

WILD, RAPID WATERS challenge the more expert canoeist, equipped with safety vests and ready for anything.

## Argo Park Canoe Livery To Re-Open This Spring

The Argo Park Canoe Livery on the Huron River in Ann Arbor will re-open this spring under the direction of the parks and recreation department of the City of Ann Arbor.

Closed since 1971 when the river was drained to work on the Argo Pond Dam, the parks and recreation department anticipates an early May

THE LIVERY was operated on a private basis until the spring of 1971 when the City of Ann Arbor purchased it to add to its recreational program. "A two month stint at managing -- before the river was closed -- has not given us a great deal to go on," Doug Fasing of the department acknowledged. Fasing recently added the cance livery to his duties as supervisor of pools, rinks and . . . canoe livery!

"The operation is going to be very modest this first full year," Fasing said. "We have about 45 canoes, some of which are not in great shape. The aluminum ones, which only number about 10, are the only ones we will allow to be portaged. The canvas and wood canoes just will not take it." If sought-after state monies come in, overhauling and expansion is

Fasing and the parks and recreation department envision the canoe livery as just one part of an overall recreational plan which they have for the river frontage which runs the length of

"THE RIVER ITSELF is a major attraction," Fasing declared. "It's the most unique and brilliant thing I've ever seen in recreation." Walking trails, nature study, small boat launching and fishing are part of a future

Last fall there was a poisoning of the river to remove "trash" fish. Fasing reported that the quality of the water is good now, and that the carp and suckers have been removed. Several species of game fish have been introduced.

After April 1, you can call the Argo Park Canoe Livery for opening date information at 1-NO 8-7411.

## Canoeing Rules

Although canoeing is a relatively safe sport that men, women and children of all ages can participate in and enjoy, there are a few safety rules

- TAKE TIME TO RELAX -- When you are tired, stop to rest or camp. Accidents are more apt to happen to the fatigued canoeist.
- ALWAYS TAKE ALONG A REFEREE'S WHISTLE -- If you or part of your group is in absolute danger, use the signal of distress known to all outdoorsmen -- three blasts. Three shots, three flares or any other signaling trio means someone needs help.
- NEVER STAND UP IN A CANOE -- Maintain a crouched position as you enter, leave and move about a canoe. The idea is to maintain a low center of gravity.
- . HAVE NON-SWIMMERS IN LIFE JACKETS -- Whatever the age if they don't swim, a life jacket is the best kind of insurance. A Coast Guard approved life preserver is required .for.each occupant.....
- KEEP CANOE, PADDLES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT IN GOOD REPAIR -- Faulty equipment could mean serious trouble on your next
- TAKE ALONG AN EXTRA PADDLE -- Paddles sometimes break unexpectedly. Avoid the problem.
- FORESTALL HAND BLISTERS -Sandpaper contact points on paddles periodically.
- KNOW WHAT TO DO IN A STORM -- If you are caught in a sudden squall, lie down on the bottom of your canoe. This lowers the center of gravity and makes an upset highly improbable.
- TAKE ALONG SOME ROPE -- A couple of extra pieces of rope -- 20 feet or so -- will come in handy for something, sometime.

A novice canoeist should avoid trips through rough and unfamiliar waters. He should choose routes of well-defined portage trails, small lakes, rivers with light or no rapids and routes of moderate distance.

When in search of good canoeing waters, start with camping directories. They often carry maps and information on the better canoeing waters.

Canoeing instruction classes are provided by most universities. community colleges, YMCAs and scouting programs.

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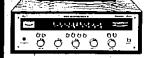
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