

Several changes in snowmobile laws

By LEM MESESE
Duluth Editor

Several changes have been made in the state's snowmobile registration law.

Snowmobiles must be registered with the secretary of state when purchased or when you transfer ownership.

Snowmobiles need not be registered if they are used only on lands owned by the snowmobile owner (or for safety-education programs).

The new law raises the three-year snowmobile-registration price to \$15 from \$9. By my calculation, that's a 67 percent increase. But it's the sort of thing we expected with the Headline "tax limitation" amendment. A snowmobile registration isn't a tax.

The \$9 increase will go into a recreational-snowmobile-trail-improvement fund administered by the state Department of Natural Resources. It is expected to raise \$550,000 a year. The remaining \$9 of the fee will continue to go into the general fund.

TAKING YOUR scout group out for some winter camping? Four National Forest campgrounds in Michigan are available. Three are in the lower peninsula.

The Bowman Bridge Campground near Baldwin is available to Nov. 20

outdoors

and has a capacity of 80.

• Luzerne Trail Camp, near Mio, is open to Dec. 1 and has a capacity of 50.

• South Branch Trail Camp near Tawas is open to Nov. 1 and has a capacity of 250.

Fees range from \$10 for groups of 50 or less to \$50 for groups of 200 or more. For information, contact the Huron-Manistee National Forest headquarters in Cadillac at (616) 775-2421.

We all may be getting better acquainted with the national forests if, as our leaders in Lansing say, 76 of our 84 Michigan state parks are closed if Proposal D passes Nov. 4.

"BIRD BANQUETS and Winter Feeding Stations" is the title of a special program at Kensington Metropark nature center near Milford at 10 a.m. Sunday, Nov. 2. Naturalist Bob Hotelling will explain how to use bird feeders, what type of feed to use and what kinds of birds can be attracted by certain foods.

Register in advance by calling the nature center at 685-1561. There's no charge for the program, but a park vehicle-entry permit is required.

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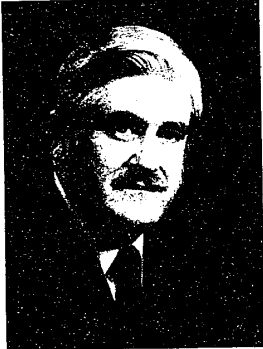
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