

Ice fishermen like weather

OUTDOOR HIGHLIGHTS

By Bill Parker

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Winter's icy grip has certainly taken hold of northeastern Michigan.

While many area residents are grumbling to themselves about overdue vacations to Florida and the exorbitant price of a good snow blower, anglers

are licking their chops in anticipation of the long-awaited ice fishing season.

Most local lakes offer a solid layer of ice and the early reports filtering in indicate that so far the fishing has been great.

Many area lakes have already produced skillets full of tasty bluegill fillets.

Lake Orion native Dale Cad-

dick reported a good bite of bluegills just after Christmas on Long Lake, including one whooper gill that measured 10 inches in length.

Livonia's Dave Hartlock fished Kent Lake last weekend and returned home "with a bucket full of fish."

To date, the fish in inland lakes seem to still be holding in the shallow water weeds and along the edge of drops. They haven't yet moved into their deep, mid-winter holds.

Light tackle — the lighter the better — is the key to successful pan fish angling in the winter months.

Two- to four-pound-test monofilament spooled on an ultra-light spin casting reel and mounted on a short ice fishing pole is all that's needed.

A spring bobber, which mounts to the end of your ice fishing pole

and is available at any bait and tackle shop, is a huge asset in detecting a subtle bite from under below the ice.

They jig heads and tear drops in a variety of colors are favored bluegill baits when tipped with a spike, wax worm or wiggler.

Don't be afraid to change colors if you're not catching fish. Many times, simply switching from white to red, or from chartreuse to green, etc. . . will trigger a bite.

Begin your presentation right at the bottom of the lake and vary your depth by 10- to 12-inch increments over the course of time until you locate the depth at which fish are holding.

Pay close attention to the depth when you get a bite so you can get right back into the fish after you reel one in.

A hand or power auger or a sharp ice spud is paramount to success.

A good approach is to drill a half dozen or more holes in the area you plan to fish as soon as you get to your spot. This way you can move around from spot to spot to find the fish without spooking them by having to make a new hole every half hour or so.

The fish are biting normally when the warm weather hits, so get out and enjoy the opportunity while it exists.

Don't wait until tomorrow or next week . . . remember the bumper of a season we had last year?

Osprey logo contest

Young artists between the ages of 12 and 18 are encouraged to submit entries to the osprey

logo design contest.

In a joint effort between the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority and the Detroit Zoo, four osprey chicks were released in Kensington Metropark last summer.

The hope is that these raptors will return to the area to nest and raise their young in a couple years when they reach maturity at the age of three.

More chicks will be brought into Kensington over the next two summers in an attempt to re-establish wild nesting populations in the park.

Young artists are asked to assist in the project by creating a logo that symbolizes the effort to re-introduce osprey to the area.

The winning design will be used in a variety of ways including use on printed material as well as t-shirts.

Designs should be done on an 8 1/2 by 11-inch unlined piece of paper. A clever title, such as "Osprey Return," can be included with the logo.

Entries must be received by February 1. Send entries to Osprey Contest, DNR Natural Heritage Program, P.O. Box 30444, Lansing, MI 48909-1994. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number.

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

Crow population has big increase

NATURE NOTES

By Bill Parker

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During winter months, the crow population in the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority area has increased by 200 percent, according to a study by the authority's natural resources department.

The study, which was conducted by the authority's natural resources department, found that the crow population in the area has increased by 200 percent since the study was first conducted in 1997.

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OUTDOOR CALENDAR

SHOWS

CAMPER, TRAVEL & RV

The 16th annual Pentate Silverdome Camper, Travel & RV Show will be Jan. 27-31 at the Silverdome.

DEER AND TURKEY

The annual Michigan Deer and Turkey Spectacular will be Feb. 12-14 at the Lansing Center.

BOAT, SPORT AND FISHING

The 16th annual Pentate Silverdome Boat, Sport & Fishing Show will be Feb. 17-21 at the Silverdome.

CLASSES

TO FLY TYING

The Challenge Chapter of Trout Unlimited will offer a 10-week fly tying class for beginners through advanced tiers beginning January 18 at Birmingham Senhalm High School. Cost is \$50. Call (248) 203-3800.

FLY TYING

Paint Creek Outfitters in Rochester offers a variety of fly tying classes for beginners and advanced tiers. Call (248) 650-0440 for more information or to make a reservation for a class.



CITY OF FARMINGTON SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING WITH THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (Summary)

A special meeting of the Farmington City Council with the Historical Museum Development Committee was held on Monday, January 4, 1999, Council Chambers, 23600 Liberty Street, Farmington, Michigan. Notice of the meeting was posted in compliance with Public Act 267-1978.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mary L. Bush, Arnold T. Campbell (arrived at 7:49 p.m.), William S. Hartsock, JoAnne M. McShane, James K. Mitchell.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None. FARMINGTON CITY REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: Clerk/Treasurer Cantrell, City Manager Lauhoff.

HISTORICAL MUSEUM DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Anhut, Carvell, Harrison, Kohla, McElroy, McLaughlin. Council met with the Historical Museum Development Committee to discuss the Committee's report and recommendations including conducting an interest survey, increasing and promoting activities of Friends of the Mansion; considering a volunteer approach to developing the Museum; establishing a Committee budget for the 1998-99 fiscal year and setting a time frame for reporting on progress/resolutions to Council.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m. MARY L. BUSH, Mayor PATSY K. CANTRELL, City Clerk/Treasurer

Published January 10, 1999

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: JANUARY 18, 1999

TIME: 7:30 P.M.

PLACE: City of Farmington Hills 31555 Eleven Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI 48335

ITEM: Cluster Site Plan 92-10