

Summer's Here-- So Enjoy Michigan's Great Outdoors With Sunny Fashions

Michigan's weather has done its annual flip-flop, and suddenly it's summer.

Time to feel the warmth of the sun at the beaches and swimming clubs or by your own outdoor pool. Time to test the old golf swing and see if tennis racquet still works or try to catch that elusive frisbee.

And time to enjoy the sunny new fashions that are waiting in Observerland stores just to increase your summer fun.

Is golf your game? You'll want to relegate your drab skirts to the back of the closet when you see the bright ones available this spring.

Lots of them are culotte skirts, and many are trimmed with piping and applique designs. They come in a rainbow of bright colors.

For golfers in the junior size range, scooter skirts are the thing. And that fashion, with its short pants and extra-swingy skirt, also is favored by the younger tennis fans.

Shorts come this spring in a wider variety than ever. Popular with various age and size groups are the very short shorts, the sizzle pants and the bermuda shorts with a waistband.

Pants, again with wide style variation, remain sportswear favorites. There are plenty of pull-ons, but those with slim waists are finding some interesting new belt

treatments. Younger customers are buying their pants widely-flared and cuffed. Pants come in the widest variety of colors imaginable, but white-on-white patterns and ribs seem to be the newest favorites.

The halter top represents the newest way to bare your back to the sun. You also can find plenty of polo shirts and low-cut tank tops.

Shifts and pant-dresses stay in the scene for casual wear. Many women are trying a new longer culotte and finding it flattering.

In jackets, the blazer keeps its hold on top favor. The youngest customers are buying single-button styles for a more tightly fitted look, but the two and three button variety also remains popular.

Just around the corner in the jacket market is the shorter aviator or bike jacket.

Swimsuit buyers are continuing to show their appreciation for the new marketing idea that began last year--the two piece suit that can be bought in separate component parts. Most shoppers find they can get a better fit by buying matching bra and pants separately.

The junior swimsuit market, stores report, is almost exclusively for the two-piece suit, whether bikini or a slightly more covered look. But a good supply of one-piece suits is available in misses' and women's sizes.



THE ECOLOGY LOOK definitely is in for sportswear this spring. You can find butterflies, animals, fruit, birds of the sun on just about any clothing you can name. Here it's a wise old owl that trims a cool cotton mini with deep side slits. The plisse stripe material adds interest to the suspended topper. It's by Alice Martin of Dallas.

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WHAT COULD BE more practical for a busy summer than machine-washable sportswear separates? These are from Country Sophisticates. The white blazer and pants are in Trevira fabric, and the short-sleeve polyester mock turtleneck is in bright stripes.

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