

Featured Nature Preserves

OF THE LITTLE TRAVERSE CONSERVANCY

2018 EDITION



Little Traverse Conservancy's Guide to Nature Preserves & Trails

This guide is dedicated to the vision and perseverance of those who founded LTC 46 years ago in 1972: John Fischer, David Irish, Edward Koza, Earl Larson, Seberon Litzenburger, Frank Pierce, and John Tanton. Special mention in this issue goes to volunteer photographers Todd Petersen, Todd Parker, Frank Solle, The Wandering Fawn, Marta Olson, Kyle Anderson, John Heck, Gary Osterbeck, and Darrell Lawson whose photos appear throughout the guide.

This guide is also dedicated to you, our members and supporters who make it possible for us to protect the natural integrity and scenic beauty of northern Michigan. Its maps and photographs will help you discover and explore our largest, most popular preserves as well as some of the small, neighborhood natural areas that dot the north country. Use this guide to enjoy the natural beauty that our founders and all of our trustees, staff, and volunteers have worked hard to protect for you.

All preserve lands are open to the public

In addition to the nature preserves and natural areas featured in this book, there are dozens of other preserves that do not have trails or parking areas, although they are still open for you to access. LTC owns and manages more than 21,200 acres in nature preserves alone (2018). All are visible on our interactive map at www.landtrust.org.

As you journey around northern Michigan, please know that even more acres of private land are protected with conservation easements. Though a conservation easement does not make the land available to the public, it is a legally-binding document that ensures the perpetual protection of scenic and natural resources such as beautiful roadside views, important wildlife habitat, scenic and productive farm land, and other resources. And another nearly 3,000 acres are currently protected in our third — and relatively new — category of protected lands: working forest reserves.

This book may be out of date — and that's a good thing!

Publishing this book is a risky business because as soon as we print it, our generous donors provide us with yet another wonderful nature preserve and the book may become just a little outdated. It's a happy problem for us to have. Though we wish we could keep our printed preserve guide up to date, we want to be careful with our printing budget and your donated dollars. Please check our web site at www.landtrust.org for the very latest information on our nature preserves.

PRESERVE GUIDELINES

Little Traverse Conservancy works hard to balance the public uses offered on our preserves with protection of their natural integrity and scenic beauty for future generations. Recreational, educational, and scientific use of the preserves is encouraged, as long as it does not interfere with our primary goals of preservation and protection. We welcome you to explore and enjoy these beautiful lands, keeping in mind that you are a temporary visitor to the homes of many plants and animals.

Please enjoy hiking, birdwatching, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, fishing, and similar low-impact activities. Many of the properties include water frontage and one could easily canoe or kayak these, but please note that none of these properties include boat launch facilities for larger vessels.

Please refrain from camping, fires, dumping or littering, removal of vegetation, off-road vehicles, and snowmobiling.

Please remember:

- Hunting is allowed on designated preserves with written permission. Visit www.landtrust.org or contact the office at 231.347.0991 for information to quickly and easily obtain permission.
- All dogs must be on a leash while visiting preserves.

Please help us keep our preserves in good condition. Contact the Conservancy office at 231.347.0991 if you notice any inappropriate activity on a preserve or if trails, parking areas, or signs need attention. Preserves and trails require a good deal of management and maintenance and we greatly appreciate the assistance of the many individuals who help monitor and provide stewardship for them.

Public parks are generally established to handle more intensive use than our preserves and are maintained by the state and local governments. Those parks established with help from the Conservancy are identified in this guide. Please refer to the rules and regulations of the appropriate authorities when visiting these properties.

For interactive maps of preserves, visit www.landtrust.org.



Bicycling



Canoeing or Kayaking



Fishing



Horseback Riding



Hunting (by written permission only)



Located along an official birding trail



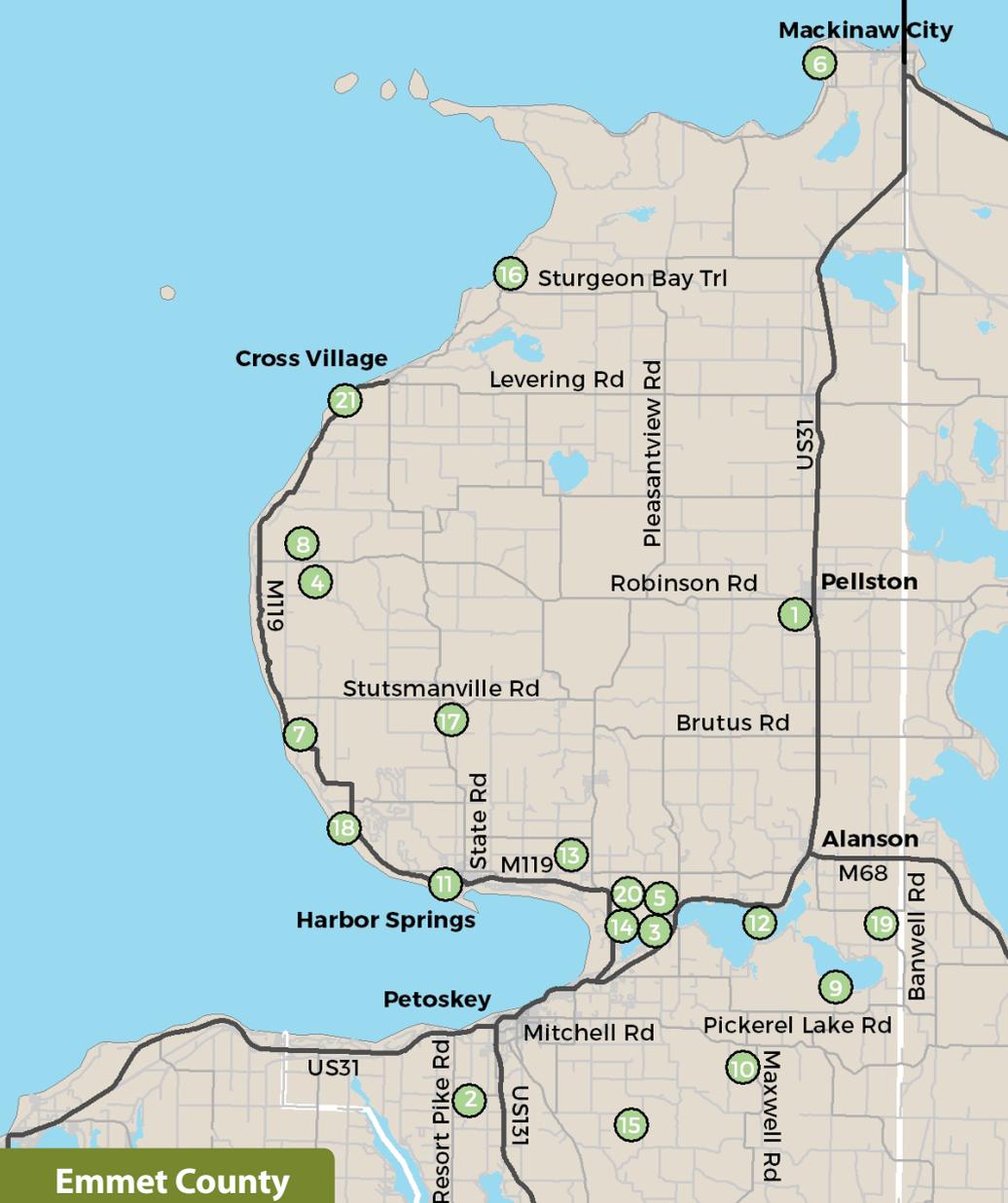
Skiing (ungroomed unless noted)



Swimming beach



Local Favorite



Emmet County

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Philip J. Braun Preserve

Size: 125 acres

Frontage: 4,500 feet along the Maple River.

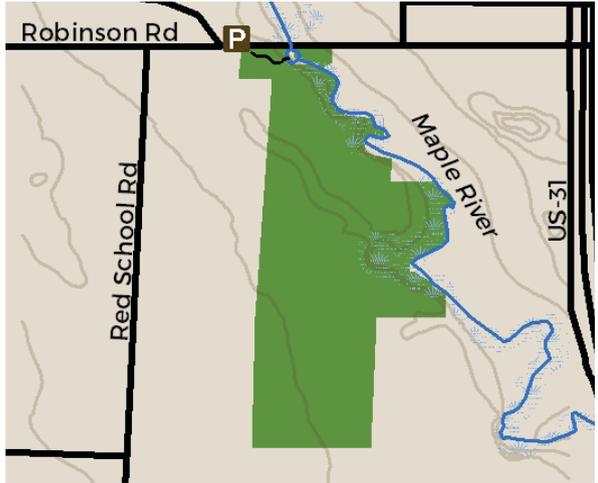
Land Description:

The uplands of this property are primarily hardwood and aspen with some red and white pine scattered throughout. Mixed conifer species dominate the lowland areas and riparian corridor. Several large planted 'wildlife openings' are established on the

upland areas, and recent timber stand management is evidenced by the large amount of regenerating aspen in the southern half of the property. This preserve lies adjacent to the Pellston Pioneer Park and State of Michigan land.

Trails: A short trail meanders from the parking area to the river.

History: Donated in 2011 by the J.A. Woollam Foundation in honor of a family friend who loved to fish the Maple River.



Directions:

From the intersection of US-31 and Robinson Road on the south end of Pellston, turn west on Robinson Road. The preserve entrance is 1/4 mile down on the south (left) side, immediately after crossing the Maple River bridge.



Todd Parker

EMMET COUNTY
Bubbling Springs

Size: 15 acres

Frontage: Just a few miles from downtown Petoskey, this preserve offers a short trail system and natural oasis for exploration. Enjoy a mix of mature upland hardwood forest and a swampy corridor with a small stream, while searching for the natural springs.

Land Description:

A mix of wetlands, uplands, and shoreline, this property provides a natural buffer in a highly developing region near town.

Trails: There is a small parking area and a short trail leads towards the springs portion of the preserve.

History: Donated in 2008 by Jay and Clem O'Neil.



Directions:

From the intersection of US-31 and US-131 in Petoskey, travel south on US-131 1½ miles to Intertown Rd. Turn right (west) on Intertown and travel 1.1 miles to the preserve on the left side of the road.



Fochtman

Size: 243 acres

Frontage: More than ¼ mile along Round Lake and the preserve is bisected by more than a mile of the North Western State Trail.

Land Description: A mix of wetlands, farmlands, uplands, and shoreline, this property offers a natural buffer in a highly developing region.

Trails: An old two-track road enters the property from the east along the US-31 parking area. The paved North Western State Trail is an excellent way to see the preserve. Check out the Round Lake overlook platform from the southern parking area.

History: The Fochtman Preserve was purchased at a significant bargain sale from the Fochtman family in 2001. The land was one of the largest blocks of undeveloped land remaining between Petoskey and Harbor Springs. Its purchase was made possible with funds raised for the Conservancy's Harbor Springs Greenbelt Program.



Directions to Hiawatha Trail parking:

From downtown Petoskey, drive north 2.6 miles on US-31 to M-119. Turn left on M-119 and go .8 mile and turn right on Hiawatha Trail. Travel approximately 1.2 miles and park on the left at the pull-off next to the historic marker and lake overlook platform.

Directions to US-31 (Conway) parking:

From Petoskey, drive north on US-31 approximately 5.8 miles. A small rustic parking area is available on the left, across from the intersection of US-31 and Graham Road.



EMMET COUNTY
Goodhart Farms

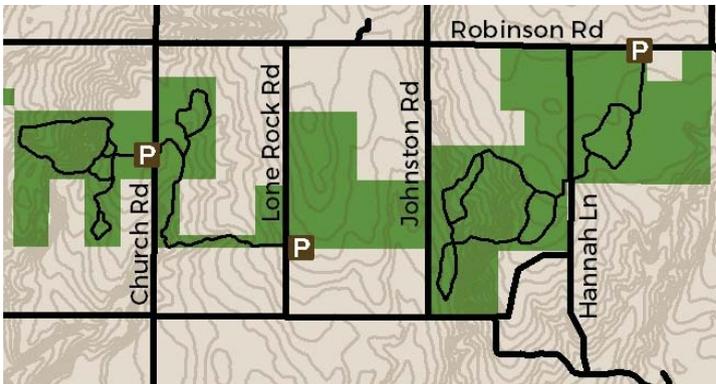
Size: 685 acres

Land Description: The Goodhart Farms Preserve is a mix of meadows, hay fields, and maple, beech, and ash forest. Old orchards and pine plantations are found on the property, and the rolling scenic fields offer views of Lake Michigan.

Trails: Three parking areas are available offering access to 6½ miles of marked trails (3½ miles are groomed in winter) that are ideal for hiking, horseback riding, snowshoeing, and cross country skiing. **Note:** The Lone Rock Road parking is best suited for horse trailers and was designed with those in mind.

History: In 1994, Ed and Maureen Mayne purchased the farm from the estate of John Hannah, former president of Michigan State University. Hannah had been purchasing and piecing together smaller farms since the 1950s, using the land for his own cattle herd and for agricultural research through the University. Upon their purchase, the Maynes raised premium, high quality hay sent to the southern states for race horses. In late 2002, Ed and Maureen donated the Goodhart Farms land and associated buildings

and equipment to Little Traverse Conservancy, with the buildings and equipment later sold. It was the single largest donation ever given to the organization at that time.



Directions: From Harbor Springs, take State Road north 9 miles to Robinson Road. Turn left (west) on Robinson and travel 3½ miles to the beginning of the preserve at the Robinson Road intersection. Parking is available along Robinson, Lone Rock, and Church Roads.



Hailand/Helstrom Family

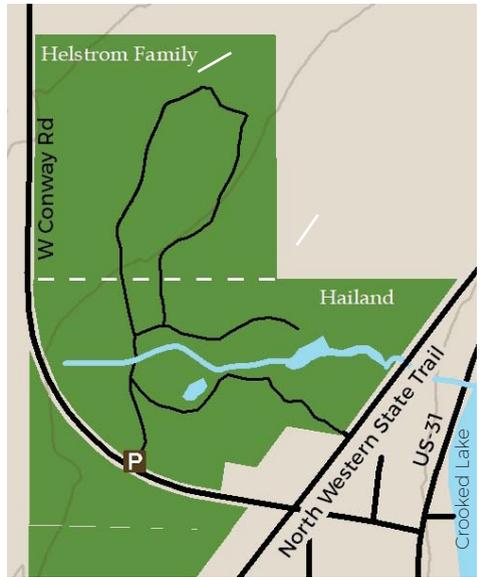
Size: 50 acres/40 acres

Frontage: The paved North Western State Trail follows the north eastern boundary of the Hailand Preserve.

Land Description/Trails:

A roughly 1½ mile trail system takes you through both of these preserves. The ponds found here drain to Crooked Lake a short distance to the east on the other side of US-31.

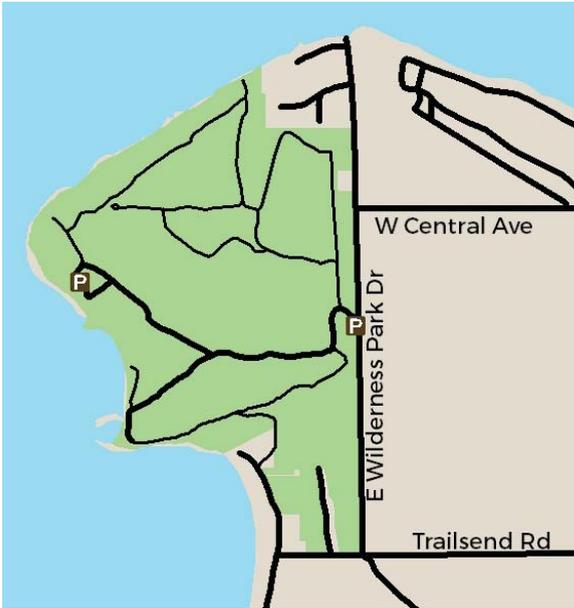
History: The Hailand Preserve was donated in 2007 in honor of Art and Sally Hailand. In 2012, funds from John Helstrom were donated to create the Helstrom Family Preserve in memory of Mathias and Esther Helstrom. Access to these preserves is available from two locations, as described below.



Directions: At the stop light intersection of Conway and US-31, turn left onto West Conway Road. In .2 miles, look for a sign and parking on the right. Or park just before this along the North Western State Trail (a paved trail) at the fountain and then walk north on the trail about a hundred yards to access the preserves directly.



The Headlands



Size: 600 acres

Frontage: 2½ miles on the Straits of Mackinac

Land Description: The largest and least disturbed forest tract in the Mackinaw City vicinity.

Trails & Facilities: A paved road takes you to the dark sky viewing and the trailhead. Nearly 4½ miles of trails for cross-country skiing, hiking, birdwatching, mountain biking, stargazing, and picnicking are all available at the Headlands. The property also includes a guest house for public rental. Contact Emmet County at 231.347.6536 for details or visit www.emmetcounty.org.

History: In 1996, the Conservancy assisted Emmet County in acquiring the Headlands with a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund and with LTC holding a conservation easement on the property. The land is an important resting stop and staging area for raptors and neotropical birds migrating across the Straits. It is also home to the endangered Dwarf Lake Iris and possibly for the threatened Lake Huron Tansy and Pitcher's Thistle. Flanked by the Straits of Mackinac, the Headlands was designated an international Dark Sky Park in 2011. New facilities were completed for the park in 2017 and regular programs are held there: www.midarkskypark.org.

Directions:

From Mackinaw City, take Central Avenue west for 2 miles to its end. Turn south (left) and go 1/3 mile to the entrance road on the right.



EMMET COUNTY
Hoogland Family

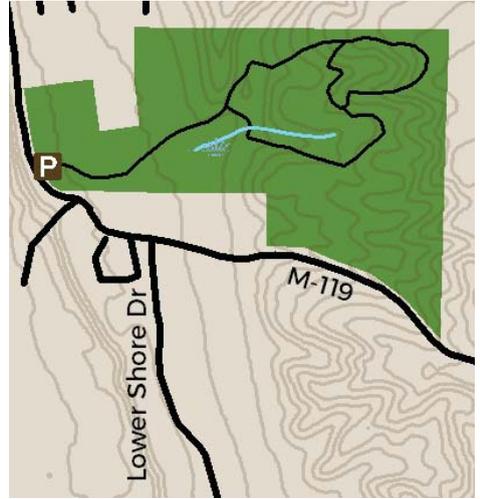
Size: 100 acres

Frontage: Nearly 3,000 feet along Scenic Heritage Route M-119, also known as the Tunnel of Trees

Land Description: This preserve is flat on the west side, but rises to rolling ridges to the east. The forest is dominated by large red oak, and includes the classic maple/beech northern upland forest that typifies northwestern Emmet County. In late spring, the woods are dotted with trillium, trout lily, spring beauty, and classic spring ephemerals.

Trail: 1.5 mile loop

History: This preserve was donated from the Hoogland Family Foundation. The Hoogland family wanted to protect some of the land that has been part of their family's summer vacations for decades. The preserve lies just above the Lake Michigan shore in a region that has experienced rapid growth because of its high desirability for summer homes.



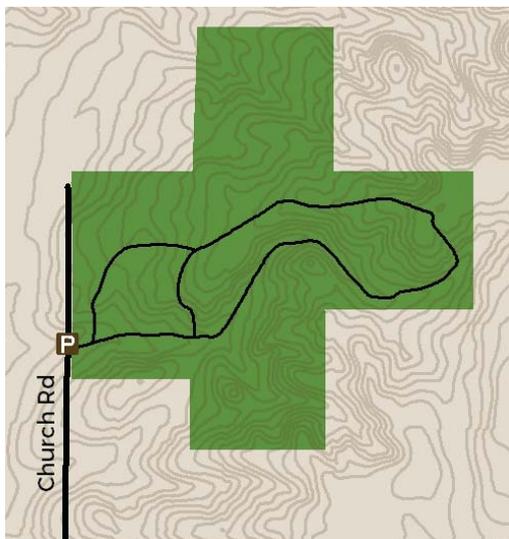
Directions: From Harbor Springs, drive north on M-119 for 7.7 miles. At the base of the big hill you have just descended, you will turn a fairly sharp corner to the right and the parking area will soon appear on the right. Look for a small parking area and logo sign.



Photos by The Wandering Fawn



EMMET COUNTY
Elmer Johnston



Size: 220 acres

Land Description: A mix of meadowlands and rolling hardwood forest dominated by beech, sugar maple, and red oak.

Trails: Park off of Church Road to access old logging trails which offer nearly two miles of hiking. This preserve is located within a half mile of the Goodhart Farms Preserve off of Robinson Road.

History: Once tilled farmland and more recently used for pasture, the hilltops offer magnificent views of Lake Michigan and Beaver Island. Mrs. Elmer Johnston donated the property in memory of her husband in 1982.



Directions: From Harbor Springs, take State Road 9 miles north to Robinson Road. Turn left (west) on Robinson and travel 4 miles to Church Road. Turn right (north) on Church and travel ½ mile to the Johnston Preserve on the right.



EMMET COUNTY
Ray Johnston

Size: 52 acres

Frontage: 82 feet on Pickerel Lake

Land Description: This land includes upland forested hardwoods dropping down to forested wetlands in the northwest corner. A steep bluff created by post-glacial Lake Algonquin runs along the north and east parts of the property.

Trails: More than one mile of trails are available.

History: Purchased in 2005, this preserve helps protect the Inland Waterway/Cheboygan River watershed.

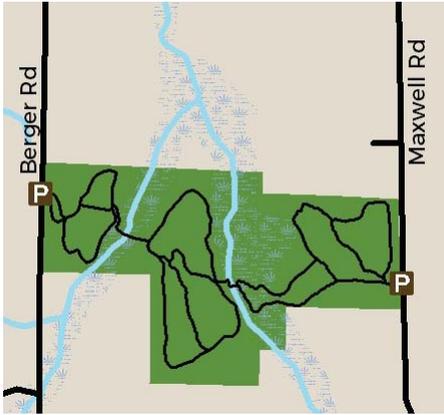


Todd Parker

Directions: From the intersection of M-119 and US-31 on the north end of Petoskey, follow US-31 ½ mile to Pickerel Lake Road. Turn right and follow Pickerel Lake Road for approximately 7½ miles (the road has several confusing turns at intersections, so watch the road signs). Turn left on Ellsworth Road, go about one mile, and turn left on Artesian Lane. Look for parking lot and preserve sign.



Allan and Virginia McCune



Size: 168 acres

Frontage: 3,400 feet on Minnehaha Creek

Land Description: Dominated by hardwood forest, the land includes red pine plantations, meadow, creek, and cedar swamp.

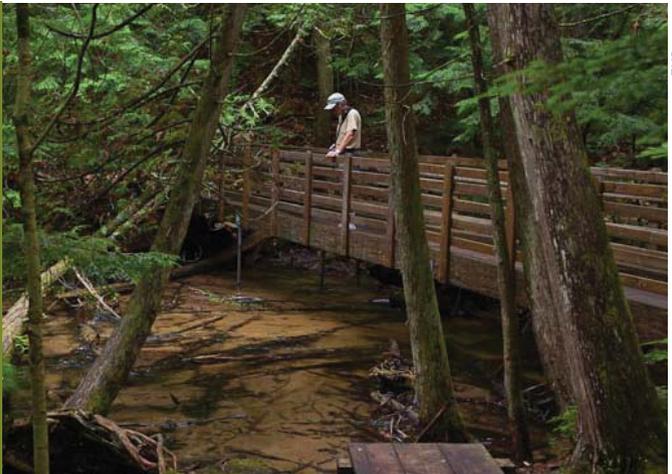
Trails: Two parking areas are available. A trail system offers roughly 3½ miles to explore.

This beautiful property was donated to the Little Traverse Conservancy in 1984 by Allan and Virginia McCune of Petoskey. The spring-fed Minnehaha Creek, which provides fish and wildlife habitat, flows through the preserve on its way to Crooked Lake. The trails were dedicated to Allan Purchis whose family homesteaded the land. An addition to the preserve was donated by the Purchis family in 2017. A replacement footbridge was constructed in 1997 across the east branch of the creek with funds from the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation in memory of Ellen Pray Bondy. A second footbridge and parking area were constructed in 2015 with another community foundation grant and significant volunteer support from the Petoskey Home Builder's Association and in memory of Sandy Wagar.



Directions:

From Petoskey, take Mitchell Road east 6.25 miles to Berger Road. Turn right and go .7 mile to parking on left. Eastern parking is found off of Maxwell Road, the next road east of Berger, about .7 mile down when you turn off of Mitchell.



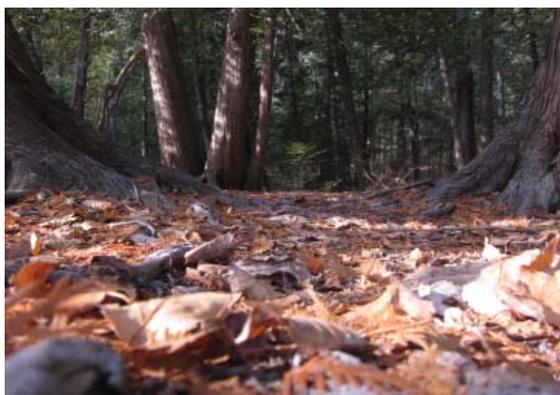
Naas, Mauger, Raunecker, and Leslie

Size: 45 acres combined

Land Description: A mixed conifer-deciduous forest and cedar swamp with springs and small pond. Located between Second and Fourth streets, this complex of preserves is found just a few blocks west of downtown Harbor Springs.

Trails: A flat, easy trail that includes boardwalk over wet areas and connects local roads for neighborhood pathways.

The Naas, Mauger, and Raunecker Preserve was donated in the late 1980s by the Naas and Mauger families in memory of Richard H. and Lydia Naas Raunecker. The original Leslie Preserve was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Gaylord Leslie in 1981. A small addition to the Leslie Preserve was donated anonymously in 2005.



Darrell Lawson

Directions: From Main Street in downtown Harbor Springs, travel west past Holy Childhood Church until the road dead ends on Traverse Street. Take a right and travel four blocks to Fourth Street. Turn left. The preserve entrance is about ¼ mile on the left. The trail will cross Second Street and pick up again to take you across the Leslie Preserve and over to Glenn Drive.



EMMET COUNTY

Oden Island



Size: 50 acres

Frontage: One mile on Crooked Lake

Land Description: This preserve is composed of large old-growth trees and fragile wetlands.

Trails: Parking is found at the trailhead. Approximately one mile of foot trails skirt the island's eastern perimeter. Look for two benches along the way for enjoying lakeside views.

History: A successful fundraising effort in 2000 resulted in the Conservancy's purchase of this large, undeveloped waterfront property. The purchase closed the door on a controversial 34-unit subdivision proposed for the site. Now the preserve helps maintain the water quality of Crooked Lake which lies near the upper portion of the Inland Waterway, a 40-mile navigable waterway that boaters can take all the way into Lake Huron at Cheboygan.

The protection of this property was an ideal example of a community coming together. A window of only three months was available to raise almost \$1 million for the purchase. The result was an outpouring of support from many individuals, a family foundation, the lake association, and Littlefield Township.

Directions: From Petoskey, take US-31 north 3¼ miles to Pickerel Lake Road. Turn right and follow 4 miles until Pickerel turns into Channel Road. Follow Channel Road 1 mile to Oden Island Road and turn left. Once on the island, turn right on Leeward Drive and go to the end until you see the Conservancy logo sign.



TMPetersen



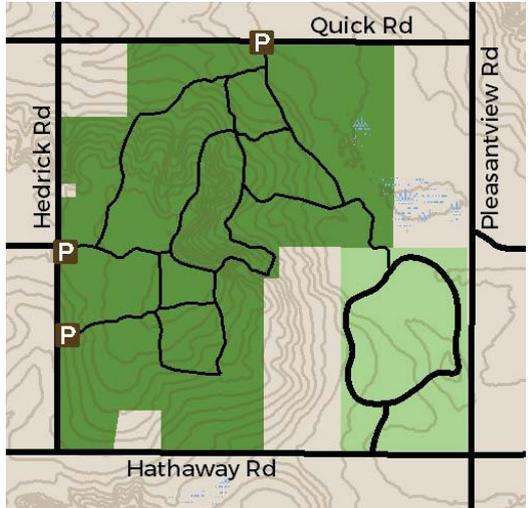
Offield Family Working Forest Reserve

Size: 390 acres

Land Description: Just a few miles from downtown Harbor Springs, this preserve has become a favorite community destination for hiking, dog walking (on leash), or nature classes. A mix of open meadows and forested hilly woods are found. Seasonal ponds known as “vernal pools” are especially common in spring and fall and are studied by local students.

Trails: Nearly four miles of trails and old two-tracks roam the hills and fields of this preserve. Maps are found at the many intersections.

History: Purchased in 2009 in large part with a grant from the Offield Family Foundation. It has long been sustainably forested on a periodic basis (2017-18 most recently).



The Offield Preserve is a working forest reserve. It is enrolled in the Commercial Forest Program, meaning that the land has and/or will be actively managed for timber production. CFP designation also requires that the land be open to the public for hunting.



Directions: From downtown Petoskey, head north on US-31 2.6 miles to M-119. Turn left and follow M-119 3.2 miles to Pleasantview Road. Continue north on Pleasantview Road 1½ miles to Quick Road and turn left. Look for parking area ½ mile down Quick Road on the left.



EMMET COUNTY Round Lake



Size: 58 Acres

Frontage: 2,500 feet Round Lake

Land Description: Vegetation includes mixed hardwoods and conifer forest, lowland cedar swamp, and marshlands along the lake.

Trails: Parking is next to the Conservancy office. Easy trails cover almost one mile and include a lake overlook.

History: Land that is now the Round Lake Preserve was once used by Native Americans as part of the Inland Water Route. This waterway travels 40 miles through several lakes and streams, eventually emptying into Lake Huron in Cheboygan. The original 40-acre preserve was donated to the Little Traverse Conservancy by the Wrigley Offield Family in 1980 with additional acreage purchased in 1984-86 by the people of L'Arbre Croche.

This preserve is often used by school groups for environmental education programs. New boardwalk, signs, and an overlook platform were completed in 2017 with a grant from the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation.



Todd Parker



TM Petersen

Directions: From US-31 in Petoskey, take M-119 about 1½ miles north to Powell Road. Turn right on Powell and take the first driveway on the right, which is the entrance to the Little Traverse Conservancy office. The trailhead is directly off of the parking lot.



Skyline Trail

Size: 65 acres

Land Description: From atop this hill are sweeping views of Little Traverse Bay and the Bear River Valley. This property lies adjacent to more than 865 acres of City of Petoskey land, land owned by the county and the state, and land connected through privately-granted trail easements. At an elevation of more than 1,200 feet, the views are dramatic.

Trails: Skyline Trail is part of the North Country Trail (NCT) system, so the hiking is endless (www.northcountrytrail.org). This section, maintained by the Tittabawassee chapter of the NCT, is hilly and difficult with two switchbacks. .

History: In 2008, the Conservancy helped the City of Petoskey acquire this parcel and construct an overlook platform offering spectacular views of the Petoskey region. The land was a logical location for diverting a portion of the North Country Trail away from Krause Road.



Directions: From Petoskey head east on Mitchell Street 1.7 miles to Division Road. Turn right on Division and go .8 miles to Atkins Road and turn left on Atkins. Go ½ mile to Cedar Valley Road. Take a right and go ½ mile to Greenwood Road. Follow Greenwood around curve 1½ miles to four way intersection. Continue south onto Brubaker Road 1 mile to Krause Road. Right on Krause and go 1 mile. Look for sign and parking on the right at the radio towers.



Sturgeon Bay Dunes



Size: 750 acres

Frontage: 4,100 feet on Lake Michigan

Land Description:

Unquestionably one of the most beloved public beaches in northwestern Lower Michigan.

Trails: A township park is at the center of the property's length where a turnaround is available. Roadside parking is also available providing shoreline access. The North Country Trail runs through the back dunes of the park.

History:

In 1991, Sand Products Corporation sold this one-of-a-kind property to the State of Michigan, adding significant and much desired acreage to Wilderness State Park. The property includes habitat for the endangered Piping Plover and four threatened species of plants (Lake Huron Tansy, Pitcher's Thistle, Pumpell's Bromegrass and Houghton's Goldenrod).

The acquisition was a grassroots effort mobilized in the 1970s largely by Kathy Bricker (first LTC board chair) and Conservancy co-founder John Tanton. Their group proposed expansion of the boundaries of Wilderness State Park to include the land. Others involved in the dune protection included The Nature Conservancy-Michigan chapter, Petoskey Regional Audubon Society, Michigan and Petoskey Garden Clubs, Trout Unlimited, Save Our Bay, Ducks Unlimited, and countless other individuals.

Todd Parker



Directions: From Cross Village, follow M-119 north along the coast approximately 5 miles until it dead ends at Sturgeon Bay Trail. Turn left and you will soon be at public shoreline.



Stutsmanville Bog/C. Beach Day

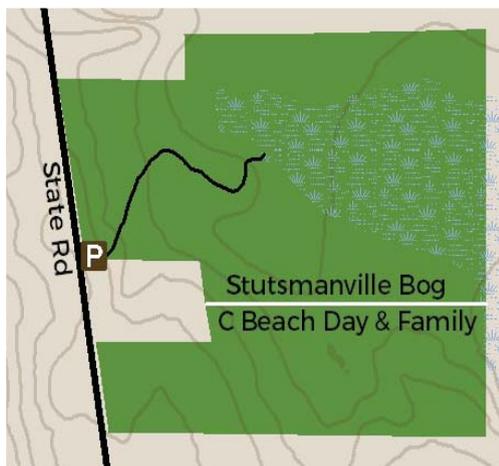
Size: 99 acres

Land Description: One of the best examples of a fen or peatland in northern Michigan.

Trails: A ¼ mile trail leads to the bog overlook and interpretive signs. Trail expansion is being discussed (2018).

History: In 1999, the Conservancy purchased a large portion of the beautiful Stutsmanville Bog, an area that has been the subject of many ecological studies. The acquisition was made possible, in part, by a bargain sale from the sellers and with funds from the family of Julia Wells Terry. The 34-acre “C. Beach Day & Family” preserve addition was purchased in 2017, bringing the size to 99 acres.

A bog is a unique type of wetland dominated by organic soil known as peat. Bogs are also known for unusual plants such as the carnivorous pitcher plant and sundew which receive their nutrients by entrapping and digesting insects! Wetlands are extremely important for filtering water that flows through them. Please be sensitive to the fragile nature of this ecosystem when visiting. Even sporadic foot traffic off the trails can permanently damage the vegetation.



Directions: From Harbor Springs, take State Road north approximately five miles. Look for the preserve sign on the right-hand side of the road. The parking area holds a few cars.



EMMET COUNTY
Thorne Swift

Size: 30 acres

Frontage: 950 feet along Lake Michigan with 300 feet as a public beach

Land Description: A mix of upland dunes and lowland cedar swamp, small pond, and Great Lakes shoreline.

Trails & Facilities: A large parking area lies adjacent to the Elizabeth Kennedy Nature Center. A total of 1½ miles of trail, dune observation platform, pond observation platform, gazebo, amphitheatre, and seasonal guided programs all make this an excellent family destination.

History: In 1981, Elizabeth Kennedy donated the Thorne Swift property to Little Traverse Conservancy. The Conservancy leases the property to West Traverse Township.

Thorne Swift is open daily 10 am to sunset from April 15-November 15. Nature Center is open Memorial-Labor Day from 10am-7pm. Parking fee is \$5 for non-township residents (no charge for Conservancy members) and a season pass is available for \$15. Call 231.526.6401 for current programs and extended seasonal hours. PLEASE NOTE: Dogs and horses are not allowed.



Todd Parker



Todd Petersen

Directions: From Harbor Springs, take M-119 northwest 3.8 miles to Lower Shore Drive. Follow Lower Shore Drive for ½ mile. The preserve sign is on the left.



EMMET COUNTY
Waldron Fen

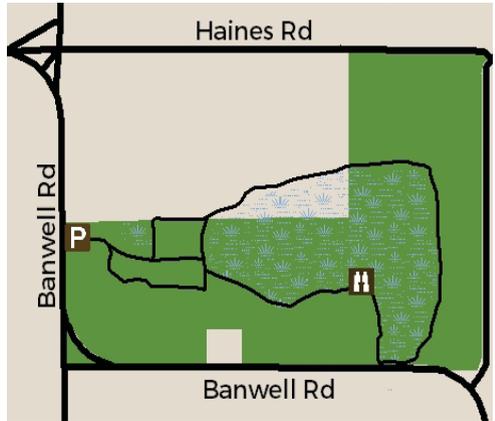
Size: 148 acres

Land Description: Waldron Fen consists of a unique and sensitive wetland-fen complex, native grasslands, and associated forests. This preserve offers unique and exceptional wildlife habitat for at least 116 resident and migratory bird species, as well as wildlife such as deer, beaver, red fox, coyote, otter, mink, and more. Many avid birders and naturalists visit each year to watch resident and migrating birds. Scenic views for travelers along Banwell, Haines, and Miller roads.

Trails: Nearly two miles of trail take you along two small ponds and a large wetland-fen complex. The trail loop takes visitors around the primary wetlands offering birding opportunities and an easy walk through diverse habitats. A covered picnic table is available near parking area. In 2016, the overlook platform was rebuilt with help from numerous volunteers and Petoskey Area Audubon.

History: First protected with a conservation easement in 2001 donated by Nancy and Jack Waldron, Nancy donated the land to LTC in 2014.

Directions: From Petoskey, head north on US-31 to Pickerel Lake Road. Follow it for 9.5 miles to Banwell Road and turn left. Continue on Banwell 3.25 miles to the entrance on right. From Alanson, head east on M-68 to Banwell Road. Turn right. Continue on Banwell 3.3 miles to entrance on left.



Darrell Lawson



Todd Parker



Gary Osterbeck

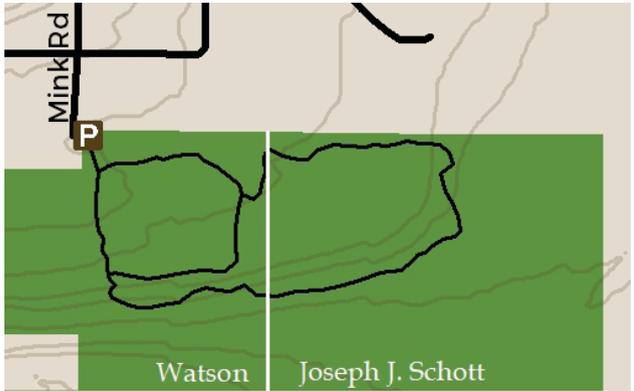
Watson and Joseph J. Schott

Size: 104 acres together

Frontage: 360 feet of scenic frontage alone M-119.

Land Description: Upland mixed hardwood forest including red oak, maples, ash and scattered white pine.

Trails: A trail loop roughly a mile long spans both properties.



History: The original Watson Preserve was donated in 1998 by John and Jan Watson, with subsequent additions purchased in 2013. Purchase of the Schott Preserve was made possible by the Joseph J. Schott Foundation in 2014, W. Dunne Saal and Elizabeth Saal, Trustees.



Todd Parker

Directions: From Harbor Springs Airport, head south along M-119 roughly 1/2 mile and turn left (east) on Woodview Road. Travel 1/2 mile and turn right (south) on Mink Road which will dead end at the parking area.



EMMET COUNTY
Woollam Family

Size: 62 acres

Frontage: 2,450 feet of frontage on Lake Michigan and more than 2,300 feet along M-119.

Land Description: Mature beech-maple hardwoods near M-119 transition to mixed upland conifers near the water. The shoreline is sandy with rock and cobble in some areas as a result of the receded waterline. Much of the property is classified as “critical dunes” by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. This was the largest remaining undeveloped and unprotected parcel on Lake Michigan in Emmet County. A short distance from Cross Village, the preserve offers community access to the beautiful Lake Michigan shoreline.

Trails: A short (approx .5 mile) trail takes you through the hilly woods to the beach.

History: Purchased with funding from and named after the John and Cyndi Woollam family.

Directions: From Harbor Springs, travel north on State Rd. 14 miles to Division Rd. Take a left and travel 1.8 miles to Lakeshore Drive/M-119. Turn right and travel .9 miles to the parking area on your left (west) side. From downtown Cross Village (near Legs Inn) head south on Lakeshore Drive (M-119) roughly 1.7 miles and you will see the preserve sign on the right (west) side of the road. The parking area is found just south of the sign.



Darrell Amlin



Todd Parker