

Emmet County News Release

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Camp Petosega to Host Free Ice Fishing for Kids Feb. 16

Emmet County Parks and Recreation is partnering with volunteers from Friends of Oden Fish Hatchery Visitor Center to host its annual Free Ice Fishing Day for Kids at Camp Petosega Saturday, Feb. 16, from noon to 4 p.m.

Kids in grades kindergarten through eighth grade, along with their parents or guardians, are welcome for an afternoon of ice fishing on Pickerel Lake, southeast of Alanson. The event coincides with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources' free fishing weekend.

Emmet County Parks and Recreation staff will supply the fishing gear and bait. Hotdogs, other snacks and hot cocoa will also be offered. Parents only need to supply the warmly-dressed kids and must remain with their children throughout the event.

Volunteers from the Friends of the Oden Fish Hatchery Visitor Center will be helping kids with baiting and fishing.

A snowman building competition will be held from 2-3 p.m. near Camp Petosega's Rec Hall. The park staff has a limited supply of snowman hats, scarves and carrots, so parents are encouraged to bring extras if possible. The winner of the snowman building competition will be selected at 3 p.m.

This year's annual event is made possible by the generosity of sponsors, including Michigan United Conservation Clubs, Project Fish, Jay's Sporting of Gaylord, Petoskey Walmart and the Michigan DNR.

If the outside temperature, including wind chill factor, is below zero degrees, the event will be rescheduled for the same time on Sunday, Feb. 17.

There is no preregistration for the event, but park staff always appreciates when those interested in attending the event visit Camp Petosega's Facebook event page and click "going" to help event organizers prepare.