Protecting the Night

Imagine a world without stars. No reciting “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star” with your children. No wishing upon a star. No searching the skies for constellations. While this scenario may be extreme, views of the night sky are not what they could be: two-thirds of the American population can’t see the Milky Way from their homes. Why? Because poorly directed lighting impacts natural lightscapes. Fortunately all of us, including the National Park Service, can help undo this damage and restore our view of the stars.

In pristine conditions, we can see more than 10,000 stars. This number starts to decline quickly as population increases. In suburban areas, 1,500–3,000 stars might be visible; in the city, maybe only 500. In dense suburbs or urban areas, we can no longer identify the Milky Way. In these areas, light pollution from outdoor lights aimed upward or sideways increases the brightness of the night sky and decreases the contrast between stars and the sky. This light pollution impacts the natural world as well: nocturnal animals depend on darkness to hunt, hide, navigate, and reproduce, and unnatural light disrupts the growth cycle of plants and trees near streetlights.

Unless you’ve seen a truly dark night sky, you don’t know what you’re missing. A sky awash with thousands of brilliant points of light won’t soon be forgotten. That’s where national parks come in. The skies over many national parks offer views of the stars unobstructed by light pollution. With some of the darkest skies in the densely populated Northeast, Acadia National Park provides a view you may not see at home. To protect this extraordinary yet often overlooked resource, Acadia National Park, Friends of Acadia, and the Island Astronomy Institute launched the Night Sky Initiative this year. Through work with local organizations, businesses, and schools, the initiative strives to measure, promote, and protect the night sky at Acadia for you to experience and enjoy. The project will identify and promote simple techniques, such as shielding light fixtures, that not only direct light to where it is needed, but also improve the quality of light, save energy, and increase safety.

With a little effort on our part, we can prevent light pollution. Future generations deserve a chance to gaze upon the same night sky at Acadia for you to experience and enjoy. The United States is easily identified at night from space.

Simple Ways to Enjoy and Protect Natural Darkness

- Take a hike on a carriage road under the full moon.
- Attend a star-gazing program with a local science center or planetarium.
- Find a comfortable dark spot away from the lights of town and look around. Allow your eyes 20 minutes to adjust; you may be surprised how well you can see. Do objects appear farther? Do sounds seem louder? Discover the answers at “Knowing the Night” (p. 4).
- Look for nocturnal animals that live their “days” at night, such as owls, bats, or fireflies.
- Visit www2.nature.nps.gov/air/lightscapes/index.cfm to learn more about natural lightscapes and things you can do to prevent light pollution at home.

Tips

- Increase safety.
- Improve the quality of light.
- Save energy.
- Protect plants and animals near streetlights.

Road Trips

Explore history and culture in two more National Park Service sites in Maine.

Saint Croix Island International Historic Site commemorates one of the earliest European settlements in North America. On the mainland, exhibits and bronze figures tell the story of the French colonists and Native Americans who once frequented this site. Restrooms and a picnic area are also available. Visits to the island are not encouraged due to its fragile nature. The site is located on Route 1, eight miles south of Calais, Maine. www.nps.gov/sacr

The culture of Maine Acadians, descendants of early French settlers, is alive and well in the St. John Valley of northern Maine. The National Park Service supports the Maine Acadian Heritage Council, an association of historical societies, cultural clubs, towns, and museums working together to preserve Acadian culture. These organizations operate a number of different cultural attractions. The St. John Valley is approximately five hours north of Bar Harbor. www.nps.gov/mac

Beaver Log

The official newspaper of Acadia National Park
September/October 2007

Protecting the Night

Imagine a world without stars. No reciting “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star” with your children. No wishing upon a star. No searching the skies for constellations. While this scenario may be extreme, views of the night sky are not what they could be: two-thirds of the American population can’t see the Milky Way from their homes. Why? Because poorly directed lighting impacts natural lightscapes. Fortunately all of us, including the National Park Service, can help undo this damage and restore our view of the stars.

In pristine conditions, we can see more than 10,000 stars. This number starts to decline quickly as population increases. In suburban areas, 1,500–3,000 stars might be visible; in the city, maybe only 500. In dense suburbs or urban areas, we can no longer identify the Milky Way. In these areas, light pollution from outdoor lights aimed upward or sideways increases the brightness of the night sky and decreases the contrast between stars and the sky. This light pollution impacts the natural world as well: nocturnal animals depend on darkness to hunt, hide, navigate, and reproduce, and unnatural light disrupts the growth cycle of plants and trees near streetlights.

Unless you’ve seen a truly dark night sky, you don’t know what you’re missing. A sky awash with thousands of brilliant points of light won’t soon be forgotten. That’s where national parks come in. The skies over many national parks offer views of the stars unobstructed by light pollution. With some of the darkest skies in the densely populated Northeast, Acadia National Park provides a view you may not see at home. To protect this extraordinary yet often overlooked resource, Acadia National Park, Friends of Acadia, and the Island Astronomy Institute launched the Night Sky Initiative this year. Through work with local organizations, businesses, and schools, the initiative strives to measure, promote, and protect the night sky at Acadia for you to experience and enjoy. The project will identify and promote simple techniques, such as shielding light fixtures, that not only direct light to where it is needed, but also improve the quality of light, save energy, and increase safety.

With a little effort on our part, we can prevent light pollution. Future generations deserve a chance to gaze upon the same stars as the Milky Way? Looking for ideas to explore the intertidal zone or watch sunrise from Cadillac Mountain? Looking for ideas to help protect the park’s plants and animals as you explore? Check out the tide chart, sun/moonset times, and tidepooling tips on page 8.

Important Information . . . 2-3
Ranger-Led Programs . . . 4-6
Articles . . . . . . . . . . . 6
Park Partners . . . . . . . . 7
Tips and Tide Chart . . . . 8

Find out what’s going on this month. See pages 2-3 for details about park closures, fees, information, facilities, and services that will help you plan your trip. Learn more about activities for kids and important tips to help you have a safe visit.

Whether you are feeling adventurous and want to explore the park on foot or would rather sit back and relax while you learn, you can find a ranger-led program to suit your interests. Park rangers offer talks, hikes, boat tours, amphitheater programs, and more. Join us on a program today!

Wondering what’s the best time to explore the intertidal zone or watch sunrise from Cadillac Mountain? Looking for ideas to help protect the park’s plants and animals as you explore? Check out the tide chart, sun/moonset times, and tidepooling tips on page 8.
Explorations in Acadia

Activities

Camping
Blackwoods and Seawall Campgrounds are located on Mount Desert Island. Neither campground has hookups. There is no backcountry camping in the park. Blackwoods: Reservations are recommended from May 1 to October 31 (877-444-6777). Fees: $20 per night per site (in season); varies in off season. Open all year. From December 1 to March 31, Blackwoods is open for primitive, walk-in camping only. For details, visit www.nps.gov/acad. Seawall: First-come, first-served. Fees: $20 per night (drive-up sites); $14 per night (walk-in sites). Open until September 30.

Hiking
More than 120 miles of hiking trails offer something for everyone. Pick up a guide to the most popular trails, rated by difficulty, at the visitor center or campgrounds. Always carry a detailed hiking map, available for purchase at the visitor center, for longer hikes.

Junior and Senior Ranger Programs
Learn about the park while you complete the Junior Ranger Program activities and earn a certificate and patch. A Senior Ranger Program is available for ages 18 and over. See the article on page 3 for more information.

Ranger-Led Programs
Join us for boat cruises, evening programs, mountain hikes, short talks, and nature walks. For a schedule, see pages 4-6.

Facilities
Hulls Cove Visitor Center
Watch the 15-minute orientation film and plan your visit with a three-dimensional map of the island. Books, maps, and information are available. Open daily 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (September to October 8) and 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (October 9-31).

Museums and More
Ilesford Historical Museum: Enjoy the Cranberry Isles and their people. Accessible by boat from Northeast Harbor or Southwest Harbor. Open daily 9 a.m. to noon (10:45 a.m. to noon on Sundays) and 12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. through September 30.

Nature Center: Discover Acadia’s natural resources and learn how they are protected. Located at Sieur de Monts Spring, Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through October 8 (until 5 p.m. through September 3).

Abbe Museum: Explore the story of Maine’s earliest people, from 12,000 years ago to today. The museum is privately operated and charges a nominal fee. Located at Sieur de Monts Spring. Open daily 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. through October 8.

Wild Gardens of Acadia: Investigate native flora in typical habitats. Located at Sieur de Monts Spring.

Picnic Areas
Picnic areas are located throughout the park. Charcoal fires are permitted in park-owned or private grills in these areas.

Information

Call 911 for all emergencies.

Accessibility
The Access Guide, available at the visitor center, lists accessible facilities in the park. Accessible programs are listed on pages 4-6. For more information, see the article on page 3.

Island Explorer Shuttles
Fare-free Island Explorer buses operate throughout Mount Desert Island, linking the park to neighboring village centers through October 8, 2007 (schedules change after September 3). Park your car and ride these propane-powered buses to help reduce traffic congestion, parking, and air pollution problems on the island. Pick up a copy of the bus schedule at the visitor center or other park facilities. You can also flag down the bus anywhere it is safe to stop along its route. When planning your trip, remember that the Island Explorer does not service Cadillac Mountain.

Scenic Drives
Drive 27 miles on the Park Loop Road and Cadillac Mountain Road to view the spectacular scenery of Acadia. Stop to stroll down a path or read a wayside exhibit. A self-guided audio tour of Acadia and the surrounding area, covering 56 miles, is available for purchase at the visitor center.

Swimming
Ocean temperatures at Sand Beach rarely rise above 53° F (13° C). For warmer water, try Echo Lake on Route 102. Many other ponds and lakes on the island are public water supplies where swimming, wading, and pets are prohibited. Please respect posted regulations.

Walking and Biking
More than 45 miles of historic carriage roads are available for exploration by foot, bike, or horseback. Maps and guidebooks are available. Motorized vehicles, except motorized wheelchairs, are prohibited on carriage roads. Horses are not permitted on some sections. Bicycles are not permitted on hiking trails or private carriage roads. Bicycle rentals are available in nearby communities. The visitor center parking lot offers ample, safe parking for the carriage roads.

Self-guided walks include Carroll Homestead (very easy ½-mile), Jordan Pond Nature Trail (easy 1-mile loop), and Sieur de Monts Spring (very easy ½-mile loop). An accessible trail offers access to a portion of the Cadillac Mountain summit.

Nightly Closures
To protect park resources, the following areas are closed at dark:
• Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse is closed to visitors and vehicles.
• Carroll Homestead, Lake Wood, and Thompson Island Picnic Area are closed to vehicles.

Other Closures
Damage from an October 2006 earthquake forced the closure of several trails, including Homans Path, East Face Trail, and Precipice Trail. Check with park staff for the current status of those trails. Learn more about the earthquake on page 6.

Access to the park is via the following routes:
• Desert Island, linking the park to neighboring village centers.
• Park your car and ride these propane-powered buses to help reduce traffic congestion, parking, and air pollution problems on the island.
• Pick up a copy of the bus schedule at the visitor center or other park facilities.
• You can also flag down the bus anywhere it is safe to stop along its route.
• When planning your trip, remember that the Island Explorer does not service Cadillac Mountain.

Parlez-Vous Français?
Une traduction française d’information de parc est disponible au centre d’accueil à Hulls Cove sur la route 3 ou au park headquarters sur la route 233. Merci de visiter le parc national d’Acadia.

Sprechen Sie Deutsch?
Parkinformation auf Deutsch finden Sie im Besuchercenter in Hulls Cove an der Strasse #3. Vielen Dank für Ihren Besuch.

Parking
The park can be quite congested. Please drive carefully and observe posted signage. Better yet, ride the bus and relax! Parking is only permitted in designated (posted) areas, parking lots, and established roadside pullouts.

Pets
Pets must be kept on a six-foot or shorter leash. Except service animals, pets are not permitted on Sand Beach or Echo Lake Beach from May 15 to September 15, in public buildings, or on ladder trails. Kennels are available in nearby towns.

Size Restrictions
Vehicles taller than 11’ cannot drive the entire Park Loop Road system. See the park map for bridge heights. Vehicles longer than 20’ and trailers are not permitted on Bass Harbor Head Road or the southern end of Schooner Head Road. There is a 35’ limit for trailers and vehicles in campgrounds.
Acadia’s Advances in Accessibility

Acadia National Park is constantly striving to improve its accessible facilities and services so that all visitors have access to park resources. A complete list of accessible options is featured in the Access Guide, available at the visitor center and other park contact stations, or online at www.nps.gov/acad/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm.

Highlights include:

- Accessible interpretive programs, marked by the universal access symbol, are listed on pages 4–6.
- Assistive listening devices (ALDs) are available for use at park programs by visitors with limited hearing. A transmitter broadcasts the ranger’s voice directly into the ears of individuals equipped with any of the six receivers, which improves hearing and understanding. The ALDs are available by reservation for any of our interpretive programs. For more information, call 207-288-3338 and press “0” Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- The newly renovated accessible trail atop Cadillac Mountain permits access to a portion of the park’s highest summit. Follow this short trail for scenic views of Frenchman Bay, the Porcupine Islands, and the town of Bar Harbor.

Assistive listening devices are available by reservation for use on park programs.

Looking for More?

If your adventures here in Acadia National Park have you wishing for more information, be sure to visit our website at www.nps.gov/acad. The park website contains details about park facilities, activities, natural resources, and more. The free Interagency Access Pass allows lifetime access for U.S. citizens and permanent residents who are 62 years or older. A $40 annual Acadia National Park Pass allows unlimited visits to Acadia for one year from date of purchase. A $10 Interagency Senior Pass allows lifetime access for U.S. citizens and permanent residents who are 62 years or older. The free Interagency Access Pass allows lifetime access for U.S. citizens and permanent residents with a permanent disability.

Where Do Your Fees Go?

The majority of fees paid in Acadia stay right here. The Recreational Fee Demonstration Program, first authorized by Congress in 1996, mandates that 80 percent of fees paid in Acadia stay in the park to be used for projects that directly benefit park visitors and resources. Your fees are used for a variety of projects that improve the condition of natural and cultural resources and make the park a safer place for you to visit. Some of the recent and upcoming projects include:

- Rehabilitation of historic hiking trails (partially funded by fees)
- Development of exhibits for Isle au Haut and the historic Hadlock store on Little Cranberry Island
- Rehabilitation of three restrooms and entrance station at Blackwoods Campground

In addition to these projects, your fees help finance the Island Explorer, a seasonal public transit system that serves the park and local communities. Ten dollars from every weekly pass and Acadia National Park Pass sold during the season goes into a special transportation account. These transportation fees will help defray the cost of long-term expansion of the system, helping eliminate traffic problems in the park.

Please support the Island Explorer and other projects by buying a park pass at the following locations:

- Open through early October
  - Hulls Cove Visitor Center
  - Park Headquarters
  - Sand Beach Entrance Station
  - Face the towns of Bar Harbor, Village Green, and Thompson Island Information Center

- Open through October
  - Blackwoods Campground

All visitors who enter the park, regardless of how they enter, must pay an entrance fee. We thank you for your support!

Entrance Fees/Passes

- $10 (off season) / $20 (in season) entry permit allows for a 7-day visit
- $40 annual Acadia National Park Pass allows unlimited visits to Acadia for one year from date of purchase

Interagency Passes

- The $80 Interagency Annual Pass gets you into any federal fee area for one year from date of purchase.
- The $10 Interagency Senior Pass allows lifetime access for U.S. citizens and permanent residents who are 62 years or older.
- The free Interagency Access Pass allows lifetime access for U.S. citizens and permanent residents with a permanent disability.

Be Careful Out There!

Acadia National Park offers many opportunities for discovery. To help ensure a safe, enjoyable visit, pay attention and follow a few important guidelines as you explore the park:

- Be sure to tell someone your plans—when you are leaving, where you are going, and when you will return.
- Remain in one place if you happen to become separated from your group.
- Always carry water, a map, adequate clothing, a first aid kit, and a flashlight while hiking.
- Bicycle safely as road gravel can be loose, especially on curves and hills. Cycling on the carriage roads is a major cause of serious visitor injuries at Acadia. Be careful and watch your speed!
- Check for ticks, as Lyme disease can occur in this area. If you are walking through tall grass, consider wearing long pants and using insect repellent.
- Drive safely and wear your seatbelt at all times. The speed limit is 35 mph in the park unless otherwise noted. It is easy to get distracted by scenery—pay attention.
- Do not drink and drive.
- When in doubt, ask a ranger first!

Remember that your actions can make the difference between a happy memory and an unpleasant experience.

CAUTION!

Be careful while walking near cliff ledges. Loose gravel on rocks creates dangerous footing, which can result in serious falls.

BE CAREFUL NEAR CLIFF EDGES!

Just for Kids! Youth Activities in Acadia

You don’t have to look very far to find fun activities in the park for children of all ages. Whether you are here for just a short time or a longer stay, consider these options:

- Attend an evening amphitheater program with a ranger.
- Visit the Nature Center to learn how the park manages its trails and hills. Bicycling on the carriage roads is a major cause of serious visitor injuries at Acadia. Be careful and watch your speed!
- Go for a hike or a bike ride.
- Attend an evening amphitheater program with a ranger.

The Junior Ranger Program is an exciting way for kids of all ages to learn about the park’s natural and historical wonders. To begin, stop by Hulls Cove Visitor Center, the Nature Center, or one of the park campgrounds to purchase a junior ranger booklet. Children who complete activities in the booklet and attend ranger-led programs receive a signed certificate and an official Acadia National Park junior ranger patch. Content and number of activities vary based on age.

Parents can participate, too, through the Senior Ranger Program for anyone over 18.

Have fun exploring the park!
Autumn Ranger-Led Program Descriptions

Walks, Talks, and Hikes

Acadia’s Birds (3 hours, easy walk)
Find, identify, and discuss some of Acadia’s most fascinating residents. Bring binoculars. Expect motor travel. Reservations must be made no longer than three days in advance at Hulls Cove Visitor Center or by calling 207-288-8832. Ask about accessibility. 

Animals of Acadia (45 minutes to 1 hour, talk)
Discover the animals you might and might not see in the park. Sieur de Monts Nature Center.

At the Summit (1 hour, easy ½-mile walk)
Join us at dusk to learn about and look for these amazing animal architects. Sieur de Monts Nature Center.

Autumn Ramble (1½ hours, easy 1-mile walk)
Fall is a time of change and preparation. Discover what is happening to the forest and its inhabitants during the changing season. Sieur de Monts Nature Center.

Beavers’ World (2 hours, easy walk)
Join ranger volunteers to observe and learn about migratory birds of prey. Sieur de Monts Nature Center.

Birds of Prey (45 minutes to 1 hour, talk)
Explore the unique adaptations and natural history of the eagles, owls, and other raptors that soar over Acadia. Sieur de Monts Nature Center.

Beech Cliff Hike (2½ hours, moderate ½-mile hike)
Uncover the wilds of the island’s west side as we ramble through lush forests to rocky outcrops and back again. Beech Mountain parking area.

Beech Mountain Hike (3 hours, moderate 2-mile hike)
Walk through emerald forests and blueberry patches to Beech Mountain’s granite summit for panoramic views. Beech Mountain parking area.

Beeves’ Tail (3 hours, moderate 1½-mile hike)
Walk up through emerald forests and blueberry patches to Beech Mountain’s granite summit for panoramic views. Beech Mountain parking area.

Birds of Prey (45 minutes to 1 hour, talk)
Explore the unique adaptations and natural history of the eagles, owls, and other raptors that soar over Acadia. Sieur de Monts Nature Center.

Footsteps in Time (45 minutes to 1 hour, talk)
Unearth the culture and history of the Wabanaki, Maine’s native people. Sieur de Monts Nature Center.

Forests of Lilliput (2 hours, easy 1-mile walk)
Explore the fascinating world of mosses, ferns, lichens, and fungi. Make reservations no more than three days in advance at Hulls Cove Visitor Center or by calling 207-288-8832.

Gorham Mountain Hike (2½ hours, moderate 2-mile hike)
Reward yourself with views of Acadia’s coastline from atop a granite mountain. Be prepared for rocky trail conditions. Gorham Mountain parking area.

Green Kingdom (2 hours, easy 1-2 mile walk)
Explore Acadia’s wildflowers, trees, and other plant life along a historic carriage road. Eagle Lake parking area (north lot—not boat ramp).

HawkWatch (easy)
Join ranger volunteers to observe and learn about migratory birds of prey. Sieur de Monts Nature Center.

Headland Hike (2½ hours, moderate 1½-mile hike)
Hike along a spectacular headland while learning about Acadia’s cultural and natural heritage. Great Head parking area (not Sand Beach parking area).

Knowing the Night (2 hours, easy 1-mile walk)
Use your senses to explore the mystery and intrigue of the night world. For adults and children 8 and older. Wear closed-toe shoes and layered clothing. Fee: $10 adults, $5 children 8–12. Reservations required. Make reservations no more than three business days in advance by calling 207-288-3338 (press “0”) or stopping by park headquarters from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Life Between the Tides (3 hours, moderate 1½-mile walk)
Roll up your sleeves and investigate the fascinating world where ocean meets land. Sieur de Monts Nature Center.

Mr. Rockefeller’s Bridges (2½ hours, moderate ½-mile hike)
Follow tree-lined carriage roads to beautiful stone bridges. Parkman Mountain parking area.

On the Right Path (45 minutes to 1 hour, talk)
Discover the tales of Acadia’s historic carriage roads, scenic bridges, and hiking trails. Hulls Cove Visitor Center parking area (far west end).

Orter Point Walk (2 hours, easy to moderate 2½-mile hike)
Discover stories of history and nature as you view some of the most striking scenery in Acadia National Park. Gorham Mountain parking area.

Riding the Roads (3 hours, moderate bike ride)
Join a ranger for a one-of-a-kind bike tour along Acadia’s historic and scenic carriage roads. For adults and youth 14 and older. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring your own bike (rentals available in local communities), water, and layered clothing. Helmets required. Fee: $15 adults, $10 youth 14–16. Reservations required. Make reservations no more than three business days in advance by calling 207-288-3338 (press “0”) or stopping by park headquarters from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

What Lies Beneath (45 minutes to 1 hour, talk)
Acadia’s past is as striking as its landscape. Come discover the geologic story of what lies beneath the beautiful scenery. Fabbri picnic area.

Written in the Rocks (3 hours, moderate 2-mile hike)
Hike to a dramatic headland for a look at the geologic processes that created Acadia’s landscape. Sand Beach parking area.

Boat Cruises

Park rangers interpret the park from four of the many commercial boats in the area. Make reservations with boat owners. Wear warm clothing; layers are helpful. Arrive 15 minutes before departure. Some boat operators run several trips daily. Please ask boat operators about accessibility and trips not listed below.

Baker Island Cruise (4½ hours)
Explore a remote, ocean-sculpted island seen by few visitors. Hop aboard a motorized launch for landing and discover the island’s unique natural and cultural history on a moderate hike with a park ranger. Harbor Place, 1 West Street, Bar Harbor. Fee: $32 adults, $18 children 6–14, $8 children 5 and under. Reservations: 207-288-2386.

Dive-In Theater Boat Cruise (3 hours)
Explore a remote, ocean-sculpted island seen by few visitors. Hop aboard a motorized launch for landing and discover the island’s unique natural and cultural history on a moderate hike with a park ranger. Harbor Place, 1 West Street, Bar Harbor. Fee: $32 adults, $18 children 6–14, $8 children 5 and under. Reservations: 207-288-2386.

Frenchman Bay Cruise (2 hours)

Islesford Historical Cruise (½ hours, 45 minutes)

Evening Programs

One-hour amphitheater programs take place at Blackwoods and Seawall Campgrounds many evenings this fall. Park is available for non-campers. Calendars at each of the campgrounds and information centers list the specific program offered each night.

Program Locations and Legend

Beaver Log 4
Autumn Ranger-Led Program Schedule

Saturday, September 1
8:45 a.m. Baker Island Cruise 9:00 a.m. Mr. Rockefeller’s Bridges 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 11:00 a.m. At the Summit 2:30 p.m. Beech Cliff Hike 3:00 p.m. Birds of Prey 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Sunday, September 2
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 11:00 a.m. At the Summit 2:30 p.m. Gorham Mountain Hike 3:00 p.m. Animals of Acadia 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Monday, September 3
8:45 a.m. Baker Island Cruise 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 9:00 a.m. Otter Point Walk 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 2:30 p.m. At the Summit 3:00 p.m. Animals of Acadia 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Tuesday, September 4
8:45 a.m. Baker Island Cruise 8:45 a.m. Mr. Rockefeller’s Bridges 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 1:30 p.m. Dive-In Theater Cruise 2:30 p.m. What Lies Beneath 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Wednesday, September 5
8:45 a.m. Baker Island Cruise 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 9:00 a.m. Acadia’s Birds 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 10:00 a.m. Otter Point Walk 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Thursday, September 6
8:45 a.m. Baker Island Cruise 8:45 a.m. Mr. Rockefeller’s Bridges 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 9:00 a.m. Written in the Rocks 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 1:30 p.m. Dive-In Theater Cruise 2:30 p.m. Forests of Lilliput 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Friday, September 7
7:00 a.m. Acadia’s Birds 8:45 a.m. Baker Island Cruise 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 12 noon Life Between the Tides 3:00 p.m. Otter Point Walk variable Beavers’ World

Saturday, September 8
8:45 a.m. Baker Island Cruise 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 2:30 p.m. At the Summit 3:00 p.m. Animals of Acadia 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Sunday, September 9
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 3:00 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Monday, September 10
8:45 a.m. Headland Hike 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 9:30 a.m. Otter Point Walk 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Tuesday, September 11
8:45 a.m. Baker Island Cruise 8:45 a.m. Mr. Rockefeller’s Bridges 9:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 9:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 1:30 p.m. Dive-In Theater Cruise 2:30 p.m. What Lies Beneath 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Wednesday, September 12
8:45 a.m. Baker Island Cruise 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 9:00 a.m. Riding the Roads 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Thursday, September 13
8:45 a.m. Baker Island Cruise 8:45 a.m. Mr. Rockefeller’s Bridges 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 10:00 a.m. Otter Point Walk 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Friday, September 14
7:00 a.m. Acadia’s Birds 8:45 a.m. Baker Island Cruise 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 1:30 p.m. On the Right Path 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Saturday, September 15
10:00 a.m. Islesford Historical Cruise 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 9:00 a.m. Otter Point Walk 10:00 a.m. Goose Rock Trail 10:00 a.m. Islesford Historical Cruise 11:30 a.m. Life Between the Tides 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Sunday, September 16
9:30 a.m. Otter Point Walk 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Islesford Historical Cruise

Monday, September 17
9:00 a.m. Green Kingdom 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 9:30 a.m. Otter Point Walk 10:00 a.m. Islesford Historical Cruise 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Tuesday, September 18
7:30 a.m. Acadia’s Birds 8:45 a.m. Mr. Rockefeller’s Bridges 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 9:30 a.m. Otter Point Walk 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Wednesday, September 19
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 9:00 a.m. Headland Hike 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 1:00 p.m. On the Right Path 2:00 p.m. At the Summit 3:30 p.m. What Lies Beneath 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Thursday, September 20
8:45 a.m. Mr. Rockefeller’s Bridges 9:00 a.m. Forests of Lilliput 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 1:30 p.m. Dive-In Theater Cruise 2:30 p.m. Gorham Mountain Hike 3:00 p.m. Written in the Rocks 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Friday, September 21
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Islesford Historical Cruise 10:00 a.m. Otter Point Walk 1:30 p.m. Life Between the Tides 2:30 p.m. Gorham Mountain Hike 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Saturday, September 22
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 9:30 a.m. Autumn Ramble 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 11:30 a.m. Life Between the Tides 3:00 p.m. Animals of Acadia 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Sunday, September 23
9:00 a.m. Beech Cliff Hike 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Islesford Historical Cruise

Monday, September 24
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 9:30 a.m. Written in the Rocks 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 1:30 p.m. Dive-In Theater Cruise 2:30 p.m. Gorham Mountain Hike 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Tuesday, September 25
7:30 a.m. Acadia’s Birds 8:45 a.m. Mr. Rockefeller’s Bridges 9:00 a.m. Beech Cliff Hike 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 1:30 p.m. Dive-In Theater Cruise 2:30 p.m. Gorham Mountain Hike 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Wednesday, September 26
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 9:30 a.m. Otter Point Walk 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 1:00 p.m. At the Summit 3:00 p.m. Animals of Acadia 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Thursday, September 27
8:45 a.m. Mr. Rockefeller’s Bridges 9:00 a.m. Forests of Lilliput 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 11:00 a.m. At the Summit 1:30 p.m. Dive-In Theater Cruise 3:00 p.m. Life Between the Tides 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Friday, September 28
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 9:30 a.m. Headland Hike 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 1:00 p.m. On the Right Path 4:00 p.m. At the Summit 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Saturday, September 29
8:45 a.m. Mr. Rockefeller’s Bridges 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Autumn Ramble 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 2:00 p.m. Animals of Acadia 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

Sunday, September 30
9 a.m. - 2 p.m. HawkWatch 10:00 a.m. Frenchman Bay Cruise 10:00 a.m. Isleford Historical Cruise 2:30 p.m. Otter Point Walk 3:00 p.m. Footsteps in Time 7:30 p.m. Blackwoods Evening Program

October schedule on next page
An Earthquake? In Maine?

While coastal Maine may not be a hotspot for earthquake activity, you’d have a hard time convincing local residents and visitors of that after their experiences last fall. From September 22 to December 29, 2006, a series of minor earthquakes rattled Acadia and surrounding areas. The Weston Observatory at Boston College recorded 38 tremors in all, three of which measured over magnitude 3.0. The October 2 earthquake, which measured 4.2 and was centered just off Egg Rock to the east of Mount Desert Island, left traces—and closures—you might encounter as you explore the park today.

According to the Maine Geological Survey, earthquakes in Maine are rare; only 507 earthquakes occurred from 1747 to 1992. The October 2 earthquake, which measured 4.2 and was centered just off Egg Rock to the east of Mount Desert Island, left traces—and closures—you might encounter as you explore the park today.

An Earthquake? In Maine?

While coastal Maine may not be a hotspot for earthquake activity, you’d have a hard time convincing local residents and visitors of that after their experiences last fall. From September 22 to December 29, 2006, a series of minor earthquakes rattled Acadia and surrounding areas. The Weston Observatory at Boston College recorded 38 tremors in all, three of which measured over magnitude 3.0. The October 2 earthquake, which measured 4.2 and was centered just off Egg Rock to the east of Mount Desert Island, left traces—and closures—you might encounter as you explore the park today.

According to the Maine Geological Survey, earthquakes in Maine are rare; only 507 earthquakes occurred from 1747 to 1992. The October 2 earthquake, which measured 4.2 and was centered just off Egg Rock to the east of Mount Desert Island, left traces—and closures—you might encounter as you explore the park today.

Sixty Years Ago: The Fire of 1947

In 1947, sixty years ago this October, a tragic event changed the landscape of Mount Desert Island. That summer and fall were particularly dry in Maine. Vegetation withered, and water supplies dwindled. It was Maine, however, so everyone knew that rain would fall eventually. Except that it didn’t. And on October 17, 1947, a fire began west of Halls Cove on Mount Desert Island. Thought to be under control by October 20, the fire, fanned by strong winds, expanded on October 21.

Despite firefighting efforts, the fire increased in severity over the next few days. On October 23, the fire expanded from approximately 1,800 acres at 4 p.m. to more than 16,000 acres by midnight. This inferno sent island residents scurrying for their lives in a terrifying car caravan to Ellsworth or by boat from southern harbors. The fire quieted down after that night, but was not declared officially out until November 14.

By the time the fire was over, the damage inflicted was clear: more than 17,000 acres of Mount Desert Island had burned, including 8,750 acres within Acadia National Park. Five large hotels, 67 seasonal estates, and 170 permanent residences were destroyed. Amazingly, only a few individuals lost their lives in the events surrounding the fire.
Looking for a guide to plants in the northeastern United States? Trying to find something to keep your kids occupied on a rainy day? Eastern National bookstores in the park carry a wide variety of educational items, including books, maps, videos, notecards, and more. Eastern National bookstores are located at Hulls Cove Visitor Center, which offers the largest selection of items; Sieur de Monts Nature Center; Park Headquarters Information Center; Blackwoods and Seawall Campgrounds; and the Islesford Historical Museum.

Eastern National is a nonprofit agency that provides quality educational products and services to America’s national parks and other public trusts. Eastern National’s contributions have benefited parks and visitors by supporting research, educational, and interpretive projects and by funding publications, including this edition of the park newspaper, the Beaver Log. Joining Eastern National supports your parks and gives you 15% off merchandise in any Eastern National store. Pick up an application at the visitor center or for more information, visit www.easternnational.org.

Explore images of Acadia through the eyes of painter Phyllis Rees in her new book, Intimate Views. The book includes more than twenty of her extraordinary paintings designed to be, in her words, “not literal representations of the locations, but visual poems about them.”

Intimate Views of Acadia National Park

Explore images of Acadia through the eyes of painter Phyllis Rees in her new book, Intimate Views. The book includes more than twenty of her extraordinary paintings designed to be, in her words, “not literal representations of the locations, but visual poems about them.”

Discover Acadia’s scenery as you’ve never seen it before. Pick up your copy of Intimate Views at the visitor center or park headquarters.

Tea and popovers have been a tradition at the Jordan Pond House for more than a century.

Explore the scenic carriage roads of Acadia National Park on a horse-drawn carriage tour with Wildwood Stables.

Volunteers make valuable contributions to communities, organizations, and individuals throughout the country. National Park Service (NPS) volunteers come from all over to help preserve and protect America’s natural and cultural heritage for the enjoyment of this and future generations. They contribute the time and expertise that help Acadia achieve the NPS mission.

Annual volunteer events at Acadia include:

• Take Pride in Acadia Day on the first Saturday in November (11/03/07)
• Earth Day Roadside Cleanup on the last Saturday in April (04/26/08)
• National Trails Day on the first Saturday in June (06/07/08)

For more information about these events, visit www.friendsofacadia.org. For volunteer opportunities at Acadia and other NPS sites, visit www.nps.gov/volunteer.

Volunteers assist with trail maintenance.

Friends of Acadia

Friends of Acadia, a private, nonprofit organization, works to preserve and protect the natural and cultural resources of Acadia National Park and its region. FOA channels private donations to preservation projects in the park, advocates on behalf of Acadia, and sponsors volunteer groups.

Anyone interested in volunteering for half-day outdoor stewardship projects should meet at the park headquarters flagpole at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, June to Columbus Day. To register a group, call 207-288-3934.

For more information about Friends of Acadia, please contact:

Friends of Acadia
P.O. Box 45
Bar Harbor, ME 04609
Phone: 800-625-0321 or 207-288-3340
Web: www.friendsofacadia.org
You play an important role in protecting Acadia's vulnerable natural and cultural resources and keeping wild animals wild. While you're out in the park, do your part by taking a few simple actions:

• Stay on trails to protect fragile plant life.

• Leave what you find. Removing natural and historic objects such as beach cobbles, flowers, cobbled rocks, and antlers degrades the park and is illegal.

• At all times, keep your pet on a leash no longer than six feet for the protection of your pet, visitors, and wildlife. Other than service animals, pets are not permitted on beaches (May 15 - September 15) or ladder trails, or in public buildings.

• Pack it in. Pack it out. Carry away anything you brought into the park. Better yet, carry out any other litter you find, too.

• Do not remove or add to trail markers (cairns), which are carefully maintained by the park.

• Protect water sources. Do not swim in bodies of water marked as water supplies.

• Ride the propane-powered Island Explorer shuttle bus to help reduce traffic and pollution in the park.

• Camp in designated areas only.

Acadia’s small size and proximity to towns and residential areas mean that wild animals often come in close contact with people. To help ensure the safety and health of these animals, follow these steps when you encounter wildlife:

• Never feed wild animals, including gulls. Human food can make them ill and create beggar animals that no longer retain a healthy respect of humans.

• Keep your distance. Do not approach wild animals. If you suddenly find yourself too close, back away and give them room to escape. Use binoculars to get a close-up view.

• When camping, all food, garbage, and cooking equipment must be stored in an enclosed vehicle or hard-sided locker to help prevent animals from being attracted to your site.

• Respect closures established to protect plants and animals, especially nesting birds, seabirds, and eagles. Intrusion by humans can cause nesting attempts to fail.

• Be aware of wildlife along roads, especially at dusk and dawn. Pay close attention and lower your speed, allowing them and you a better chance to avoid an accident.

• Remember that protecting wildlife in our national parks not only makes good sense, but also it is the law. All national parks have strict regulations to protect wildlife.

### September/October 2007 Tide Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sept. AM</th>
<th>High Tide AM</th>
<th>Low Tide AM</th>
<th>Sunrise AM</th>
<th>Sunset AM</th>
<th>Oct. AM</th>
<th>High Tide AM</th>
<th>Low Tide AM</th>
<th>Sunrise AM</th>
<th>Sunset AM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1:55</td>
<td>2:17</td>
<td>8:05</td>
<td>8:38</td>
<td>5:55</td>
<td>7:10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2:48</td>
<td>3:09</td>
<td>8:55</td>
<td>9:35</td>
<td>5:56</td>
<td>7:08</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3:45</td>
<td>4:07</td>
<td>9:51</td>
<td>10:37</td>
<td>5:58</td>
<td>7:06</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4:48</td>
<td>5:10</td>
<td>10:53</td>
<td>11:44</td>
<td>5:59</td>
<td>7:04</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5:57</td>
<td>6:18</td>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>7:03</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>7:07</td>
<td>7:27</td>
<td>12:53</td>
<td>1:10</td>
<td>6:01</td>
<td>7:01</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>8:14</td>
<td>8:32</td>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>1:37</td>
<td>6:02</td>
<td>6:59</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>9:13</td>
<td>9:29</td>
<td>3:00</td>
<td>3:17</td>
<td>6:03</td>
<td>6:57</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10:05</td>
<td>10:20</td>
<td>4:30</td>
<td>4:09</td>
<td>6:04</td>
<td>6:55</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10:50</td>
<td>11:05</td>
<td>5:40</td>
<td>5:19</td>
<td>6:06</td>
<td>6:53</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>12:07</td>
<td>12:06</td>
<td>7:01</td>
<td>6:57</td>
<td>6:08</td>
<td>6:50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>1:02</td>
<td>1:16</td>
<td>9:32</td>
<td>8:10</td>
<td>6:10</td>
<td>6:46</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>5:31</td>
<td>5:44</td>
<td>11:30</td>
<td>11:38</td>
<td>6:17</td>
<td>6:35</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>7:30</td>
<td>7:44</td>
<td>1:19</td>
<td>1:32</td>
<td>6:20</td>
<td>6:31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>10:44</td>
<td>11:07</td>
<td>4:35</td>
<td>5:47</td>
<td>6:24</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>12:44</td>
<td>1:02</td>
<td>6:51</td>
<td>7:25</td>
<td>6:28</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>1:36</td>
<td>1:53</td>
<td>7:41</td>
<td>8:19</td>
<td>6:29</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>2:16</td>
<td>2:30</td>
<td>8:17</td>
<td>9:02</td>
<td>7:07</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Tidepool Tips**

The zone where ocean meets land—the intertidal zone—is one of the most fascinating areas in Acadia. Here you can see creatures with amazing survival skills that allow them to stay alive when, twice each day, the tide leaves them exposed. These marine organisms are not indestructible, however. Our careless handling and footsteps can do damage that the changing tides cannot. As you explore the intertidal zone, keep in mind these tips for your safety and for the protection of marine life:

• Do not wade in tidepools.

• Rocks and algae are slippery. Watch your step.

• Never turn your back on the ocean; rogue waves can occur at any time.

• Wear suitable clothing and closed-toe shoes.

• Be patient. Take time to be still; you'll be surprised at the activity you see.

• At all times, keep your pet on a leash no longer than six feet.

• Keep your distance. Do not approach wild animals. If you suddenly find yourself too close, back away and give them room to escape. Use binoculars to get a close-up view.

• Never feed wild animals, including gulls. Human food can make them ill and create beggar animals that no longer retain a healthy respect of humans.

• Keep your distance. Do not approach wild animals. If you suddenly find yourself too close, back away and give them room to escape. Use binoculars to get a close-up view.

• When camping, all food, garbage, and cooking equipment must be stored in an enclosed vehicle or hard-sided locker to help prevent animals from being attracted to your site.

• Remember that protecting wildlife in our national parks not only makes good sense, but also it is the law. All national parks have strict regulations to protect wildlife.

**Beaver Log**

In response to extensive rehabilitation at Blackwoods Campground, the park has undertaken a revegetation project to replace much of the vegetation that was lost during construction. Here’s how you can help make this project a success and help restore these areas to their natural condition:

• Areas where native plants are planted will be roped off and signed to indicate what’s happening there. Small trees and shrubs will be mulched with wood chips. Please don’t walk through these areas or damage new or existing plants or trees.

• Stay on designated paths at Blackwoods Campground. Taking shortcuts kills plants.

Remember: Plants grow by the inch and die by the foot!