2-4 Summer Info

Information to facilitate trip planning for boating, hiking, camping, kayaking, or fishing in the islands, and schedules for guided activities and excursion cruises.

4 What’s New?

New park film, new restrooms at Little Sand Bay, new parking area at Meyers Beach, restoration work at Michigan Island light... find out more about the projects or schedule changes that might affect your visit.

6 Lighthouse Update

The National Park Service is working to protect and restore structures at the Outer Island and Raspberry Island lights.

7 Wilderness Study

The National Park Service expects to release a wilderness proposal for the Apostle Islands this summer. Information about the Final wilderness study and the proposal is on the web at www.nps.gov/apgis/wstudy.htm

A Line in the Sand

Never underestimate the intelligence and resourcefulness of a bear. A cub that learns the location of a good berry crop from its mother may return to that same spot at the same time every year. Similarly, a bear that learns that food is stored in coolers may open up every cooler it encounters. Bears tend to be ruled by their stomachs and will continue to seek out non-natural sources of food if we allow them to. To prevent conflicts between bears and humans, bears must be taught to respect humans and human territory. We must draw a “line in the sand” so Apostle Islands bears know where they are welcome, and where they are not.

Bear encounters are happening more frequently at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. The bear population is increasing throughout Wisconsin. The number of bears in Wisconsin grew from about 7,500 in 1985 to 13,000 in 2002. In 1984, bear researchers counted two bears on Stockton Island. DNA analysis of fur samples collected on Stockton in 2002 indicated at least 26 different bears were living on the island. Visitation to the lakeshore has also risen from 113,000 visitors in 1992 to more than 190,000 in 2003. Many of the people coming to the park have behaved in a manner that has helped the bears lose their natural wariness of humans and allowed them to feel comfortable in the park’s visitor use areas (campsites, docks, and picnic areas).

There are many ways to reduce the risk of a close encounter with a bear. When hiking in the backcountry, we must respect that we are in the bear’s territory. Hike in a group on established trails. Make noise when you hike and watch for bear signs such as tracks, dropings, and claw marks on trees. Never approach a bear, even to take pictures. Maintain a distance of at least 50 yards. Never feed a bear. Walk away while facing the bear and speaking quietly. Do not look into the bear’s eyes. If the bear approaches, wave your arms and talk louder so the bear can identify you as a human. Do not run away—that might provoke a chase.

It is important to store food properly and reduce food odors so bears are not attracted to campsites, docks, and picnic areas. Bear-proof food lockers are provided at camp sites on Sand, Oak, Manitou, Basswood, and Stockton Islands. Where lockers are provided, food must be locked up between meals. Water bottles, toiletries, cosmetics, and any items with a strong odor should also be stored in food lockers. Where food lockers are not available, campers should hang their food cache in a tree away from their tent at least 12 feet from the ground and five feet away from the trunk. Do not bury, scatter, or try to burn food scraps. Bag your garbage and pack it out. Avoid strong smelling foods. Do not keep food, garbage, dish towels, or toiletries in your tent.

If a bear gets within 50 yards of a person at a campsite, dock, or picnic area, then it has encroached into our territory. Use body posture and tone of voice to make it perfectly clear to the bear that it is not welcome in the area. Try to look big. Bang pots, yell, and make noise until the bear leaves the area. Store all food and garbage out of the bear’s reach. Report the sighting to park staff as soon as possible. Members of the park staff have training in the use of non-lethal tactics—like pepper spray, projectiles, and noisemakers—that will be applied when bears enter areas where they are not welcome.

In the past, the National Park Service has relocated “nuisance” bears off of the Apostle Islands. In 2003, seven bears were trapped and relocated from Oak Island alone. This method has proved ineffective, since as soon as one bear was removed, another would occupy its territory. It has been shown that people can coexist with bears by limiting attractants (storing food and garbage properly) and using non-lethal methods to teach bears the limits of unacceptable behavior. Bears are very smart. They can be taught that certain behaviors are undesirable and will not be tolerated by people in our territory. Help us “draw a line in the sand” to minimize the risks of close encounters with the Apostle Islands’ bears.

Closures Due to Bear Activity

In 2003, the National Park Service (NPS) had to deal with several bears that repeatedly returned to or refused to leave camp sites on Oak Island and Stockton Island. Decisions were made to trap and remove seven bears from Oak Island and one bear from Stockton Island. To protect visitor safety, the NPS closed camp sites and docks to public use each time bear traps were set on the islands. Areas remained closed until the bears were trapped. Visitor use areas were closed for about 4 weeks on Oak Island and one week on Stockton Island during the summer.

Trapping has not been a very effective way of managing bears in the Apostle Islands. Bears have an excellent sense of direction, and occasionally have covered great distances to return to the islands. The high population of bears in Wisconsin means that there is a lot of competition for territory. When one animal is removed from an attractive territory, there are usually other animals available to move into that territory. This was the situation at Oak Island last summer. For these reasons, the NPS has decided to limit the use of trapping and increase efforts to minimize the number of human-bear conflicts through visitor education and the use of nonlethal tactics to provide negative reinforcement for undesirable bear behavior.

The success of these efforts depends a great deal on park visitors. It is vital that visitors stay at least 50 yards from bears, store food properly, and report all bear sightings around camp sites and docks to park staff. We need to know when bears are frequenting visitor use areas so we can condition them to stay away. We hope these efforts will limit the need to close areas this summer. Closures will still be necessary if bears damage property or act aggressively toward people by stalking them or attempting to enter their tent or boat. When property is damaged, the closure will be in effect until the bear is hazed out of the area. If a bear poses a threat to human life, it will be destroyed. Please keep us informed of these types of situations so we can help keep your visit to the Apostle Islands safe and enjoyable.
By Bob Krumenaker

Welcome to the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore! Much has been written in the press recently about the National Park Service budget, and how park services may be affected. I want to assure you that the Lakeshore is open and the welcome mat is out!

You probably don’t consider the park’s finances when planning a trip to the Apostle Islands. In past years, you’ve generously given us a 93% satisfaction rating. During the recent wilderness study, we repeatedly heard that we should keep the park the way it is, because most of you like it the way it is now. I promise that we will do our best to keep the park in good condition, and provide you the services you have come to expect, and this year.

The spirited public debate over fiscal priorities does affect us here at the Apostle Islands, a remote outpost of the national government. Throughout the national park system, right now there is a strong emphasis on addressing the backlog of deferred maintenance priorities. That has resulted in our having the opportunity to compete with other parks for more funding for infrastructure repair and historic preservation, and I’m pleased to say that we’ve done well. In 2004, we will be able to put in a new floor at the Michigan Island lighthousekeeper’s house, rehabilitate campuses on five islands, and repair the Stockton Island Presque Isle dock and harbor lights.

The Lakeshore’s annual operating budget has remained essentially stable for the last several years. Like any business, the park is faced with higher fuel and health care costs. This year, the purchase power of available funds for facilities (e.g. copier and toilet paper, oil and spark plugs for our boat engines), materials (e.g. pumps and pipe for island wells, wooden boards for dock repairs), discretionary programs (e.g. lighthouse tours, camping programs, trail maintenance, vegetation restoration), and the seasonal staff to accomplish these things, has diminished.

However, we are focusing on our top priorities. We’ve cut back on winter operations so we can concentrate on the summer. We’ve reorganized our administrative functions, decreasing staff in that area. We’re taking advantage of technology to reduce travel, and we’ve reduced the number of park vehicles and boats to increase efficiency. While the Bayfield visitor center will remain open seven days a week during the heart of the summer, both the season and the hours of operation will be shorter. We are finding innovative and creative ways to fulfill our mission, which is to serve visitors and protect resources.

Other revenue sources need to be found. The Friends of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore are now actively working on behalf of the park. (See article, page 8). We’ll start a new General Management Plan this fall (page 9) where we’ll seek your input into how to create an economically and environmentally sustainable future for the park. We will continue to seek grants for infrastructure maintenance and improvement, with an emphasis on those projects that will result in a decrease in operating costs. And we will rely, as we always have, on many volunteers.

User fees are becoming an increasingly important part of every park’s fiscal picture. The only current fee at Apostle Islands that impacts a large number of people is for processing a camping permit. There is no fee for boaters and sailors who stay on their boats, though many use island docks, restrooms, trails, and other facilities. We are contemplating new user fees for overnight camping, dock anchoring, and, as well as lighthouse tours. Should we do so in future years, 60% of the funds collected will stay here at Apostle Islands, and will be used to supplement appropriated funding so that we can continue to provide and maintain visitor facilities and protect park resources. I welcome your thoughts on this.

Thank you for your strong and continuing support. I am personally committed to engaging with anyone who wants to talk more about these issues and challenges of managing the park, and I would love to hear from you. Enjoy your visit.

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore
Wisconsin’s northernmost landscape juts into Lake Superior as the scenic archipelago of 22 Apostle Islands. Long a vacation mecca, the area realized new conservation and recreational value in 1970 when Congress named 20 of the islands and 2,500 acres of the peninsula as a national lakeshore. In 1986, Long Island was also included.

This fascinating unit of the National Park System features a combination of spectacular natural beauty and rich cultural history. The wooded islands are studded with bogs and beaver ponds, and trimmed with sea caves, sandstone cliffs, and miles of pristine sand beaches. Native Americans, voyageurs, loggers, stone cutters, farmers, and commercial fishermen all left their marks on the islands. Six historic light stations were built in the Apostle’s to aid Great Lakes navigation.

Mailing Address
Park Superintendent
Apostle Islands National Lakeshore
Route 1, Box 4
Bayfield, WI 54814

Phone
(715)779-3397

Website/Email
www.nps.gov/upsh/home.htm
APIS_W ebmaster@nps.gov

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

From the Superintendent

Summer Visitor Information

Headquarters Visitor Center Hours
Open Mon. - Sat. 8 am to 4:30 pm, May 24 - June 26
Open Daily 8 am to 4:30 pm, June 27 - Sep. 5
Open Mon. - Sat. 8 am to 4:30 pm, Sep. 6 - Sep. 25
Open Mon. - Fri. 8 am to 4:30 pm, Sep. 26 - May 27, 2005

Little Sand Bay Center Hours
Open 9 am to 5 pm May 29-31
Open Daily 9 am to 5 pm, June 19-Sep. 6

Summer Activities

Sailing and Boating
The Apostle Islands’ protected bays, public docks, pristine beaches, and natural beauty offer outstanding boating opportunities. Public docks are found on 13 of the islands in the national lakeshore. Space is reserved at some docks for National Park Service vessels and excursion boats. The remaining space is available fee for the public on a first come, first served basis. Public boat launches are located in Ashland, Bayfield, Cornucopia, Little Sand Bay, Red Cliff, and Washburn. The cost is $5/launch in Bayfield, $3/launch at Little Sand Bay. Marinas are in Ashland, Bayfield, Cornucopia, LaPointe, Port Superior, Red Cliff, Roys Point, Schooner Bay, and Washburn.

The use of personal watercraft is not allowed within the boundaries of Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

Paddling
During the past 15 years, sea kayaks have become very popular for travel among the Apostle Islands. Information about kayak outfitters can be obtained by calling Apostle Islands National Lakeshore at 715-779-3397. Two kayak launch points are located within the national lakeshore’s main land unit. Meyers Beach is a popular spot to begin your trip. There is no launch fee. A free kayak launch is located to the west of the National Park Service dock at Little Sand Bay. Temporary parking for loading/unloading equipment is located to the west of the NPS visitor center. Long term parking is located in the parking lot adjacent to the town of Bayfield. Because of the lake’s power and unpredictability, the National Park Service does NOT recommend the use of canoes for travel between islands. Calm days can provide opportunities for canoeists to safely paddle along the mainland or island shorelines. The Apostle Islands Cruise Service will transport a canoe or kayak, and launch them for a $20 fee. For more information ask for the brochure “Paddling in the Apostle” or check our website at www.nps.gov/upsh/paddling.htm

Swimming
Yes, Lake Superior can be really cold. The average annual water temperature of the lake is about 40 degrees Fahrenheit. On warm, calm, sunny summer days, however, water temperatures in the Apostle Islands’ protected shallow bays can climb into the 70s. There are no lifeguards in the national lakeshore. Swimming is not allowed within 100 feet of all harbors, public docks, and visitor facilities. Pets are not allowed in public buildings or on scheduled Apostle Islands Cruise Service trips (except guide dogs accompanying visually or hearing impaired persons).

From the Superintendent

Access to the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

Summer Visitor Information

Headquarters Visitor Center Hours
Open Mon. - Sat. 8 am to 4:30 pm, May 24 - June 26
Open Daily 8 am to 4:30 pm, June 27 - Sep. 5
Open Mon. - Sat. 8 am to 4:30 pm, Sep. 6 - Sep. 25
Open Mon. - Fri. 8 am to 4:30 pm, Sep. 26 - May 27, 2005

Weather

Typical summer conditions feature winds of 5 - 20 knots and waves of 1 to 4 feet. Winds of 30 to 40 knots with 6 to 12 foot seas are possible. Marine weather forecasts are broadcast on marine radio channels 1 - 10 and are available at ranger stations and visitor centers.

Statistics for average weather conditions are below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Precipitation</th>
<th>Rain</th>
<th>Highs &amp; Lows</th>
<th>Extremes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.1&quot;</td>
<td>63 to 39</td>
<td>95 and 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.49&quot;</td>
<td>72 to 48</td>
<td>98 and 22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.48&quot;</td>
<td>78 to 55</td>
<td>104 and 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.20&quot;</td>
<td>76 to 54</td>
<td>99 and 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.08&quot;</td>
<td>66 to 46</td>
<td>99 and 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td></td>
<td>2.88&quot;</td>
<td>55 to 36</td>
<td>88 and 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Paddling

During the past 15 years, sea kayaks have become very popular for travel among the Apostle Islands. Information about kayak outfitters can be obtained by calling Apostle Islands National Lakeshore at 715-779-3397. Two kayak launch points are located within the national lakeshore’s mainland unit. Meyers Beach is a popular spot to begin your trip. There is no launch fee. A free kayak launch is located to the west of the National Park Service dock at Little Sand Bay. Temporary parking for loading/unloading equipment is located to the west of the NPS visitor center. Long term parking is located in the parking lot adjacent to the town of Bayfield. Because of the lake’s power and unpredictability, the National Park Service does NOT recommend the use of canoes for travel between islands. Calm days can provide opportunities for canoeists to safely paddle along the mainland or island shorelines. The Apostle Islands Cruise Service will transport a canoe or kayak, and launch them for a $20 fee. For more information ask for the brochure “Paddling in the Apostle” or check our website at www.nps.gov/upsh/paddling.htm

Swimming

Yes, Lake Superior can be really cold. The average annual water temperature of the lake is about 40 degrees Fahrenheit. On warm, calm, sunny summer days, however, water temperatures in the Apostle Islands’ protected shallow bays can climb into the 70s. There are no lifeguards in the national lakeshore. Swimming is not allowed within 100 feet of all harbors, public docks, and visitor facilities. Pets are not allowed in public buildings or on scheduled Apostle Islands Cruise Service trips (except guide dogs accompanying visually or hearing impaired persons.)
California's Highway 1. Port Campbell hosts over a million visitors each year, more than 10 times what we see at the Apostle Islands. Most visitors drive through the park, stopping at a few “carparks” and walking the short trails to overlooks and interpretive displays about the park's resources. Just as there aren’t a La Perouse, there aren't “Twelve Apostles” at Port Campbell. Rapid erosion of the sea stacks by wild Southern Ocean storms that move in from the Antarctic create a constantly changing coastline. The same storms threatened mariners along this unprotected coast, which was on the early shipping route from Europe to Sydney. One of the park's classic stories is of the tragic wreck of the clipper Loch Ard in 1878. All but two of the 54 on board perished. The two survivors were rescued by members of the Glenampele family, whose homestead is preserved in the park. The Glenampeles were among the first permanent European settlers of the area. They eventually husbanded over 10,000 sheep and cattle on their spread. The coast was also well-known to Aboriginal people, who carved steps down the sheer cliffs to provide access to abundant marine food sources.

Port Campbell National Park is one of the best birding areas in this part of Australia, and includes breeding colonies of Mutton Birds and Little Penguins and a small number of the Australian-threatened Hooded Plover. At Apostles Island NL, we have the endangered Piping Plover, but (alas) no penguins. Mammalian species easily seen at Port Campbell National park include Eastern Grey Kangaroos, and two species of wallabies.

A Sister Park Relationship?
Apostle Islands National Lakeshore and Port Campbell National Park share similar purposes and have many common management challenges, despite being a world apart. A “Sister Park” agreement, should we go in that direction, is primarily a gesture of good will between the staffs of the two parks, and a commitment to share information and provide assistance on issues of common interest. Cost will always be a prohibitive factor. We don't even expect either park agency to fund trips across the Pacific to consult on-site. In fact, neither park has any money to put into a sister park arrangement. We can, however, cooperate via email, share information on the web, and use opportunities such as this article to inform our visitors about the “other” Apostles national park. It makes the world just a bit smaller, and the national park idea just a bit larger.

For more information on Port Campbell National Park and the Twelve Apostles, see www.twelveapostlesnationalpark.org.

Hiking
Hikers can enjoy more than 50 miles of maintained trails at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. Here are some of the highlights:

- Laketown Trail - A 4.5 mile trail beginning at the end of Meyers Road in the park’s mainland unit.
- Julian Bay Trail - 0.4 mile from Stockton Island Preserve boat dock to the Julian Bay beach.
- Tomahawk Loop - 3.8 mile loop through forests and along the Julian Bay beach at Stockton Island.
- Sand Island Lighthouse Trail - 2 mile walk from East Bay dock to the lighthouse featuring views of beaches, sea caves, and old pines.
- Oak Island Overlook - A 3.4 mile hike from the dock area to an overlook with views of 11 islands.
- Raspberry Island Sandspit Trail - A 0.8 mile walk from the beach to the lighthouse.

Camping
Camping is available on 18 of the lake islands. Permits are required for all camping in the national lakeshore. The permit system allows campers to reserve campsites in advance. Individual campsites (for one to seven campers) can be reserved beginning one month before the start of a trip. A $15 nonrefundable administrative fee will be charged for processing the permit. Group campsites (for eight to 20 campers) can be reserved beginning the second week in January. The fee for processing group camping permits is $30. Camping zones have also been established on 15 islands in the national lakeshore for visitors seeking a remote backcountry experience. See the brochure “Camping” for more information. Pictures and descriptions of Apostle Islands campsites are available online at www.nps.gov/api/campsite/campsite.htm.

Fishing and Hunting
A Wisconsin fishing license with a Great Lakes trout and salmon stamp is required for fishermen 16 or older. Sport fishermen are drawn to the Apostle Islands region by the opportunities to catch lake trout, rainbow trout, brown trout, and coho salmon. Summer fishing takes place in deep water with lake trout being the most commonly targeted fish. More information is available on our website at www.nps.gov/fishing.htm.

Hunting is allowed in the national lakeshore. Hunting activity may occur from September (after Labor Day) through December.

Cruising
The Apostle Islands Cruise Service offers a variety of non-stop sightseeing excursions and island shuttles featuring stops at several islands (see schedule below). Their office is located in the Bayfield Pavilion near the city dock at the bottom of Rittenhouse Avenue in Bayfield, WI. All cruises depart from Bayfield. Reservations are recommended. For more information call 800-323-7619 or visit on-line at www.apeirosland.com.

Below left: Sea arch at Loch Ard Gorge, Port Campbell National Park. Below right: Bob Krumenaker at the Twelve Apostles, Port Campbell National Park.
New Apostle Islands Film

The National Park Service is pleased to announce a new film about the Apostle Islands: “On the Edge of Gichigami - Voices of the Apostle Islands” is a 20 minute film that illustrates the islands’ most significant features in every season of the year. Interviews with people who live, work, and play in the Apostle Islands are used to tell the islands’ stories. The film earned a platinum award at the 2004 Worldfest-Houston International Film Festival.

What’s New?

New Apostle Islands Film

“On the Edge of Gichigami - Voices of the Apostle Islands” is shown on request at the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore’s visitor centers and by mail or phone at the national lakeshore’s visitor centers in Bayfield and Little Sand Bay. The film is available for sale in VHS ($12.95) and DVD formats. It may be purchased at park visitor centers and by mail or phone order. For information on viewing or purchasing the film, call (715)779-3397.

Restoration Work Limits Access to Michigan Outer Island Lights

Several repair projects are scheduled for the Michigan Island light station this summer. Work crews will repair the water system, propane system, and the rotted flooring at the Michigan Island keepers quarters. The Michigan Island dock and the light station grounds will remain open to the public, but visitors will not have access to the light towers this summer while the work is in progress. Visitors to the light station must use caution around disturbed ground and open trenches that could pose safety hazards. Park work crews will be on site and do what they can to inform visitors about the light station, safety hazards, and the ongoing projects.

The north end of Outer Island will be closed to the public this year due to shoreline stabilization work at the light station. See the article on page 6 for details.

Water Systems Closed on Several Islands

Potable water will no longer be available from well house faucets or drinking fountains at the following locations: Basswood Island, Cat Island, Otter Island, Ossabaw Island, Rocky Island, Quarry Bay on Stockton Island, and South Twin Island. Visitors to these sites must carry their own water or use lake water. Water from the lake should be boiled at least two minutes or passed through an adequate filter (0.4 microns pore size) before drinking.

Drinking water will be available at Little Sand Bay on the mainland, Presque Isle on Stockton Island and in the campground near the dock on Sand Island. Occasionally heavy use or equipment failures may also make these wells unavailable. It is always a good idea to carry drinking water or be prepared to filter, boil or treat lake water for drinking.

New Restrooms Open at Little Sand Bay

New visitor restrooms and water systems at Little Sand Bay will be open and operating by early July. The restrooms contain men and women’s toilets and changing rooms. They are located south of the National Park Service visitor center, between the large parking lot and the Town of Russell campground. If you have questions about the project, call 715-779-3397.

Road Improvements at Meyers Beach

Improvements are scheduled for Meyers Road, a 1/4 mile dirt road that provides access to Meyers Beach and the sea caves at the west end of Apostle Islands National Lakeshore’s mainland unit. The road will be paved, the parking area will be expanded and paved, and a new picnic area and vault toilet will be added near the trailhead of the park’s Lakeshore Trail. More than 30,000 visitors use Meyers Road to access the lakeshore each year. This project will alleviate traffic congestion while preventing erosion problems along the shoreline bluff above Meyers Beach.

Construction of the vault toilet should begin in midsummer, with road work scheduled for late summer or early fall. Access to the parking area, trailhead and beach may be closed when road work begins. When the road is closed, kayakers wishing to visit the mainland sea caves should plan to launch at Cornucopia or Little Sand Bay. For current information on road conditions call (715)779-3397.

Dock Space Reserved for Cruise Boats

 Portions of several docks will be reserved for use by the Apostle Islands Cruise Service from June 19 to September 6. Space will be reserved for the cruise boat at the Oak Island dock daily from 9:30 am to 10:30 am and from 12 pm to 12:30 pm. Space will be reserved at the Raspberry Island dock every day from 10 am to 12:30 pm. Space will be reserved at Stockton Island’s Presque Isle dock daily from 1:30 pm to 5 pm. Space will be reserved at Stockton Island’s Quarry Bay dock daily from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm and from 4 pm to 5 pm. Boaters should try to avoid using these docks during the posted times.

Summer Visitor Information continued...

Guided Tours, Walks, and Evening Programs Apostle Islands National Lakeshore 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raspberry Island Lighthouse Tour</td>
<td>Free park ranger guided tours of the historic lighthouse and grounds. 75 step stairs from dock to grounds.</td>
<td>6/19 - 9/6</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>9 am to 4 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand Island Lighthouse Tour</td>
<td>Park staff may be available for free tour of the lighthouse.</td>
<td>mid-June to Sept.</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>10 am to 4 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Devils Island Lighthouse Tour</td>
<td>Volunteer lighthouse keepers may be available to provide free access to the lighthouse.</td>
<td>mid-June to Sept.</td>
<td>Check availability</td>
<td>9-11 am &amp; 1-4 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitou Island Fish Camp</td>
<td>Free guided tours of a historic commercial fishing camp.</td>
<td>6/19 - 9/6</td>
<td>Check availability</td>
<td>9-11 am &amp; 1-4 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stockton Island Nature Walk</td>
<td>Free guided walk to Stockton’s forests, bogs, and beaches.</td>
<td>6/19 - 9/6</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>2:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stockton Island Evening Program</td>
<td>Hear the island’s stories around the campfire at the Presque Isle amphitheater.</td>
<td>6/25 - 8/5</td>
<td>Check availability</td>
<td>Twilight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Self-Guided Tours and Walks

Brochures for self-guided tours and walks are available from brochure boxes at Little Sand Bay’s Hokenson Brothers Fishery, the Manitou Island Fish Camp, and the Julian Bay Trail on Stockton Island. The brochures can be purchased, or used for free and returned to the box. Park volunteers may be available to guide tours of the Manitou Fish Camp during some or all of the period from 9 am to 4 pm daily from 6/19 to 9/6.

Employee Privacy

Park rangers and volunteers occupy historic buildings at island lighthouses and at the Manitou Fish Camp. Please respect their privacy in these residences. Guided tours will not be available before 9 am or after 5 pm without prior arrangements. Park staff are available in case of emergency, but otherwise should not be disturbed after hours.
Public input helps guide park management

Remember this childhood conversation?

“What do you wanna do?”

“I dunno, what do you wanna do?”

It might not be the most meaningful conversation you ever had (we hope), but it is memorable because it is so universal. People seem to enjoy asking this question, rather than just imposing their will on others.

And that’s what we’re planning to do this summer (ask questions, that is). Apostle Islands National Lakeshore will be participating in the National Park Service Visitor Survey Project. Our goal is to learn as much as we can about your stay in the park. What islands did you visit? How did you get there? How long did you stay? What facilities did you use? What did you do in the park? What did you like the most about your visit? What did you like the least?

Teams of park employees and volunteers will be distributing the visitor survey during a ten-day period in late July. We’ll be collecting only a small amount of information while you’re in the park. You’ll be given a copy of a questionnaire that you can fill out at your leisure once you get back home. We’ll even send you occasional reminders! It shouldn’t take more than a half-hour of your time, but the information you provide will be extremely valuable to us. It will not be shared with any other parties, and no names or other private information will be used in any publications that result from the study.

Why do we need this information? Well, aside from having a genuine interest in knowing what our visitors think, we need this information to guide us through our next major planning effort. In the fall of 2004, we expect to begin work on a new General Management Plan for Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. A General Management Plan is a park’s most critical planning document. It provides the vision that park management strives to follow for the next several years—often 15 years or more. The last time this was done for Apostle Islands National Lakeshore was back in 1989. Obviously, many things have changed since then.

Developing a new General Management Plan for the park will probably take two to three years, and it will be a very public process. There will be several opportunities to meet with park staff and provide input, so we encourage interested individuals to check in with us from time to time to keep abreast of the planning schedule. Once the process begins, we will issue press releases and post information on our website at www.nps.gov/apio. You can also contact the park’s Chief of Planning and Resource Management, Jim Nepustal, at 715-779-3398, extension 102.

What do you wanna do at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore? What’s your vision for this park? We encourage you to participate in the visitor survey this summer. Then stay involved by attending General Management Plan events and by sending us your comments. Together, we can plan a promising future for Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

Trampling Threatens Delicate Coastal Features

Beaches, sandspits, cuspsate forelands, tombolos, barriers spits—all coastal features or sandscapes, all favorite places to spend time along Apostle Islands beautiful shoreline. Sandscapes are shaped by Lake Superior’s ever-changing moods, striking a balance among the forces of nature that alternately build and erode them. Apostle Islands sandscapes are some of the most extensive and diverse on Lake Superior and are among the highest quality in the Great Lakes.

The plants that occur on sandscapes or dunes are adapted to survive under the severe conditions of shifting sand, strong winds and nutrients-poor soils. “Pioneer” plants, such as American beach grass and beach pea trap wind-blown sand and organic matter and help to stabilize the sand dunes that separate the vegetated area from the beach zone. Driftwood also plays an important role in stabilizing the sand dunes and providing organic matter to very nutrient poor soils. Although sandscape vegetation is generally resilient to natural disturbances such as wave and ice action, it can also be fragile and easily damaged. Studies have shown that as few as 10 footsteps through the same area can destroy a beach grass colony. Walking on sandscapes can eliminate the protective plant cover.

For over 15 years, the park has been monitoring sandscapes throughout the park, to obtain a pulse of their ecological health. Using this information, the park determines which sandscapes need restoration or other actions to keep them healthy. “Floating” boardwalks have been installed at a number of sandscapes to allow visitors to enjoy the sandscapes, while minimizing impacts to sensitive vegetation. Vegetation restoration is also being done on sandscapes that are showing the greatest need. On Oak Island, seeds and cuttings from native sandscapes plants were collected in 2000 and 2001. During the spring of 2002, over 3,500 plants of fifteen species were planted and work was done to reduce the amount of orange hawkweed, an exotic species. The good news is that the restoration has been successful in reestablishing native plants. The efforts is time consuming and expensive. However, the best way to protect the sandscapes is to reduce or eliminate the need for restoration.

We need the cooperation of all visitors to preserve sandscapes. Together, we can ensure that the fragile beauty of the sandscapes will endure for future generations.

Here’s how you can help:
1) Avoid walking on sandscape vegetation. Walk along the beach or use boardwalks and trails, where provided.
2) Keep beach fires to a minimum and only collect driftwood from the sandy beach, below the vegetation line.
3) Respect area-closure signs.

Search and Rescue
Visitors should plan to be self-reliant and responsible for their own safety. The outdoors, and especially Lake Superior, can be unforgiving. Visitors must be aware of the risks and hazards associated with the lake and island environments. Response times to areas on Lake Superior can be far greater than for similar distances on the mainland. The National Park Service will make reasonable efforts to respond in emergency situations. A variety of factors including the danger to the visitor, risk to the rescuer, and the availability of staff and equipment to do the job will be considered. A moment’s carelessness or a minor misjudgement can have serious consequences. Be careful out there, because maybe we can save you, and maybe we can’t.

Insects and Ticks
Biting insects can be prevalent on the islands from June to September. Wearing long pants and long sleeved shirts will provide some protection from mosquitoes, biting flies, and ticks. Insect repellent is helpful. The ticks that transmit Lyme Disease and Ehrlichiosis are found in the park. If you notice a rash, flu-like symptoms, or pain in the joints following a tick bite, call your physician.

For Your Safety

Boating Safety
The following precautions and regulations will help make a safe trip:
- Do not overload your boat.
  - Use life jackets, also known as personal flotation devices (PFDs). A U.S. Coast Guard approved, wearable PFD must be provided for each person aboard any boat.
  - Jacket saver
  - Exhibit anchor lights from sunset to sunrise.
  - Stay at least 100 feet from commercial fishing nets.
  - Be wary of shoal areas and when beaching a boat. NPS and U.S. Coast Guard vessels provide towing only in emergency situations.
  - Make sure your boat is properly equipped with: PFDs, paddles or oars, fire extinguisher, spare propeller and shaft pin, compass and nautical charts, running lights, flashlight, whistle or horn, first-aid kit, radio, and an anchor with sufficient line.

New Life Jacket Rule in Effect
The United States Coast Guard now requires all children under 13 years of age to wear Coast Guard approved life jackets while aboard recreational vessels underway, except when the children are below decks or in an enclosed cabin.

Search and Rescue
Visitors should plan to be self-reliant and responsible for their own safety. The outdoors, and especially Lake Superior, can be unforgiving. Visitors must be aware of the risks and hazards associated with the lake and island environments. Response times to areas on Lake Superior can be far greater than for similar distances on the mainland. The National Park Service will make reasonable efforts to respond in emergency situations. A variety of factors including the danger to the visitor, risk to the rescuer, and the availability of staff and equipment to do the job will be considered. A moment’s carelessness or a minor misjudgement can have serious consequences. Be careful out there, because maybe we can save you, and maybe we can’t.

Insects and Ticks
Biting insects can be prevalent on the islands from June to September. Wearing long pants and long sleeved shirts will provide some protection from mosquitoes, biting flies, and ticks. Insect repellents are helpful. The ticks that transmit Lyme Disease and Ehrlichiosis are found in the park. If you notice a rash, flu-like symptoms, or pain in the joints following a tick bite, call your physician.

Water
Well water is only available at Little Sand Bay, on Sand Island, and at Pesque Isle on Stockton Island. Water from the lake should be boiled or filtered through an adequate filter (0.4 microns pore size) before use. This precaution eliminates many waterborne organisms including Giardia lamblia, a bacteria which causes a severe intestinal disorder.

Around the Archipelago
Endangered Lighthouses Face Brighter Future

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore includes six historic light stations, the most of any unit in the National Park System. Two of these light stations were built in areas that are vulnerable to shoreline erosion. The light towers at Raspberry and Outer islands, the associated light station structures, and the surrounding cultural landscapes were seriously threatened by the loss of shoreline bank near the buildings of the station complexes. The shoreline has retreated to within 30 to 50 feet of the shoreward structures. Failure to act promptly would result in damage or loss of structures, possibly within the next high water cycle of Lake Superior. Fortunately, projects begun in 2002 at Raspberry Island, and continuing this year at Outer Island, promise to provide long term protection for these historic light stations.

This project should halt ongoing erosion from both the toe and the face of the slope near the light station.

The Outer Island light, constructed in 1874, is an important navigational aid on Lake Superior, as well as a popular destination for park visitors and lighthouse enthusiasts. Slumping of the bluff following heavy rains in the spring of 2001 threatened to destabilize the stairs and tramway leading up to the Outer Island light station from the dock. These stairs are the only immediate access to the light station. Park staff performed temporary repairs to prevent further damage until permanent repairs can be made.

Stabilizing the Outer Island site will involve the same types of techniques used at Raspberry Island. A new riprap footing will protect the base of the bluff. The face of the bluff will be re-contoured and stabilized with a geo-textile stabilization system and replanted with native vegetation. A new drainage system will be installed to prevent surface runoff from liquefying soils at the top of the bluff. The estimated cost of the project is $1.8 million.

Shoreline stabilization work was completed at the Raspberry Island light station in 2003.

The north end of Outer Island will be closed to the public during shoreline stabilization work in 2004.

Raspberry Island Light Restoration Set For 2005

The early years of the 20th century brought a series of major changes to the Raspberry Island light station. The brick fog signal building was constructed in 1903. Expanded duties required the addition of a second assistant lighthouse keeper. The original light was too narrow for three keepers and their families, so in 1906, the Lighthouse Service remedied the building from the ground up. For the next forty years, the Raspberry Island lighthouse was home to three keepers and their families. Children who lived at the Raspberry Island lighthouse each year.

The start of the 21st century finds approximately 10,000 people visiting the Raspberry Island lighthouse each year. As the most readily accessible of the six light stations at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, Raspberry Island light is a focal point of the park’s interpretive program. The main lighthouse building, however, is essentially a hollow shell. The bare interior gives visitors little evidence of the life and work of the keepers and their families.

Restoration Set For 2005

Now that shoreline stabilization work is complete, a major project to restore the Raspberry Island lighthouse is scheduled for 2005. The south half of the building will be restored and adapted to provide housing for seasonal employees stationed on the island. These projects will bring one of the park’s most significant historic structures to a standard that will enhance visitor enjoyment and understanding of the park’s values, and provide for sustainable operations for the foreseeable future.

The Raspberry Island lighthouse will be closed to the public while the restoration takes place. Call (715) 779-3397 for project details and information about access to the Raspberry Island lighthouse.

Furnishings Needed for Keepers’ Quarters

The restoration plan for the Raspberry Island lighthouse calls for furnishing the lighthouse keepers’ quarters as it may have been in the period from 1914-1924. This will help visitors understand how a lighthouse station functioned in the days before radio and electronic aids to navigation, and how the keepers and their families coped with their relative isolation from the mainland.

The National Park Service is collecting monetary donations to purchase some of the necessary furnishings. We would also appreciate donations of the specific furnishings listed below. Please take a look at the items and let us know if you have any of them. The National Park Service, contact Myra Dec at (715) 779-3397 ext. 107.

• Single metal framed bed
• Acme coal burning stove
• Oak dining room table
• Rocking chair with arms (2)
• Roll top desk
• Match safe
• Rocking chair - armless
• Pipe briar, straight step
• 1905 cookbook
• Washbowl and pitcher
• Piano chair, straight step
• Washbowl and pitcher
• rocking chair - armless
• Match safe
• Stereo scope and standoffs
• Washbowl and pitcher
• Stereo scope and standoffs
• Washbowl and pitcher
• Shaving brush
• Washbowl and pitcher
• Shaving brush
• 1905 cookbook
• Washbowl and pitcher
• Rocking chair - armless
• Washbowl and pitcher

Your donation will help bring the story of Raspberry Island to life for thousands of park visitors.
Islands Wilderness Study, park staff have and the Record of Decision may be Congress. Copies of the Final Wilderness park's lands be designated as wilderness by the National Park Service's proposal. The Final Wilderness Study/Environmental Impact Statement was released to the public this spring. The study's formal Record of Decision - the last milestone in the wilderness study process - documents the National Park Service's proposal. The Record of Decision was signed on May 5, 2001. It is often said that a journey of 1,000 miles begins with a single step. In January 2001, park staff took the first tentative steps in the Apostle Islands Wilderness Study. Now, more than three years later, the end of that long journey is finally coming into view.

The study, required by the Wilderness Act and National Park Service policy, is intended to advise the United States Congress on how much, if any, of Apostle Islands National Lakeshore should be designated as wilderness.

The Final Wilderness Study/Environmental Impact Statement was released to the public this spring. The study's formal Record of Decision - the last milestone in the wilderness study process - documents the National Park Service's proposal. The Record of Decision was signed on May 5, 2004. It recommends that 80% of the park's lands be designated as wilderness by Congress. Copies of the Final Wilderness Study/Environmental Impact Statement and the Record of Decision may be obtained at park headquarters in Bayfield, or at the study's web site at www.nps.gov/apis/wstud.htm.

It is safe to say that through the Apostle Islands Wilderness Study, park staff have learned more about you, the visitors of Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, than from any other activity ever undertaken by the park. We hosted 15 open houses and a public hearing, and we met with every local government and organization that accepted our invitations. Nearly 10,000 people sent us their comments. There can be no doubt that the results of the study would not have been the same without all of that input.

We have learned that some level of designated wilderness in the Apostle Islands makes sense to many, many people. We have also learned that many of you are anxious about preserving the level of access to the islands that you currently enjoy. In terms of the sheer quantity of comments, these were the two central issues of the study. We worked hard to ensure that all of the study's wilderness alternatives will guarantee both - preserving the wildest parts of the islands themselves as wilderness, while also preserving the means of access to the islands that you enjoy today.

What will the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore be like if wilderness is designated by Congress in the future? From a modern visitor's perspective, the change would be nearly imperceptible. Many have asked us "Why bother if nothing will change?" Our favorite reply has been to state that the answer is in the question. The majority of the islands are wild, and nearly everyone we spoke to opposes any major change in development levels in the park.

"It's perfect," they say, "don't change it." We believe that wilderness is the best way to ensure that the Apostle Islands experience that you treasure today will be as tangible and as accessible to future generations as it is to you. Perhaps that earlier question could be reframed "Why not, if nothing will change?"

Although we think about it less often, it can also be said that a long journey ends with a single step. So, as the final step in the Apostle Islands Wilderness Study, we would like to say, Thank you! We're grateful for all the wonderful folks we met along the way, and we believe that the relationships that sprang from the study will continue to benefit the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore long after the study has faded into the past.
A newly-formed citizen group, the Friends of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, has been launched to help foster an appreciation and to build support for the national lakeshore.

“The Apostle Islands are gemstones in Lake Superior, and we want to invite people to visit these special islands and to help protect them so that future generations may enjoy them as we do now,” said Martin Hanson of Mellen. Hanson, a driving force in founding the Friends and its Board of Directors, worked to establish the national lakeshore in the 1960s. He was the personal tour guide of President John F. Kennedy who briefly visited the Apostles as he considered a push by former U.S. Sen. Gaylord Nelson to designate the islands as national parkland.

The mission of the non-profit Friends of the Apostle Islands is to provide volunteer and financial resources to help protect, improve and promote the remarkable historical and natural features of Wisconsin’s premier national park. To achieve this mission, the Friends adopted a three-part plan.

- To build a broad membership base of persons who have an interest in the park and who wish to volunteer their services to park improvement.
- To undertake a fundraising campaign to help restore several structures that are important to the islands’ cultural heritage, and to help improve dock facilities to accommodate park visitors. Specifically, major funding is being sought to restore and maintain lighthouse facilities on Sand and Raspberry Islands.
- To publish the first-ever pictorial history of the Apostle Islands, featuring stunning Apostle images by noted photographer Layne Kennedy along with the splendid narrative of prominent outdoor writer Jeff Rennicke. Both Kennedy and Rennicke have experienced the many moods of Lake Superior and the Apostle Islands in every season. The book will be available through Friends later this year.

Sue Martinsen of Ashland, Chair of the Friends’ Board of Directors, said, “An important purpose of Friends is to connect our community and people from throughout the region with the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. We hope that the many people who love the Apostle Islands will see high value in our organization.”

For information about the Friends of the Apostle Islands, go to www.friendsoftheapostleislands.org or call 715-779-9978.