Superior Wildlands
A FREE GUIDE
To Your Central and Eastern Upper Peninsula Federal Lands

Unplug

Get Outside

Explore

Visitor Center/Ranger Station

Detailed maps of each property can be found inside this publication.
**ARE YOU READY TO KAYAK LAKE SUPERIOR?**

**Preparation checklist**

At a minimum, you should have:

- Sea kayak
- PFD (personal flotation device)
- Wet suit
- Spray skirt (and know how to use it)
- Whistle and flashlight
- Bleach pump, paddle float and tow rope
- Weather radio
- Float plan
- A partner (kayaking alone is not advised)
- Spare clothes, food and water

**Additional Safety Information Available at:**

[www.kayaking.htm](http://www.kayaking.htm)

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**Recommended Skills**

- Know how to properly use a spray skirt and be able to get back in your boat if you tip over.
- Know how to paddle around the wake from large boats. Be aware of wave bounce near cliffs.
- Know how to paddle within your skills and abilities. If there is any doubt, don’t go out!

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**Summer Interpretive Programs Are Popular**

**Natural History Associations - Partners in Interpretation and Education**

There are several non-profit associations which support interpretation, education, and research on these federal lands. Money generated from gift shop sales, donations, and memberships goes to support the places you are visiting. Each association is guided by a volunteer Board of Directors, which votes on how revenue and donations should be spent based on budget and projects suggested by agency staff and volunteers. Here are some improvements paid for in whole or part by these associations:

- Campground programs
- Informational leaflets
- Exhibits and interpretive signs
- Observation scopes and decks
- Informational exhibits
- Teacher workshop materials and support
- Special events
- This newspaper!

**Hiawatha Interpretive Association**

PO Box 913
Munising, MI 49862

[www.hiawathainterpretive.com](http://www.hiawathainterpretive.com)

**Hiawatha Interpretive Association**

503 Indian Brewhouse Rd.
Munising, MI 49862

[www.hiawathainterpretive.com](http://www.hiawathainterpretive.com)

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**Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore**

**Welcome to Your National Lakeshore**

If you haven’t already guessed how incredible this park is. From day to day and season to season, the Lakeshore provides a wide array of outdoor experiences.

So, why is this place special and why was it designated in 1966 as our nation’s first National Lakeshore? Could it be that the park borders Lake Superior - the world’s largest freshwater lake? From Miners Castle you can look out over 1/10th of the world’s fresh water!

Could it be the five square miles of Grand Sable Dunes, the largest collection of perched sand dunes on Lake Superior? Our sand dunes contain some of the rarest plants in the Great Lakes region.

How about over a dozen miles of spectacular sandstone cliffs that rise over 200 feet above the lake? Cliffs where peregrine falcons nest, suited for rare aquatic plants else a living in breathtaking microclimates.

What about the sparkling inland lakes and gurgling streams that meander through the park? Don’t forget our many waterfalls too!

There is so much natural history here, a person could spend a lifetime exploring, hiking, skiing, kayaking, snowshoeing, bird watching, beachcombing, camping, sailing, walking, swimming, fishing, canoeing, and wildlife watching.

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**What can I see?**

- A dead bear. Please follow food storage guidelines. People often remark they would love to see a bear while on foot in the park, make noise and wave your arms. Do not drop your day pack or other items with food in them. Please report all incidents to a park ranger or visitor center.

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**Recommended Skills**

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**National Parks of Lake Superior Foundation**

The National Parks of Lake Superior Foundation (NPLSF) is a non-profit “friends” organization which provides financial support to the five U.S. National Park areas on Lake Superior. These include Pictured Rocks National Lake Shore, Grand Island National Recreation Area, and other Hiawatha Great Lakes shoreline areas.

Your donation to NPLSF will assist parks with worthy projects over and above funding for basic park operations. Projects include the preservation of historic structures, improved visitor services, enhanced environmental education programs, and MORE! We invite individuals and major donors to contact the Foundation to learn more about how they can become involved in these efforts. Your donation is tax deductible. For additional information or to make a donation, contact: [www.nplsf.org](http://www.nplsf.org)

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**History Highlights**

Do not forget to visit the Lakeshore’s cultural treasures, including the historic Coast Guard Station and Boathouse at the end of Sand Point Road, the Au Sable Lighthouse, the logging exhibits at Log Cabin and the National Lakeshore Museum.

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**Follow the Lakeshore on**

[facebook.com/friendsofseney](http://facebook.com/friendsofseney)
Let's Go For A Walk!

Your visit to Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore may be only an hour or two, or you may spend a week or more. If you only have a day or two to spend at the Lakeshore, consider visiting these popular attractions in developed areas of the park. Please note that bicycles are not permitted on Lakeshore trails. Pets are allowed along all park roads, in picnic areas, on paved walkways, and on some other areas noted below. Pets must always be on a 6-foot leash.

Munising Falls
Located in a cool, shaded valley, the 50 foot falls are at the end of a short 800 foot walk on an improved trail. The trail is a good place to look for wildflowers in spring and early summer. Water from the creek was once used in the production of iron at the Schoolcraft blast furnace, a story told by wayside exhibits and in the Munising Falls Interpretive Center.

Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore

Provisions - Pictured Rocks contains more than 18 miles of shoreline! When hiking and camping, please

Sand Point
The Sand Point beach is a popular spot for walking in the evening to watch the sun go down over Munising Bay. The Sand Point Marth, a half mile disabled accessible interpretive trail, features a large print brochure for visually impaired visitors. Sand Point is a good place to look for water lilies in spring and fall. Park Headquarters is also located on Sand Point in a former U.S. Coast Guard building. Pets are allowed on Sand Point Beach.

Miners Falls
A 1.2 mile round trip gravel path through a deep woods environment leads to the falls overlook. Miners Falls are some of the most significant, pristine, and unique resources in the park. The falls are not permitted on Lakeshore trails. Jobs are allowed along all park roads, in picnic areas, and on paved walkways and overlooks.

Miners Castle
Beginning at the picnic area, a paved foot trail leads you past interpretive exhibits to breathtaking overlooks of Lake Superior and Grand Island. Erosion over long periods of time has created the interesting rock formations that give this place its name. Pets are permitted in picnic area, and on paved walkways and overlooks.

Miners Beach
A picnic and beach walker’s delight. Miners Beach extends for one mile on Lake Superior where waves roll in to polish beach cobbles. A 1.0 mile trail connects Miners Castle development area and the picnic area at Miners Beach. Pets are allowed in picnic area and on Miners Beach.

White Pine Trail
Located at the Beaver Lake Campground, this 1.0 mile self-guided interpretive trail loop explores the plant and animal communities of a cool, shady valley.

Chapel Rock
Circumnavigating Chapel Lake takes you to the beautiful Chapel Beach and Chapel Rock. The 6.6 mile trip makes a great day hike. Longer and shorter hikes are also available in this area.

White Birch Trail
Located at the Twelvemile Beach Campground, this 2.0 mile self-guided interpretive trail explores a variety of ancient Lake Nipissing beach and upland plant communities.

Log Slide Overlook
The popular Log Slide overlook/viewing platform is still closed due to dunce damage from recent winter storms. However, the 1.000 foot trail leading to the dunce parking lot is worth the walk. Take care not to stray off trail or away from the main dune area; poison ivy is commonly present. 

Au Sable Light Station
Strolling about the grounds on a stormy day, one can feel the sense of duty and history for which this station is preserved. Access to the station is by a 1.5 mile hiking trail beginning at the east end of the lower Hurricane River Campground. Check at visitor centers and park bulletin boards for summer interpretive tours scheduled at the light station. Four fee $3 adults.

Sable Falls
A picnic lunch at Sable Falls can begin a great afternoon of exploring. A 0.5 mile hike from the parking lot leads you to an extensive staircase to the falls and Sable Creek and on to Lake Superior. A 0.5 round-trip hike to the Grand Sable Dunes also begins at the parking lot.

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Regulations to Know

To help ensure a pleasant visit, please take a couple minutes to become familiar with the following regulations at the National Lakeshore:

Camping - permitted only within designated Lakeshore campgrounds.

Camping permits are required. Beach or roadside camping is prohibited. Note: Little Beaver Lake Campground.

Single unit vehicles in excess of 36 feet and vehicle/trailer combined units in excess of 42 feet are prohibited at Little Beaver Lake because of the small campgrounds and the narrow, twisting, hilly access road.

Backcountry campers - must purchase a $5 per night/person backcountry permit prior to entering the backcountry. Permits must be obtained via www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777.

Pets - are not allowed on most trails, and where permitted, must be on a 6-foot leash. Check the pet map on bulletin boards for specific locations of pet walking areas.

Bicycles - permitted on roads where automobiles are permitted. Not permitted on hiking trails or roads closed to vehicular traffic.

Hunting - prohibited park-wide during the high visitor use period of April 1 through Labor Day. Hunting is allowed the remainder of the year as established by state and federal laws. Target shooting and trapping are prohibited year-round.

Campfires - allowed only in fire rings. Fires on beaches are prohibited except in fire rings provided.

OHVs - are prohibited in the park.

Drones - are prohibited in the park.

Wildlife feeding is prohibited - birds and small animals are highly dependent on the natural food to get them through the winter. Please do not make them dependent on human food.

No littering - Each of us enjoys a clean environment. Please do not litter and dispose of in the trash.

When Fishing and Boating...

• Use artificial lures or purchase approved live bait.

• Don’t throw out unused worms or other bait at the site; dispose of in the trash.

• Clean and dry boats, fishing equipment and your family can take to help protect these precious resources from the harmful impacts of invasive plants and animals.

All park roads, picnic areas, and on paved walkways and overlooks.

Poison ivy is common throughout.

Located at the Twelvemile Beach Campground, this 2.0 mile self-guided interpretive trail explores a variety of ancient Lake Nipissing beach and upland plant communities.

Due to its exceptional features, a portion of the Grand Sable Dunes was designated a Research Natural Area (RNA) in 1994. Research Natural Areas are part of a national network of field ecological areas in ecosystems with very limited public use and disturbance. They are designated for research and education, and to maintain biological diversity.

The Grand Sable Dunes RNA offers a pristine environment for scientific study of climate change, lake level history, coastal landforms, soil development, plant communities, and vegetation succession.

Sand dunes are dynamic, yet vulnerable environments. Please tread lightly while visiting this fragile area and take care not to step on vegetation. There are no trails within the dunes themselves; access is available via a 1/2 mile walk from the Sable Falls parking lot, and also across the road from the small Grand Sable Lake parking lot on H-58.

For Your Safety
Dunes can be unstable. Stay out of any designated closure areas. Do not dig tunnels or caves in sand dunes as they can collapse and bury you.

STOP THE SPREAD!

What can you do to help? It’s very important to stop the spread of invasive species to new environments. Once invasive species become established, it is almost impossible to get rid of them.

Many of these species “hitchhike” on visitors while they are recreating, attaching to clothes, pets, and equipment like boats and tents. Don’t let them hitchhike on you!

No matter where you are having fun out doors, here are a few simple steps you and your family can take to help protect these precious resources from the harmful impacts of invasive plants and animals.

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No matter where you are having fun out doors, here are a few simple steps you and your family can take to help protect these precious resources from the harmful impacts of invasive plants and animals.
When you first enter the Hiawatha National Forest, look around. At first glance, you’ll see a forest with abundant wildlife, miles of rivers and streams, and dozens of waterfalls. You’ll see a forest that touches the scenic shorelines and beaches of three Great Lakes, and is home to six historic lighthouses. You’ll see historical structures, archaeological sites, and prehistoric Native American artifacts that are a window to our past, which are being preserved for our future.

With one hundred miles of shoreline on three Great Lakes, the Hiawatha National Forest is uniquely positioned to provide visitors with a range of nationally distinct forest recreation opportunities. From lighthouses to Great Lakes islands, and spectacular shorelines to the Midwest’s finest winter playground; the Hiawatha brings to life a fascinating, natural and cultural history while providing unique recreation opportunities to the visiting public.

Then, look closer and you may catch sight of rare birds like Kirtland’s warblers and piping plovers, or hear the distinctive calls of sandhill cranes. You may hear the howl of a gray wolf or perhaps the cry of a bobcat. You’ll see a landscape that is home to rare plants like the Houghton’s goldenrod, dwarf lake iris, Pitcher’s thistle and lakeside daisy.

For info about Hiawatha’s West Unit:
Munising Ranger District
400 E. Munising Ave.
Munising, MI 49862
906-387-2512
Rapid River/Manistique Ranger District
8181 US HWY 2
Rapid River, MI 49878
906-474-6442
www.fs.usda.gov/hiawatha

Purchase a more detailed map at any Hiawatha National Forest District Office.

Facebook.com/HiawathaNF
Monarch butterfly populations migrate to Mexico to overwinter. As spring approaches, the first generation of butterflies will migrate back to Canada. The migration patterns and stopover sites of monarch butterfly populations are crucial for the conservation of the species. The Monarch butterfly population has been in decline in recent years, and efforts are being made to protect and restore their habitats. The use of milkweed plants in gardens and natural areas is essential for the survival of monarch butterflies. Local conservation efforts, such as planting milkweed in parks and gardens, can help support the population of monarch butterflies in the region.
Seney National Wildlife Refuge

Discovering Seney
The Refuge is a great place for visitors of all ages and abilities to watch and learn about the local flora and fauna. Established in 1935 as a sanctuary and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife, today the 95,238 acre Refuge supports a variety of wildlife including rare and relict species provided by a rich mosaic of habitats: scrub-shrub, wetlands, forest, meadow, and pools.

Visitor Center
Open May 15 – October 20 from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., seven days a week, including holidays. Highlights include exhibits, a children’s touch table, “The Wonder of Nature” orientation film, and the Marshland Bookstore. Binoculars, field guides, fishing poles, tackle boxes, and kids’ packs can be checked out free of charge courtesy of the Seney Natural History Association.

Marshland Wildlife Drive
(7 miles) & Fishing Loop (+1.5 miles)
These one-way auto routes meander through wetlands, meadows and forests. Four wheelchair accessible observation decks with spotting scopes make these drives great for wildlife watching. Borrow a pair of binoculars from the visitor center to add to your viewing pleasure.

Paddling
Enjoy a day of paddling on the Manistique River. This slow moving, meandering float starts in the town of Germfask and flows through the south-eastern part of the Refuge. Public access points are closed to the public to protect nesting colonial waterbirds. Lighthouse Island is the only island open to public visitation at the Manistique Wildlife Refuge. Some Refuge areas are closed for the benefit of wildlife we are asking hunters to voluntarily switch to non-toxic shot for deer hunting. Check the hunting brochure for current regulations.

Bicycling
Many miles of backcountry roads are available for biking throughout the Refuge. For those who seek wildlife and solitude, these trails are for you. The roads are open during daylight hours only, so you need to plan your trip carefully. These roads are used to conduct a variety of Refuge work, so please be aware of the possibility of equipment or vehicles on the roads. To help you plan your visit, mileage is marked on the Refuge map above. Roads/areas may be closed due to biological or management (fire, logging, maintenance) reasons; please obey the closure signs. All hiking and ski trails are closed to bicycles.

Hunting
Ruffed grouse, American woodcock, black squirrels, snowshoe hare, white-tailed deer and black bear may be hunted during some state seasons in designated areas with the proper licenses. Only approved non-toxic shotgun is allowed on the Refuge for migratory bird and upland game hunting. For the health of wildlife we are asking hunters to voluntarily switch to non-toxic shot for deer hunting. Check the hunting brochure for current regulations.

Fishing
Anglers may fish in the pools along the 3.5 mile Fishing Loop including the accessible fishing pier, in the Show Pools or in C-3 Pool from May 15 to September 30. The Manistique, Creighton and Driggs Rivers, as well as the Walnut Creek and Ditch are open for fishing during regular state seasons. The Refuge is open to ice fishing from January 1 to February 28 on any pool.

Specs found on the Refuge include northern pike, yellow perch, brown bullhead, brook trout, and sunfish. To protect the orcharde brook trout and common loon, lead sinkers cannot be used on the Refuge. Check the fishing brochure for current regulations.

Mushroom & Berry Picking
Foragers may enjoy picking mushrooms or berries at the Refuge. Some mushrooms and berries are poisonous! Use your ears, not just your eyes, on these special nighttime tours of Seney National Wildlife Refuge. The Refuge is closed from dusk to dawn, so this tour is a rare opportunity to experience the Refuge in the twilight and early evening hours when many animals are active. We will be listening for secretive marshbirds such as yellow rail, Virginia rail and sora, as well as frogs, trumpeter swans, loons, and other animals.

What are National Wildlife Refuges?
The National Wildlife Refuge System is a network of lands that benefit wildlife, provides unparalleled outdoor experiences for all Americans, and protects a healthy environment. The Refuge System encompasses 516 million acres of land and water from the Caribbean to the Pacific and Texas to Alaska. There is at least one National Wildlife Refuge in every state.

Mission
The Mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System is to administer a national network of lands and waters for the conservation, management, and enhancement of fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.

Upper Peninsula National Wildlife Refuges
There are four National Wildlife Refuges located in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan: Seney, Harbor Island, Huron and Michigan Islands. Michigan Islands National Wildlife Refuge is closed to the public to protect nesting colonial waterbirds. Lighthouse Island is the only island open to public visitation at Huron National Wildlife Refuge. Seney and Harbor Island are open to the public.

Calendar of Events
Visit our website – www.fws.gov/refuge/seneyp for more events and additional information about the Refuge.

Twilight Tours
Last Thursday in May, Last Friday in June 9:00 p.m. to Midnight Use your ears, not just your eyes, on these special nighttime tours of Seney National Wildlife Refuge. The Refuge is closed from dusk to dawn, so this tour is a rare opportunity to experience the Refuge in the twilight and early evening hours when many animals are active. We will be listening for secretive marshbirds such as yellow rail, Virginia rail and sora, as well as frogs, trumpeter swans, loons, and other animals.

Fishing Wednesdays
Wednesday Nights 700 – 9:30 p.m.
June, July, August Join us for a guided auto tour. Tours take place on portions of the Marshland Wildlife Drive and into the backcountry. This is a great way to view wildlife, enjoy the scenery, and ask questions. Seating is available in Refuge vehicles on a first come first served basis; once those seats are full, participants drive their own vehicles (arvan style) and use a radio to communicate with the guide.

Children’s Fishing Day
Third Saturday of June
Catch the excitement! Open to youth up to age 17. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. All fish being entered in the contest must be registered at the Visitor Center by 2:00 p.m. Fish dinner and prizes offered to all participants.

Special Rules:
• Drones are prohibited.
• Please do not feed wildlife.
• Daylight use only.
• Dogs are allowed on a leash.
• Unleashed dogs are a danger to fish, wildlife, and plant resources.
• Open fires are prohibited.
• Off-road vehicles are prohibited.
• No boats or flotation devices are allowed on Refuge pools.
• For specific details on hunting and fishing regulations see the respective brochures or the website.

Whitefish Point Unit
The Whitefish Point Unit of Seney National Wildlife Refuge is a birdwatchers delight. It is situated 13 miles north of Paradise, Michigan and is a stop-over for birds migrating to and from Canada. The Whitefish Point region is renowned for its concentrations of birds during migration. Each year thousands of raptors, passerines (perching birds) and water birds funnel through the point to cross Lake Superior. Visit and enjoy its trails, travel beaches, sandy beach dunes and stunted jack pine-dominated forests.

Regulations:
• Dogs allowed on leash only.
• Unleashed dogs are a danger to piping plover chicks.
• Open during daylight hours only.
• Warning: Duck-hunting, wildlife observation, photography, and mushroom and berry picking are permitted.
• Fires, camping, rock and driftwood collection, removal of natural items, drones, hunting, off-road vehicles, and snowmobiles are not permitted.