

We're Now Michigan Game & Fish

STARTING WITH this month's issue, we've changed our name from Michigan Sportsman to Michigan Game & Fish. Inside the magazine, you'll still find all of your favorite features and departments about hunting and fishing across our state. But the updated title and logo better reflect our longtime commitment to Michigan's hunters and anglers. Watch for our new-look cover in your mailbox and on the newsstands.

Chumming Regulations

THE NATURAL Resources Commission adopted chumming regulations for trout and salmon fishing at their July 14 meeting. Effective immediately, anglers were prohibited from using organic chum material (fish eggs, corn, rice, noodles, oatmeal or maggots) on any designated trout stream (Types 1-4). A list of designated trout streams can be found in a current Michigan Fishing Guide or on the DNR Web site, michigan.gov/dnr. "Chumming has become a divisive social issue in recent years as some anglers use fish eggs to attract steelhead," a DNR news release stated. "The DNR's Fisheries Division has assessed that chumming is not causing a negative biological impact at the fish population level."

Private Lands Sought For Hunting Access Program

THE MICHIGAN DNR is looking for private landowners with at least 40 acres of property in the northern Lower Peninsula that are willing to enroll their land in the Hunting Access Program. Landowners have the ability to choose which types of hunting are allowed on their lands. Hunting options are all hunting, youth and apprentice hunting only, small game hunting only, deer only, turkey only, or elk only. Property owners enrolled in HAP receive annual payments of up to \$25 per acre. Almost 20,000 acres are currently enrolled in the program. Interested landowners should contact program coordinator Monique Ferris at 517-284-4741, ferrism5@michigan.gov.

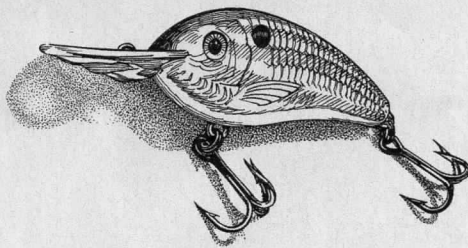
Pacus Caught By Anglers

THE DNR received reports of three South American red-bellied pacus caught by anglers in southeast Michigan during July. Two were hooked in Lake St. Clair and the third near Port Huron. Pacus are popular aquarium fish that have human-like teeth for eating nuts and seeds and are thought to have been released into the wild by aquarium owners when the fish got too big. Releasing any live fish in state waters without the permission of the DNR is illegal. The exotic fish are not expected to survive the state's cold winters.

—RICHARD P. SMITH

MICHIGAN

CALENDAR



FEBRUARY 1

SPRING TURKEY DEADLINE

Today is the last day to apply for a spring turkey license. Refer to a current spring turkey hunting digest.

michigan.gov/dnr

FEBRUARY 11, 12

FREE FISHING WEEKEND

No fishing licenses needed to fish state waters this weekend, through the ice or in open water. Size and creel limits, season closures still apply.

michigan.gov/dnr

FEBRUARY 17-19

DEER & TURKEY EXPO

At the Lansing Center. Show usually starts at 2 p.m. on Friday and ends 5 p.m. on Sunday. Big deer on display and plenty of seminars.

FEBRUARY 23-26

OUTDOORAMA

Held in conjunction with the Cottage & Lakefront Living Show at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi. Big buck night the first day.

showspan.com

MARCH 1

HUNT/TRAP SEASONS END

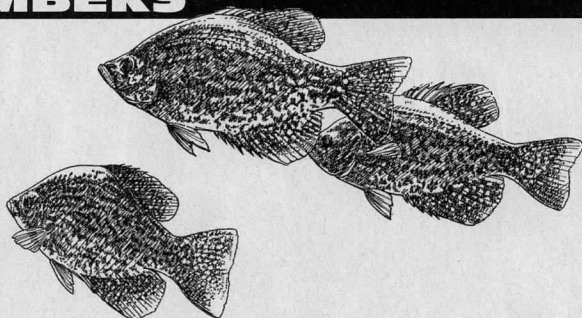
Today is the last day to hunt squirrels and foxes statewide, the end of bobcat hunting in the U.P. and northern Lower Peninsula, the last day to trap fox, muskrat and mink.

michigan.gov/dnr

BY THE NUMBERS

87%

of Game & Fish readers have been fishing for more than 30 years.



93%

of our readers consider themselves to be intermediate or advanced anglers.

Source: Accelera Game & Fish Reader Survey 2015