

## TRAVEL

# TAKE REFUGE

Spring is in the air—and so are migrating birds, the scent of blooming wildflowers, and the sounds of newly born critters. Grab your binoculars and head to the nearest wildlife refuge with your family. You'll soon be in touch with the reawakening of the natural world.

### SENEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, Seney, Michigan

Venture to Seney to pick morel mushrooms, blueberries, and other wild foods and fruits. A combination wetland, swamp, grassland, and forest, the refuge is home to more than 200 varieties of birds, 20 types of fish, and 50 mammal species—be sure to watch for beaver, black bear, moose, and wolves.

Seney is open to public use, including wildlife observation, hiking, biking, hunting, fishing, and canoeing. Try the 1.5-mile Pine Ridge Nature Trail, or strike out on your own across backcountry roads. From May 15 to October 15, embark on the seven-mile self-guided auto tour on the Marshland Wildlife Drive. Along the drive, stop at one of three observation decks to view eagles, ospreys, loons, and trumpeter swans through spotting scopes.

For more info, call 906/586-9851 or visit <http://midwest.fws.gov/seney>.

### OTTAWA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, Toledo, Ohio

Visitors flock to Ottawa, east of Toledo on the shore of Lake Erie, each May when the refuge—a prime birding location at the intersection of the Mississippi and Atlantic flyways—hosts thousands of migratory birds journeying north. Stop at the open estuary to see shorebirds, warblers, raptors, waterfowl, and wading birds. Or hike nine miles of foot trails to spot some of the mammals who live there, including white-tailed deer, muskrat, and rabbits, as well as 53 species of amphibians and reptiles.

On May 8, travel a seven-mile auto tour route as part of International Migratory Bird Day—one of only two days a year that the route is open to the public.

Call 419/898-0014 or visit <http://midwest.fws.gov/ottawa> for more information.

To find other wildlife refuges in your area, visit the Web site at <http://refuges.fws.gov>.

—by Julie Collins

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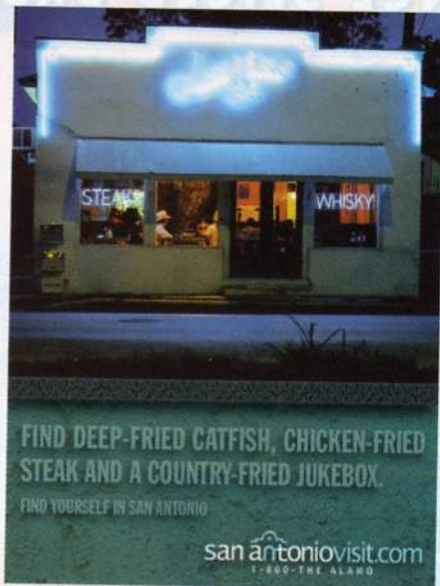
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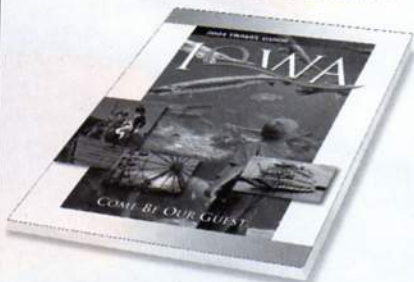
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