The Colors of Your Lakeshore

ONE OF NEARLY 400 SITES ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, SLEEPING BEAR Dunes National Lakeshore strives to preserve unimpaired, for this and future generations, the natural and cultural resources given to its care. These resources, from the towering perched dunes along Lake Michigan to the quiet country roads meandering between the historical farmsteads of Port Oneida, color the landscape upon which we relax, recreate, and discover ourselves.

The colors of your Lakeshore change with the seasons. With the coming of spring, the scarlet tanager returns to cast its flame-red feathers against the new greens of the young leaves of wildflowers and jack pines. Summer brings the melting of blueberries beneath our tongues and yellow grains of sand stuck between our toes as we struggle against the Dune Climb. Fall brings a foliage flare from an overlook already designated Inspiration Point. Winter creates a cushion of white solitude, blushed pink at dawn and dusk, upon which to enjoy the many open forests and spectacular leafless overlooks: whether on snowshoes, skis, or foot.

The colors of your Lakeshore change with the setting. From the Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive, we view the golden dunes perched over the sapphire sea of Lake Michigan. We infiltrate the verdant forests seeking the elusive brown scampers of the ermine or the bright grandeur of a national champion paper birch. We seek out glimpses of the past peeking in the wide open doors of a large red barn in Port Oneida, under the "witch’s hat" roof of the gleaming white U.S. Life Saving Service Station, or through the multi-paned windows of the Glen Haven General Store.

Yet some colors of your Lakeshore don’t belong amidst the dunes, fields, and forests, and we seek to change them back. The green algae ooze which sometimes coats the summer beaches? Unnatural—caused by the proliferation of zebra and quagga mussels in Lake Michigan. The purple fields unveiled in July and August? Unnatural—caused by spotted knapweed, an aggressive alien invader that kills native plants with a chemical toxin. Ask a ranger to learn more about how to restore the colors of your Lakeshore.

These are but a sampling of the colors Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore displays, and we continue to discover more. Every September and October, the dunes, beaches, forests, and farms inspire Artists-in-Residence whose donated paintings, sculptures, and writings you can view in the visitor center auditorium. Today we invite you to experience, explore, and enjoy the many colors of your Lakeshore, and when you return next month with your friends, or next year with your children, or in forty years with your grandchildren, the colors of your National Lakeshore will still fill your senses.
Greetings from the Superintendent

Welcome! Let me take this opportunity to greet and thank you for your interest in Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Whether you are planning a first-time trip, or have visited many times, you will find lots to see and do. This newspaper can serve as a great source of information to plan your visit.

This is an exciting time at the Lakeshore! We recently completed a General Management Plan and Wilderness Study that call for a variety of projects that will enhance your future visits to the Lakeshore and continue to preserve the wonderful experiences that are already available. For example, we plan to build a bicycle trail paralleling highways M-22 and M-109 over the length of the park. Although this is likely to be built in segments over many years, the Leelanau Scenic Heritage Route Committee has worked with us to lay out the route in Leelanau County. Together, we have already surveyed the first segment, from the Dune Climb to Glen Arbor, and anticipate its construction within the next couple of years.

We also plan to build a new footpath along the length of the shoreline—from Platte Bay in the south to Good Harbor Bay in the north. This “Bay-to-Bay” trail would have several small, primitive campgrounds along the route that visitors could hike to, or even access by paddling along the shore. In addition, we plan to improve visitor access and opportunities at popular beaches such as Esch Road and Platte River Points, the historic maritime village of Glen Haven, and among the fields and farms of the Port Oneida Rural Historic District.

For those that enjoy the solitude that can be found on the islands and in our mainland backcountry, there is no need to worry about development. The public told us loud and clear that they also want to keep those areas just as they are by designating them as wilderness. We currently working on legislation to fulfill that direction.

So, regardless of the kind of experience you are looking for in your national park, you will find it here at Sleeping Bear Dunes. The amazing natural and historic features here belong to you, and are yours for exploring. Whether it is the high perched dunes and miles of pristine beaches, numerous hidden lakes in beautiful beech/maple forests, or the stories of our heritage told by the U.S. Life Saving Stations and historic farmsteads, Sleeping Bear Dunes has something for everyone.

I wish you a safe, rewarding, and memorable experience, and hope that you will visit Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore again soon! Enjoy! Dusty Shultz

Superintendent

National Park Entrance Passes

A park entrance pass is required whenever and wherever you venture into Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore and must be displayed on the driver’s side of your vehicle windshield or dashboard. When parking outside the Lakeshore boundary and entering on foot or bicycle, carry your pass. Purchase a pass at the visitor center, campground offices, Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive, or the Dune Climb during regular hours of operation; or between 8:30 a.m. and 10 a.m. at Leland Harbor. Passes may be purchased seasonally 24 hours a day at the self-pay fee canisters at the Maritime Museum and at road ends and beaches. Petoskey, Esch, North Bar Lake, CR 649, and CR 651. You may also purchase a pass year-round from the automated fee machine at Platte Point.

$10 Seven-day Pass for Sleeping Bear Dunes NL
Admits pass holder and all passengers in a non-commercial vehicle. Non-transferable and valid for 7-1 days.

Free admission for children 15 and under

$20 Annual Pass for Sleeping Bear Dunes NL
Admits pass holder and all passengers in a non-commercial vehicle. Allows free admission to the park for one year from month of purchase.

$10 Senior Pass for National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands
Lifetime pass for U.S. citizens or permanent residents age 62 or over. One-time fee provides access to Federal recreation sites. Admits pass holder and all passengers in a non-commercial vehicle. May provide a 50 percent discount on recreational fees such as camping and tours. Must be obtained in person and is non-transferable.

$50 Individual Seven-day Pass for Sleeping Bear Dunes NL
Admits one individual (age 16 and up) on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or noncommercial bus.

Access Pass for National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands
Free lifetime pass for U.S. citizens or permanent residents with permanent disabilities. Documentation is required. Provides access to Federal recreation sites and admits pass holder and all passengers in a noncommercial vehicle. May provide a 50 percent discount on recreational fees such as camping and tours. Must be obtained in person and is non-transferable. Acceptable documentation includes: statement by a licensed physician, or a document issued by Veteran’s Administration, Social Security Administra-
tion or a state agency.

School Groups
An educational fee waiver is available for bona fide groups that apply prior to their visit. Call 231-326-5134 or visit the website: www.nps.gov/slbe.

Commercial Vehicle Fees

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<tr>
<th>Vehicle</th>
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<tr>
<td>Van</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minibus</td>
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<td>$40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motorcoach</td>
<td>26+</td>
<td>$100</td>
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</table>

Fee-free days

The National Park Service is offering fee-free days this summer. Come to Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore (or any national park) on one of these days, and enjoy the sun, sand, and history for free:

- June 21 and 20
- July 18
- August 22 and 23

Listening Assistance Available

Do you have trouble hearing information at ranger programs because of competing sounds? Try out the FM wireless listening system available for use in the Lakeshore. The equipment amplifies the sound of a ranger’s voice, which you hear through a headset, neck loop, or earbuds. Use the wireless for a ranger-led hike or evening program, or at the visitor center in Empire, the campground offices, or the General Store in Glen Haven. The visitor center also has a hard-wired listening system and a portable TTY device for use with the pay telephone. Visitors wishing to use the equipment are encouraged to call ahead and arrive early.

Local Information

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore 231-326-5134
www.nps.gov/slbe

Benzie County Chamber of Commerce 231-882-5801
www.benzie.org

Empire Chamber of Commerce www.empirechamber.com

Glen Lake Chamber of Commerce 231-334-3238
www.gllakechamber.com

Leelanau Chamber of Commerce 231-271-9895
www.leelanauchamber.com

Sleeping Bear Dunes Visitors Bureau 888-334-8499
www.sleepingbeardunes.com

Traverse City Chamber of Commerce 231-947-5075
www.tcb.org

Traverse City Visitors Bureau 231-947-1120
www.tvtourist.com

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore

Park Headquarters 9002 Front Street Empire, MI 49630
Visitor center: 231-326-5134 ext. 328 Website: www.nps.gov/slb
E-mail: SLE.interp@nps.gov
Fax: 231-326-5382

Authorized by Congress on October 21, 1970, Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore encompasses a 31-mile stretch of Lake Michigan’s eastern shoreline, as well as North and South Manitou Islands. This park was established to preserve the outstanding natural features, including forests, beaches, dune formations, and ancient glacial phenomena... for the benefit, inspiration, education, recreation, and enjoyment of the public. “The Lakeshore also contains many cultural features including an 1871 lighthouse, three former U.S. Life Saving Service / Coast Guard Stations and an extensive rural historic district.

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore Visitor Guide is published annually by Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Division of Interpretation & Visitor Services. Contributors include Christopher Amidon, Amanda Brushaber, Jane Gnieser, Ken Hyde, Kelly Kelly, Terry Plissin, Susan Sanders, Dennis Yockers, Alice Van Zeeen and park staff. Funding is donated by Eastern National, a private, non-profit organization which operates the sales outlets at the General Store, Dune Center, and visitor center. A portion of the proceeds is donated to the Lakeshore to support interpretive and educational programs.

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

Philip Hart Visitor Center

Open year-round. Let park rangers help you plan your visit. Purchase a park pass here. Assistive listening devices and portable TTY available. Exhibits provide information on geology, ecology, and human stories. Dreams of the Sleeping Bear, a free 15-minute multimedia program, highlights the Lakeshore’s scenery, seasons, and history. Closed captioning is available. Bookstore purchases (books, games, posters, postcards, shirts, hats, patches, and more) support the park.

Memorial Day to Labor Day: 8:00 - 6:00
Labor Day to Memorial Day: 8:15 - 4:00
Closed: Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Day.
Located: M-72 in Empire
Contact: 231-326-5134

National Lakeshore

Located: M-72 in Empire
Closed: Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Labor Day to Memorial Day: 8:15 - 4:00

Philip Hart Visitor Center

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Contact: 231-326-5134

updated visitor guide
Making the Most of Your Time

Less Than 3 Hours: Try These

Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive
This driving loop overlooks some of the Lakeshore’s most unique scenery. Open April-November, weather permitting. M-109, 3 miles north of Empire
Length: 75 miles, 90 minutes

Dune Climb
No visit would be complete without climbing this 110-foot high sand dune. Take water, sunscreen, and good footwear. Great for kids! See page 4 for trail info to Lake Michigan from top of Dune Climb. M-109, 6 miles north of Empire
Length: 30 minutes

Explore Glen Haven
This steamship stop on Sleeping Bear Bay dates back to the turn of the 20th century. visit the Blacksmith Shop, general Store, and cannery which houses the largest exhibit of Great Lakes small boats. the maritime museum tells the stories of the U. S. Life Saving Service in a fully restored Station. Heroes of the Storm: shipwreck rescue reenactment at 3:00 pm (seasonal). Great for kids! Details on page 7.

Inspiration Point
With a view of the glen Lakes, alligator hill, and North Manitou Island, this overlook provides the perfect finale for any trip. M-22 to McFarlane Rd., 8 miles east of Empire
Length: 5 minutes

More Than 3 Hours: Add These

The Platte and Crystal Rivers
Canoe or kayak these calm rivers. Rent equipment near either launch site if you don’t have your own. Great for kids! Platte River: M-22 or Lake Michigan Rd. 10 miles south of Empire Crystal River: M-22 east of Glen Arbor Length: 2-3 hours

Sleeping Bear Point & Back Hike (#9)
A short hike along a portion of this trail offers a panoramic view of the shoreline, dunes, and islands. Follow the blue-tipped posts to the overlook and return along the same route. For a longer hike, complete the entire loop through a ghost forest, over dunes, and back through the woods. Take water, sunscreen, and good footwear. Details on page 4.

M-209, 8 miles north of Empire
Length: 0.5-3 hours

Port Oneida Historic Farm Tour
Feel a century slip away in the largest historic agricultural landscape in all of the national parks. Bicycle or drive the back roads to old farmsteads, fields, orchards, and cemeteries. A driving tour brochure and a cell phone tour are available. Stop in at the historic Olsen Farmhouse-office of Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear. Details on page 4.

M-22, 3 miles north of Glen Arbor
Length: 1-2 hours

Forest Education Zone
Walk through the forest education zones and learn about the trees that make up the Lakeshore’s forests and the effect encroaching forest pests and diseases have on the health of these forests. Zones are located at the Platte River and D. H. Day Campgrounds, Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive, Inspiration Point, and the Empire Bluff hiking trail. Details on page 5.

Varied. Pick up a brochure at a zone or at the visitor center or campgrounds
Length: 1-2 hours

A Full Day: Try South Manitou Island

Ferry information on page 8.

Tour the Lighthouse
Learn about the history of the South Manitou Island Lighthouse and U.S. Life Saving Service Station. Climb the 100-foot tall tower for sweeping views of the Manitou passage. Inquire on the island. Begins at the lighthouse 0.3 miles from dock
Length: 30 minutes

Motorized Island Historical Tour
Manitou Island Transit offers open-air tours for island visitors. Explore the history of the old schoolhouse, cemetery, and farms. For details or reservations, call 231-256-9061. Begins in the village after ferry arrives.
Length: 2 hours

Giant Cedars and Shipwreck Hike
Hidden on the island’s southwest corner, a stand of old-growth white cedar--called the Valley of the Giants—escaped the lumbermen. Nearby, view the shipwrecked Liberian freighter, the Francisco Morazan, which ran aground in 1960. Begins and ends in the village
Length: 7 miles roundtrip, 3-4 hours
Mainland Lake Michigan Beaches

Let your bare feet guide you along the park’s many sandy beaches. There are no concessions, so pack a picnic and your sunscreen. For your safety, glass containers are prohibited on beaches, waterways, and dune areas. Fires are permitted on mainland Lake Michigan beaches. Keep the fire between the water’s edge and the first dune, away from any vegetation. Beaches have vault toilets unless noted. A permit, have on hand is required for any use of the National Lakeshore and is available at locations throughout the park (details on page 2).

Platte Point Beach features the Platte River outlet where warm water enters Lake Michigan. Benches, accessible flush toilets, and a picnic area are provided. Please note that a section of shoreline is sometimes closed to protect nesting piping plovers. Regardless of the lot in which you park, a park entrance pass is required to use the National Lakeshore. A separate township fee is required to use the adjacent township park.

No pets allowed

At the end of Lake Michigan Rd.

Off M-22, 12 miles south of Empire

Peterson Beach has a boardwalk crossing the low dunes from the parking lot to the beach. It’s a quiet stretch of sand with wide vistas of Empire Bluff to the north and Platte River Point to the south.

Leashed pets allowed to the left of the boardwalk when facing the water.

At the end of Peterson Rd.

Off M-22, 12 miles south of Empire

Esch Beach, also called Otter Creek Beach, is another popular swimming area. The shore to the south is divided by the shallow outlet of Otter Creek.

Leashed pets allowed to the right of Esch Rd. when facing the water.

At the end of Esch Rd.

Off M-22, 5 miles south of Empire

North Bar Lake is a popular spot. This warm lake connects to Lake Michigan and its beaches. Some areas have experienced severe dune erosion and may be closed for restoration. Please obey closure signs.

No pets allowed

At the end of LaRohr Rd. From Empire, take M-22 north, left on Voice Rd., right on Bar Lake Rd., left on LaRohr Rd.

Glen Haven Beach is on Sleeping Bear Bay. Views look west past the Maritime Museum to Sleeping Bear Point, north to the Manitou Islands, and east to Pyramid Point. Please note that a section of the shoreline is sometimes closed to protect nesting piping plovers. Adjacent picnic area with grills and nearby flush toilets are provided.

Leashed pets allowed only to the right of the Maritime Museum when facing the water to all the way past the Cannery and D. H. Day Campground.

M-209, 7 miles north of Empire

County Road 669 Beach is on Good Harbor Bay. To the west, view Pyramid Point; to the north, the Whaleback and North Manitou. The Fox Islands may be visible on a clear day. Shalda Creek: empties into Lake Michigan to the west of the parking area. Lake Michigan Rd. parallels the bay for several miles. Follow it east to a pleasant shoreline picnic area and the Good Harbor Bay trailhead (R4).

Leashed pets allowed to the left of CR 669 when facing the water.

At the end of CR 669 (Bohemian Rd.)

Off M-22, 16 miles north of Empire

County Road 651 Beach features wonderful sunset views on Good Harbor Bay. To the west, view Pyramid Point and to the north, the Whaleback and North Manitou. The Fox Islands may be visible on a clear day.

Leashed pets allowed to the right of CR 651 when facing the water.

At the end of CR 651 (Good Harbor Tr.)

Off M-22, 12 miles north of Glen Arbor

The Threatened Colors of Your Lakeshore

Some of the colors of your Lakeshore don’t belong amidst the dunes, forests, and overviews. These threats invade, alter, and destroy the natural colors.

Invasive Species

How could something the size of a penny, the emerald ash borer, kill a mature tree? How could a tiny mussel irrevocably alter our beaches? These invaders, growing naturally on other continents but never before in North America, have one thing in common: no natural predators. Without predation, these invasive species diminish the diversity of plants and animals, the many colors of the Lakeshore fade.

Human Impacts

Unfortunately, purposeful damage also occurs at the National Lakeshore. Nothing spotlights this issue greater than the damage done on Empire Bluff this past year. Not because of nature, but because of someone’s destructive force, the icon of Empire Bluff, the wind-twisted ghost tree overhanging Lake Michigan, no longer frames the overlook. Vandals pushed the tree from its perch. Those who now visit the bluff will no longer experience the overlook as nature created.

We Can Do Better

The National Park Service (NPS) must do better to protect the resources and icons that define our community and country. However, we cannot do this alone. Please help us to preserve and protect the colors of your Lakeshore so that you may enjoy them today, but also so that those who follow us may enjoy them too.

To combat invasive pests such as the emerald ash borer, leave firewood at home and use local firewood only.

To combat invasive plants such as spotted knapweed, plant only native flowers, shrubs, and trees.

To combat invasive water hazards such as zebra and quagga mussels, clean your boats between use in different lakes and streams.

To combat dune erosion, climb the dunes only in designated areas.

To combat the destruction of park resources, report vandalism and other crimes.

To learn more, join an interpretive ranger for a walk, talk, or hike.

To help preserve the natural colors of your Lakeshore, volunteer with the NPS and/or join one of our partner groups. Details on page 4.

Forest Pest and Disease Education Zones

Learn more about the threats to the many greens of the Lakeshore by visiting our forest pest and disease education zones. Within these zones, all trees that are susceptible to currently encroaching pest and diseases have been marked with color coded flagging. A brochure available at the visitor center and campgrounds keys the flag color to the species of tree and its threatened pest and diseases.

Walking through the zones, you can hone up on your tree identification, learn what threatens these trees, pause to imagine what the forest would be like if every tagged tree were to die and disappear, and find out what you can do to slow this loss while researchers work to find a way combat the invaders.

Several zones have been set up through- out the Lakeshore to highlight the varied forest compositions. Zones are located at the Platte River and D. H. Day Campgrounds, Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive, Inspiration Point, and the Empire Bluff hiking trail.
Glen Haven Historic Village

Step into the colorful past in this company owned steamboat stop that operated from 1865 until 1935. Sleeping Bearaville, as it was originally called, was a natural harbor sought out by steamships sailing between Chicago and Buffalo. Learn more about area history when you visit the restored General Store, Cannery, and Blacksmith Shop. Picnic area with grills and flush toilets are available.

M-209, 7 miles north of Empire

Glen Haven General Store

Treat someone to old-fashioned candy at lumber baron D.H. Day's general store, restored to appear as it did in the 1920s. Built in 1867 as a company store, it provided goods for workers. David Henry Day came to Glen Haven in 1878 to manage the cordwood operation. By 1881, Day bought the town, and his office can be seen in the back of the store. Today, the historic general store carries merchandise and items related to the history of Glen Haven, including kitchenware, food, toys, and books.

Memorial Day weekend through June, Open 12-5, Fri, Sat, & Sun only. July 1-September 7, Open 12-5 daily

Cannery Boat Museum

What was once a cherry and apple cannery now houses a collection of historic Great Lakes vessels, including boats, motors, and equipment. Friendly volunteers provide impromptu interpretive talks or can answer your questions. Outside, pilings which supported Glen Haven's dock stretch into Sleeping Bear Bay.

Open 11-5 daily, May 24 through September 7

Blacksmith Shop

Hear the ring of a hammer and anvil as the blacksmith stokes up a fire, heats iron until red hot, and forges a tool before your eyes. Volunteers provide demonstrations for all ages.

Great for Kids! Open 12-5 daily, June through September

Ranger-led Activities

Ranger-led activities are a great way to discover the Lakeshore. Topics include geology, plants, animals, human history, and more. Please arrive a few minutes before the activity is scheduled to begin. All programs are free. For more information, call 231-334-2534 or visit the website: www.nps.gov/slbe.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturdays at the Lakeshore</td>
<td>January - October</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Explore different areas of the Lakeshore every Saturday. Suitable for all ages. Details: page 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroes of the Storm</td>
<td>July - August</td>
<td>Daily 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>An audience reenactment of a shipwreck rescue. Meet at the Maritime Museum. Details: this page.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morning program</td>
<td>July - August</td>
<td>Daily 11:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Explore different areas of the Lakeshore with a national park ranger. For locations and topics pick up a summer program schedule at the visitor center, campground offices, or entrance stations. Two evening programs are presented daily.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evening program</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Daily 8:00 p.m.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>August</td>
<td>Daily 7:30 p.m.</td>
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Maritime Museum

Tour the crew quarters and boathouse at the Maritime Museum at Sleeping Bear Point. Exhibits highlight the U.S. Life Saving Service and Great Lakes shipping history. Impromptu interpretive talks are given throughout the day. A sand-accessible wheelchair and public rest-rooms are available.

Open 12-5 daily, Memorial Day weekend through September. Open 12-5 weekends, October 1-18

Heroes of the Storm, 3 p.m. daily

In the late 1800s, the U.S. Life Saving Service crews risked their own lives in deadly weather to rescue passengers from shipwrecks. Participate in a reenactment rescue utilizing U.S. Life Saving Service rescue techniques. A park ranger will roll out the beach cart, demonstrate the breeches buoy, and discuss the Lyle Gun.

Daily, June 22-September 7

Historic Beach Patrols

During the fall shipwreck season, patrol the beach with a surfman from the U.S. Life Saving Service. The worse the weather, the more realistic the patrol.

Dress appropriately: 7:30-9:30 p.m., Saturdays, October 10 and October 17

Bicycling

Bicycles are allowed on the same established roads that vehicles travel, but not on any park trails. Bike these suggested areas:

- Port Oneida Rural Historic District: easy. These quiet country roads, a mix of gravel and pavement, wind between farms, barns, and wetlands. Ask for an area brochure at the visitor center.
- Platte Plains: moderate. Close to the Platte River Campground. Use these primitive roads to experience nature away from the highway.
- The Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive: strenuous. For experienced bicyclists only. This 75 mile loop, with high summer traffic volumes and steep hills, provides overviews of Lake Michigan and the dunes.
- Ranger-led Bicycle Tours: moderate. During July and August, bicycle the Lakeshore with a ranger. Ask for a summer program schedule at the visitor center or campground offices. Helmets are required.

Winter Activities

Explore the colors of winter. Blue-gray ice sheets sculpt the shoreline and leafless oak, beech, and maple trees reveal over-looks shrouded the rest of the year. Winter creates a quiet and rarely witnessed landscape.

- Ski the trails. Easy, intermediate, and advanced trails exist. Not groomed, but frequently tracked. Ask about a ski trail guide.
- Snowshoe anywhere. When following marked trails, please avoid trampling established ski trails by snowshoeing alongside them.
- Saturday snowshoe hikes. In January and February, rangers lead free introductory snowshoe hikes. Meet at the visitor center at 10 a.m. The park provides snowshoes free of charge. Snowshoes are limited; call ahead for reservations 231-326-5134 x528.
- Ice fish the inland lakes. Standard state of Michigan licenses and regulations apply. The DNR reminds anglers to "dress warm, use the buddy system, always wear a life jacket, and use caution when traveling across any ice."

Dune Center Store

Operated by Eastern National, a non-profit park partner, the Dune Center (near rest rooms at the Dune Climb) provides quality educational products and services for park visitors. Duck into the air-conditioned store for nature guides, compasses, bins, T-shirts, hats, hiking sticks, and more. A free, sand accessible wheelchair may be borrowed. Call 231-334-2010 or visit (www.easternnational.org).

Open June: Fri, Sat, Sun 9-2; July 1 - Labor Day: daily 12-5. Located at the base of the Dune Climb.
Camping

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore offers camping for everyone. The Platte River Campground is equipped with modern facilities, tent pads, picnic tables, fire rings, and parking pads at each site.

D. H. Day Campground is a popular, rustic campground with wooded campsites. Sites have tent pads, picnic tables, fire rings and parking areas.

Backcountry camping is available in White Pine and Valley View Campgrounds and on North and South Manitou Islands. A Backcountry Camping Permit is required in addition to a park entrance pass. Obtain a pass and permit at the visitor center or campground offices.

Reservations

To make reservations, visit http://www.recreation.gov, or the Park website at www.nps.gov/slbe, or phone 1-877-444-6777. Reservations for Platte river campsites from May through October, reservations are accepted one year in advance. A $3 per night reservation fee is added by the reservation contractor. Reserve early!

Threat Spotlight

If You Brought Firewood
• Do not unload firewood to the ground at your campsite.
• Do not leave unburned firewood at your campsite.

Don’t
• Do place firewood directly from your vehicle into a fire (this prevents the spread of insects along the ground).
• Do burn your wood completely.

• From the Lakeshore boundary north of Glen Arbor around Pyramid Point to CR 669.
• From Esch Road north to the Lakeshore boundary south of Empire.
• From the Lakeshore boundary north of Empire north to just south of the North Bar Lake stream outlet.
• From Maritime Museum east to the Lakeshore boundary west of Glen Arbor.
• From the Lakeshore boundary north of Glen Arbor around Pyramid Point to CR 669.
• From CR 651 north to the Lakeshore northern boundary.

Firewood Alert

Leave Firewood at Home

Transporting firewood into the National Lakeshore from other areas spreads non-native pest insects and diseases, including emerald ash borer, beech bark disease, oak wilt, and hemlock wooly adelgid. For more information on state emerald ash borer quarantines, visit the DNR website: www.michigan.gov/eab.

Safe firewood can be bought at the campgrounds from vendors. Down and dead wood may be collected for use in park campsite fire rings and beach fires. Do not disturb wood found in dune and ghost forest areas.

Baby’s Breath

How can a beautiful flower used in floral arrangements destroy the dunes? Why does the National Lakeshore remove these flowers?

Baby’s breath, a perennial herb with a white or pink flower, is an aggressive non-native invader of the dunes. Brought over from Europe and Asia for use in flower arrangements, baby’s breath escaped into the wild and spread rapidly. In some areas of the Lakeshore, baby’s breath comprises 80% of all vegetation. On a 250 acre Lakeshore plot, park biologists removed over 1.2 million plants. This invader radically alters dune ecology by crowding out native species such as the endangered Pitcher’s thistle.

Reservations only for group campsites from Memorial Day through Labor Day are accepted six months in advance. for group sites from May through October, reservations are accepted one year in advance.

A $3 per night reservation fee is added by the reservation contractor. Reserve early!

Please Note

Senior and Access Pass holders with ID pay half price for campsites at D. H. Day Campground and Platte River Campground and for the registration fee. The discount does not apply for group campsites or electricity.

Pets in the Park

Pet Rules
• Pets must be controlled on a six-foot leash.
• Pets may not be left unattended or tied to an object.
• Do not allow your pet to make unreasonable noise.
• Clean up after your pet and dispose of waste in trash receptacles.
• Keep your pet from interacting with wildlife or disturbing park visitors.

Pine and Valley View campgrounds and backcountry campsites, North and South Manitou Islands, and other areas where posted. Pets are not allowed on designated ski trails (Trails #1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, 13) from December 1 to March 31.

No Pet Zones

Dune Climb, Glen Lake Picnic Area, North Bar Lake, Platte Point Beach, group campsites, backcountry campsites, North and South Manitou Islands, and other areas where posted. Pets are not allowed on designated ski trails (Trails #1, 2, 4, 5, 10, 11, 13) from December 1 to March 31.

Pet Rules
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Pet Friendly Lake Michigan Beaches

Pets are allowed on the following beach areas:
• From Platte River Campground / Railroad Grade Trail north to Petronel Road.
• From Petronel Road north to the Lakeshore boundary south of Empire.

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore 7
Lake Michigan Overlook
Will You Need Rescue?

DANGER
Every year at the Lake Michigan Overlook #9 on the Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive, visitors are lured off the boardwalk. Despite posted warnings, people descend the 450-foot high rock and sand bluff. The sight of others doing so may give the impression that this is a safe activity. It is not safe. Rangers routinely respond to visitors who have become injured, dangerously exhausted, overheated, or who have become separated and lost as they seek alternate routes back to the top.

Please do not climb at this location. The Dune Climb is recommended as a safer location for climbing.

The Manitou Islands

South Manitou Island
No place offers a more complete sense of the National Lakeshore than South Manitou Island. Catch a passenger ferry for a day trip or camping excursion. The island preserves beaches, hiking, giant cedars, shipwrecks, and historic farm tours all for a day trip or camping excursion. The island is 11 miles north of Empire on M-22.

North Manitou Island
For a true wilderness experience, back-pack North Manitou Island. Visitors pass through the historic Coast Guard village before entering nearly 15,000 acres of forests, fields, and beaches. Vistus emphasize solitude and self-reliance. Plan well. No services are available. As you must stay overnight, bring all your camping needs. The island’s west shore is a popular camping area. Heavy snow can close the entry road, so access may be delayed May-August. No ferry service to North Manitou on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Volunteer

The National Park Service encourages visitors to help preserve the natural environment by volunteering. Volunteers can help with the park’s programs, services, and facilities. Call the park for volunteer opportunities or to learn more about the Junior Ranger Program. For more information contact 231-326-5134 ext. 507.

Special Events

DANGER
When we climb the steep bluffs, we destroy the fragile vegetation holding the dunes together. These unnatural human patterns funnel the wind and focus erosion on specific places instead of across the entire dunes. Within a few generations, this erosion threatens to destroy the colors of the dunes we love to experience.

THE PLAN
We are currently preparing a plan that looks at different ways of addressing the safety and resource issues at this site. The plan will be available for review in May and a public open house will be scheduled for June. Call Mike Duwe at 231-326-5134 for details.

EROSION
For more information on any special event, contact 231-362-5134 or visit the website: www.nps.gov/slbe.

Rangers offer weekly interpretive programs with topics and trails varying throughout the year. Learn something different about the natural wonders and historic importance of the National Lakeshore.

May 1, 2009
Antique Apple Tree Pruning Workshop
Learn skills and practice maintaining an heirloom apple orchard.

May 28 & 29, 2009
Glen Haven Days
School groups and visitors learn about lumbering, shipping, and U.S. Life Saving Service through hands-on activities.

July 12, 2009
Dune Climb Concert
A free open-air concert brought to you by the Glen Arbor Art Association (GAAPA). For details, visit the GAAPA website at www.glenarborart.org (click on Manitou Music Festival).

August 7-8, 2009
Port Oneida Fair
Port Oneida Rural Historic District. Arts and crafts, rural life skills demonstrations at a variety of farmsteads in the Port Oneida Rural Historic District. Visit the fair website at www.ketanais.com/fair

August 21-30, 2009
Michigan Barn Preservation Network Workshop
South Manitou Island. An opportunity to learn new skills and help restore historic buildings.

September 26, 2009
National Public Lands Day
Enjoy the park on this annual “fee-free” day and/or participate in a Take Pride in America/Coastal Cleanup event.

September, October 2009
Artist-in-Residence
A visiting artist will share his or her work at a public program.

October 10 & 17, 2009
Historic Beach Patrol
Sleeping Bear Point Maritime Museum. Dress for the weather and walk the beach with a surfman from the U.S. Life Saving Service in search of a shipwreck.

October 1-24, 2009
North Manitou Island Deer Hunt (Bow)
Apply to park for permit.

January and February
Snowshoe Hikes with a Ranger
Meet at the Visitor Center at 1 pm for orientation and instructions. Then drive to hike location. Snowshoes loaned free of charge. Reservations suggested.

April 17-24, 2010
TBA
National Park Week and Junior Ranger Day
Events to be announced.

May 7, 2010
Antique Apple Tree Pruning Workshop
Learn skills and practice maintaining an heirloom apple orchard.

For more information on any special event, contact 231-362-5134 or visit the website: www.nps.gov/slbe.

Make a Difference

Volunteer

The Manitou Islands

South Manitou Island Ferry
9:15 a.m. Check in and board in Leland
10:00 a.m. Departs Leland
11:30 a.m. Arives South Manitou Island
4:00 p.m. Departs South Manitou Island
5:30 p.m. Arrives Leland

North Manitou Island Ferry
9:15 a.m. Check in and board in Leland
10:00 a.m. Departs Leland
11:00 a.m. Arrives North Manitou Island
11:05 a.m. Departs North Manitou Island immediately after loading
12:00 p.m. Arrives Leland

Ferry service changes with the seasons. Always contact Manitou Island Transit for reservations and schedule changes 231-256-9061. A national park entrance pass is required for any use of the islands. A backcountry permit is required for overnight campers. Permits are available at the Leland Harbor office before ferry boarding and at the visitor center. Leland is 27 miles north of Empire on M-22.

Volunteer

Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Volunteers-in-Parks (viPs) donated nearly 36,000 hours at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. viPs maintained and renovated trails and historic buildings, removed invasive plants, and much more. You too can help care for your national parks. For more information, contact 231-326-5134 ext. 507.

Volunteer

South Manitou Island.
With a ranger.

No services are available. As you must stay overnight, bring all your camping needs. The island’s west shore is a popular camping area. Heavy snow can close the entry road, so access may be delayed May-August. No ferry service to North Manitou on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Become a Junior Ranger!

Explore the secrets of the Lakeshore as you seek answers for your Junior Ranger Workbook (free at park stores and campground offices). Children of all ages enjoy these fun and challenging activities. Complete Level One in the book to earn a Junior Ranger badge. Complete Level Two to earn a Junior Ranger patch and badge. In order to earn your Junior Ranger status, return to the visitor center or a campground office to review the workbook with a ranger. Go explore!