**New Apostle Islands Wilderness Honors Gaylord Nelson**

...there is not another collection of islands of this significance within the continental boundaries of the United States. I think it is tremendously important that this collection of islands be preserved.”

- Gaylord Nelson

With the stroke of a pen, on December 8, 2004, President George W. Bush approved legislation designating 80% of the land area of Wisconsin’s Apostle Islands National Lakeshore as federally protected wilderness. The new wilderness area – Wisconsin’s largest by far – honors former Governor and U.S. Senator, Gaylord Nelson. This new addition to the National Wilderness Preservation System will be known as the Gaylord Nelson Wilderness. The designation guarantees that the present management style of Apostle Islands National Lakeshore will be maintained in the future - emphasizing continued motorized boat access to the mostly-wild islands, but no motorized travel on the islands themselves.

“We’re absolutely thrilled about this,” said Apostle Islands National Lakeshore Superintendent Bob Krumenaker. “Senator Nelson is a visionary who fought long and hard to create the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, and for decades he has been a leading advocate for our nation’s wilderness areas. It is entirely fitting that this new wilderness area be named for him.”

The waters of Lake Superior within the National Lakeshore are not included in the wilderness area, nor are the lighthouses or other existing developed areas of the park. Sand, Basswood, and Long Islands were kept out of the wilderness boundary in their entirety, along with the park’s 12-mile mainland strip. The wilderness boundary is shown on the map on page 8.

Wilderness has been contemplated for the Apostle Islands in one form or another for nearly 50 years, with initial efforts predating even the federal Wilderness Act of 1964 by nearly a decade. In 1955, the state of Wisconsin issued a Policy on Acquisition of an Apostle Islands Wilderness Area. This policy was pursued by then-Governor Nelson throughout his four year term, which ran from 1958 through 1962.

Nelson was elected to the United States Senate in 1962, and almost immediately initiated an effort to bring the islands into the National Park System, convincing President John F. Kennedy to tour the islands by helicopter in September 1963. After years of effort, Senator Nelson succeeded in passing legislation creating the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore in 1970.

“While the proposed boundaries of the park changed throughout the 1960s, Senator Nelson’s vision for the islands never wavered,” said Krumenaker. “The islands were always intended to be wild and primitive, but accessible.”

There was little talk of wilderness during the 1970s and 1980s, as the National Park Service struggled to bring the new park into existence. However the park’s first General Management Plan, which was approved in 1989, identified that a large percentage of the park could potentially qualify for wilderness designation, pending a formal study with public participation.

That formal study was conducted between 2001 and 2004, and it involved a public involvement effort unlike anything the NPS had ever attempted in the region. Following dozens of meetings, hundreds of conversations, and thousands of public comments, the NPS recommended that 80% of the island lands be designated by the Congress as federally-protected wilderness.

“We learned a lot about what people cared about in the Apostle Islands,” said Krumenaker. “And in the end, we learned what I think Senator Nelson instinctively knew all along – that these islands were meant to be visited, enjoyed, and experienced, but that they shouldn’t ever be allowed to lose the wild and primitive character that brings people here in the first place. Wilderness designation for most of the park guarantees that future generations will be able to experience the islands in essentially the same way we can today.”

**Wilderness Management**

Now that the Gaylord Nelson Wilderness Area has been officially established, what impacts will that have on how the National Park Service (NPS) manages the area?

Since it is NPS policy to assure that management actions do not diminish the wilderness suitability of an area possessing wilderness characteristics pending Congressional action, most of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore has been managed essentially as wilderness since 1960. This means that changes will be nearly imperceptible. One tangible change will be the removal of picnic tables from 13 campsites located in the new wilderness area, since NPS policy precludes picnic tables in wilderness.

Trail clearing in the wilderness area may take longer because crews would not routinely use chainsaws or motorized vehicles, unless they were the minimum requirement for getting the work done.

All management decisions affecting wilderness must be consistent with the minimum requirement concept. This is a process used to determine: 1) whether the proposed management action is necessary for administration of the area as wilderness and does not pose a significant impact to wilderness resources and character; and 2) the techniques and type of equipment needed to ensure that impact to wilderness resources and character is minimized. Parks will complete a minimum requirement analysis on those administrative practices and equipment uses that have the potential to impact wilderness resources or values.

Each park containing wilderness will develop a wilderness management plan to guide the preservation, management, and use of those resources. This will be developed over the next two or three years as part of the park’s new General Management Plan.

There will be several opportunities for the public to meet with park staff and have input. For more information on this planning process, go to www.nps.gov/aplo/gmp.htm, or contact the park’s Chief of Planning and Resource Management, Jim Nepstad, at 715-779-3307 ext. 102.

---

**6 Lighthouse Update**


Bottom: Wilderness designation will have no impact on motorized boat access to the islands.
**Fees...Coming Soon?**

By Bob Kramemaker
Superintendent, Apostle Islands NL

We've been holding off for as long as possible, but user fees are probably coming to Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

Public policy, as established by the Congress, encourages public land managers to implement reasonable user fees to recover some of the costs of operating the public lands. Congress, in fact, requires the coordinating fee legislation in 2004, and we have been working on ideas that might work for the Apostle Islands. Many readers know that I've been discussing and writing about park finances and possible fees since 2002.

I always start off user fee discussions with an expression of regret, because in a perfect world this wouldn't be needed. But despite significant belt-tightening, the park has had to reduce services and maintenance in recent years. If a fee program were implemented, accepted by the public and fair to the users, 80% of the money would stay here at the Apostle Islands and by law would be spent on visitor services, infrastructure repair, and other items which would directly improve your experience in the park.

We'll be working all this summer to test the waters, so to speak, on various fee alternatives, because we're committed to listening to your concerns as we develop a proposal. I'll share some of the things I've been hearing consistently:

- User fees are appropriate, if they are implemented fairly and equitably.
- Convenience is critical. There needs to be an annual pass option for frequent visitors and they need to be available at locations other than park headquarters.
- Fees should be as simple as possible.
- Fees should be commensurate with services provided. (This may be irreconcilable, however, with "simple" fees.)
- Fees should apply to all park users, not just some groups or just some activities.
- Fees for docking and camping and guided tours are reasonable, above and beyond the daily fee. Frequent users of these services want an annual pass option for these as well.
- Passes for boaters should not be specific to location, as boaters need to be able to move around the park if conditions change.
- Philanthropy is important to the park, and a more efficient means of funding park needs than fees. (100% goes to the park, there's no collection or enforcement cost, and they are deductible to the donor.) As the Friends (see back page) currently have a matching gift program, the money can be leveraged. Philanthropy is not likely, however, to be sustainable at the level needed to replace fees.

While our figures are conservative, we believe we can raise at least $650,000 per year with a fee program. That figure will make a huge difference in what we are able to provide for you when you visit.

Park management staff will continue to attend meetings organized by others to discuss this issue. Please call me at 715-779-3397 if you want to plan such a meeting. We will organize additional meetings this summer and advertise them widely to assure that we talk with people who represent the entire spectrum of park users and community interests in this issue.

At some point, probably in late summer, we will draft a specific fee proposal and circulate it widely for discussion. We'll hold meetings to discuss that proposal. We'll consider all the input we receive, and eventually finalize a firm proposal for consideration by the regional and Washington offices of the NPS. The proposal for 2007 fees is due in April 2006.

Here's my commitment. We will listen carefully to the input we receive and do our best to consider everything we hear. We will make sure there is a widely publicized opportunity to provide feedback on any proposal before we finalize it, and we will do our best to make known the final fee schedule well in advance of implementation. We will work closely with the business community and those who provide services to park visitors to develop ways of purchasing park passes as conveniently as possible. Finally, should the user community develop a viable, long-term funding program this year that appears to be able to replace the potential revenue that we could raise with user fees year after year, then we will delay the implementation of user fees.

Thank you for your continued support. I hope you enjoy your visit.

---

**Summer Visitor Information**

**Headquarters Visitor Center Hours**

Open Mon - Fri 8 am to 4:30 pm, May 2 - May 27
Open Daily 8 am to 4:30 pm, May 28 - Oct. 23
Open Mon - Fri 8 am to 4:30 pm, Oct. 24 - May 26, 2006

**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 channel 1-10 are available at ranger stations and visitor centers.

**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 free to 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 $24 an hour in Bayfield, $24 an hour at Little Sand Bay. Marinas are in Ashland, Bayfield, Cornucopia, La Pointe, Pixes Bay, Port Superior, Red Cliff, Toyes Point, Schooner Bay, and Washburn.

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

**Paddling**

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 a tour to the mainland sea caves. The road to Meyers Beach will be closed for construction through July 1, 2005. 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 Russell campground. 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 National Service will transport a canoe or kayak to the islands for a $20 fee. For more information ask for the brochure "Paddling in the Apostle" or check our website at www.nps.gov/apis/paddling.html

**Swimming**

Yes, it's true. 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 Apostle Islands and no lifeguard services provided by the National Park Service. Swimming is not allowed within 100 feet of all harbors, public docks, and vessels secured to public docks. Diving or jumping into the lake from the sandstone cliffs at Devils Island or the mainland sea caves is prohibited.

**Scuba Diving**

A scuba dive permit is required to scuba dive within national lakeshore boundaries. Permits are available from Park Headquarters or Little Sand Bay visitor centers.
Planning For Your Visit...in 2020!

By Jim Nepstad, Chief of Planning and Resource Management

It is easy to think of the year 2020 as some futuristic, space-age, way-too-far-ahead-of-us-to-worry-about-it-now kind of year. But when you do the math, you find that it is only 15 years away. As far into the future as 1990 is into our past. Not that far.

And it will certainly be within the projected life-span of the park’s new General Management Plan, which the National Park Service (NPS) is just beginning to revise. General management plans are broad, visionary NPS documents that are designed to set the tone for a park for 15 to 20 years.

In 2020, the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore will turn 50 years old. In 1989, when the park’s most recent General Management Plan was approved, it was only 19. Still evolving, still trying to find its niche in the larger National Park Service world.

What would you like the park to look like in 2020? Do you think it should be left “just as it is”, or do you think it should be tweaked in some way to make it better from your perspective? Should we build new campgrounds? Should we install mooring buoys? Should tours be available at all lighthouses? And what about transportation? Should any and all newfangled transportation contraptions that come along be allowed full or partial access to the park? Or should we take a more cautious approach?

Remarkable changes can occur in modern society in a mere 15 years. Sea kayaks were barely on the radar screen in 1989 when the park’s latest general management plan was finalized. Now more than 60% of island campers are using them. According to the surveys that we and others have done, kayaks and kayakers have blended into the park nicely. Other forms of transportation have not. Personal watercraft, or “jetskis,” were banned throughout most of the NPS in the late 1990s, and there was barely a murmur of opposition here (and plenty of very vocal support). The reason one survived and the other did not is at least partly due to the vision outlined in the park’s general management plan.

One fit the vision. The other, for the most part, did not.

And that is one of the reasons why we feel it is very important for you to take an interest in the planning process as it begins to gear up. Within the next year, alternative visions of the park will be developed, drafted, and put out for public review and comment. Hopefully, at least one of the alternatives will reflect some of the input you’ve already given us. And hopefully, you’ll share your thoughts again with us.

If you feel strongly about the future of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore - and we know that there are many of you who do - then there are very few things you can do that would be more important than keeping in touch with the park as we go through this multi-year planning effort. Go to www.nps.gov/apis/gmp.htm for schedules, draft documents, and information on general management plans in the NPS. And if you have any comments, or if you want to share YOUR vision for the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore with us, then don’t hesitate to send us an email at apis_comments@nps.gov, or give the park’s Chief of Planning and Resource Management, Jim Nepstad, a call at 715-779-3398, x102. We would love to hear from you!
Apostle Islands NL Receives National Park Foundation Grants

The National Park Foundation (NPF) has awarded Apostle Islands National Lakeshore two Transportation Interpreter programs valued at $6,830 each through the 2005 Proud Partner Transportation Interpreter Program. The program places and supports college-age summer interns in National Parks where they serve as interpreters to encourage visitors to use transportation systems by enhancing the visitor experience associated with alternative methods of transportation. The program’s ultimate goal is to reduce vehicle congestion and related impacts (i.e. noise and air pollution).

At Apostle Islands National Lakeshore the interns will ride the Apostle Islands Cruise Service’s daily shuttles to Stockton and Michigan islands providing orientation information and guiding lighthouse tours and nature walks. This program is a partnership between the NPF, the National Park Service (NPS), the Apostle Islands Cruise Service, and the Student Conservation Association (SCA), and is made possible through the generous support of Post of Bird Island, a Proud Partner of America’s National Parks.

The NPF has also presented Apostle Islands National Lakeshore with more than $1,700 worth of professional digital photography equipment from Kodak as part of the Proud Partners of America’s National Parks program. The donation includes two Kodak Easyshare DX7590 Zoom Digital Cameras and a Kodak Professional 1400 Digital Photo Printer. The equipment will be used to help the National Park Service document the restoration of the Raspberry Island Lighthouse and provide park visitors with virtual tours of the lighthouse while the building is closed. Photos will be printed and posted on the bulletin board on the lighthouse grounds for Raspberry Island visitors. The photos will also be posted on the park’s website, at visitor centers, on other park bulletin boards, and shared with area newspapers to provide updates on the progress of the restoration project.

Research Projects in 2005

The National Park Service (NPS) will be working with a variety of partners to conduct studies in the Apostle Islands.

- Deer
  - Deer hunting is allowed in the national lakeshore. The islands have plant communities that have nearly disappeared in mainland areas as a result of deer browsing. The NPS needs information on deer population and distribution and impacts to plants from deer browsing to help manage deer hunting in the park. Aerial surveys to look for deer signs, browse surveys and deer pellet counts will be started in 2005 and continue through 2006. Northland College and the Bad River Tribe will participate in the project.

- Climate Change
  - A Wisconsin DNR study will help determine the effects of global climate change by gathering baseline data on various plants and animals living in bogs.

- Mercury
  - A University of Wisconsin -LaCrosse study will measure levels of mercury in the water, sediment, plants and animals in the islands’ lagoons. The results of this project will be compared with mercury research being conducted in Chequamegon Bay.

- Geology
  - What was the environment like a billion years ago when the Devils Island sandstone was deposited? This University of Minnesota project will try to determine whether the Devils Island Sandstone was deposited in a shallow lake environment, as is currently thought, or by wind and stream action.

Apostle Islands Vegetation Map

High resolution aerial photography was flown in the fall (2004) and spring (2005) and extensive vegetation plot work will be done during the summer. The vegetation map is being produced in cooperation with NatureServe and U.S. Geological Survey’s Biological Resource Division and with the help of the NPS Great Lakes Inventory and Monitoring Network.

Road Improvements at Meyers Beach

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, is getting some long-awaited improvements. A new vault toilet was installed in fall of 2004. The road will be paved, the parking area will be expanded and paved, and a new picnic area 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 bluffs above Meyers Beach.

Road work began in April, 2005 and should be completed by July 1. The road providing access to the parking area, trailhead and beach will be closed during construction. When the road is closed, kayakers wishing to visit the Mawikwe Bay sea caves should plan to launch at Cornucopia or Little Sand Bay. For current information on road conditions call (715)779-3397.

Summer Visitor Information continued...

Guided Tours, Walks, and Evening Programs

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore 2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Times</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Guest Lecture Series - Bayfield</td>
<td>Eight different presentations at the Headquarters Visitor Center</td>
<td>7/11-8/29</td>
<td>M on</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raspberry Island Lighthouse Tour</td>
<td>Park staff may be available for free tour (lighthouse may be closed for restoration)</td>
<td>late-June to Sept.</td>
<td>Check Availability</td>
<td>9 am to 4 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan Island Lighthouse Tour</td>
<td>Park staff may be available for free tours of the light towers, 110 steps from deck to grounds</td>
<td>late-June to Sept.</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>9-11 am &amp; 1-4 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sand Island Lighthouse Tour</td>
<td>Park staff may be available for free tour of the lighthouse.</td>
<td>late-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 conduct guided tours of the Outer Island lighthouse in parts of August and September.</td>
<td>late-June to Sept.</td>
<td>Daily</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>7/1 - 9/4</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stockton Island Evening Program</td>
<td>Hear the island’s stories at the Prasque Isle amphitheater</td>
<td>7/1 - 9/4</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>Twilight</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visitors must make arrangements for transportation to the islands. See the Apostle Islands Cruise Service Schedule for prices and times.
Who's There?
Visitor Survey Yields Insights on Apostle Islands' Visitors

Did you know that of the people visiting Apostle Islands National Lakeshore (NL) between July 24 and August 1, 2004... 33% had never been here before, 30% were between 46 and 55 years old, 3% were from Iowa, 44% went swimming, and 79% knew the park was managed by the National Park Service? Well, neither did we, until we got the results of a survey conducted last summer by the National Park Service Visitor Services Project.

The visitor survey was conducted to provide the National Park Service with information to help guide development of a New General Management Plan at Apostle Islands NL. A total of 671 questionnaires were distributed to visitor groups in ten different locations at Apostle Islands NL during this nine day period. Five hundred five questionnaires were returned. The questionnaires contained 26 questions about everything from where people lived and what services and facilities they used.

A visitor survey report was completed to profile these Apostle Islands NL visitors. The data reflect use patterns of visitors to the selected sites during the study period. The results do not necessarily apply to visitors during other times of the year. Even so, the report gives us an interesting snapshot revealing details about actual park visitors. Here are some of the things we learned.

Forty percent of visitor groups had two people, 28% had three or four people, and 22% had six people or more. Fifty-nine percent of visitors were between 46 and 55 years old, 3% were 15 years old or younger. Thirty-three percent had never been to Apostle Islands NL.

International visitors, comprising 2% of the total visitation, were from Canada (38%), United States visitors were from Wisconsin (42%), Minnesota (33%), Illinois (5%), and 30 other states.

The most used visitor services/facilities by the 432 respondents included the park brochure/map (54%), vault toilet/outhouses (53%), and trails (51%). The visitor services/facilities that received highest "extremely important" and "very important" ratings included campsites (96%), trails (82%), vault toilets/outhouses (82%), and cruise boat tour (81%). Most visitors (92%) rated the overall quality of visitor services at Apostle Islands NL as "very good" or "good."

If you missed participating in the visitor survey, there will be several opportunities to provide input to the General Management Plan during the next two to three years. Information about the planning schedule will be posted on our website at www.nps.gov/apnl. For more information about this and other visitor surveys completed by the National Park Service Visitor Services Project, please visit the University of Idaho Park Studies Unit website: http://www.psu.uidaho.edu

Evening Programs Return to Bayfield Visitor Center

Guest Lecture Series

A grant from the Friends of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore will permit the return of the popular "Around the Archipelago" guest lecture series this summer. Presentations are scheduled on Monday evenings at 7:30 pm at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore's Bayfield visitor center. The free presentations will include...

July 11 "Madeline Island History" - Steve Cotham, director of the Madeline Island Historical Museum, tells stories of the largest Apostle Island.

July 18 "An Evening with the Superintendent" - Bob Krumenaker, superintendent of Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, discusses wilderness, lighthouses, preservation, and other topics.

July 25 "Chiefs in the Wilderness" - Bob Mackrell, former cultural resource specialist at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, shares stories focusing on the human history of areas now included in the Gaylord Nelson Wilderness.

August 1 "Critterman: Dancing with Wolves" - Dave Olson, naturalist/educator. Legend has trapped the wolf in a shroud of fear and loathing. The Critterman, with his insider's view of wolves, explodes the mythology in his own uproarious way, making "packs" from the audience mark territories, hunt, and behave like everyday wolves.

August 8 "Jewels of Superior: Telling the Stories of the Apostles" - Bayfield author Jeff Barlow, shares the experience of writing the new book JEWELS ON THE WATER: LAKE SUPERIOR'S APOSTLE ISLANDS.

August 15 "Bears in the Apostle Islands" - Julie Van Stappen, natural resource specialist at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, summarizes 20 years of research on island bears.

August 22 "Recreational Fishing in Chequamegan Bay Area" - Captain Roger Laperrin, of Angler's All in Ashland, WI will speak of the recreational fishing opportunities in Chequamegan Bay and around the Apostle Islands.

August 29 "Mushrooms of the Apostle Islands" - Matt Welter, curator of education at the Neville Public Museum, was a park ranger at Raspberry Island for six seasons. Learn why Raspberry Island is one of the best places to find mushrooms and hear the interesting anecdotes of a mushroom hunter.

An Evening with the Keeper

Did you ever wonder what it was like to be a lighthouse keeper? Join professional actopark ranger Jim Stowell for "An Evening with the Keeper" this summer at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore's Bayfield visitor center to hear stories of the Raspberry Island lighthouse keepers and take a virtual tour of the station without ever leaving Bayfield. Call 779-3397 to find out dates and times for this presentation.

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.
- Boat sober.
- Exhibit anchor lights from sunset to sunrise.
- Be wary of shoal areas and when beaching a boat. NPS Natural Resources, and the Bayfield County Search and Rescue 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 misjudgment can have serious consequences. Be careful out there, because maybe we can save you, and maybe we can't.

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 misjudgment can have serious consequences. Be careful out there, because maybe we can save you, and maybe we can't.

Insects and Ticks

Insects and ticks can be prevalent on the islands from June to September. Wear long pants and long sleeved shirts will provide some protection from mosquitos, 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 Presque Isle on Stockton Island. Water from the lake should be boiled for two minutes 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.
Raspberry Island Light Restoration

If you stopped by the Raspberry Island lighthouse last summer for a visit, you may have noticed that “The Showcase of the Apostle” was looking a little rougher than usual. The National Park Service is busy planning for a major renovation at Raspberry Island, so there has been reluctance to sink too much money into the nearly-150-year-old structure.

Sometime soon, that major renovation project will begin. It will take roughly two years to complete, but once finished, it is hoped that it will once again be the showcase it has always been, and more.

The second of the Apostle Islands lights, the Raspberry Island lighthouse was constructed in 1862, and was operational by 1863. The fact that it was constructed and put into service during the height of the Civil War underscores the importance of the light to the economy of the nation.

For nearly a century and a half, the wooden structure has withstand everything that Lake Superior and a northern Wisconsin climate could throw at it. But time has its effects on all structures, and this majestic lighthouse is no exception. Poor drainage and exposure to the elements have contributed to the slow-motion deterioration of exposed elements of the structure on the exterior. Time and well-intentioned improvements in the middle of the 1900s have diminished the historic appearance of the interior as well.

Much of this will be remedied in a project slated to begin soon. The Raspberry Island lighthouse restoration project has attracted contractors skilled in the preservation of historic structures. They will be devoting their efforts to lovingly restoring the appearance of the lighthouse – inside and out – to its 1920s appearance, the era the National Park Service has chosen to emphasize in its interpretive efforts. Detoned concrete, plaster walls, and elements of the foundation will be restored or repaired. The elegant metal roof – mesmerizing when viewed from the tower – will be completely redone. Extensive restoration will help ensure the lighthouse’s long-term survival.

When it is complete, visitors will be transported back to the early 20th century in a way they have never experienced before. It is a project well worth getting excited about.

Shoreline Stabilization Continues at Outer Island

Standing on a high bluff at the most remote point of the Apostle Islands chain, the Outer Island lighthouse was built in 1874 to guide ships past the island to the rapidly growing ports of Duluth and Superior. The original fog whistle was placed in a tower that was constructed in 1862. After two months of operation, the keepers made the following entry in their log book:

November 15, 1874, It is snowing today. Wind SE. Commenced firing up (the fog whistle) at 3/4 past 2 PM. Got up steam and blew till 6 PM when the bank on the land side gave way and carrying the ladder with great force against the building. The earth nearly covered the building to the roof. We thought the whole side was coming in.

Shoreline erosion continues to threaten the historically significant buildings at the Outer Island light station. To protect these buildings, the National Park Service began a project to stabilize the shoreline near the Outer Island lighthouse in 2004. A rock rip rap footing was installed to protect the base of the bluff from wave action and to help hold the ground in place. A drainage trench was installed between the light station and the bluff edge to divert water away from the bluff during storms and prevent landslides. The stairs and tramway leading from the dock to the light station were also repaired.

Highly eroded parts of the slope at Outer Island still need to be stabilized using various bioengineering techniques over the next two years. The slope will be planted with native vegetation beginning in the spring of 2005. Various techniques will be used. Faschias are cuttings of plants such as willow, alder and dogwood that are planted together to form a living "sweat" that is then placed in a small trench cut into the slope. The cuttings take root in the soil and begin to grow. This technique has been widely used to stabilize stream banks and roads well.

Work at Outer Island light may close the station to the public for part of the 2005 season.

But all of this good work will come at a cost. For one thing, most of the lighthouse grounds will be closed to all visitors while the work is taking place, to allow the contractors space to do their important work. The dock and tramway below the lighthouse grounds will be closed during the project as well.

The island will not be completely closed, however. Visitors willing to hike in from the sandspit will be able to view the work from a safe distance, and will occasionally be treated to interpretive programs led by National Park Service personnel explaining recent progress and the long-term benefits of the project. Additional programs related to the project will be offered at park headquarters in Bayfield.

Thank you for your patience while we undertake one of the most exciting historic preservation projects in the park’s history. Call (715) 779-3397 for project details and information about access to the Raspberry Island light. We hope you will agree that the wait will be well worth the temporary inconvenience.

Furnishings Needed for Keepers’ Quarters

Your donation will help bring the story of Raspberry Island to life for thousands of park visitors.

For slopes that aren’t very steep, a combination of techniques called vegetated log cribs and slope grids will be used. Vegetated log cribs will be built on top of the rock footing at the base of the slope. Layers of cuttings of shrubs such as willow, alder and dogwood alternating with layers of logs are built in a way to blend into the slope. Slope grids use a combination of logs and wire mesh to create a more stable slope. The area beneath the mesh is filled with soil and planted with a combination of shrub cuttings and other native plants.

Continuing work at the Outer Island lighthouse may cause the dock and/or the buildings and grounds at the station to be closed to the public for part of the summer. Volunteers may be present to provide guided tours of the light station in late summer 2005. Please call (715) 779-3397 for details about when the Outer Island light will be open to the public.

The Raspberry Island lighthouse was placed in a tower that was constructed in 1862. After two months of operation, the keepers made the following entry in their log book...

November 15, 1874, It is snowing today. Wind SE. Commenced firing up (the fog whistle) at 3/4 past 2 PM. Got up steam and blew till 6 PM when the bank on the land side gave way and carrying the ladder with great force against the building. The earth nearly covered the building to the roof. We thought the whole side was coming in.

Shoreline Stabilization Continues at Outer Island

Standing on a high bluff at the most remote point of the Apostle Islands chain, the Outer Island lighthouse was built in 1874 to guide ships past the island to the rapidly growing ports of Duluth and Superior. The original fog whistle was placed in a tower that was constructed in 1862. After two months of operation, the keepers made the following entry in their log book:

November 15, 1874, It is snowing today. Wind SE. Commenced firing up (the fog whistle) at 3/4 past 2 PM. Got up steam and blew till 6 PM when the bank on the land side gave way and carrying the ladder with great force against the building. The earth nearly covered the building to the roof. We thought the whole side was coming in.

Shoreline erosion continues to threaten the historically significant buildings at the Outer Island light station. To protect these buildings, the National Park Service began a project to stabilize the shoreline near the Outer Island lighthouse in 2004. A rock rip rap footing was installed to protect the base of the bluff from wave action and to help hold the ground in place. A drainage trench was installed between the light station and the bluff edge to divert water away from the bluff during storms and prevent landslides. The stairs and tramway leading from the dock to the light station were also repaired.

Highly eroded parts of the slope at Outer Island still need to be stabilized using various bioengineering techniques over the next two years. The slope will be planted with native vegetation beginning in the spring of 2005. Various techniques will be used. Faschias are cuttings of plants such as willow, alder and red osier dogwood that are bundled together to form a living "sweat" that is then placed in a small trench cut into the slope. The cuttings take root in the soil and begin to grow. This technique has been widely used to stabilize stream banks and roads well.
Living with Island Bears

Fortunately, there were few close encounters between people and black bears in the Apostle Islands last year. Visitors can help assure that the National Park Service is not forced to close visitor use areas due to bear activity in 2005 by reducing the risk of close encounters with bears. When hiking in the backcountry, respect the fact that we are in the bear's territory. Hike in a group on established trails during daylight hours. Watch for bear signs such as tracks, droppings, claw marks on trees, and torn up logs. 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 directly into the bear's eyes. Act passively to let the bear know you are not a threat. If the bear approaches, wave your arms and talk louder so the bear can identify you as a human. Leave the area, but do not run.

Around campsites, docks and picnic areas, it is important to store food properly and reduce food odors so bears are not bated into those areas. Bear-proof food lockers are available on campsites at Devil's Buumass, Manitou, Oax, Sand, York, and Stockers islands. Where lockers are provided, food must be locked up between meals. Water bottles, toiletries, cosmetics, and any items with a strong or human odor should also be stored in food lockers. Where food lockers are not available, hang your food on a sturdy branch 10-15 feet above the ground near maintained trails or the fire. Never leave food or water bottles unattended. Do not leave food, garbage, dish towels, or toiletries in your tent. Wash dishes and clean the kitchen site after cooking. Use minimal amounts of water to clean dishes and filter out the food particles. Pack out food scraps with the garbage. Dispose of wastewater at least 50 yards from camp by broadcasting it on the ground or putting it in a vault toilet.

If a bear gets within 50 yards of a person at a campsite, dock, or picnic area, then it has encroached in our territory. Use body posture and tone of voice to make it clear to the bear that it is not welcome. Try to look big and dominant. Bang pots, jell, and make noise until the bear leaves the area. Report the sighting to park staff as soon as possible. Members of the park staff have training in the use of various nonlethal tactics, such as pepper spray, projectiles, and noisemakers, that will be applied when bears enter areas where they are not welcome. We need to know when bears are frequenting visitor use areas so we can condition them to stay away. Area closures will still be necessary if bears damage property or act aggressively toward people by stalking them or trying to enter their tent or boat. Please tell us about these situations so we can keep your visit safe and enjoyable.

Campfires – To Be or Not To Be?

Oh, the sweet smell and warmth of a cracking fire. But where and how to collect wood for that fire creates a problem. Areas near campsites can quickly become denuded of dead and downed wood, which is important for putting nutrients back into the forest ecosystem. Informal trails inevitably result from the search for firewood. In areas like sandspits and beaches, dune vegetation is especially sensitive to trampling. A very shallow layer of organic material accumulates on top of the nearly pure sandy soil. This layer, like mulch in a garden, helps to hold in moisture and provides much needed nutrients. Many dune plants have very shallow roots that help them spread through an area. This makes them especially vulnerable to the impacts of foot traffic.

A seemingly logical solution to the problem may be to have visitors bring wood out to the islands. This may create a potentially greater problem, however. A whole host of insect pests may be transported along with firewood – Asian long-horned beetles, European elm bark beetle (spreads Dutch elm disease), and carpenter ants, to name a few. An especially worrisome one is at our back door - the emerald ash borer. Native to parts of Asia, the emerald ash borer has invaded parts of the Midwest. These exotic beetles have the potential to wipe out ash trees throughout the country. Trees are killed from being girdled by the serpentine tunnels excavated by hungry larvae. Quarantines against moving firewood are in place in portions of Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, and Ontario. If the dire predictions hold true as they have for other exotic pests, the Apostle Islands may ‘hold the potential to be one of the last refuges for ash trees’ if visitors are vigilant about not accidentally introducing these pests through infected firewood.

Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, and Ontario. If the dire predictions hold true as they have for other exotic pests, the Apostle Islands may ‘hold the potential to be one of the last refuges for ash trees’ if visitors are vigilant about not accidentally introducing these pests through infected firewood.

What can you do?
- Use a portable stove for cooking.
- If you do have a fire:
  - Keep its size to a minimum.
  - Build it in a fire receptacle where provided.
  - If you have a beach fire, the maximum size is 3' in diameter. Never put the ends of long logs in the fire.
  - Look for dead wood on the ground near maintained trails or on unvegetated beach areas when collecting firewood.
  - Avoid walking on delicate vegetation.
  - Keep your impact on the forest ecosystem to a minimum.
  - Do not transport firewood to the islands. If you travel to places where exotic ash borers have been found (southern Michigan for example), do not bring back firewood.

Apostle Island's forests are distinctive parts of the landscape. Please help us care for them now and in the future.

Tread Lightly...

Plants Used to Restore Fragile Dunes

When it comes to hiking, not all surfaces are created equal. Some surfaces, like bare rock or a forest floor covered with fallen leaves, are resistant to impacts from trampling. Thin, unstable soils are very sensitive. Beaches, sandspits and other sandscapes are favorite places to spend time along the Apostle Islands’ beautiful shorelines. These sandscapes are dynamic, yet fragile environments. Although sandscape vegetation is generally resilient to natural disturbances such as wave action, it can also be easily damaged by trampling. Some of the park's sandspits, like the one at South Twin Island, had a lot of human use in the past. A series of cabins that were part of a fishing resort were once on this sandspit. It doesn't take long for informal trails to form or vegetation to die where people walk. The combined impacts of historic and ongoing use have created barren areas where sandscape vegetation has been lost. To remedy this, the National Park Service has been actively involved in restoring the sandspits at South Twin and Raspberry islands.

Restoration projects take a long time - plant materials and seeds were gathered last summer from sandspits within the park and the plants were grown over the winter. Over 4,500 plants were planted on South Twin and Raspberry sandspits this May by park staff, Northland College students and a variety of volunteers. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Coastal Program provided funding and the Natural Resource Conservation Service and a local native plant expert, Becky Brown, grew the plants. It will take years to get the park fully established.

Please help us make this restoration a success and prevent the need for future restoration by staying on boardwalks and avoiding walking or placing gear on the fragile vegetation.

Around the Archipelago 7

Thousands of new plants will help restore the Raspberry Island sandspit.

Plants Used to Restore Fragile Dunes

When it comes to hiking, not all surfaces are created equal. Some surfaces, like bare rock or a forest floor covered with fallen leaves, are resistant to impacts from trampling. Thin, unstable soils are very sensitive. Beaches, sandspits and other sandscapes are favorite places to spend time along the Apostle Islands’ beautiful shorelines. These sandscapes are dynamic, yet fragile environments. Although sandscape vegetation is generally resilient to natural disturbances such as wave action, it can also be easily damaged by trampling. Some of the park's sandspits, like the one at South Twin Island, had a lot of human use in the past. A series of cabins that were part of a fishing resort were once on this sandspit. It doesn’t take long for informal trails to form or vegetation to die where people walk. The combined impacts of historic and ongoing use have created barren areas where sandscape vegetation has been lost. To remedy this, the National Park Service has been actively involved in restoring the sandspits at South Twin and Raspberry islands.

Restoration projects take a long time - plant materials and seeds were gathered last summer from sandspits within the park and the plants were grown over the winter. Over 4,500 plants were planted on South Twin and Raspberry sandspits this May by park staff, Northland College students and a variety of volunteers. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Coastal Program provided funding and the Natural Resource Conservation Service and a local native plant expert, Becky Brown, grew the plants. It will take years to get the park fully established.

Please help us make this restoration a success and prevent the need for future restoration by staying on boardwalks and avoiding walking or placing gear on the fragile vegetation.
Apostle Islands National Lakeshore has New “Friends”

By Ruth Goetz, Chairman of the “Friends” Board of Directors

Everyone needs a friend.

The Friends of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore was created to help foster an appreciation and to build support for the national lakeshore. Now in its second full year, the “Friends” has developed a strong membership base of dedicated folks interested in protecting and preserving these gems of Lake Superior. Over 100 individuals have joined the organization to support its mission to promote an appreciation for and preservation of the cultural and natural heritage and the environment of the Apostle Islands.

The “Friends” are taking the following steps this year to help fulfill this mission:

- Providing funding for a part-time ranger to contact kayakers, hikers, and day users at Meyer’s Beach.
- Funding the “Around the Archipelago” Guest Lecture Series.
- Facilitating a study of the historic fishing community on Rocky Island.
- Funding publication of the park newspaper.

In addition to projects directly related to park activity, the Friends have established a matching grant program for membership support, staffed booths at the 2004 Apple Festival and the Riding the Wind show at the Big Top Chautauqua, and facilitated the development of a new book, Jewels on the Water - Lake Superior’s Apostle Islands, by Jeff Rennicke with photos by Layne Kennedy, to be published this year.

“Our continuing goal is to get the people who love the Islands to really participate in the Friends,” says Ruth Goetz, current Chair of the organization. “We want sailors, boaters, kayakers... anyone who enjoys recreating in the Apostles... to join our organization and help us preserve and maintain these marvelous islands.” Some of the “Friends” long-term goals include raising funds to help improve docks and restore structures that are important parts of the islands’ cultural heritage.

We encourage visitors this summer to enjoy the islands and consider joining the Friends as a way to help protect this marvelous resource. For information about the Friends of the Apostle Islands, go to www.friendsoftheapostleislands.org or call 715-779-3397 ext.444.

We need all the friends we can get.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP:

- Eagle: $1000
- Bear: $500
- Mackinaw Trout: $100
- Loon: $50
- Kingfisher: $30
- Other: $___

Mail membership form and payment to:
Friends of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore
PO Box 1574 - Bayfield, WI 54814
Ph: (715)779-3397 ext.444
info@friendsoftheapostleislands.org
www.friendsoftheapostleislands.org

Please make checks payable to:
Friends of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore