

Autumn angling fails to pan out so far

By Lam Meese
outdoors writer

Anglers who frequent area lakes may have to wait until the dead of winter to get a good catch. The state Department of Natural Resources reports that ice fishing on Pontiac Lake will be excellent this winter, while autumn fishing in Lake St. Clair and lakes in Wayne County is poor.

In Lake St. Clair, walleyes are being taken any time of day or night, but the numbers are just hit and miss. A few salmon are showing up in the same area, but perch and other panfish success is very slow.

Perch are active in the Detroit River, but successful fishing days may be just about over. The reports from squirrel hunters indicate some fair success in most areas of these counties.

There are lots of autumn activities in area parks, all open to the public. Unless otherwise indicated, the programs are free, but pre-registration is required.

Wednesday, Oct. 13

• Metro Beach Metropark on Lake St. Clair is sponsoring an evening sky program at 7:30 p.m. Some Indian legends and Greek myths about the points of light in the sky will be discussed. To register call 463-4581.

Saturday, Oct. 16

• Stony Creek Metropark, north of Rochester will host a family nature program called "Tales and Tunes" beginning at 6:30 p.m. The two-hour program will feature a sing-along and stories of the night sky around a campfire. Persons should dress for a cool autumn night, bring blankets to sit on and have a flashlight. To register call 781-4621.

• Kensington Metropark, near Milford, is having an autumn nature bike ride at 9:30 a.m., covering five miles in two hours. Beginning at the nature center, naturalist Mark Szabo will lead the tour along the paved bike trail. Bring your own bike. To register call 685-1561.

• Indian Springs Metropark near Clarkston will feature nature photography at 2 p.m. Photographer Leo Lawson will discuss the equipment and techniques necessary for creating outstanding nature photographs. Persons should bring a camera. To register call 625-2781.

Sunday, Oct. 17

• Stony Creek Metropark northeast of Rochester is hosting a nature photography workshop at 10 a.m. It features a shooting session in the morning and a program in the afternoon. Participants should bring a 35mm camera. To register call 781-4621.

• Also at Stony Creek will be a special nature program about wood at 10:30 a.m. Park naturalist Bill Thomas will discuss the use of wood to help heat homes, its other uses and its different varieties. To register call 781-4621.

• Kensington Metropark near Milford will have a one-hour color cruise aboard the "Island Queen" beginning at 10 a.m. Park naturalist Mark Szabo will discuss the changes in plants which create Michigan's autumn beauty. There is a \$1.50 charge per person. To register call 685-1561.

• Also at Kensington, a two-mile nature walk will begin at 2 p.m. at the nature center. Naturalist Mark Szabo will discuss the plant and animal life in and around the water of Wildwing Lake. To register call 685-1561.

• Metro Beach Metropark is having a bike ride and nature study session beginning at 1 p.m. The

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tour will highlight the marsh nature study area and history of Metro Beach. Persons should have a bike and meet in front of the park office. To register call 463-4581.

• Kensington Farm Center, at the north end of the park, will have a wool spinning demonstration at 1 p.m. Farm interpreter Lori Anderson will demonstrate the techniques involved in spinning wool and other fibers on a spinning wheel and drop spindle. Other fibers that will be spun include yak, horse hair, dog hair and silk. Persons interested

should arrive at the barn. To register call 685-1561.

Hayrides

Horsedrawn hayrides are available at Kensington Farm Center in Kensington Metropark near Milford. The general public is invited on Sundays for 40-minute rides from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Charges are \$1 for adults and 75 cents for children. No reservations are needed.

Evening hayrides are available for groups. Evening rides are Tuesday through Sunday from 6-10 p.m. Charges are \$30 an hour, and advance registration is required by calling 685-1561. Daytime rides for groups, usually school children, are available from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Charges are 75 cents per person. To register call 685-9105.

SAT class at OU

Registration is under way for the Scholastic Aptitude Test preparation offered at Oakland University beginning Oct. 16.

A series of three Saturday workshops will be held from 9 a.m. to noon and 1-3 p.m., with an hour for lunch, on Oct. 16 and 23 and from 9 a.m. to noon on Oct. 30, in preparation for the Nov. 8 SAT examination. The SAT is taken by persons planning to seek admission to college.

Qualified instructors will focus on the best approach to test-taking for successful results. They will analyze the mathematics section of the examination and explain reading comprehension, sentence completion, analogies and grammar sections. Tuition is \$65.

For registration details, call OU's Continuing Education office from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays.

NEW! IT'S FILTERED!



OU accepts gifts, grants

More than \$333,000 worth of gifts and grants were presented to Oakland University during August and September.

Major grants of \$181,000 were given by the National Institutes of Health to students for scientific research.

The U.S. Agency for International Development gave \$57,500 for political science study. Area individuals and organizations gave \$37,650 to the OU President's Club, which supports special university projects and programs.

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