



**MOUNTAIN JEWEL** — Lake of the Clouds, nestled among the forest-covered Porcupine Mountains in Michigan's upper peninsula, is part of a spectacular panorama for sightseers and photographers. It's in Porcupine Mountains state park, a 58,000-acre wilderness area in the west end of the peninsula. (Michigan Tourist Council Photo)

# Waterways Get New Job -- Finding Boat Sites

LANSING -- Michigan's public access site program, under the wing of the Conservation Department's Fish Division since its beginning in 1959, has been shifted to the agency's Waterways Division in a move to broaden its scope of management and development.

Keith Wilson, chief of the Waterways Division, reports that the 29-year-old program will ultimately be phased into a "boat launching site" system and re-designated as such, hopefully within the next two years.

THE NAME CHANGE, he explains, will more accurately reflect the actual use of most public access sites which in recent years have felt the resounding impact of the state's boating boom. "We will expand the concept of this program from simply providing walk-in access to waters so that major emphasis is pegged to laying out the type of facilities that will enable water users to get their boats afloat," says Wilson.

"In any case," he adds, "we still will be serving boat-using fishermen. As a matter of fact, under this new set-up, we will be serving them better than before because we will be able to develop more convenient and safer boat launching sites. In a nutshell, everyone who uses a boat is going to benefit more whether he wants to fish, take a pleasure cruise, or whatever."

BEIDES BUYING and building better-quality sites, the Waterways Division will be able to develop more of them than in recent years. Under the new program, development and acquisition of the sites will be financed from a state tax on marine fuel sales. This will provide much more money than the program has been able to squeeze out of the Department's Tight Game and Fish Protection Fund.

For the balance of this fiscal year, which ends June 30, the Waterways Division will budget \$140,000 from its marine fuel fund for field operations under the access site program. Most of this money will be used to buy equipment. The funds will also underwrite setting up 29 field positions which will come under the immediate direction of the Department's regional organization headquartered at Marquette, Roscommon, and Lansing.

DURING THE 1968-69 fiscal year beginning July 1, a total of \$240,000 in marine fuel tax money will go for the acquisition of about 30 new access sites on inland lakes and streams. Another \$200,000 will be allotted to develop six large sites with extremely good facilities or 12 to 25 smaller, more modest sites on interior waters.

The Waterways Division will also be responsible for improving existing sites and developing all new boat launching facilities within state game areas, state forest campgrounds, and state parks. It will inherit nearly 470 sites which were built under the Fish Division's command since 1959.

In addition to its own capital outlay program, the Waterways Division will provide \$1.5 million in grants to local communities during the next fiscal year to help finance more facilities for the growing herds of coho salmon fishermen on lakes Superior and Michigan.

In the Lake Michigan area, these state funds will carry much of the load in building boat launching and parking facilities to accommodate an additional 1,850 cars and trailers by June, 1969.

# EMU To Start Installment Plan

YPSILANTI -- A new plan under which Eastern Michigan University students will be able to pay charges in installments was approved by the Board of Regents.

It will go into effect for the fall semester of 1969.

At that time, students will be permitted to make an initial payment of approximately 40 per cent, followed by three additional payments of approximately 20 per cent at specified intervals. They may use the plan for tuition only, for room and board only, or for all of these items combined. A service charge, to be determined, will be added to the base amounts to compensate for the cost of handling installments.

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