spectacular views. Much of the shoreline is undeveloped which makes East Fork ideal for enjoying birds and other wildlife.

In addition to their beauty, all three of these lakes have one thing in common: GREAT FISHING! Olney's lakes are well known for their variety of fish. Sport fishermen find bluegill, channel catfish, bullhead catfish, crappie, bass, walleye, and red ear. Vernor and Borah Lakes are annually stocked with channel catfish. East Fork is annually stocked with walleye, and is periodically stocked with channel catfish. In 2019 alone, a total of 76 fishing tournaments were scheduled in Olney!