Local biker pens guide to Drummond Island

Dan Harrison has stopped

Dan Harrison has stopped peddling long enough to write "A Mountain Biker's Guide to Drummond Island." The Farmington Hills resident and Henry Ford Community College systems librarian has been heavy into bikes since the '60s, when he was a University of Michigan undergrad. "A bike is a great way to get around. I got into bicycle touring and camping trips by bicycle," he said.
Harrison also got into biking groups and serves as Michigar representative to the International Mountain Bicycling Asso-

ciation.

He says the beauty of mountain biking is that people are drawn for different reasons.

"Some have a competitive streak, to see if they can go faster than somebody close. For others it's a social thing. For other people it's a fitness thing, "Harrison said.

"For me, it's a way of getting in touch with nature. It gets me out into the woods. I always look for places where you don't see a lot of people. Part of the appeal is you may have to carry a power bar or candy bar or napple, or be able to do a little ropair if something goes wrong."

Harrison said it was about

five years ago when avid mountain biker Dan Sirrine, general manager of the Woodmoor Lodge on Drummond Island, sought to attract people who were into diverse outdoor sports and activities. He offered free lodging for mountain bikers who were interested in cataloging trails. Harrison visited.

The first ride Dan took me out, he took me to the north shore of the island. When you look out over the water, it looks like there's nothing between you and the North pole.

He was struck by the quiet: There are fewer and fewer places on the planet that you can't hear a man-made sound.

Harrison, who has training

in geographic data in his library job, started making the occasional map of areas of the island, with a global positioning system unit clamped to his han-dlebars. He searched out routes that could take cyclists to coves echoing with the loon's call, to rocky promontories and forest

glens.

"I started adding some history, ferry schedules and lists of places to ent and stay, it just sort of turned into a guidebook," he said.

The 30-page book focuses on six suggested routes to various destinations and may be purchased at the Drummond Island Resort, at Benchmark Outfitters in Farmington, or from the author: dharrisno hicc.net. Price is \$3.

Harrison said that in the month since the release of the guide, he's sold 30-40 copies. He's also working on "A Sea Kayaker's Guide to Drummond Island" and a guide to snow-shoeing on the island.

Recycle from page A1

recycling for granted," Pines said.

Most questions center on advertising circulars that come through the mail – are they accepted or not? People can put circulars that come with their paper in the bin with their paper, Pines said.

She encourages them to put mewapapers in a brown paper bag or tied with string: You don't want to put newspapers in a plastic bag.

"We ask to not put the caps on plastic bottles. They're made from a different type of plastic that is not recyclable, Pines said. Only "I' or "2" plastics are accepted; eligible recyclables are stamped with that identification.

tion.
To answer another often-asked question, Pines said labels do not have to be removed from

cans.

Hills city workers are urged to recycle on the job. Pines said city workers recycle more than

23,000 pounds of paper annual-

Each office has a paper recycling bin, which is regularly emptied and taken to the Novi Drop-off Recycling Center, she said. Staff place cans, bottles, newspapers and green computer paper in boxes under their deska. Once full, employees in each building take the boxes and empty them in a central container.

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Recyclables go to the Materials Recovery Facility in Southfield. Reclaimed white ledger paper – used in copy machines and printers – is mixed with water and reformed into sheets for conversion into new paper.

"Every ton of paper that the city recycles is a ton that doesn't go to the landfill," Pires said.

"It's just common sense to reuse or recycle something rather than throw it away."

Questions on recycling should be directed to (248) 653-8580.



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