

could you survive?

tips from the Air Force Survival School

With the approach of winter, many outdoor lovers can find themselves in danger from the cold. This weekly column, produced by the U.S. Air Force Survival School in Washington, will let you check your knowledge of survival.

The weather is fair with broken clouds, and the temperature is in the low 60s when you and two companions begin an overnight hike. By mid-afternoon, the temperature has plummeted to 50 degrees, and it is beginning to drizzle with an accompanying 10 mph wind.

As you continue to hike to your planned stopping point, one of your companions begins to act irrationally. He is shaking violently and is on the verge of physical collapse.

To treat this advanced stage of hypothermia:

WOULD YOU...

A. Quickly put additional clothing on the victim and make a temporary camp, warming him by a fire.

B. Get the victim in warm, dry clothing and have him drink hot liquid if available.

C. Bundle the victim in additional clothing to halt further heat loss and make preparations for carrying him out.

D. Immediately build a fire and have the victim warm himself. Watch him carefully in order to prevent him from lapsing into a state of unconsciousness.

TO SURVIVE...

B offers the best solution of the alternatives listed, according to survival experts. Once in this stage of hypothermia, the victim can no longer care for himself and must be treated.

Additionally, the body core temperature has dropped to such a low point

Hypothermia

that only the intake of hot liquids (110° F), after getting the victim protected, will offer a hopelessly successful remedy for the hypothermic condition. Placing the victim in a sleeping bag and crawling in with him to provide additional body heat may be necessary.

None of the remaining alternatives offer definitive care that will arrest the hypothermia victim.

A, putting additional clothing on, without first removing the wet clothes and stabilizing the body core temperature, will not solve the problem at hand.

D does not provide internal sources of heat. Once the body core temperature drops to about 90°, independent external sources of heat may only drive the cold deeper into the body's core, worsening the state of hypothermia.

C would offer a course of action to take after the victim's body core temperature has been stabilized and is now ready to be moved.

Beware: Fawnication ahead next 20 miles

By LEM MESEE
Outdoors writer

Every county in Michigan has deer — not just the "northwoods."

In fact, the populous counties of southern Michigan account for more car-deer accidents than any northern realms.



Outdoors

November is the top month for car-deer accidents. Bill Gutos, safety manager for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, explains that deer are most active then because it's the mating season and hunters are stirring them up in the woods.

Last year, some 17,000 car-deer accidents were recorded, most of them fatal to the deer, but two fatal to humans. There were 944 humans injured.

Oakland County recorded 130 accidents with 13 humans injured. Wayne County recorded 36 accidents with 15 persons injured.

The top three counties for human injuries were Jackson, 43; Kent (Grand Rapids), 36; and Calhoun (Battle Creek), also 36.

Deer warning signs are placed where accidents have occurred. Slow down when you see such a sign, Gutos said —

especially during the peak accident times, which are two hours after sunset and just before dawn.

Deer travel in groups. If you see one cross the road, figure another will be behind.

If you do hit a deer, get the car and the animal off the road and contact the local police. Don't remove the deer from the scene without a permit.

All state police posts and most law enforcement agencies have such permits.

DEER SEASON opens at 7:15 a.m. Nov. 15 and runs through Nov. 30, and for northbound travelers, the Michigan Department of Transportation has set peak hours during which it will not open the Zilwaukee bridge of I-75.

The bridge will remain closed to shippers (open to vehicles):

- Wednesday, Nov. 14 from noon to 8 p.m.
- Friday, Nov. 16 from 1-6 p.m.
- Saturday, Nov. 17 from 1-6 p.m.
- Sunday, Nov. 18 from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Michigan's deer herd is estimated at one million. Some 700,000 hunters — about 8 percent of the state's population — are expected to be in the woods.

Some 80,000 bucks are expected to be bagged, down more than 20 percent from last year's record 106,000. Reason: Three harsh winters have reduced the herd.

PHEASANT hunting locally is low to dismal, also because of the harsh winters. Remember — this year's big ice storm came in March, a week into spring. That was tough on the nesting.

Rabbit hunting, however, has been good in Oakland County, and a few partridge have been taken.

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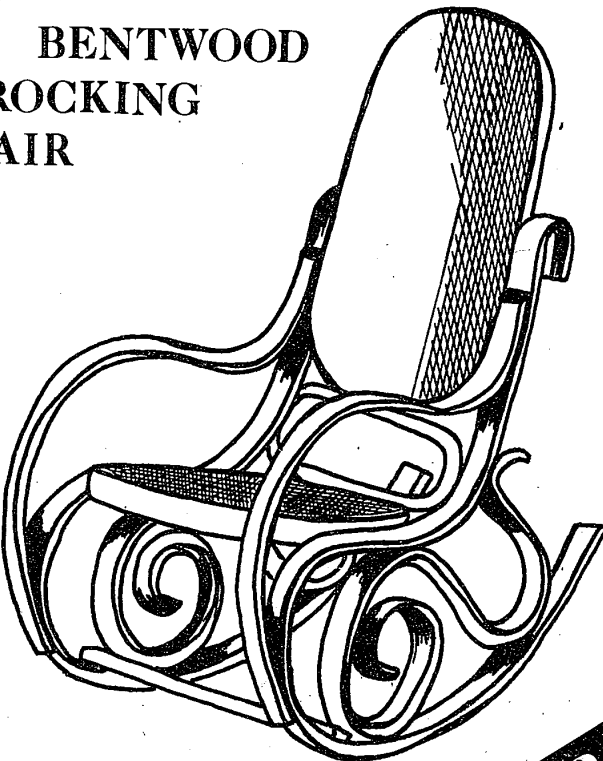
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