

Has your pond got you turning green?

By LEM MESEE
Outdoors writer

If your pond or lakefront water is turning from crystal clear to murky green, you might need help.

You can get help May 9 at the Oakland County Board of Commissioners' Auditorium. Management of lake and pond vegetation will be the topic of that 7:30 p.m. meeting. The auditorium is located at 1200 N. Telegraph Rd. in Pontiac.

"We're entering the summer season when the overabundance of water vegetation often becomes a serious problem for lake property and pond owners," said Wayne Niernan, director of Michigan State University's Cooperative Extension Service.

Ray White, aquatic ecology specialist from the state Department of Nat-



Outdoors

ral Resources (DNR), will discuss how to properly manage water vegetation.

White will also speak at a May 16 meeting. He will discuss constructing, renovating and stocking ponds with fish. This meeting will also be held in the commissioners' auditorium.

A HANDY pocket guide for outdoor enthusiasts and visitors to Independence Oaks County Park near Clarkston is now available free through the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission.

Titled the "Lakeshore Trail Hiking Guide," it features the park's 2 1/2-mile scenic hiking trail around Crooked Lake.

The guide contains a detailed map of points of interest on the trail and a brief description and explanation of the surrounding environment. It also includes a map of the complete 7 1/2-mile trail system that winds through the 800-acre park.

Independence Oaks is located on Sashbury Road, 2 1/2 miles north of Pine Knob.

FOUR METROPARKS have sites

for group tent camping by boy and girl scout units and other youth groups. There is a \$5 permit fee for each group for each visit.

Information regarding group tent camping can be obtained by contacting Stony Creek Metropark at 781-422 and Kensington Metropark at 685-1561.

"WHO'S MINDING the Shore?" Find out May 13 at 8:30 p.m. on Channel 56. A new film with that title explores the conflicting and competing uses of Michigan's 3,200 miles of coastline.

IF YOU'RE A night person, you might be interested in Stony Creek Metropark's "Owl Prowl." The program will be presented May 12 beginning at 7:30 p.m. It will feature slides and mounted specimens of local owls.

Murphy has SEMTA support

Oakland County Executive Daniel T. Murphy has found an ally in the Southeastern Michigan Transportation Authority (SEMTA).

SEMTA has intervened in Oakland County Commissioner James Lanni's (R-Royal Oak) lawsuit challenging Murphy's veto of the board of commissioners' decision to drop out of the seven-county authority. Lanni is asking Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Stephen Andrews to overturn Murphy's veto.

As co-defendants in the suit, SEMTA can present arguments and appeal if Murphy's veto is overturned.

Jerry Rock, SEMTA's assistant legal counsel, said Lanni's challenge involves a section of the 1967 state law which set up the regional transportation authority. That section gives a county the right to withdraw with a two-thirds vote of its board of commissioners.

"Lanni is saying we had the two-thirds vote, so we can withdraw," Rock said.

"Our interpretation is that you have to read the county executive act in conjunction with the SEMTA act. We say the two-thirds vote wasn't final because of the executive's veto . . . and its (the board's) failure to override the veto."

Of SEMTA's intervention, Lanni said, "It makes sense. They just want to keep Murphy as a gun to be able to veto our decisions."

Lanni said he would take the case to the state Supreme Court if he could find additional financial support.

To date, no other persons have joined Lanni as a plaintiff.

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