

# Top Priority To 3 Area Lakes

By W.W. EDGAR

The Wayne County Board of Supervisors will ask the State National Resources Commission for \$75,000 to further its program for the improvement of Newburgh, Wilcox and Phoenix Lakes in Observeland.



BRUCE F. MIRTO  
District Manager

The three lakes are among the top 10 on the priorities list that will be up for third reading and final vote at the Nov. 20 meeting of the board.

This request is part of a \$155,000 package being sought for nine county projects in extensive improvements to the county park system and new recreational facilities.

Under the \$100 million state recreation bond program, the state will finance 80% of a project. A maximum total of \$10.2 million is available within Wayne County.

The improvements planned for the three lakes include construction of four fishing piers and an excursion boat docking facility at Newburgh Lake; construction of a dock area and paddle boats at Wilcox Lake and construction of fishing piers at Phoenix Lake.

"This list of priorities already has passed the Capital Improvements Ways and Means Committee," Carl Pursell, who represents the 26th district on the board, stated. "I am confident that the proposal will be given approval."

Pursell stated that he was sure of the necessary 14 votes as of this writing.

"WE WERE GIVEN a great assist by the weather," Do Porter, director of recreation for the Road Commission, stated. "But we hope to have the job done by dredging the lake bottoms as soon as weather breaks in the spring."

"If our plans materialize," Porter continued, "it is possible that the county will build a few floating boats for the recreation program, according to Pursell. If granted, the money will come from the \$100 million bond issue recently approved by voters for recreation throughout the state."

The Wayne County Road Commission, which has jurisdiction over the three lakes, has had them under study since early in the summer.

At the time the lakes were infested with algae, and removal of the weed became the first priority.

The work of eliminating the weed began several months ago and will be completed, according to plan, in the spring.

TOP PRIORITY in the county's request will be given to the development of a recreation center and education program proposed by the Wayne County Cooperative Extension Service at a cost of \$50,000.

The 25-acre facility would consist of an office and conference building, a 10-acre model farm and extensive trial grounds for the growing of lawns, trees, shrubs, flowers, and commercial vegetables and fruits.

The proposed site is on land already owned by the county on the north side of Vandy Road between Van Born and Annapolis in Wayne, between the Wayne County Library headquarters and Annapolis Hospital.

HERE ARE the other projects listed on the county list: ● Renovation of five existing spray pools into wading pools at Elizabeth Park, Lola Valley Park and Middle Rouge Parkway, \$250,000.

The wading pools presently are closed for health reasons due to the lack of filtration plants.

● Construction of four fishing piers and an excursion boat docking facility at Newburgh Lake in the Middle Rouge Parkway, \$40,000.

● Development of 22 acres of Lower Rouge Parkway just west of Vandy Road, with landscaping, comfort stations, sports facilities and playground and picnic equipment, \$255,000.

● Development of 17 acres of Lower Rouge Parkway just west of Middle Belt Road, as above, \$210,000.

● Development of 18 acres of Lower Rouge Parkway just east of Henry Ruff Road, as above, \$150,000.

● Development of 10 acres of Lower Rouge Parkway south of Harrison Road between Inksler and Middle Belt, as above, \$85,000.

● Construction of one fishing pier and a dock area for paddle boats at Wilcox Lake, \$22,000.

● Construction of two fishing piers at Phoenix Lake, \$14,000.

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ROCHESTER A new entrance to the Oakland University campus will be provided in a \$300,000 internal road system project has been approved by the Michigan State University Board of Trustees.

The new road will run parallel to and to the south of Walton Boulevard for a distance of about a half-mile. The western tip will connect with North Meadow Brook Drive in the dormitory area of the campus and the eastern tip will permit traffic to enter from and exit onto Walton about one-fourth of a mile west of the entrance to the Meadow Brook Festival grounds.

The contract for grading and asphalt paving of the new roadway was awarded to the M&B Construction Company of Warren on its low bid of \$185,170.

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