



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 scamper 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.



Saturdays at the Lakeshore

- What:** Join a ranger for programs every Saturday.
- When:** January through October, 1:00 p.m.
- Where:** Visitor center in Empire.
- Info:** After a brief introduction, participants travel by car to the trailhead. These hikes, suitable for all ages, last about an hour and a half and conclude by 3 p.m. Reservations are not required, but are suggested if you bring a group or need snowshoes in winter. Call 231-326-5134 x328 for details.

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National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore
9922 Front Street
Empire, MI 49630



Beaches

5



Camping

7



Junior Rangers

8





Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore

Park Headquarters
9922 Front Street
Empire, MI 49630
Visitor center: 231-326-5134 ext. 328
Website: www.nps.gov/slbe
E-mail: SLBE_Interpretation@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. The 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 Greiner, Ken Hyde, Kerry Kelly, Terry Phipps, Susan Sanders, Dennis Yockers, Alice Van Zoeren 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

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

this 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 are 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: Peterson, Esch, North Bar Lake, CR 669, 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 1-7 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. *Only valid at this 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 nontransferable.

\$80 Annual Pass for National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands

Provides access to all Federal recreation sites for a year from month of purchase. Admits pass holder and all passengers in a noncommercial vehicle. *Can be obtained in person at the park; or by calling 1-888-ASK USGS, ext. 1, or at <http://store.usgs.gov/pass>.*

\$5 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

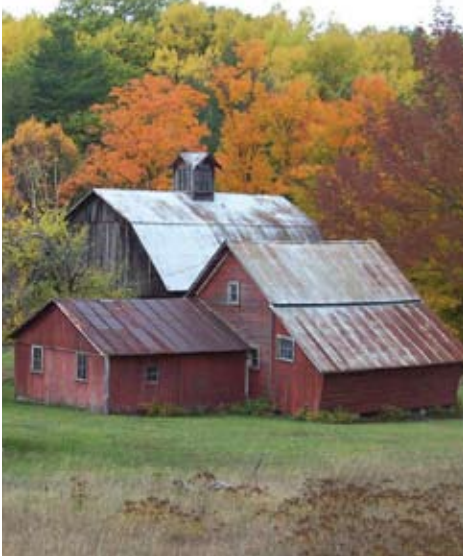
Free lifetime pass for U.S. citizens or permanent residents with permanent disabilities. Documentation is required. Provides access to Federal recreation sites and admits pass holder and all passengers in a noncommercial vehicle. May provide a 50 percent discount on recreational fees such as camping 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 Administration 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

Vehicle	Capacity	Fee
Van	7-15	\$40
Minibus	16-25	\$40
Motorcoach	26+	\$100



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 and 19
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 your 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.visitglenarbor.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.tcchamber.org

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

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: 7.5 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 6.
M-209, 7 miles north of Empire
Length: 0.5-3 hours

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 miles, 30-60 minutes.
Entire trail: 3 miles, 2-3 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

Ranger Programs

Visit a beaver lodge. Bike the historic farmsteads. Howl for coyotes. Discover fins, furs, and feathers. Explore glacial remains. Experienced rangers lead these free activities and more (seasonal). Details on page 6.
Variable. Look for a summer program schedule at the visitor center, campgrounds, and website: www.nps.gov/slbe
Length: 1-2 hours

Alligator Hill Easy Loop Trail (#10)

Winding through a beech-maple forest, this trail leads to an overlook of Lake Michigan and the Manitou Islands. Details on page 4.
6 miles north of Empire off Stocking Rd.
Length: 3 miles, 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.
Variable. 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



Trail Guide

Trail	Round trip	Description	Park Map
Old Indian Trail	2.5 mi  	Easy hike, easy to advanced ski - Two fairly flat loops begin in a mixed evergreen and hardwood forest and wind through low dunes to the Lake Michigan shore. <i>Begins off M-22.</i>	1
Platte Plains Trail	3.5 - 14.7 mi  	Watch for junctions. <i>There are multiple trailheads (Esch Rd., Trails End Rd., & Platte River Campground).</i> Bass Lake Loop: (3.5 mi) Easy hike and ski - Winds around Bass and Deer Lakes. Some sections follow a two-track road. Otter Creek Loop: (4.6 mi) Easy hike and ski - Follows Otter Creek and Otter Lake. Flat, with pine-oak-aspen forests and open meadows. Lasso Loop: (6.3 mi) Moderate hike, easy to advanced ski - Winds through pine-oak-aspen forests. Scenic overlooks of Lake Michigan. Several road crossings.	2
Empire Bluff Trail	1.5 mi 	Moderate hike - Winds through a beech-maple forest to an overlook. Wildflowers and woodland plants are abundant. For your safety and to prevent erosion, please do not descend the bluff. <i>Begins off Wilco Rd.</i>	3
Windy Moraine Trail	1.5 mi  	Moderate hike, advanced ski - A quiet trail with a view of Glen Lake from atop a hill. Trail leads through beech-maple forest and old farm fields. <i>Begins off Welch Rd. near M-109.</i>	4
Shauger Hill Trail	2.4 mi  	Moderate hike, advanced ski - Includes beech-maple forest, and steep hills and crosses the Scenic Drive twice. Watch for traffic at the crosswalks. In winter, the Scenic Drive is closed to vehicles for use as a cross-country ski and snowshoe trail. Eight additional miles of hilly terrain challenge winter visitors. Watch for snowmobiles where the trail crosses Shauger Hill Rd. <i>Begins at the Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive entrance.</i>	5
Cottonwood Trail	1.5 mi 	Moderate - Hilly, all sand, and no shade. Leads onto the perched dunes through native grasses, shrubs, and wildflowers. Views from above the Dune Climb of D. H. Day farm and Glen Lake. Take water, sunscreen, hat, and shoes. <i>Begins at Stop 4 along the Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive.</i>	6
Dunes Hiking Trail	3.5 mi 	Strenuous - Hilly, all sand, and no shade. Travels over nine hills through the high dunes plateau to Lake Michigan. Blue-tipped posts mark the trail. It can be a hot, exhausting, three to four hour trip. Plan ahead. Take water, sunscreen, hat, shoes, and a snack. <i>Begins at the Dune Climb.</i>	7
Duneside Accessible Trail	0.9 mi  	Easy - The trail is accessible to those with physical and visual impairments. Great for strollers. There are benches along the way and a quiet viewing deck at the end. Be sure to visit the giant yard stick which measures the speed at which the dune is moving. <i>Begins at the Dune Climb.</i>	8
Sleeping Bear Point Trail	2.8 mi 	Strenuous - Hilly, all sand, and no shade. Leads onto the dunes, through a ghost forest, and overlooks Lake Michigan. Blue-tipped posts mark the trail. For a shorter option, a spur leads to Sleeping Bear Point from where you can follow the beach back to the Maritime Museum and trailhead. Plan ahead. Take water, sunscreen, hat, shoes, and a snack. <i>Begins off M-209.</i>	9
Alligator Hill Trail	3 - 8 mi   	All three loops lead through a beech-maple forest to a bench which overlooks Lake Michigan and the Manitou Islands. A 1.6 mile spur takes you along the ridge to the Glen Lake overlook. <i>Begins off Stocking Rd. near its intersection with Day Farm Rd.</i> Only trail upon which horse use is allowed. Easy hike and ski loop: 3 mi, 4.6 mi with spur. Moderate hike, intermediate ski loop: 4.7 mi, 6.3 mi with spur Moderate hike, advanced ski loop: 4.6 mi, 6.2 mi with spur	10
Bay View Trail	1.5-7.5 mi  	Provides views of Lake Michigan and the Port Oneida Rural Historic District. Several loops of different lengths and difficulties. <i>Begins off Thoreson Rd. near M-22.</i> Farm Loop: (2.4 mi) Easy hike and ski - Wanders through farms and fields and by an historic schoolhouse to Lookout Point. Ridge Loop: (4 mi) Moderate hike, advanced ski - The low trail leads through fields and forest. The high trail follows the ridge for views of Lake Michigan.	11
Pyramid Point Trail	1.2 - 2.7 mi 	Moderate - To the bluff-and-back is 1.2 miles. Climbing a steep hill, it provides an overlook of Lake Michigan and the Manitou Islands. For your safety and to prevent erosion, please do not descend the bluff. The entire loop trail is 2.7 miles and follows a portion of Basch Rd. <i>Begins off Basch Rd. Follow Port Oneida Rd. north from M-22.</i>	12
Good Harbor Bay Trail	2.8 mi  	Easy hike and ski - A flat loop trail through woods and wetlands. <i>Begins off Lake Michigan Rd. Take CR 669 north from M-22. Follow Lake Michigan Rd. east.</i>	13
Additional trail information: - Drectional arrows and difficulty levels on maps are for use by cross country skiers. Snowshoers should not walk on top of ski tracks - Check for ticks, which can carry Lyme disease. If an imbedded tick is discovered, note the date and time of removal in case complications develop later. - Please leave plants, rocks, and other natural objects undisturbed for other visitors to enjoy. Do not collect ghost-forest wood, any wood on the dunes, or wildflowers. Ask the rangers about what fruits, berries, and mushrooms can be picked. - Always tell someone where you are going hiking and when you'll be back.			

Your Fees at Work

Thank you for the entrance and camping fees you pay when you visit Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. Eighty percent of those dollars stay within this park and finance projects that directly benefit our visitors. Take pride in the fact that your fee dollars have already made a difference in many ways including the following:

- Continued protection of watchable wildlife such as the endangered piping plover (details on page 5).
- Systematic removal of invasive plants that overrun native plant communities, including our beautiful wildflowers (details on page 5).
- In Glen Haven, the installation of modern restrooms, roofing the Cannery Boat Museum, and renovation of the General Store and Blacksmith Shop (details on page 6).
- Improved trailhead parking lots.
- Additional ranger-led programs and uniformed staff to assist you.

Thank you, again, for your continued support.



Park Partners

Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes

The Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes was founded in 1994 as a volunteer, nonprofit organization working for park goals. This friends group obtains grants and donations from individuals, companies, and other organizations for a variety of interesting projects and park support. Look for their publications in park bookstores. *For more information and/or to join, visit www.friendsofsleepingbear.org.*

Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear

Since 1998, Preserve Historic Sleeping Bear (PHSB) has been a park partner dedicated to sponsoring volunteer preservation projects and raising money to save the historic buildings and landscapes of the Lakeshore. Preserve is now an adaptive-use partner in the Olsen House in the Port Oneida Rural Historic District. Come and visit! They are open to the public when staff is available. *For more information and/or to join, call 231-334-6103 or visit www.phsb.org.*

Manitou Islands Memorial Society

The mission of the Manitou Islands Memorial Society (MIMS) is to preserve and interpret the history and cultural traditions of North and South Manitou Islands. Members are involved in research, fund raising, hands-on maintenance and preservation projects, and interpretation initiatives. The islands have a special way of captivating visitors’ hearts. When that happens to you, the Memorial Society nurtures that enchantment. *For more information and/or to join, visit www.manitouislands.org.*

Sky Watch	DATE	SUNRISE	SUNSET	FULL MOON
	May 1	6:34 am	8:48 pm	May 8 June 7 July 7 August 5 September 4 October 4 November 2 December 2
	May 15	6:16 am	9:09 pm	
	June 1	6:01 am	9:22 pm	
	June 15	5:57 am	9:30 pm	
	July 1	6:02 am	9:34 pm	
	July 15	6:12 am	9:28 pm	
	August 1	6:30 am	9:11 pm	
	August 15	6:46 am	8:51 pm	
	September 1	7:06 am	8:22 pm	
	September 15	7:22 am	7:56 pm	
	October 1	7:42 am	7:26 pm	
	October 15	7:59 am	7:00 pm	
	November 1	7:22 am	5:33 pm	
	November 15	7:41 am	5:16 pm	
	December 1	8:01 am	5:05 pm	
	December 15	8:14 am	5:03 pm	

WEATHER AND CLIMATE		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
	Temperature (°F)												
	average daily max.	26	29	38	53	66	75	79	76	68	55	42	30
	average daily min.	9	9	18	32	42	51	56	54	47	37	28	17
	extreme high	53	59	76	86	90	95	98	94	92	85	70	63
	extreme low.	-26	-34	-23	3	21	29	31	29	21	16	-2	-21
	days above 90°F (avg)	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0
	days below 32°F (avg)	31	28	31	27	20	9	3	5	13	26	29	31
	Precipitation (inches)												
	precipitation average	1.5	1.1	2.1	2.4	2.6	3.0	2.6	3.3	3.4	2.4	2.4	2.0
	maximum precipitation	3.1	3.4	5.7	4.7	6.0	6.7	5.0	7.2	9.5	8.1	5.1	4.5
	maximum snowfall	38	24	29	12	2	0	0	0	1	4	19	30
	days with precip	15	11	12	12	10	10	9	10	12	12	14	15
	days with snow	18	13	10	4	1	0	0	0	1	1	8	15
	thunderstorms	1	1	1	2	4	5	6	6	4	1	1	1



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 park entrance pass 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, 11 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 (#13).
🐾 Leashed pets allowed to the left of CR 669 when facing the water.
*At the end of CR 669 (Bohemian Rd.)
Off M-22, 18 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*

Piping Plover Update

In 2008, there were 63 breeding pairs in the entire Great Lakes piping plover population, the same number as in 2007. The 2008 nesting success was limited by strong wind storms in June and by predators. Though 63 is a small number of plover pairs, in 1986 there were only 16. That year piping plovers were given protection under the Endangered Species Act. The population has been increasing since that time, due to the many organizations, agencies, and individuals watching over and protecting them. For more information, visit <http://www.nps.gov/slbe/playourvisit/upload/Piping%20Plover.pdf>

The Threatened Colors of Your Lakeshore

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

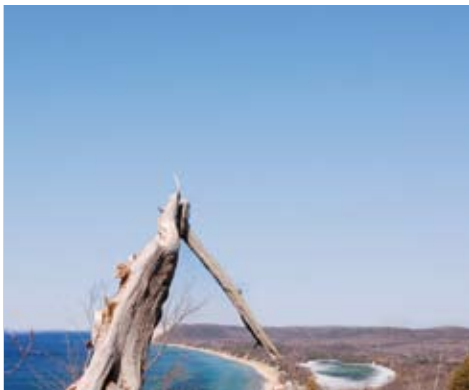
Invasive Species

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 pests easily out-compete native plants and animals for food, water, and sunlight. As the population of invaders increase, piles of mussel shells and algae bury our beaches, ash trees die in the forests, and a single flower fills a field where dozens bloomed before. As 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 insects 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 threatening 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 throughout 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 1931. Sleeping Bearville, 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 though 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 to 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 11-5 daily, June through September 7*



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 231-326-5134 or visit the website: www.nps.gov/slbe.

Program	Dates	Times	Description
Saturdays at the Lakeshore	January - October	Saturdays 1:00 p.m.	Explore different areas of the Lakeshore every Saturday. Suitable for all ages. Details: page 1.
Heroes of the Storm	July - August	Daily 3:00 p.m.	An audience reenactment of a shipwreck rescue. Meet at the Maritime Museum. Details: this page.
Morning program	July - August	Daily 11:00 a.m.	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.
Evening program	July	Daily 8:00 p.m.	
	August	Daily 7:30 p.m.	

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 11-5 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 7.5 mile loop, with high summer traffic volumes and steep hills, provides overlooks 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 overlooks 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 1:00 p.m. The park provides snowshoes free of charge. Snowshoes are limited; call ahead for reservations 231-326-5134 x328.

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, pins, 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 12-5; 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 camp-sites. 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	Ranger station	Modern restrooms	Vault toilets	Backcountry sites	Tent sites	Group camping	RV sites	Dump station	Potable water	Showers	Accessible	Swimming beach	Fees
	R	Home	People	House	Triangle	Triangle	Triangle	RV	Truck	Water	Shower	Wheelchair	Swimmer	\$ per night per site
D. H. Day Campground		●		●	●			NE	●	●		●	●	\$12
D. H. Day Group Campground	●			●	●		●			●				\$30
Platte River Campground	●	●	●		●		●	E	●	●	\$	●	●	\$16 \$21 w/ electricity \$12 walk-in site \$40 group site
White Pine				●		●								\$5
Valley View				●		●								\$5
South Manitou Island	G	●		●		●	●			W				\$5 \$20 group site
North Manitou Island		●		●		●	●			W				\$5 \$10 group site

E Sites with electricity are available
G Reservations only for group campsites

\$ Shower tokens required (\$1 for two 3-minute tokens)
W Potable water available in some campgrounds

NE No electricity at sites; generator use permitted from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.

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 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.

Threat Spotlight

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 camp-grounds from vendors. Down and dead wood may be collected for use in park camp-site fire rings and beach fires. Do not disturb wood found in dune and ghost forest areas.

If You Brought Firewood

- Don't unload firewood to the ground at your campsite.
- Don't leave unburned firewood at your campsite.

- Do place firewood directly from your vehicle into a fire (this prevents the spread of insects along the ground).
- Do burn your wood completely.

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 arrange-ments, 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 200 acre Lake-shore 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.



Pets in the Park

Pet Friendly Lake Michigan Beaches

Pets are allowed on the following beach areas:

- From Platte River Campground / Railroad Grade Trail north to Peterson Road.
- 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.

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

- 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 unreason-able noise.
- Clean up after your pet and dispose of waste in trash receptacles.
- Keep your pet from interacting with wildlife or disturbing park visitors.



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.

EROSION
When we climb the steep bluffs, we destroy the fragile vegetation holding the dunes together. These unnatural human paths 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.



Discover more about the rich history and natural beauty of the Lakeshore any time from your own cell phone. It's easy. The service is free, but you will use your own cell phone service and minutes.

- At each tour stop, dial **231-577-5555**
- Enter the tour stop number.

Enjoy tours of Glen Haven, Port Onieda, and Pierce Stocking Scenic Drive geology. Ask at the visitor center, campground offices, or entrance kiosks for a map and directions.

Listen and enjoy.

Make a Difference Volunteer



In 2008, 1,250 Volunteers-In-Parks (VIPs) donated nearly 36,000 hours at Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore. VIPs staffed visitor centers and museums, acted as campground hosts, monitored piping plover, 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.

Special Events

Saturdays	Saturdays at the Lakeshore 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 Thursday, Friday 9:30 am to 3:30 p.m.	Glen Haven Days School groups and visitors learn about lumbering, shipping, and U.S. Life Saving Service through hands-on activities.
May 30, 2009 9:00 p.m.	Relighting the South Manitou Island Light Celebrate the relighting of the South Manitou Light. Check the website for updated information: www.nps.gov/slbe .
July 12, 2009 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	Dune Climb Concert At the base of the Dune Climb on M-109. A free open-air concert brought to you by the Glen Arbor Art Association (GAAA). For details, visit the GAAA website at www.glenarborart.org (click on Manitou Music Festival).
August 7-8, 2009 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.	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.leelanau.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 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.	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 October 25-November 2, 2009	North Manitou Island Deer Hunt (Bow) North Manitou Island Deer Hunt (Firearm) Apply to park for permit.
January and February 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	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 .	

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 your exploration away from the rush of the mainland. Climb the lighthouse stairs for grand views across Lake Michigan. Take everything you need (food, water, camping equipment) as no services are available on the island. Supplies are available in Leland.

North Manitou Island
For a true wilderness experience, backpack North Manitou Island. Visitors pass through the historic Coast Guard village before entering nearly 15,000 acres of forests, fields, and beaches. Visits emphasize solitude and self-reliance. Plan well. No services are available. As you must stay overnight, bring all your camping needs. Due to nesting piping plover, some beach areas may be closed May-August. No ferry service to North Manitou on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Become a Junior Ranger!

South Manitou Island Ferry 9:15 a.m. Check in and board in Leland 10:00 a.m. Departs Leland 11:30 a.m. Arrives 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 campers. Passes and 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.	



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!**