

# NRC considers changes to state's hunting rules

Is it time for Michigan to "catch up with the Joneses?" That's the question being debated across the state by the Natural Resource Commission takes up the issue of deer hunting with a firearm from an elevated platform.

"Every state in the country that offers a (firearms deer season) allows you to hunt from a tree with a firearm except Michigan," said Glen Williams, executive director of the Michigan Big Game Hunters Association,

which favors a change in hunting regulations to legalize the practice. "Bow hunters can hunt from a tree in Michigan, but firearms hunters can't. That doesn't make sense."

"It's safer when you're shooting from an elevated position because you're shooting down toward the ground. Michigan needs to catch up with the rest of the country."

The NRC, which regained the power to set hunting regulations in the 1990 election with the passage of Proposal G, will accept public comment on the issue at its Feb. 11-12 meeting. The NRC meets at the Lansing Center and will begin accepting public comment at 4:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 11. The public comment period will continue

until all those who wish to present testimony have been heard.

The NRC and the Department of Natural Resources last year held a series of "hunting issues meetings" across the state in an effort to gain input from the public on hunting and other hunting-related issues.

"Two issues that surfaced last year during the deer issues meetings were elevated blinds and limited baiting in Deer Management Unit 452 (where the Eastern White-tailed Deer has occurred)," explained NRC chairman Keith Charters. "We said then that we would address those issues this year."

Charters said the NRC plans to take public comment on the issue at its March meeting in DMU 452 at its March meeting.

The state legislature could also intervene and pass a law to legalize the use of elevated platforms during the firearms season. One such bill has already been introduced in the House by Michael Green (R-Marysville). According to Charters the bill has a lot of support. It's currently still in committee and hasn't been brought on the floor.

Herb Burns, chief of the DNR's Law Enforcement Division, said the law that prohibits hunting from using elevated platforms during the firearms deer season is a law that has been on the

books for many, many years.

"When it was passed into law, many sportsmen perceived that hunting from trees was unethical," said Burns. "But that was a long time ago. Public sentiment may have changed."

"That certainly seems to be the case since many of the state's largest sportsmen's groups support changing the law. Along with the Michigan Big Game Hunters Association other clubs including the Michigan United Conservation Clubs, Safari Club, Michigan Sportsmen's Congress and Ted Nugent USA, have voiced their support for a change. Individual sportsmen are also making noise."

"Since the first of the year I've received 121 letters on the issue," said Charters. "That's a tremendous amount of interest. Five of those letters were against making a change and the rest favored it. I also got about three or four calls a day on the issue. It's a hot topic right now."

Before the issue is decided Charters feels there are some concerns that must be addressed.

■ What impact will legalizing the use of elevated platforms during the firearms season have on the resource? Will the success rate sky-rocket if the regulation is changed?

■ What about safety? Opponents of the change say many hunters will be injured from falls sustained while climbing in and out of and hunting from a tree blind. They also claim there will be an increase in the number of accidental discharges, from loaded guns being dropped from a tree.

■ Another concern is that of hunter conflict on public land. When a hunter established a bait pile or builds a blind, that hunter often feels he has exclusive rights to hunt that area. Will a change result in more incidents of hunter conflict?

I believe it's time for Michigan to catch up with the rest of the country and allow the use of elevated platforms during the firearms deer season. If the success rate increases the DNR can adjust the allocation of kill tags to reflect that increase and still maintain a constant harvest rate.

On the safety issue, hunters must take responsibility for their own safety. When proper guidelines are followed - like the use of safety belts and unloading a firearm when raising and lowering it - hunting from an elevated platform can be a safe, enjoyable, productive means of hunting. Michigan's 350,000 bow hunters can certainly attest to that. And a shot fired toward the ground is much less likely to stray and injure another hunter

than a shot fired across the horizon.

In regard to the hunter conflict issue, public land is public land and no one, regardless of the work they have put forth to build a blind, has the exclusive rights to that area. However, sportsmanship, hunter ethics and common sense should be used to resolve these conflicts. If you come to an area you want to hunt and someone is already there, it only makes sense to move on to the next ridge. Michigan offers hundreds of thousands of acres of public hunting land so there is certainly enough room for everyone.

Persons wishing to give comment at the Feb. 11-12 NRC meeting can arrange to do so by calling Teresa Golden at (517) 373-2352. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should call Golden a week in advance to request assistance. Written comments will also be accepted. Send information to The Department of Natural Resources, Natural Resource Commission, P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, MI 48909.

Anglers and hunters are urged to report their success. Send information to 805 S. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax information to (248) 644-1314 or call Bill Parker evenings at (248) 901-2573.

## NOTICE OF INTENTION OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN TO AUTHORIZE AND ISSUE THE FOLLOWING BONDS:

### ROAD IMPROVEMENTS FRANKLIN FAIRWAY COST \$307,900.00

#### TO ALL QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the intention of the City of Farmington Hills, a municipal corporation, to authorize and issue the following described bonds of the City of Farmington Hills:

STREET	FROM	TO
Franklin Fairway	Thirteen Mile Road	Northerly Terminus

Such bonds are to be issued by the City of Farmington Hills for the following purposes:

**ROAD IMPROVEMENTS**  
Such bonds will bear interest at a rate not exceeding 10% per annum to be determined at the time of the sale of said bonds.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that said bonds will be issued under and pursuant to the provisions of the Charter of the City of Farmington Hills, Act No. 279 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1909, as amended, and Act No. 202 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1943, as amended, and that the principal thereof and the interest thereon are payable from installments of special assessments in anticipation of which they have been issued. In the instance of such special assessments are not sufficient to pay the interest on such bonds, the City will advance from its general funds sufficient moneys to pay such principal and interest. The City's ability to raise such funds is subject to applicable constitutional, statutory and charter limitations on the taxing power of the City.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that this notice is given by order of the Council of the City of Farmington Hills, Michigan, to and for the benefit of the electors of the City, in order to inform them that resolutions authorizing the issuance of said bonds will be adopted by the Council of the City of Farmington Hills and that said bonds will be issued without submitting the question of their issuance to the vote of the electors of the City, unless within 45 days from the publication of this notice, a petition signed by not less than 10% or 15,000, whichever is lesser, of the registered electors of the City, requesting a referendum upon the question of the issuance of such bonds, is filed with the City Clerk, in which event the bonds will not be issued unless and until approved by a majority of the electors of the City qualified to vote and voting thereon at a general or special election.

KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk  
City of Farmington Hills

Dated: January 21, 1998  
Public: January 29, 1998

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS TO BE HELD MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1998

Please take notice that the Farmington Hills City Council will conduct the public hearings as noted below:

8:00 p.m. - Consideration of establishment of an Industrial Development District to be located on property known as The Robert Bosch Corporation, 38000 Hills Tech Drive, Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan.

9:00 p.m. - Consideration of approval of Industrial Facilities Exemption Certification for the same property referenced above (38000 Hills Tech Drive).

Legal description of 38000 Hills Tech Drive, Farmington Hills, Michigan:

Part of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 18, T1 N, R9 E, City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, described as beginning at a point distant South 86 degrees 57 minutes 40 seconds East 89.23 feet from the center of Section 18, T1 N, R9 E, and proceeding thence South 86 degrees 57 minutes 40 seconds East 89.23 feet to the East and West 1/2 line of Section 18, South 86 degrees 57 minutes 40 seconds East 300.00 feet; thence along the Northerly right-of-way line of Highway 1490 along a curve to the left Radius 11,654.16 feet and arc distance of 77.12 feet; thence continuing along Highway right-of-way South 78 degrees 02 minutes 02 seconds West 239.00 feet; thence North 03 degrees 02 minutes 20 seconds East 99.27 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 0.733 Acres. Subject to the rights of the public in Howard Road and subject to easements of record.

Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 18, T1 N, R9 E, City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, described as beginning at a point distant North 86 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds West 1317.86 feet and North 02 degrees 28 minutes 10 seconds East 140.11 feet from the East 1/2 corner of Section 18, T1 N, R9 E, and proceeding thence South 86 degrees 44 minutes 30 seconds West 267.53 feet; thence North 02 degrees 28 minutes 10 seconds East 1250.50 feet; thence South 86 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds East 20.00 feet; thence South 24 degrees 59 minutes 00 seconds East 472.48 feet; thence South 02 degrees 28 minutes 10 seconds West 731.51 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 6.5000 Acres. Subject to easements of record.

Part of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 18, T1 N, R9 E, City of Farmington Hills, Oakland County, Michigan, described as beginning at a point on the East and West 1/2 line of Section 18, distant South 86 degrees 57 minutes 40 seconds East 945.19 feet from the center of Section 18, T1 N, R9 E, and proceeding thence North 02 degrees 28 minutes 10 seconds East 140.11 feet to the East 1/2 corner of Section 18, T1 N, R9 E, and proceeding thence South 86 degrees 44 minutes 30 seconds West 267.53 feet; thence North 02 degrees 28 minutes 10 seconds East 1250.50 feet; thence South 86 degrees 59 minutes 40 seconds East 20.00 feet; thence South 24 degrees 59 minutes 00 seconds East 472.48 feet; thence South 02 degrees 28 minutes 10 seconds West 731.51 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 6.5000 Acres. Subject to easements of record.

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Any person interested in invited to participate in the discussion of this issue. Comments may be submitted in writing to the City Clerk, 31555 W. 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48338.

KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk

## OUTDOOR SHOWS

### CAMPER & RV SHOW

The 32nd Annual Detroit Camper & RV Show will be held Feb. 7-15 at the Novi Expo Center (I-96 and Novi Road). Show hours are 2 to 9:30 p.m. weekdays, noon to 9 p.m. Saturdays, and noon to 6 p.m. Sundays. Admission is \$6.50 (age 13 and up), \$2 for children 6-12, and children 5 and under will be admitted free. Two-for-one coupons are available at participating MARVAC dealers.

### DEER & TURKEY SPECTACULAR

The Michigan Deer & Turkey Spectacular will be held Feb. 13-15 at the Lansing Civic Center. Show hours are 7-9 p.m. Friday, Feb. 13; 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14; and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 15. Admission is \$8 adult, \$3 for children ages 6-11 and children ages five and under will be admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

### OUTDOORAMA

Outdoorama '98 Sport and Travel show will take place Feb. 20-March 1 at the Novi Expo Center. Show hours are 4-9:30 p.m. Feb. 20, 23, 24, 26 and 27; 11 a.m.-9:30 p.m. Feb. 21 and 22; 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Feb. 22; noon-9:30 p.m. Feb. 25; and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. March 1. Admission is \$6.50 adult, \$3 for children 12 and under, and children ages five

## OUTDOOR CALENDAR

and under will be admitted free. A two-day adult pass is available for \$10 and a two-day children's pass is \$5.

### SPORTFISHING EXPO

The 10th annual Greater Detroit Sportfishing and Travel Expo will be held March 5-8 at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

## SEASON/DATES

### GOOSE

The special late Canada goose season runs through Feb. 1 in southern Michigan. The boundaries for the late hunt have been changed this year and are now the same as those for the South Zone of the regular waterfowl season. The entire south zone is open during the late hunt with the exception of the five GMU's.

### RABBIT

Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

### TURKEY

Feb. 1 is the deadline to apply for a spring turkey permit.

## METROPARKS

### METROPARK REQUIREMENTS

Most Metropark programs are free while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks, toll free: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178.

## 1998 PERMITS

The 1998 Huron-Clinton Metroparks annual vehicle entry permits and boat launching permits are on sale at all Metropark offices. Vehicle entry permits are \$15 (\$8 for senior citizens). The annual boat launching permits are \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens). Call 1-800-477-PARKS.

### NATURE ON STAMPS

Take a look at nature by studying stamps from all over the world during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Saturday at Kensington.

### WINTER ECOLOGY

Take a trek along the trails to learn about winter woodland ecology during this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Saturday at Indian Springs.

### CRITTER-N-CRAFT

Ages five and older will have a chance to get up close to "Kermit's Kissin' Cousins" at 2 p.m. Saturday at Stony Creek.

### THE MISSING GROUNDHOG

Groundhog Day and no groundhog? Follow the mystery through the exploits of an enterprising reporter and puppet cast during the Fury Tale Theatre's production of "The Case of the Missing Groundhog" at 1:30 p.m., 2 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday at Kensington.

### BACKYARD WILDLIFE

A slide presentation followed by a nature hike to learn about wildlife that can be found in your backyard begins at 2 p.m. Sunday at Indian Springs.

## OAKLAND PARKS

### COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS

Advanced registration is required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register.

### GROUND HOGS/PROPHETS

Learn how some animals and plants are used to predict the weather during this program, which begins at 2 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 1, at Independence Oaks.

### SUNDAY SHOWHOUSES

School-aged children through adults can explore the wonders of winter during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sunday at Independence Oaks. Participants should call the park at 248-625-6473 on Friday, after 10 a.m., to reserve a pair of snowshoes.

## STATE PARKS

### BIRDING AT HAVEN HILL

Bird watchers can explore the nature area in search of winter resident birds at 9 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at the Highland Recreation Area. Participants should bring binoculars and meet at the Park Office.

### RIVER TRAIL \$6/HIKE

Explore the River Trail by skis or by foot during this program, which begins at 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7, at Proud Lake Recreation Area. Ski rental is available and participants should meet at the annex parking lot.

## NOTICE OF INTENTION OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN TO AUTHORIZE AND ISSUE THE FOLLOWING BONDS:

### SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS STOCKTON AVEUE COST: \$111,500.00

#### TO ALL QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the intention of the City of Farmington Hills, a municipal corporation, to authorize and issue the following described bonds of the City of Farmington Hills:

STREET	FROM	TO
Stockton Avenue	462 West of Middlebelt	s-1,272' West of Middlebelt

Such bonds are to be issued by the City of Farmington Hills for the following purposes:

**SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS**  
Such bonds will bear interest at a rate not exceeding 10% per annum to be determined at the time of the sale of said bonds.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that said bonds will be issued under and pursuant to the provisions of the Charter of the City of Farmington Hills, Act No. 279 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1909, as amended, and Act No. 202 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1943, as amended, and that the principal thereof and the interest thereon are payable from installments of special assessments in anticipation of which they have been issued. In the instance of such special assessments are not sufficient to pay the interest on such bonds, the City will advance from its general funds sufficient moneys to pay such principal and interest. The City's ability to raise such funds is subject to applicable constitutional, statutory and charter limitations on the taxing power of the City.

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KATHRYN A. DORNAN, City Clerk  
City of Farmington Hills

Dated: January 21, 1998  
Public: January 29, 1998

## NOTICE OF INTENTION OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN TO AUTHORIZE AND ISSUE THE FOLLOWING BONDS:

### WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS TREASTAIN ROAD COST \$125,800.00

#### TO ALL QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS, MICHIGAN:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN of the intention of the City of Farmington Hills, a municipal corporation, to authorize and issue the following described bonds of the City of Farmington Hills:

STREET	FROM	TO
Treastain Road	Orchard Lake Road	Westerly Terminus

Such bonds are to be issued by the City of Farmington Hills for the following purposes:

**WATER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS**  
Such bonds will bear interest at a rate not exceeding 10% per annum to be determined at the time of the sale of said bonds.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that said bonds will be issued under and pursuant to the provisions of the Charter of the City of Farmington Hills, Act No. 279 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1909, as amended, and Act No. 202 of the Public Acts of Michigan of 1943, as amended, and that the principal thereof and the interest thereon are payable from installments of special assessments in anticipation of which they have been issued. In the instance of such special assessments are not sufficient to pay the interest on such bonds, the City will advance from its general funds sufficient moneys to pay such principal and interest. The City's ability to raise such funds is subject to applicable constitutional, statutory and charter limitations on the taxing power of the City.

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