

Recreational facilities open at 5 regional Metroparks

Recreational facilities are now open at the Metroparks serving residents of Livingston, Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne.

Recreation facilities and highways leading to the parks are shown on a "free" 1974 Metropark Guide available by writing Huron-Clinton Metropark Guide, 11th Floor, 600 Woodward Avenue, Detroit 48226.

The new 1974 Metropark vehicle entry permits (annual \$5 and daily \$1) are now on sale at the offices located at Metropolitan Beach near Mt. Clemens, Stony Creek Metropark near Utica, Kensington Metropark near Milford, Hudson Mills Metropark near Dexter and Lower Huron Metropark near Belleville.

Metropark boating permits (Annual \$5 and daily \$1, required at parks with launching ramps (Metropolitan Beach, Stony Creek and Kensington Metroparks), are now on sale.

Details are available at your nearest Metropark office, with permits now in effect at Metropolitan Beach and expected to be in effect at the other Metroparks by Saturday, May 25 where construction and installation of toll booths is presently under development. Metropark boating permit dates are the same as for vehicle entry permits. Daily permits will be sold when 1974 fees start at the Metroparks.

All groups of 50 or more persons seeking recreational picnic or other type outings, are advised to contact the Metropark they wish to use "well in advance" of the desired dates to register their group and to acquaint the park with their requirements. The Metroparks don't offer picnic reservations.

METROPOLITAN beach along Lake St. Clair near Mt. Clemens now offers

boat launching, marinas, 18-hole "Par 3" golf course, shuffleboard and tennis courts, games area, play equipment in the tot lot and adjoining older children's area, picnic areas, boardwalk and food bar, marshy nature trail, and the outdoor roller skating rink expected to open in mid-May.

Weather permitting, the bathhouse and lake swimming will be available later this month and the swimming pool is expected to open on Saturday, May 25. The boat ramps open at 6 a.m. while the park hours are 8 a.m. to dusk.

William P. Sherman, park superintendent, cautions boaters and marina users to observe speed limits on the Black Creek and to use safety precautions due to high water in the canals and along Lake St. Clair.

STONY CREEK Metropark near Utica has several miles of roadways for scenic drives plus picnic areas, playground equipment, water and sanitary facilities, boat launching and fishing on Stony Creek Lake within the 3,900-acre site. The nature trails are labeled for self-guided hikes and seasonal exhibits are on display at the Nature Center.

Persons picnicking should supply their own food and soft drinks since there is only limited food vending machine service at the boat launching ramp. Food service and swimming will begin on Saturday, May 25.

William L. Tait, park superintendent, stated that beer, wine or other alcoholic beverages aren't allowed in the park through Friday, June 14.

"No swimming" is permitted anywhere in the park until the beaches open and lifeguards are on duty on Saturday, May 25. Park visitors are advised to observe the no swimming rule and to use the proper safety procedures while boating. Water skiing isn't allowed on Stony Creek Lake.

Stony Creek Metropark is open daily from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

KENSINGTON Metropark near Milford has miles of scenic highways and wooded, hilly countryside that surround beautiful Kent Lake, which is popular with fishermen and boaters. The two ramps for boat launchings and boat rental service open Saturday, May 4.

Throughout the 4,300-acre regional park there are several large playfields and picnic areas, an 18-hole golf course with snacks offered at the food bar, plus labeled nature trails for self-guided hikes, seasonal exhibits at the Nature Center and Canada Geese on Kingfisher Lagoon that always welcome a "hand-out" from park visitors.

No swimming is permitted anywhere in the park until the beaches open and lifeguards are on duty on Saturday, May 25. Charles A. Damm, park superintendent, said that citizens are advised to observe the no swimming rule and to use the proper safety procedures while boating. Water skiing isn't permitted on Kent Lake.

Park Hours are 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

HUDSON MILLS, Dexter-Huron and Delhi Metroparks, covering from 45 to 900 acres, are located along the Huron River from seven to 12 miles northwest of Ann Arbor.

Park facilities include paved roads and parking lots, water and sanitary facilities, several picnic areas and playfields, shelters, shore fishing and the Acorn Nature Trail, which is labeled for self-guided hikes. The entrances to Delhi and Dexter-Huron Parks are along the Huron River Drive.

Gary C. Bartsch, park manager, stated that canoeing is very popular along the Huron River. Many groups use the overnight campsite at Hudson Mills, with nominal charges for overnight camp permits. Presently, persons should supply their own canoes or use private liveries. However, Hudson Mills expects to offer canoe rentals sometime in May.

Like all HCMA Metroparks, picnic reservations are unavailable and large groups should register with the park office well in advance of the desired date. Park hours are 8 a.m. to dusk daily.

LOWER HURON Metropark near Belleville has several picnic areas along the Huron River, a winding parkway, 18-hole "Par 3" golf course, tot lot with play equipment, nature trails labeled for self-guided hikes, all open daily. The seasonal nature center opens week-ends only in May.



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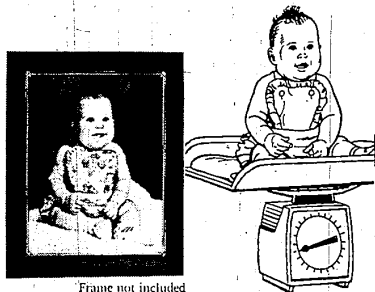
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