

OUTDOOR CALENDAR

Motley at (810) 685-7129.

Friday at Stony Creek.

ARCHERY

BOWHUNTERS RENDEZVOUS
Michigan Bow Hunters will hold its 16th annual Bow Hunters Rendezvous Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 17-18, at the Clare County Fairgrounds in Harrison. The family-oriented weekend event will feature seminars, exhibitor booths, demonstrations, a 3D course, a pig and corn roast and much more. Admission is \$5 for ages 16 and older. Youth under age 16 will be admitted free.

BROADHEAD SHOOT

Royal Oak Archers will hold a broadhead shoot beginning at 9 a.m. Sunday, August 25, on its walk-through course in Lake Orion. Call (810) 693-9799 for more information.

3D SHOOT

Western Wayne County Conservation Association will hold a 3D shoot on Sunday, Aug. 25, on its walk-through range in Plymouth. Call (313) 453-9843 for more information.

BOWHUNTER JAMBOREE

Detroit Archers will hold its annual Bowhunter Jamboree on Sunday and Monday, Sept. 1-2, at its facility in West Bloomfield. Call (810) 639-3030 or (810) 681-9810 for more information.

TOURNAMENTS

OAKLAND BASS MASTERS

Oakland Bass Masters will hold an open tournament on Sunday, Sept. 8, on Lake Orion. Call Roy Randolph at (810) 542-5264 for more information.

TEAM TRAIL

Base Champions Team Trail will hold a team tournament on Saturday, Aug. 24, on the Detroit River. Call Mike Dyer at (810) 674-1472 for more information.

TRI-STATE BASS

The Tri-State Bass Tournament stops at Muskegon Lake on Sunday, Aug. 25. Call Phil Smathers at (617) 238-5228 for more information.

MOTOR CITY CLASSIC

The 10th annual Motor City Charity Bass Classic will be held Sunday, Aug. 25, on Lake St. Clair. The tournament is hosted by the Lake St. Clair Bass Anglers and will benefit ARC Services of Macomb County. Call Dave Hargrave at (810) 949-0151 for more information.

FUND-RAISERS

SPORTSMEN'S BANQUET

Southeastern Michigan Bowhunters Chapter of Safari Club International and Michigan United Conservation Clubs are holding a Sportsman's Fund-Raiser Banquet beginning at 6 p.m. Tuesday, August 27, at Laurel Manor in Livonia. Tickets are \$60 each and include an open bar, dinner and a specialty auction of bows, guns, hunting equipment, wildlife art, fishing and hunting trips, TVs, VCRs and more. There will also be a silent auction, raffles and press celebrities will be in attendance. For tickets and more information call Neal Easterbrook of Safari Club International at (810) 555-7029 or MUCC at (617) 371-1041. Donations are still being accepted for additional raffle and auction items.

VOLUNTEERS

HURON RIVER CLEANUP

The 10th annual Huron River Cleanup, covering the northern stretches of the Huron river in Oakland County, will be held Sunday, Aug. 17, beginning at 8:30 a.m. The rain date is Aug. 24. Participants will meet at the Kensington Metropark group campground and will be transported by van to a canoe pick-up point. To reserve a canoe and for more information call Phyllis

CLASSES

HUNTER SAFETY

Detroit Archers, in conjunction with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, will offer a hunter safety course on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 16-18, at its clubhouse in West Bloomfield. Call (810) 539-3030 or (810) 681-9810 for more information.

BACKPACKING CLASS

The School of Outdoor Leadership Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR) is offering a backpacking class beginning Sept. 4. The class will meet 5:45-8:45 p.m. every Wednesday at Benchmark Outfitters in Farmington. Two backpacking trips are included in the class: an overnight trip (Sept. 21-22) and a longer trip to Michigan's Picture Rocks National Lakeshore (Oct. 4-6). The cost of the class is \$55. Participants must be club members, which requires a \$30 annual membership fee. For more information about SOLAR call Steve Gardner at (810) 547-4998. For more information about the backpacking class call Carol McCrie at (810) 229-5232.

HUNTER EDUCATION

The Wayne County Sportsmen's Club will hold a Michigan DNR Hunter Education Course on Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 21-22, at its clubhouse in Romulus. Call (313) 532-0285 for info.

SEASONS/DATES

ELK

Sept. 15 is the deadline to apply for a license for the 1996 December elk hunt. Successful applicants for the September hunt will be notified by Aug. 23. Successful applicants for the December hunt will be notified by Nov. 1.

ANTLERLESS DEER

Sept. 25 is the deadline to apply for an antlerless deer permit.

FISHING CLUBS

MICHIGAN FLY FISHING

The Michigan Fly Fishing Club meets at 7 p.m. the first and third Wednesdays of each month at Livonia Clarenceville Junior High School. Call (810) 478-1494 for more information.

BASS ASSOCIATION

The Downriver Bass Association, a non-tournament bass club, meets the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Dearborn Civic Center. Call (313) 676-2863 for more information.

FOUR SEASONS

The Four Seasons Fishing Club meets 7:30 p.m. the first Wednesday of each month at the Maplewood Center in Garden City. Call Sam Filato at (813) 420-0521 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS

Metro-West Steelheaders meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at Garden City High School. Call (313) 420-0521 for more information.

FISHING BUDDYS

Fishing Buddys Fishing Club meets monthly in Rochester Hills. Call (810) 656-0556 for more information.

METROPARKS

METROPARK REQUIREMENTS

Most Metropark programs are free, while some require a nominal fee. Advanced registration and a motor vehicle permit are required for all programs. Call the respective parks, toll free: Stony Creek, 1-800-477-7756; Indian Springs, 1-800-477-3192; Kensington, 1-800-477-3178.

FRIDAY NIGHT CANOE

Ages six and older can learn some Great Lakes history while helping paddle the 34-foot Voyageur canoe during this program, which begins at 8 p.m.

Prospects look good for '96 deer hunters

OUTDOOR INSIGHTS



BILL PARKER

Despite a rough winter in the western end of the Upper Peninsula, the outlook for the upcoming 1996 whitetail deer season in Michigan is outstanding.

In fact, Department of Natural Resources personnel think 1996 could be a record-breaking season.

Michigan's whitetail population is estimated at two million animals, up from 1.8 million a year ago.

That increase has prompted wildlife managers to ask the Natural Resources Commission to approve the sale of 402,193 antlerless deer permits, over 100,000 more than last year, in an effort to reduce the population to a viable size.

Antlerless deer permits are allocated through Deer Management Units. Each of this year's 169 DMUs average 350 to 400 square miles.

Wildlife managers annually assess deer populations, the impact from the previous year's hunter harvest and winter severity, as well as public attitude, to establish population objectives in each DMU.

Hunting regulations, including the number of antlerless deer permits to be issued, are then established to meet the population objectives in each unit.

Winter took its toll

The only down side to this year's hunt may be in the western Upper Peninsula where a rough winter took its toll on the whitetail population.

"(Last winter) definitely affected the herd in the western UP," explained Joe Robison, wildlife technician with the Michigan DNR. "The western end, up around Baraga, Houghton and Ontonagon counties, got hit pretty hard and they lost a lot of animals. The majority of the deer

that died up there were seven to eight months old at the time so there won't be many young bucks up there this fall. South of there, around Iron and Dickinson counties, they decided it through pretty well and are in pretty decent shape."

Deer populations in the Lower Peninsula are also in good shape and Robison encourages hunters to apply for an antlerless permit.

The DNR is holding its monthly meeting in L'Angeles and will decide on the official number of permits to be allocated.

Permit guide exists

There is an error in the antlerless permit application guide. Deer Management Units 77, 83 and 89 are closed to antlerless hunting. The antlerless permit application guide erroneously states that these units are open for antlerless hunting when in fact they are bucks only areas.

Antlerless deer permit applications are available at the more than 1,700 license dealers statewide as of Aug. 10.

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