

Free fishing days return

RIG UP a couple extra fishing poles, dig up a dozen crawlers, round up the entire family and get ready for a weekend of **FREE FISHING**.

For the third year in a row, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources is offering Michigan residents and non-residents an opportunity to fish on Michigan waters free of charge. Fishing licenses and trout/salmon stamps will not be needed on Michigan waters during Free Fishing Days, June 11-12. User fees will also be waived at all public access boat launching sites.

This is a great opportunity. If you have young children, you don't have to buy them each a \$9.85 license to take them away for one weekend of fishing. And if your spouse doesn't understand why you jump at the chance to get up at 4:30 a.m. — on your only day off — throw your equipment in the car and race off to your favorite fishing hole, here's your chance to explain without wasting a license on someone who may only accompany you once a year. And what about those out-of-state relatives who doubt your stories about the Great Lakes fishery? Now you can show them firsthand, without having to suffer the cost of an expensive non-resident license.

IF YOU'VE been itching to drop a line in the water but haven't been



Bill Parker outdoors

quite sure where or when to go there are a bundle of fishing events scheduled throughout the summer, several of which coincide with Free Fishing Days.

A couple of the events scheduled for Free Fishing Days near the Observer & Eccentric area include the Bass Blastoff on Cass Lake in West Bloomfield (624-0202) and the March of Dimes Fishing Tournament at Independence Oaks County Park in Clarkston (625-0877).

If you care to travel a bit, several other events will be taking place over Free Fishing Days including: Lake Charlevoix Trout Tournament, Charlevoix, (616) 547-2101; Carp Carnival, Michigan Center, (517) 764-4894; Great Saginaw River Fishing Contest for Kids, Saginaw, (517) 776-1669; Fishing Derby for Children, Gladwin, (517) 435-9441; Children's Fishing Contest, White Lake, (616) 894-6954; Walleye Challenge, Hubbard Lake, (517) 736-6418; Steelheaders Tournament, Port Austin, 985-6266; The Northeast Great Lakes Bow Fishing Contest, Oscoda, (517) 695-8823 and the Lake

Linden-Hubbell Fishing Derby, Lake Linden, (906) 482-5240.

AAA OF MICHIGAN has published a list of 74 fishing events scheduled for this summer ranging from a Carp Rodeo (June 17-19 in Union City (517) 741-3859) and a Handicapped Tournament (August 19 in Oscoda (517) 738-7894) to a Brown Trout Festival (July 15-24 in Alpena (517) 354-4181). For a copy of the AAA of Michigan Fishing Events Guide contact AAA at 17000 Executive Plaza Drive, Dearborn, 48126. The DNR will also be issuing a complete list of Free Fishing Weekend events later this month. Copies will be available at license dealers.

The DNR and the Department of Transportation will be setting up Fishing Information Centers, June 10-11 at the New Buffalo and Clare welcome centers. These centers will provide anglers with information on fishing and Free Fishing Weekend events.

ACCORDING TO the National

Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame, many anglers consume trophy fish each week without realizing the dinner they just ate may have been a line class or even all-tackle record fish.

The hall receives calls each week from frantic anglers with questions about the size of record fish, many times after the fish in question has been eaten.

Now is the time to call or write to the Fishing Hall of Fame for the free rules, guidelines and application forms to establish a world record. The process is a free public service.

Records are kept in all-tackle (heaviest) and all-line classes (strength of the line used) for more than 100 species of fish.

Smaller, less popular species of fish are usually easier to establish a world record in rod & reel, fly fishing, pole/line/no reel or ice fishing categories since many anglers ignore these fish.

Record setters receive certificates, garment patches and pins along with a listing in the world book of records, a 68-page publication documenting the catch as official.

For a free brochure call or write to the National Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame at P.O. Box 33, Hayward, Wisconsin 54843, phone (715) 634-4440.



BILL PARKER/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fish finders

Gloria Torello, a fisheries technician with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, checks the length of a nice walleye caught during last week's DNR netting survey on Belleville Lake. Black crappie were the most abundant fish netted, ranging in size from 6-11 inches. Also there were bluegill up to 10 inches long, walleye up to 20 inches, 10-38-inch catfish and assorted largemouth, smallmouth and silver bass, pumpkinseed, perch, bullhead, suckers and carp. The DNR will conclude the study with an electro-fishing survey this fall. These surveys are conducted by the DNR every five years on all southeastern Michigan lakes with public access sites. The study coincides with the water level on Belleville Lake being returned to normal after being down for two years while repairs were made on the French Landing Dam.

Cranbrook to host run

Cranbrook's annual run — slated for June 4 — will be celebrating its 10th birthday this year.

The Cranbrook Run '88 will include 10,000 meter (6.2 miles), 5,000 meter (3.1 miles) and 200 meter (.124 miles for children) events. Check-in time will be 8:15 to 8:45 a.m.

The run offers an opportunity for men, women and children of all ages to view an area of the Cranbrook grounds usually unavailable to the public.

No official race times will be recorded. Registration fee is \$8.50 for the 10,000- and 5,000-meter races, with an added \$2 fee for late registration. The children's race is free. There is a limited registration so runners are encouraged to act fast.

T-shirts, included in the prepaid adult fees, are available for children at \$6 each. Proceeds benefit science educational programs at the Cranbrook Institute of Science.

Call 645-3230 during business hours for information or to obtain an entry form.

outdoors calendar

IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

Michigan Big Game Awards Dinner, hosted by Commemorative Bucks of Michigan, will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Mid-Way Motor Lodge, 7711 Saginaw, Lansing. Hunters who took the largest whitetail buck deer, black bear and elk will be honored. Tickets are \$15 each. For details, call CBM at 669-4750.

Long-Range Rifle Practice, in which shooters can sight in their guns at 300, 400, 500 and 600 yards, will be offered May 29, 1-5 p.m. at the Washtenaw Sportsman Club in Ypsilanti. Long-range practice will be offered the last Sunday of each month through September. Call 434-6177 for details.

Fourth Annual Walleye Weekend, sponsored by the American Lung Association and Charley's Restaurants Inc., will be held June 3-5 on Lake Huron, Lake St. Clair, Lake Erie and the Detroit and St. Clair rivers. Entry fee is \$10, \$15 after May 28. Grand Prize is a 28-foot Sea Ray 270 Amberjack. For details and to register, call the American Lung Association of Southeast Michigan at 559-5100.

The new 1988 Clinton River Canoeing Maps are available free. Pick up a copy at Metro Beach or Stony Creek, or by sending your name, address and \$.25 in coin or postage to Clinton Canoe Map, Dept. W-14, Huron Clinton Metropolitan Authority, P.O. Box 2001, Brighton, MI 48116-8001.

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS
Regular camping is available at Addison Oaks (6903-2432) and Groveland Oaks (634-3811).

Twilight Canoe Adventure, a guided tour of Crooked Lake at sunset, will be offered at 7 p.m. Saturday at Independence Oaks. Canoe rental is \$3 per hour and includes paddles and life jackets. To register, call Independence Oaks at 625-6474.

METROPARKS

Call the Metroparks at 1-800-24-PARKS for an update on weekend activities. Most Metropark programs are free but require advance registration and a motor vehicle permit.

Evan Williams opens Buick Golf Classic

By Brad Emmons staff writer

Some of golf's biggest names are only a chip shot away as Rochester's Evan "Big Cat" Williams, world-renowned long-driving specialist, will help inaugurate the first-ever Metro Buick Dealers Charity Golf Classic, Monday at Meadowbrook Country Club in Northville.

Williams, a former three-sport standout at Franklin College of Indiana, will launch his first drive in the Pro-Am Tournament beginning at 9:40 a.m.

Advance tickets, available at AAA, Ticketmaster and J.L. Hudson outlets, are \$10 per person. Parking will be at Northville Downs. Shuttle buses transporting fans to Meadowbrook. (Tickets are \$15 at the gate.)

The following pros are scheduled to follow: 9:50 a.m., Robert Wren; defending Buick Open champion; 10 a.m., Wayne Levy, winner of eight PGA tournaments; 10:10 a.m., Clarence Rose, five second-place finishes; 10:20 a.m., Mount Pleasant's Dan Foltz; 10:30 a.m., Steve Fato, winner of two PGA stops; 10:40 a.m., Dan Pooley, defending Memorial Tournament Champion (Muirfield, Ohio); 10:50 a.m., Dan Edwards, five-time pro tour winner; 11 a.m., Mark McCumber; 11:10 a.m., Payne Stewart; 11:20 a.m., Roger Maltbie, seven PGA titles; 11:30 a.m., Fred Couples; 11:40 a.m., Hal Sutton.

ALL PROCEEDS from the event, sponsored by the 28 Metro Buick Dealers, will benefit St. Vincent Sarab Fisher Center and the Evans Cad-

dis Scholarship Foundation.

Fans will be allowed to bring cameras to photograph their favorite pros.

Discount corporate ticket packages are available. For more information, call Roy Gadday at 540-8155.

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