

# Osprey have new home at Kensington Metropark

The Metroparks have some new residents.

In a combined effort between the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Huron-Clinton Metroparks and the Detroit Zoological Institute Authority, four osprey chicks were recently relocated from the Upper Peninsula to a hacking box overlooking Wildwing Lake at Kensington Metropark. These majestic fish-eating raptors will be cared for and monitored until they can fly and feed on their own. The hope is that they will return to Kensington to nest in future years.

Osprey were once abundant in Michigan but the use of DDT and other harmful pesticides as well as habitat destruction reduced their numbers so much that Osprey were placed on the endangered species list in the mid 1960's.

Adult osprey weigh approxi-

mately four pounds and have massive wing spans that reach six-feet. Bullhead and carp are their main staple food and the new residents of Wildwing Lake should have little trouble finding food once they learn to fly and feed on their own.

The birds will be hacked (or raised) in these hacking boxes for several weeks until they fledge (fly). Biologists and volunteers will monitor the birds daily and feed each bird up to two pounds of fish per day. As the birds mature and begin to fly the "free hand outs" will be cut back to encourage the birds to feed on their own.

Osprey migrate to South America for the winter and return north when the weather warms. Traditionally, the male birds return to the area they were raised when they are fully mature to nest. The hope is that these birds will return to

Kensington and make it their permanent summer home.

## Early goose season

An early September Canada goose season will once again be held throughout most of the state in an effort to control the growing population of resident Giant Canada geese. This fall the early season will run Sept. 1-15 in the Lower Peninsula and Sept. 1-10 in the Upper Peninsula. The daily bag limit is five. The counties of Tuscola, Saginaw and Huron will be closed to early September goose hunting to avoid harvest of early arriving migrant geese from James Bay, Ontario.

Last year hunters harvested over 91,000 geese during the September hunt and this year should produce similar results with an estimated population of 440,000 locally produced giant Canada geese.

"Hunters that get out now and scout areas that birds use and secure permission to hunt on private land should do very well," said Greg Souliere, waterfowl specialist with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

## Grouse limits increased

Ruffed grouse hunters in the Upper Peninsula will have an increased bag limit this fall, but a proposal to restore the three-bird season in the U.P. failed to gain support of the Natural Resource Commission.

In a 4-3 vote the Commission agreed with the DNR's recommendation to increase the daily bag limit in the U.P. from three birds to five. DNR research shows that liberal grouse hunting regulations are not detrimental to grouse populations in northern Michigan during times of moderate or high grouse abundance.

Wildlife biologists feel the increased bag limits in the U.P. will not adversely affect grouse numbers.

A review of the ruffed grouse regulations was prompted by the fact that grouse populations in the U.P. and northern Lower have recovered substantially over the past few years. Grouse hunters in the northern Lower have enjoyed a five-bird daily limit and a split season (Sept. 15-Nov. 14 and Dec. 1-Jan. 1) for several years while Upper Peninsula hunters have been restricted to three birds per day and no December season.

## St. Clair fishing maps

Fishing Hot Spots Inc. has introduced a new detailed map of Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River.

The new maps were produced using the latest computer drafting and imagery technology for

optimum accuracy and clarity. The maps are printed on water-proof paper and include GPS waypoints and a latitude and longitude grid that allows anglers to plot their own fishing and navigation coordinates.

The maps also show depth contours, boat landings and structures such as reefs, points, humps and holes. Weed beds, navigation buoys and shipping channels are also shown on the maps.

Detailed information about the different fisheries is also included. For information or to order a map call 1-800-ALL-MAPS.

(Anglers and hunters are urged to report your success. Questions and comments are also encouraged. Send information to: Outdoor, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Fax information to (248) 644-1314, send e-mail to barker@oe.com or call Bill Parker evenings at (248) 901-2573.)

## ARCHERY

### NAA NATIONAL

The National Archery Association will hold the 114th Annual National Target Championships through Aug. 7 at Heritage Park in Canton. Shooting begins at 9 a.m. each day. The public is welcome and there is no charge.

### BOWHUNTER SHOOT

Detroit Archers will hold a bow hunter 3D shoot beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, on its walk-through range in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 for more information.

### 3D SHOOT

The Oakland County Sportsman

will hold a 30-target 3D shoot beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 9, on its walk-through range in Clarkston. Call 623-0444 for more information.

### MORE 3D

Royal Oak Archers will hold a 3D shoot beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday, August 16, on its walk-through range in Lake Orion. Call (248) 693-9799 for more information.

## STATE PARKS

### STATE PARK REQUIREMENTS

A state park motor vehicle permit is required for entry into all state parks and state recreation areas. For registration and addi-

tional information on the programs at Maybury call (810) 349-8390. For programs at Bald Mountain call (810) 693-0767.

For programs at Proud Lake and Highland call (810) 685-2433. For programs at Island Lake call (810) 229-7087.

### FISHING IN THE PARKS

Learn the basics of fishing including how to bait a hook, basic knots, casting and fish ecology during this weekly program, which is offered Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. through August 11 at Metamora-Hadley, Pontiac Lake and Island Lake.

### PIONEER LIFE

Get a taste of how pioneer children worked and played during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 6, at Highland.

### BIRD HIKE

Learn to identify some of the area's birds during this naturalist-led hike, which begins at 8 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, at Maybury. Participants should meet at the riding stable parking lot off Beck Road, 1/4-mile south of

### Eight Mile Rd.

### INSECT SAFARI

Discover the good and bad about insects during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 11, at Proud Lake.

### ANIMAL SIGNS

Learn to locate and identify some common animal signs during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 13, at Highland.

## 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 at the following numbers: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-5182; 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 (\$9 for senior citizens). The annual boat launching permits are \$18 (\$9 for senior citizens). Call 1-800-47-PARKS for more information.

### FULL MOON WALK

A naturalist-led hike under the light of the "corn moon" begins at 8 p.m. Friday at Stony Creek.

### FIELD FLOWERS

Take a walk through one of the park's fields to discover some summer wild flowers during this program, which begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, at Kensington.

### THE UNDERSTORY

Find out who lives in the shadows of Kensington's woods during a naturalist-led walk, which begins at 8 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 9, at Kensington.

### CHICKEN LITTLE'S NIGHT OUT

View the annual periscope meteor showers and other astronomical sights while roasting marshmallows around a campfire during this program, which begins at 9:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12, at Indian Springs.

## COUNTY PARKS

### COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS

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

### FREE WOOD CHIPS

Free wood chips from the Oakland County Parks Christmas tree recycling program will be available on Saturday, Aug. 29, at Orion Oaks at the Clarkston Road entrance. Individuals are asked to provide their own shovels and to load the chips by hand. No motorized equipment is allowed and no commercial haulers. Additional wood chip dates are scheduled for Sept. 26 and Oct. 31.

### INSECTARAMA

Fun insect activities including a bug collection, bug olympics, tips on bug rearing and more, will be featured in this program, which begins at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, at Independence Oaks.

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## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION FOR THE YEAR 1999

Notice is hereby given that the Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget for the year 1999. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, September 2, 1998 at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, at the Springfield Oaks Activity Center, 1245 Andersonville Rd., Davison, Michigan.

Interested citizens may appear and present written and/or verbal comments on the proposed budget.

1999 PROPOSED BUDGET SUMMARY	
REVENUES	AMOUNT
Taxes	\$9,616,010
Fees, Charges, Miscellaneous	\$340,323
Total	\$10,056,334
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	\$16,855,334

A copy of the proposed 1999 budget will be available at the above address on and after Monday, August 17, 1998.

Published August 6, 1998

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