

outdoors

Walleyes hitting hard on big waters

By Lem Messe
outdoors writer

Walleyes, the hefty cousin of the perch, are the big news in southeastern Michigan fishing.

On Lake St. Clair, walleyes are hitting "exceptionally well" from Metropolitan Beach to 11 Mile Road. Many anglers are taking limit catches, say state DNR officials.

If you head down Detroit River way, walleyes are hitting at night off Peche Island. Limit catches are being taken off Alter Road. In the lower Detroit River, walleyes are in the warm shallows.

Legal note: Size limit for walleyes from the St. Clair River through Lake Erie is 13 inches, and daily limit is five.

A favorite eating fish, walleyes lack fighting power. Bottom-foraging predators, walleyes hit both artificial and natural baits. Favorite rigs are spinners baited with night crawlers, such as the "Erie Darter."

The Clinton River at Yates is producing steelhead.

White bass are starting to be taken in the Detroit and Huron rivers.

Perch are biting on minnows off Selfridge Air Force Base and Brandenburg Park, and in the Detroit River from Flat Rock to Grosse Pointe Park.

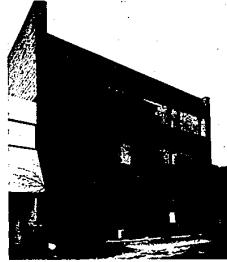
Off the big waters, the news is less exciting. In Oakland County's Maleday Lake, nice catches of bluegills are showing up. Kent Lake in western Oakland County and Belleville Lake in western Wayne are producing small catches of crappies.

A WOOD energy seminar called "Grow Your Own Woodfuel for Power and Heat" will be offered 14 p.m. Friday at the Highland Lakes campus of Oakland Community College, Union Lake.

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you could see 50 species.

"Aquatic Life of Kensington" starts at 2:30 p.m. Saturday. Naturalist Julie Cerber will conduct a two-hour program searching for life in ponds, streams and lakes.

"Mammals" will begin at 10 a.m. Sunday. Hoteling will discuss wild animals often raised as pets — and the sad consequences. He will talk about proper diet, handling, legal and medical problems.

"Bird Walk" starts at 9 a.m. Wednesday. Hoteling will conduct a two-hour search for resident and migrant birds. Bring binoculars.

Programs are free, but register in advance by calling the park office at 685-1551. The nature center is on the west side of the park; take the Kensington Road exit from I-96 and follow the signs.

Vehicle admission fee to the park is \$2 per visit or \$7 for a season pass.

The Kensington Farm Center at the north end of the park offers a four-hour program entitled "Farm Basics" starting at 1 p.m. Sunday. Farm interpreter Ann Wiersma will tell how mothers care for fowl, kids, lambs, piglets, bunnies and chicks. Register in advance by calling the park office.

NORTH-CENTRAL lower Michigan is the place and now is the time if you want to see the Kirtland's warbler, the tiny, colorful, endangered songbird which nests only in that neck of the woods.

Woods where they nest are protected, but you can enter them by taking a free tour.

One group of tours departs daily at 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. from the Michigan DNR field office at Grayling.

The other tours start at 7:30 Wednesday through Saturday and at 11 a.m. Saturday and Sunday from the U.S. National Forest Service ranger office at Minocqua.

1982
STRAWBERRY
FESTIVAL

SATURDAY MAY 22

1:00 to 6:00 P.M.
(RAINDATE MAY 23)

WHAT IS THE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL?

It is designed to be a fun filled afternoon of entertainment, learning and participation. Strawberries, shortcake, sundaes and cheesecake will be the order of the day.

WHY IS IT BEING HELD?

To celebrate the appearance of May as Older Americans Month. Many seniors and individuals of all ages will be demonstrating their talents as artists and entertainers. Families, and people of all ages are encouraged to attend. Proceeds donated to non-profit organizations which provide services to and for seniors.

MAIN EVENTS

1:30 P.M. SQUARE DANCERS
2:00 P.M. MR. "BATTLE BONES"
2:30 P.M. SWEET ADELINES BARBERSHOP QUARTET
3:00 P.M. BRASS QUINTET
3:30 P.M. UAW RETIREES EXERCISE GROUP
4:00 P.M. GYMNASTICS DEMONSTRATION
4:30 P.M. SQUARE DANCERS

SPECIAL EVENTS

QUILT CONTEST
CHEESECAKE CONTEST

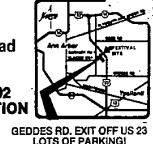
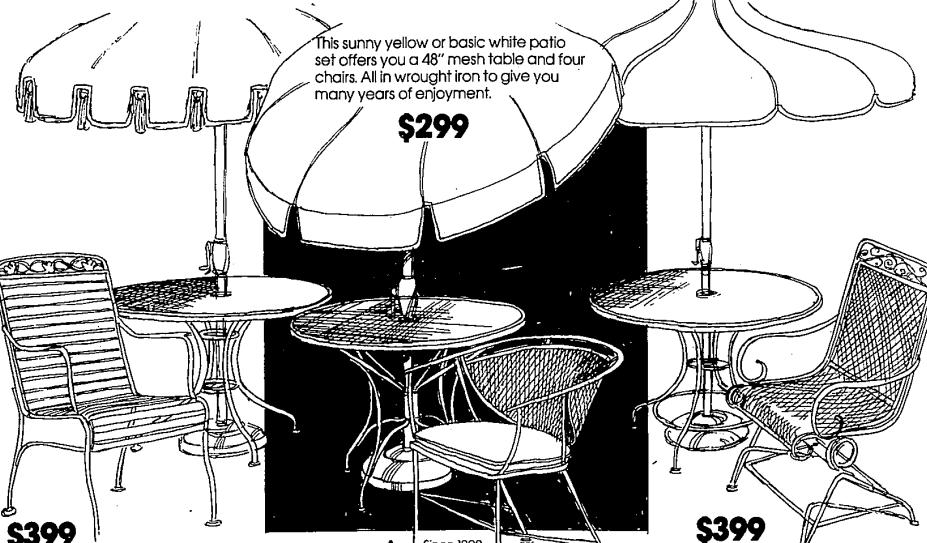
OTHER FEATURES

• Arts & Crafts, Exhibits & Demonstrations by Talented Seniors
• Petting Zoo • Wandering Clowns • Hot Air Balloon
• Wandering Musicians • Story Tellers • Balloons
• Dunk Tank • Raffles • Antique Cars & Fire Truck

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