Parks will continue to control deer

OUTDOOR INSIGHTS

BILL PARKER

Controlled deer harvests at the Huron-Clinton Metroparks have been ruled a success and will likely continue in the future.

The recent announcement by the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority that it would not allow recreational hunting within the parks was interpreted by some to indicate the Metroparks were abandoning their deer management plan. That's not the case according to Dave Mollanen, chief of interpretive services for the Metroparks.

"There has been no change in our position and we will continue to control the deer in our parks," he said. "We're certainly not doing an about face.

"Many people think the next step coming is to open the parks to recreational hunting and we want to appease those concerns. The parks are simply too busy to let hunters come in any time they want, but we will probably continue to thin the herds through controlled hunts."

Metropark rangers began noticing problems with overgrazing in some of the park a few years ago. When plants and songbirds began diminishing, a decision was made to study the problem and look for a remedy.

Aerial surveys of the parks indicated deer densities of 60 per square mile at Hudson Mills and 82 per square mile at Stony Creek.

The Metroparks established a Wildlife Management Advisory Committee, which studied the situation and the committee recommended the parks maintain densities of 20 to 25 deer per square mile.

Controlled hunts were held last fall to accomplish that task. Metro Wildlife Management Base Inc., a consortium of several conservation groups, provided hunters – who participated in special training classes – to cull the herds. Hunters took 122 deer from Stony Creek and 32 from Hudson Mills.

That effort resulted in nearly 5,000 pounds of fresh, nutritious venison being donated to food shelters and soup kitchens in Metro-Detroit through Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger.

Over 200 deer were also culled from the herd at Kensington and an additional 6,000 pounds of venison was donated to the needy. However, trained sharpshooters shot the deer at that park because of the difficulty involved in holding a controlled hunt in such a busy park.

All in all, the Metropark deer management plan was a success in its inaugural year and HCMA managers should be applauded for their effort. Much work, effort and commitment went into the program and the results bear the fruit of that effort.

Turkey permits are out

Hunters who applied for a spring wild turkey permit should have been notified. If not, check the DNR web (www.dnr.state.mi.us) for drawing results. If you still have problems, call the DNR directly at (517) 373-3904.

Biologists are predicting another outstanding season as the birds just came through another relatively mild winter in the North. Last year's nesting season was near perfect as well. Those two factors combined have increased the state turkey population to over 135,000 birds.

More roads mean more danger for animals

NATURE NOTES

TIM HOWICKI

When I show students mounted, stuffed animals at the nature center, I am frequently asked: "Where did you get that animal?

"Did you shoot that animal? Is that animal alive?"

Young kids don't realize that even though mounts look alive, they are very dead.

I tell them that we get most of our animals for teaching from road kills (special permits from the state are required even for a nature center to collect road kills).

Wild animals don't know the crossing rules we teach young students, I tell them. They don't know that they should stop, look and listen before crossing a road. If they don't do this, they will often get killed by a car.

In today's world, roads are more and more common.

One statistic I read stated that 20,627 square miles of land are paved for new roads each year in the U.S. As humans encroach on the habitats of animals they are more likely to become a road kill statistic.

The Humane Society and the Urban Wildlife Research Center estimate more than one million large animals are killed annually on U.S. roads. That does not include the smaller animals that often go uncounted.

Some parts of the country have created tunnels under highways for salamanders, frogs, toads and other small animals to travel through so they can reach the other side.

Spring migrations of salamanders from wintering areas to breeding ponds bisected by highways have caused tragic accidents. Cars glide out of control because there are so many salamanders crossing the road at one time.

While driving around town the last couple weeks, I noticed several muskrat road kills. These animals must be moving from their wintering sites to new locations where they will establish a breeding territory.

Unfortunately, there are many roads that must be crossed before they can find a suitable body of water.

I was surprised to kind several road kill muskrats far from water.

At least as far as I could tell anyway. This illustrates that surplus animals raised by established territory holders must search great distances in order to find a new home.

Muskrats can not just move to a nearby meadow and take up residence. They are designed for living in marshes and lakes. If they cannot find the appropriate habitat, they will die.

Wild animals have evolved over long periods of time to the habitats we typically see them in when we travel. Their encounters with man, roads and cars has been so brief, that they are often unable to deal with these new threats to their lives.

Some individual animals have learned to cross roads between on-coming cars, but most do not recognize how dangerous and fast a car can be.

This inability to adapt to cars and roads can be devastating to endangered animals. Florida panthers are one of the nations most endangered animals, and a few are killed by cars each year. A study showed road kills are the primary reason for the death of large animals in Florida.

OUTDOOR CALENDAR

SEASON/DATES

RABBIT
Rabbit season runs through March 31 statewide.

CLASS/CLINIC

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

MORE FLY TYING
River Bend Sport Shop in Southfield offers fly tying classes for beginners, intermediate and advanced tyers. Classes will be held at various times. To register call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474.

ACTIVITIES

DETROIT AREA STEELHEADERS
Detroit Area Steelheaders, Inc. membership meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month at Knights of Columbus, St. Pius X, 6177 Chicago Road, in Warren. The public is welcome. More information can be obtained by calling Ed Wilczek at (810) 757-7366 or club President Ray Banbury at (810) 598-0310.

BASS TOURNAMENT
The 2000 Top Bass Tournament will be held at various sites throughout the summer months. The schedule is as follows: Saginaw Bay, May 27; Lake St. Helen, June 3; Wixom Lake, June 24; Sanford Lake, July 8; Wixom Lake, July 22; Lobdell Lake, Aug. 5; Lake St. Helen, Aug. 19; and Wixom Lake, Aug. 26-27. Guaranteed payoffs will be awarded with amounts determined by the number of entries. For more information, call (734) 729-1762 or (734) 422-5813.

CLINTON VALLEY BASS
Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gander Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS
Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeterin at Garden City High School. Call Dominic Liparoto at (248) 476-5027 for more information.

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING
The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Claronceville Middle School, located on Middlebelt Road between Seven and Eight Mile roads. Call (810) 478-1494.

FOUR SEASONS
The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30-9:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Civic Park Senior Center, 15218 Farmington Road. Call Jim Kudej at (734) 591-0843.

FISHING BUDDIES
Fishing Buddies Fishing Club meets the third Tuesday of each month in Rochester Hills. Meetings are open to all anglers (boaters and non-boaters). Call (248) 656-0556 for information.

HURON VALLEY STEELHEADERS
The Huron Valley Steelheaders meets the third Thursday of each month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 27600 Hall Rd., Flat Rock. Call Carroll White at (734) 285-0843 for information.

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, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178; Hudson Mills, 1-800-477-3191.

2000 PERMITS
The 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 1-800-47-PARKS.

COUNTY PARKS

COUNTY PARK REQUIREMENTS
Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all nature programs at Oakland County Parks. Call (810) 625-6473 to register or for more information.

PERMITS
The 2000 Oakland County parks motor vehicle permits are on sale at all county park offices and many parks and recreation and township offices. Cost is $20 through April 30 and $25 thereafter. Call (248) 858-0906 or TTY (248) 858-1684.

FARMINGTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY
CONSTRUCTION PUBLIC BIDDING
ANNOUNCEMENT

Barton Malow, the Farmington Community Library's Construction Manager is developing Bid Package No. 2 - Foundations, Frame, Enclosure & Elevators, for the addition and renovation of the Farmington Community Library, 32737 West Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills.

☐ Vendor and sub-contractors are encouraged to bid on work for Bid Package No. 2 - Foundations, Frame, Enclosure & Elevators.

For information about bidding this work, please contact Doug Madden, Barton Malow, Project Manager, at (248) 351-4500. Additional information is available on the Library's web site www.farmlib.org and/or Barton Malow's web site www.bartonmalow.com.

Publish: March 19 and 23, 2000

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FARMING HILLS, MI 48336-1165
(248) 474-6115
ADVERTISEMENT

The City of Farmington Hills Purchasing Division will solicit sealed bids during the next forty-five (45) days for the following products and/or services:

2000 Sump Pump Program
Re-Shingle Salt Dome

Specifications may be obtained by contacting the Central Services Department. All bids must be submitted in accordance with the bid specifications.

The City of Farmington Hills reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, either in part or in whole, to waive any formalities and to accept the bid which it believes to be in the best interest of the City.

KATHRYN A. DORNAN
City Clerk

Publish: March 23, 2000

FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INVITATION TO BID

Farmington Public Schools will accept sealed bids for:

OFFICE FURNITURE AT EAST MIDDLE SCHOOL

at the Lewis Schulman Administration Center, 32500 Shiawassee, Farmington, MI 48336 until 1:30 P.M. on Tuesday, April 4, 2000 at which time they will be publicly opened and read for presentation to the Board of Education at their next regularly scheduled meeting. No oral, telephonic, telegraphic or facsimile proposals will be considered. No proposals will be considered after the time of closing of bids.

The Board of Education reserves the right to accept any item in the bid; to accept or reject any or all bids; to waive any informalities therein; or for reasons of establishing uniformity, to award the contract to other than the low bidders.

Any questions should be referred to Mr. Paul Hain at (248) 489-3346 or Mr. Eugene Seaborn (248) 489-3601.

Publish: March 23 and 30, 2000

STORAGE USA

Notice is hereby given that on April 18, 2000. LeRoy Elfrank Auctioneers, Executive Administrator for Storage USA, will be offering for sale under the Judicial Lien process, by public auction, the following storage units:

UNIT#	NAME	ITEMS FOR SALE
A-43	Southfield Oncology	Office Furniture Medical Equipment
A-44	Southfield Oncology	Office Furniture
B-59	Southfield Oncology	Office Furniture Medical Equipment
B-62	Bovis Construction	Office Furniture

The terms of the sale will be cash only. Storage USA reserves the right to refuse any and all bids. The sale will be held at the following location, 38875 Grand River, Farmington Hills, MI 48335 and will begin at 1:00 PM and continue until all units are sold.

Publish: March 16 & 23, 2000

PUBLIC STORAGE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVE that pursuant to Section 4 of the Self-Storage Storage Facility Act, State of Michigan, the undersigned will sell at Public Auction Sale by competitive bidding. Sale are for cash only. Removal within 24 hours for sale are storage units for which rent and fees are past due.

On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage, 34050 Nine Mile Road, Farmington, MI 48335, (248) 473-4020, on April 25, 2000 at 12:15 p.m. the personal property described below:

In the matter of:
DOROTHY SANDERS, Space G080 - File cabinet, desk, table, chairs, box
STEVEN ZUMBERG, Space F041 - Table saw, ladder, compressor, chairs
EMMITT INSTRUMENT SERVICE NC., Space D004 - Snow blower, ladder, misc. equip., lawn mower
DONELL MILES, Space H016 - Chairs, pacman game, washer, ent. center
JODIEAN LEONARD, Space B007 - Misc. bags and boxes

On the premises where said property has been stored and which are located at Public Storage, 12900 Newburgh Rd., Livonia, MI 48150, (734) 591-6606, on April 25, 2000 at 11:30 a.m. the personal property described below:

IN THE MATTER OF:
AMERICAN EXPRESS FINANCIAL ADVISORS, Space C066 - Misc. boxes
AMERICAN EXPRESS FINANCIAL ADVISORS, Space D068 - Printer, comp. equip., misc. boxes

All sales subject to adjournment.

Publish: March 16 and 23, 2000

March 30, 2000
Reserve this date for a head start on a great new millennium!

Take charge of your career and future in 2000 and attend our upcoming recruiting open house:

Choose Success!
Thursday, March 30, 2000 - 6:00 p.m.

Jeff Crause
Investment Representative
734-838-1838
2300 Washtenaw Suite 101
Ann Arbor, MI

Todd Knickerbocker
Investment Representative
248-348-9815
128 North Center
Northville, MI

Edward Jones
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS
OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN
CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 27, 2000
7:30 P.M.

THIS IS PUBLIC NOTICE that the Farmington Hills City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, March 27, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. to give formal consideration to the submission of a grant application for Nature Center addition to the Day Camp Building at Heritage Park.

This Public hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 31555 Eleven Mile Road, Farmington Hills, Michigan 48336. Any person interested in submitting suggestions and/or ideas for this grant application are invited to attend and participate in the discussion. If you would like to submit your ideas in writing, please do so by the time of meeting by mailing or delivering in person to the address stated above. Written comments will be included in the public record for this matter.

Any questions on this issue may be directed to David Beyer, Director of Special Services at (248) 473-9750.

KATHRYN A. DORNAN
City Clerk

Publish: March 23, 2000