

Boaters gain extra view of fall color

Boating is for all seasons. As cool autumn breezes begin to affect our weather, many boaters think of storage and winter maintenance. I suggest not ending your activity until after the fall color change. Land color tours are beautiful but water color tours can be even better, combining the best of both worlds. Water color shifts dramatically through the fall with our change of weather and change in light on the water resulting in a rare beauty.



John McKinney

Northwestern Michigan provides an ideal area to view the fall color change. People with their own boats probably already know that access to all waters is freely available. Public access sites are open year-round and are less crowded in the fall, except where heavy fishing activity occurs. In most cases, you will have the view to yourself far from the often crowded roads and parks.

Boaters will find a panorama of color on nearly every shore, whether on Lake Michigan or in the bays or on the many inland lakes and streams, the scenes will be different and constantly changing as the season passes. Opinions will be as numerous as the people you ask.

Suggested courses to follow would be a lengthwise cruise of beautiful Lake Leelanau, a tour around the islands on Lang Lake, the Chain-of-Lakes trip from Elk Rapids to Bellaire through a range of water types and vegetation, or a trip along the shores of Grand Traverse Bay and its Old Mission Peninsula. Canoeing has a pace of its own and liveries are found on nearly all rivers. Every lake and river has unique features and special things to see during the fall. Better advice, go out often and explore.

Further suggestions for those not having boats or for those who would rather leave the navigation to others are the color tour on Lake Charlevoix's cruise boat, and Lake Michigan cruises out of Leland or Frankfort with views of the islands. In-

formation is available from Chambers of Commerce. In many port areas sail and power boats can be found for charter during the fall. Inquiring locally is the best method.

Boating in any water and during any season requires certain precautions. Using common sense and following established rules should go almost without saying. Fall water activity requires all the same equipment and care of other seasons. However, there are a couple of additional things to remember. The water is colder and the air temperature is likely to be lower. Either of these factors can give rise more quickly to the ever present danger of hypothermia, a lowering of the body temperature, which can lead to illness and death. Weather changes can occur quicker and with less warning.

The clothing you wear and your other protection against the weather become even more important in the fall. Also, the days are shorter so that boat expeditions need to be planned well in advance considering nightfall. Night boating can be challenging but dangerous.

Boating to view the fall color changes is exciting and an added dimension to our boating season. Certainly, it is something that everyone should consider — bearing in mind the added responsibility.

John McKinney is District Extension Sea Grant Agent for Northwestern Michigan. More information is available by calling his office, 922-4620.

Cherryland Mall gears for special fall events

Cherryland Mall is ready for the change in season. From the colorful back to school fashions, large gift selection, variety of restaurants, and convenience items, shopping is great at Cherryland Mall this fall!

Located on the corner of Garfield and South Airport roads, Traverse City, Cherryland Mall has 52 stores including Sears, Kmart, and Prange's.

A lunch and/or dinner break can be made at one of the restaurants throughout the mall such as Harry's Coney Place, Palate Pleasers, Main Street Sampler, Murdick Fudge, and the Blue Goat. Each restaurant has its own specialty.

In addition, the mall has planned many exciting and informative events this fall. This year three new events are included, the Wildlife Art Show, Home Improvement Show and Candidates Day.

The Wildlife Art Show will be held Oct. 4-5. This two-day show will feature a variety of wildlife art including wood carving, photography and taxidermy. In addition to

exhibiting their craft, many of the wildlife artists will be giving live demonstrations on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The Home Improvement Show will be held Oct. 9-12. Cherryland Mall will be filled with interior decorators, landscapers, home furnishers, home planners, window fashions, kitchen designers, and others.

Candidates Day will be held Oct. 25. With the Nov. 4 elections just ahead, Cherryland Mall has invited all candidates to distribute literature and answer questions at this one-day event.

On Sept. 27 Munson Medical Center will hold its third annual Health Fair. This fair will offer free pulmonary function, diabetes, hearing and vision medical screenings. The professionals at Munson also will be on hand to answer any medical questions.

More information on the above events or on any of the mall shops and services is available by calling the Cherryland Mall office at (616) 946-1500.

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