



## At 212 miles, Michigan's Longest Garage Sale on U.S. 12 is not short on treasures, adventures

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IRISH HILLS, MI – Judy Griffiths was on the hunt for something she couldn't live without.

And she fully expected to find it on her trek down U.S. 12 during Michigan's Longest Garage Sale.

"I'll know it when I see it," said Griffiths, of North Adams. "It will be some little treasure. Hunting for treasures is the fun part of this."

The sale started on Friday, Aug. 8, but **continues through Sunday, Aug. 10, along U.S. 12 from New Buffalo to Detroit**. Griffiths began her treasure hunt near home early Friday morning and hoped to make it to Coldwater by day's end.

"All you have to do is just get out of your car, and there are lots of different places to look," she said. "Then you go down the road and stop again. It's very handy."

Sales pop up between fields of corn and soybeans. Some are big, some are small, some are typical yard sales and others are like antiques flea markets. They're in lawns, parks, barns and parking lots all along the highway.

"We do a hell of a business," said Linda Sigman, who's hosted a sale in her front yard east of Jonesville during several Michigan's Longest Garage Sale weekends. "And we have a lot of fun. I love talking to the people. We get people from all over – Indiana, Wisconsin and even Kansas."

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Carol Harkabusic of Lake LeAnn, near Somerset Center, was on the hunt for a grass skirt big enough to fit a giant teddy bear.

"This is especially fun when you are on a mission like this," she said.

Hungry shoppers also could find a variety of foods along the route, including barbecue and Coney dogs.

Jonesville First Presbyterian Church's Grounded in Grace coffee house offered coffee and crepes early in the morning.

"It's sustenance for the shoppers as they go down U.S. 12," said the Rev. Cathy Johnson, interim pastor.

Friends Tammie Handy and Lynda Ladoski, both of Horton, were out looking for cut glass, old linens, cotton table cloths and crocheted dresser scarves.

"I had good luck finding them last year," Ladoski said.

Among the 70 booths at Irish Hills Antiques, a mile east of M-50, Tami Evans was looking for yarn and Jack Daniels collectibles, while her friend Chris Duncan was hunting for supplies for Pinterest projects.

"You should see the back of our truck," Evans said. "It's packed."

This was the first time this pair from Temperance ventured out for Michigan's Longest Garage Sale, but it likely won't be the last, Evans said.

"It's the best garage sale ever," she said.

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