

for recreation, fun... try a STATE PARK

BALD MOUNTAIN
RECREATION AREA

JUST 33 MILES FROM DOWNTOWN DETROIT IS A MOSTLY UNDEVELOPED STATE PARK WHERE YOU CAN FISH TROUT IN A STREAM, CATCH PAN-FISH, CAMP, HIKE AND STUDY NATURE AND STILL HAVE ALL THE ATTRIBUTES OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT - INCLUDING THE INSTITUTE OF ARTS, BOB-LO TRIPS ON THE DETROIT RIVER AND GREENFIELD VILLAGE. ALTHOUGH AMONG THE LARGER STATE PARKS IN SIZE, MUCH OF BALD MOUNTAIN RECREATION AREA IS UNDEVELOPED. THE 800 ACRES ARE PRIMITIVE WITHOUT ELECTRICITY. THE 3,024 ACRES OFFER PICTURESQUE LAKES, STREAMS,

DENSE WOODS, SCENIC HILLS, WOODED DRIVES, HIKING TRAILS. MAKE THE PARK IDEAL FOR NATURE STUDY AND DAY USE BY YOUTH GROUPS. THE PARK IS IN OAKLAND COUNTY, SEVEN MILES NORTH OF PONTIAC, EAST OF M-24.

There's a state park in populous Oakland County which offers camping, fishing, and some of the most rugged outdoor life anywhere, yet is only 33 miles away from all of metropolitan Detroit's finest attractions, according to Automobile Club of Michigan.

The park, Bald Mountain Recreation Area, is seven miles north of Pontiac, east of M-24.

The ruggedness comes because much of the park's 3,024 acres are undeveloped and two campgrounds with 40 campsites each have fewer conveniences than some state parks. At Bald Mountain, facilities are primitive—hand pumps, box toilets, no electricity.

But to compensate, there is pristine wilderness—picturesque lakes, streams, dense woods, and scenic hills. The winding roads make pleasant driving. Wild flowers and a mixture of hardwoods and conifers offer the hillside.

A number of lakes are scheduled, and dense borders make access difficult except at prepared entry points.

Fishing is mainly for stream trout, black bass, panfish and pike.

There are boat launching sites at Chamberlain and Graham Lakes.

Camping is at two outposts.

One is Lone Pine campground on Graham Lake. The other is the Cherry Ridge campground near the park headquarters. Two frontier cabins are available for group use.

The many hiking trails make the park ideal for nature study and for day use by youth groups.

The park had an attendance of 421,737 in 1972, making it one of the most popular across the southern Lower Peninsula.

At various distances from the park are most of metropolitan Detroit's tourist attractions.

Just a short ride, in Bloomfield Hills, is a cultural center known as the Cranbrook Institutions. Its 300 acres include the Cranbrook Art Academy, the Cranbrook Institute of Science and a museum with ever changing exhibits.

At nearby Rochester, there is the Meadow Brook Festival which runs nightly through the summer, and tours of Meadow Brook Hall on campus of Oakland University, the former home of Alfred G. Wilson, who donated the land to the university. There also is an attraction called Rochester Junction, a string of refurbished railroad coaches which offer displays of oldtime railroad and other memorabilia.

The Detroit Zoo, one of the country's finest, is in Royal Oak, about 10 miles from downtown Detroit. It pioneered in the display of animals in natural settings.

Detroit also offers many plant tours, including automotive plants in Detroit, Dearborn and the GM Technical Center in Warren.

In downtown Detroit there is the Detroit Institute of Arts which has a national reputation as one of the country's great art museums. Nearby is the Detroit Historical Museum, which offers a living presentation of Detroit and Michigan history.

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County Exec Bill Gains Support

A bill to enable the voters to modernize their county governments was moved into position for adoption after officials of major counties endorsed the bill. Chief sponsor is State Sen. Carl Pursell (R-Plymouth).

The bill would permit the creation of a county executive office and the reorganization of the county structure.

The House Towns and Counties Committee sent the measure, Senate Bill 229, to the House floor by a 7-4 vote June 21, after holding a hearing in Detroit.

Officials of Wayne, Jackson and Bay counties supported the bill at the June 18 hearing in the City-County Building auditorium. The Senate passed the measure by a 30-3 vote last April.

The bill also was endorsed by representatives of the Leagues of Women Voters of Michigan, the Oakland County Democratic Party and a citizens' group called New County, Michigan, Inc.

Macomb County was the only county represented which opposed the measure. Senate Bill 229 would permit the voters of a county to elect a county executive with powers similar to a strong mayor or to authorize the County Board of Commissioners to appoint a county manager.

The measure, known as the Optional County Form of Government bill, also would permit the streamlining of

the county structure. Major departments would be under the direction of the executive or manager and the number of appointed boards and commissions would be limited to those specified in the act.

In testifying before the House committee, Wayne County Commissioner Paul Silver declared that "the present structure of county government in Michigan is out-moded and badly in need of modernization."

He said the problem is particularly acute in large, urban counties such as Wayne, and noted that efforts to improve the county structure have been under way "for approximately, half a century."

Silver described the lack of a single executive office as "the single worst flaw in the county structure." He noted that all other levels of government, plus virtually all private organizations, have a chief executive.

However, Silver described the bill as "less than perfect" because it mandates the continued existence of 21 appointed boards and commissions which are not directly accountable to the voters.

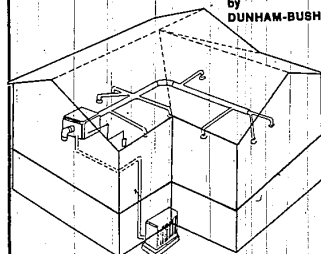
All present elective offices would be retained under the bill.

The Leagues of Women Voters were represented by Mrs. Elizabeth Cook, of Allen Park.

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