

# St. Joseph River Silver Beach County Park



## **Fish Species**

Steelhead

## **Species Description**

Adult steelhead average 7-10 lbs. Chinook Salmon and Coho Salmon sizes vary depending on prey fish abundance in Lake Michigan. Brown trout are rare in this stream reach, but a few fish are captured during the fall and the spring. Steelhead (mixture of stocked fish and wild fish from tributaries) are the primary trout species targeted by anglers. A mixture of stocked fish and wild brown trout from tributaries may be found. Steelhead are most abundant during September through April. Some steelhead move into the river during the summer when wind conditions move cold water next to shore (<http://www.coastwatch.msu.edu/twomichigans.html>). Wild and stocked Chinook Salmon and Coho Salmon are present in late August-early October.

## **Geographic Coordinates**

Lat:42.111524 / Long:-86.48646

## **Noteworthy**

Other amenities at this site include swimming, volleyball, modern showers and restrooms, picnic tables, pavilions, and a playground. There is a paved walking path from the parking lot to the pier. The park is open during May-September. There is a user fee at this site. The park opens at 5:00 am and closes at sunset. Other species captured off the piers include smallmouth bass, walleye, channel catfish, freshwater drum, yellow perch, and lake whitefish (usually in November).

## **Fishing Regulations**

The St. Joseph River is a designated Type 3 trout stream from the natural shoreline upstream. Please refer to the Inland Trout and Salmon Stream Regulations in the current Michigan Fishing Guide. If an angler is fishing on the pier at a point lakeward of the natural shoreline, Great Lakes fishing regulations apply.

## **Directions to Site**

Silver Beach County Park provides public access to Lake Michigan and the south pier at the mouth of the St. Joseph River. When traveling northeast on Lakeshore Drive/Business Route 94, turn left onto Lake Boulevard. After 0.5 miles, turn left on Park Street. Drive 0.1 miles and turn right on Lions Park Drive. After 0.3 miles, turn right on Lake Street, then left on Broad Street to enter the park at 101 Broad Street. When traveling southwest on M-63, turn right onto Port Street. After 0.1 mile, turn right onto State Street then make an immediate left onto Vine Street. Vine Street curves to the left then makes a sharp turn to the right before entering the park. There is a large paved parking area within the park.