

LAKE ROLAND NEW RECREATION AREA

Fishing And Boating Facilities To Be Provided By City Department

Transformation of **Lake Roland** into a recreational center for fishing and boating by July 1, under supervision of the Department of Recreation, was announced last night by Harold S. Callowhill, director, after the property had been turned over by the Bureau of Water Supply.

Ten flat-bottomed rowboats have already been purchased and will be for hire to anglers at nominal fees, while fishing privileges from the banks of the picturesque stream also will be offered at low prices, to be set later. The lake is to be restocked with many kinds of fish under direction of the Maryland Conservation Commission.

Aim Is To Provide Fishing

One of the principal reasons for opening the new park around Lake Roland is to provide fishing for those who are unable because of pleasure-driving bans to go elsewhere for their sport. Invitations will be extended to members of many clubs and associations and to individuals to take advantage of the excellent fishing to be provided, Mr. Callowhill said.

Lake Roland is an irregularly shaped former reservoir of approximately forty acres in water sur-
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face, located near Ruxton, Baltimore county, while the land surrounding it, and contained in a provisional transfer from the Water Department, is approximately one hundred acres. The lake contains about 250,000,000 gallons of water, and for a number of years has not been connected to the general city water-supply system.

Robert Garrett Sponsor

For some time interest has been shown by the general public and fishermen in making Lake Roland and its surroundings into a recreational center and a sort of fishermen's paradise adjacent to Baltimore.

Robert Garrett, chairman of the Department of Recreation, is credited with being the sponsor of the park project, and has been one of the prime movers in the transfer of property to recreational purposes.

Besides he and Mr. Callowhill, on the advisory committee to the new park project will be: Frank Betz, of the Maryland Conservation Commission; J. Hammond Brown, president of the Maryland State Game and Fish Protective Association, and Frederick Saffron, transit company official.

To Be Self-Supporting

The aim of this committee is to make the recreational project a self-supporting one, and every effort will be made to avoid asking for funds from Baltimore City. It is expected that fees from rental of boats and the fishing privileges from the lake banks, in addition to any other source of income which may become available, will be ample to carry on the project.

Any profits which might accrue will be used to enlarge the fleet of rowboats, improve scenic effects and to make other improvements for the convenience of the patrons.

Strict supervision will be kept over the use of boats. Children allowed fishing privileges must be accompanied by adults. Picnicking privileges may also be provided throughout the tract of land surrounding the water, and expansion of other attractions will depend upon the public response to the support of the project.

Every effort will be made, Mr. Callowhill stated in his announcement, to retain the natural beauty of Lake Roland, combined with

some added pastoral effects, to be accomplished later by the purchase of ducks, geese and swan and the planting of wild celery and other grasses to keep the wild fowl contented to remain throughout the year.

Bass, carp, perch and crappie abound in the lake at present, and these will be augmented by fresh stocking from the State Conservation Commission's hatcheries.

Details of this replenishment of fish for the lake will be completed later, it was said, but special arrangements will be made for the catching of carp and the preparation of them for food during these days of rationing will be made by the recreation department heads.

Transportation Facilities

Transportation facilities available to city residents who wish to reach Lake Roland are streetcars of the No. 24 line, which travel along Roland avenue to Lakeside Station. The banks of the lake are

approximately 1,000 feet from the car-line terminus. Mr. Callowhill said, and his group has been promised by the Baltimore Transit Company that no future reduction will be made in service on this line.

Lake Roland was once the home of the old L'Hirondelle Boat Club. Later it was taken over by the Water Department and used for many years as a reservoir. During recent years the lake has been used by bathers, skaters, fishermen and boating enthusiasts in season.