

Clinton flood cure called worse than problem

April 12, 1979

(R-15A)(O17A)

By LEM MESEE
Outdoors writer



A \$134 million Clinton River flood control project would do more damage than good, argues U.S. Rep. David Bonior, D-Mt. Clemens.

Bonior, whose 12th District includes northeast Oakland County, told a House appropriations subcommittee in Washington there is tremendous local opposition to the Army Corps of Engineers' flood control proposal — and no agreement on how to raise the \$35 million local match.

Bonior said that although the present plan is an updated version of a 1970 plan, and calls for less channelization

of the river, nevertheless it would replace banks with cement in some sec-

tions and cut through oxbows.

"The plan should include preventive as well as remedial measures," he said. "The project will eliminate only about 60 percent of the flood damage, most of which affects articles stored in basements, because inadequate sewer and drain systems cannot handle the drainage from overdeveloped areas."

"Others areas in the watershed are using the same uncontrolled growth patterns which have led to the very flooding problems this project attempts to solve."

"Unless some preventive measures are included in this project, it is the fear of many citizens that another

project will need to be proposed in 20 or 30 years."

Bonior asked for a year's delay so the local area can review the proposal and address the funding problems.

LEONARD WADES of Farmington Hills was the only local finalist in the 1979 waterfowl hunting stamp contest of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

The winner, whose watercolor of a pair of Canada geese will be used on the stamp, is Andrew Kurzman, a commercial artist from Battle Creek.

J. RICHARD COOPER of Birmingham

earned a citation in the Metropolitan South Florida fishing tournament when he caught a 28½ pound blackfin tuna.

Cooper fished out of the Holiday Isle Marina, Islamorada, in the Florida Keys.

METROPARK nature center programs coming up:

• Tuesday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m. — "A Chorus of Peepers" on Michigan frogs at Stony Creek Metropark near Rochester. The group will visit a breeding pond. Register by calling 781-4621.

• Thursday, April 19 at 7:30 p.m. — "An April Evening Out-of-Doors" at

Stony Creek. Hikers will look for dancing woodchucks and drumming grouse. Register in advance by phone.

• Thursday, April 19 at 7 p.m. — "Denizens of the Dark" at Kensington Metropark near Milford. Hikers will look for gophers, deer, owls and other nocturnal creatures. Register in advance by calling 685-1561.

• Saturday, April 21 at 9 a.m. — "Animals and Their Young" at Kensington. How animals rear their offspring. Register in advance by phone.

All metroparks programs are free. Vehicle entry permits are required at \$2 a day or \$7 a season.

Area agency offers job training program

Persons 18-24 years old can receive job training beginning April 2 through an On-The-Job Training Program (OJT) at Growth Works in Plymouth.

The program is funded by a state Department of Labor grant.

OJT helps an individual to learn specific skills and qualify for an occupation through working in a supervised environment. Many local businesses have agreed to take participants for OJT in areas such as manufacturing, clerical work, retail sales and computer service. Employers are subsidized by the state for participants' salaries.

Participants in the program will work 30 hours a week at a starting salary of \$3 an hour. After one-fourth weeks of pre-employment training, each participant will be placed with an employer for the OJT phase, which may last up to three months. Employers are strongly encouraged to hire the trainee permanently.

Applicants must be out of work and living on their own to qualify for the program. They must also meet Michigan Employment Program (MEP) income guidelines.

There are 42 openings available in the program.

Growth Works is at 271 S. Main, Plymouth.

For more information, contact Dale Yagiela, 455-4095.

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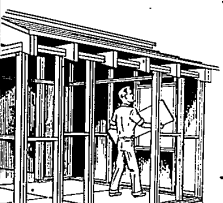
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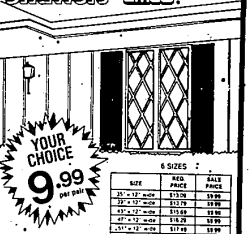
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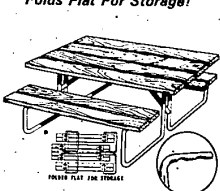
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