

# 'First ice' — good fishing, dangerous time

By Lem Mesco  
outdoors writer

If snow is here, can good rabbit hunting and ice fishing be far behind?

Hunters will be able to track rabbits with a thin layer of snow on the ground, enabling them to vary the dreary diet of turkey and fruitcake with a bit of haseppeltoffer.

"First ice" is when the angling is best. Oxygen levels in the water are still good, and the cold hasn't lulled fish into inactivity.

Michigan's frozen lakes will draw out some 250,000 anglers for 2-3 million days of ice fishing — about 10 percent of the total annual fishing effort.

Most folks don't need to be told twice that early ice may be thin and dangerous. But it doesn't hurt to use extra caution on lakes with currents running through them. Ice over a current may be thin even in mid-winter.

NEED A last-minute gift for that outdoors lover? State park and Huron-Clinton Metropark passes for 1985 are on sale — and at the same old prices. State park vehicle permits are \$10 again. You can pick up one now at Maybury State Park on Eight Mile west of Northville, which is open all winter, or any other state park that is open.

HCMMA Metropark passes again will be \$7, according to deputy director James J. Pompo. In downtown Detroit, you can pick up one at HCMMA's main office in 3050 Penobscot Building. Besides the familiar Stony Creek near Rochester and Kensington near Milford, there are a dozen other metroparks in the system, most with year-around facilities.

CROSS-COUNTRY skiing is probably the best physical exercise there is, according to our fitness columnist.

## outdoors

Barry Franklin. And if you don't know how, American Youth Hostels will teach you.

Beginning instruction will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings in January at Memorial Park in Royal Oak, according to Joyce Harlukowicz. Fee is \$18 for three sessions.

Call AYH headquarters at 545-0511 to register and get directions. While you're at it, ask them to send you a brochure for their weekend ski jaunts around the state and continent.

IT ALWAYS seems a shame that people buy dogs, spend good money on veterinarians and food, then fail to educate their pets. An obedient dog

behaves like a lady or gentleman in public and is a happier dog because he/she is pleasing you.

And to give yourself a taste of obedience training, Trainers Obedience Center will give demonstrations Friday, Dec. 28, at Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield. Shows are at noon, 5, 5 and 7 p.m. After each show, owner Barb Bucci and other trainers will answer your questions.

Demonstrations will include hand signals, scent discrimination, recall, relay races, musical chairs and fly ball games.

Several groups in the northwestern suburbs offer basic obedience lessons

— walk to heel, sit, lie, stay and come. What they do is teach you to train your dog. Generally, your pet must be at least six months old to be enrolled.

"PAWS, PRINTS and Pella," a program on animal tracks will run from 10 a.m. to noon Friday, Dec. 28, at Independence Oaks County Park. Entrance is on Sasabaw Road 2 1/2 miles north of I-75 near Clarkston.

Besides learning to identify tracks in the snow, you'll make a print of the tracks. For that you'll need to bring along a plain T-shirt.

There is a \$1 charge for materials and a vehicle admission at the park gate. Register by calling the Oakland parks office at 625-6473.

A PHOTO exhibit of Oakland parks is making the rounds this winter. Until

Jan. 7 it will be at Litterton Hospital, University Drive near Riverchase in Rochester.

From Jan. 7 to 21 you may see it at the Highland Lakes Campus of Oakland Community College, Cooley Lake Road in Union Lake. Brochures on Oakland County Parks are available at the exhibit.

TWO STAFF changes have been made at Oakland parks.

Kathy Thomas of Lake Orion will be an assistant naturalist, conducting nature programs and guiding tours at Independence Oaks. She also will make educational presentations in schools.

Jay Phelps is the new assistant park supervisor at Independence Oaks. He had been a recreation supervisor for the city of Lansing, where he coordinated tennis, swimming, basketball and picnic activities.

## Michigan National adds 3 directors

Michigan National Corp. has expanded its board of directors by three members.

Elected were Daniel T. Carroll, chairman and president of The Carroll Group; Russell D. Lund, recently retired vice president of General Motors Corp.; and Stanton Kinzie Smith Jr., vice chairman of American Natural Resources Co.

"We expect their experience in the areas of consulting, marketing and law

to contribute to our taking maximum advantage of these opportunities," said Edwin B. Jones, president of Michigan National Corp.

Carroll, 58, has been chairman of The Carroll Group of Ann Arbor, a general management consulting firm, since 1982. Previously, he was president and chief executive officer of Hoover Universal Inc. of Ann Arbor.

Lund, 64, retired Nov. 1 as GM vice president for sales and marketing.

Recently appointed vice chairman of American Natural Resources Co., Smith, 53, was a partner in the law firm of Sidley & Austin in Chicago. Prior to that, he served as general counsel of American Natural Resources Co.

Michigan National Corp. was formed in November 1972 as the holding company for five national banks with assets of \$2.7 billion. Today, it has 24 banks and \$6.6 billion in total assets.

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