

Actions meant to help deer

Royal Oak Archers

JUNIOR ARCHERS
A weekly program for junior archers begins at 9 a.m. Saturdays at Detroit Archers in West Bloomfield. Call (248) 661-9610 or (313) 835-2110.

SPORTING CLAYS
Wings & Clays will host a sporting clays shoot on Sunday, Aug. 29, at the Bald Mountain range in Lake Orion. Call (248) 814-9193 for more information.

ELK SEASON
Application deadline for the September and December 1999 Michigan elk seasons is July 15. Call (517) 373-1263 for more information.

TOP BASS
Top Bass Tournament Trail, a series of open singles draw bass tournaments, continues on Sunday, July 17, on Wixom Lake. Registration is \$60 and the payback is one place cash for every seven contestants. Boaters and non-boaters are welcome and there is no pre-registration. Call Elmer Daniels at (734) 729-1778 or Steve Randles at (734) 422-5813 for more information. Additional stops on the Top Bass Tournament Trail are July 31 on Sanford Lake, and Aug. 14-16 on Wixom Lake.

OAKLAND BASS MASTERS
Oakland Bass Masters will hold its annual Tournament for Toyota a two-man team open charity bass tournament, beginning at 5:30 a.m. Sunday, July 18, on Lake St. Clair. Entry fee is \$80 per boat. To register and for more information call Roy Randolph at (248) 542-5254. Oakland Bass Masters will hold additional tournaments Aug. 8

CLIMBING CLASS
An introductory climbing course for the novice and first-time climber is offered at various times at REI in Northville. The class covers basic indoor climbing safety, technique, equipment and terminology. The course is free and available to adults and children. Call (248) 347-2100 for current schedules and additional information.

NEWBURG LAKE CIRCLE
Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club on a six-mile walk around the "new Newburg Lake begins at 9 a.m. Saturday, July 17. Participants are asked to meet at the Newburg Point Nature Area in Livonia. Call Max Nernazi at (734) 421-4397 for more information.

SLEEPY HOLLOW
Join members of the Southeast Michigan Group, Sierra Club of a six-mile hike at Sleepy Hollow State Park on Sunday, July 18. Participants are asked to meet at 10 a.m. in the shopping center parking lot behind McDonalds on Telegraph, north of Square Lake Road, in Bloomfield Hills. Call John Kalam at (248) 681-9160 for more information.

CLINTON VALLEY BASS
Clinton Valley Bass Anglers club is seeking new members (boaters and non-boaters are welcome.) The club meets monthly at Gardner Mountain in Waterford. Call Mike Daly at (248) 666-8910 for more information.

METRO-WEST STEELHEADERS
Metro-West Steelheaders meet at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month in the cafeteria at

BASS ASSOCIATION
The Downriver Bass Association is a non-tournament bass club, meets at 6:30 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of every month at the Gander Mountain in Taylor. Call (734) 676-2863 for information.

SOLAR
The School for Outdoor Leadership, Adventure and Recreation (SOLAR), a non-profit organization interested in promoting the appreciation of outdoor activities, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Colony Hall in Southfield. Call (248) 988-6658 for more information.

FLY TYING
The River Bend Sports Shop Fly Tying Club meets every other week in Southfield. Call (248) 350-8484 or (248) 591-3474 for more information.

BALD MOUNTAIN
Bald Mountain Recreation Area in Lake Orion has shotgun (skeet & trap, sporting clays, 5 stand), rifle, pistol, and archery shooting facilities. Hours for archery and clay target shooting are noon to sunset Mondays and Tuesdays; 10 a.m. to sunset Wednesdays and Thursdays; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Rifle range hours are 3 p.m. to sunset Mondays and Tuesdays; 10 a.m. to sunset Wednesdays and Thursdays; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. Bald Mountain is located at 1330 Greenshield Rd. which is three miles north of the Palace of Auburn Hills off M-24. Call (248) 814-9193 for more.

PONTIAC LAKE
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area
Waterford has rifle, pistol, shotgun, and archery ranges. Range hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesdays through Sundays.
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area located at 7800 Gale Rd. Call (248) 666-1020 for information.

Please see OUTDOORS, C10

whether you
were made w
of the white-t
At its July

At its July meeting, held last week in Sault Ste. Marie, the NRC unanimously voted to eliminate deer baiting in Deer Management Unit 452 where the bovine tuberculosis outbreak has occurred. DMU 462, the portion of the northeastern Lower Peninsula east of I-75 and north of M-55, was established specifically to monitor and manage deer in this area.

Although many hunters will disagree with this decision, common sense dictates that it was a decision that had to be made. TB surfaced in white-tailed deer in 1994. Since that first occurrence TB has spread to coyote, raccoon, bear, bobcat and livestock in the area. The appearance of the disease in livestock sent shockwaves through Michigan's agricultural community as the entire state was immediately in jeopardy losing its TB-free status.

Michigan was granted TB-free status for livestock in 1979 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This is an extremely important rating for the prosperity of the state's livestock agriculture. Who wants to purchase livestock or meat from a state that does not have TB-free status?

TB is a serious disease caused by several bacteria that attack

the respiratory system. It can be treated successfully in human through six months of treatment with antibiotics. When contracted by wild animals, it's a slow but certain death sentence.

TB is primarily spread through the air through coughing and sneezing. Animals that are in close, nose-to-nose contact with each other are susceptible to the disease. Researchers believe the disease is maintaining itself in Michigan's deer herds because of the close contact between deer resulting from the massive feeding and baiting practices in the area.

In order for the rest of the state to retain its TB-free status the USDA mandated that both supplemental feeding and baiting of deer be prohibited in the TB area.

Unlimited antlerless permits will again be available in DMU 462 in an effort to cull the herd and reduce the number of deer per square mile. Supplemental feeding practices have elevated that number to 30 to 40 deer per square mile in some areas of DMU 462 as opposed to a preferred density of 10 to 15 per square mile.

The NRC will act on regulations regarding deer feeding at its September meeting as part of Michigan's overall strategy to eradicate Bovine TB from the state.

Park deer management

Meanwhile, the Board of Commissioners for the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority voted six-to-one in favor of implementing a one-year plan to reduce deer populations at Kensington, Stony Creek and Hudson Mills metropolitan parks.

the carrying capacity of the land and the park's biological balance has been upended. Car-deer accidents on local roads and overgrazing in the parks are top concerns. The deer are literally eating themselves out of a home. To date, 19 species of wildflowers alone are now nonexistent in these metroparks and songbird numbers are dwindling. The browse line in some areas is five to six feet high.

Michigan Department of Natural Resources biologists feel a deer density of 15 to 20 deer per square mile is appropriate for the habitat within these parks. The metroparks are shooting for a density of 20 to 25 per square mile. An aerial survey of the parks taken in January revealed there are 117 deer per square mile at Kensington, 82 per square mile at Stony Creek, and 50 per square mile at Hudson Mills.

Obviously, something needs to be done.

To reduce the herds, the board voted to use controlled shotgun and archery hunts at Stony Creek, controlled archery hunts at Hudson Mills, and sharpshooters at Kensington. The plans are contingent upon approval from the Michigan DNR.

Venison from the deer that are killed will be donated to local food banks through Michigan Sportsmen Against Hunger.

The board should be applauded for not bowing to pressure from outside groups who pushed for personal agendas rather than the best interest of the overall deer population and the park's ecological balance.

(Questions and comments can be sent to: Outdoors, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48005 or bparker@oc.homecomm.net. Call Bill Parker evenings at (248) 901-2573.)

[illegible]

FREE

EXTERIOR DESIGN

BOOKS

Do It Yourself and Save

VINYL SIDING

SALE

\$29⁹⁵

per sq.



Mac Color White Supplies Last

ALUMINUM COIL STOCK

24"X50 ft.

\$38⁹⁵

White
50 or more
roll \$35.45

ALUMINUM SEAMLESS GUTTERS

No any searpen
while you wait

18" Colors in Stock

75¢

.327 Gauge



SIDING WORLD





ALUMINUM SOFFIT

8"X10 White

\$59⁹⁵

eq.

SOLID VINYL WINDOWS

From



Tilt In
Easy
Cleaning

\$79⁹⁵

ea.

ALUMINUM SIDING

8"X10-10-White
DELUXE QUALITY

ON SALE

\$59⁹⁵

per sq.

CLIO

11801 Supervisor Rd.
(810) 587-4730

SADIJAH

8521 Hwy. 101, W. of New York
(513) 754-3440

DETROIT

6490
E. Digital Lake Rd.
(313) 861-2902

WATERFORD

3440
Hawthorne Rd.
(313) 874-1300

MT. CLEMENS

25000 Woodward
N. of I-75, W. of I-96
(248) 674-9054

LIVONIA

9343
W. Wayne Lake Rd.
(734) 758-0400

INKSTER

3000
Southland
(734) 758-0400

WYANDOTTE

2181 Gamma Rd.
(313) 222-7471

COLLEEN

1100 E. of Lansing
(810) 335-1100

Quantity/Line Limited - One Stop - 100 Sq. Ft.

Mac, Pk, 7:30-5:30 - Sat. 8:00-5:00 - Closed Sun.