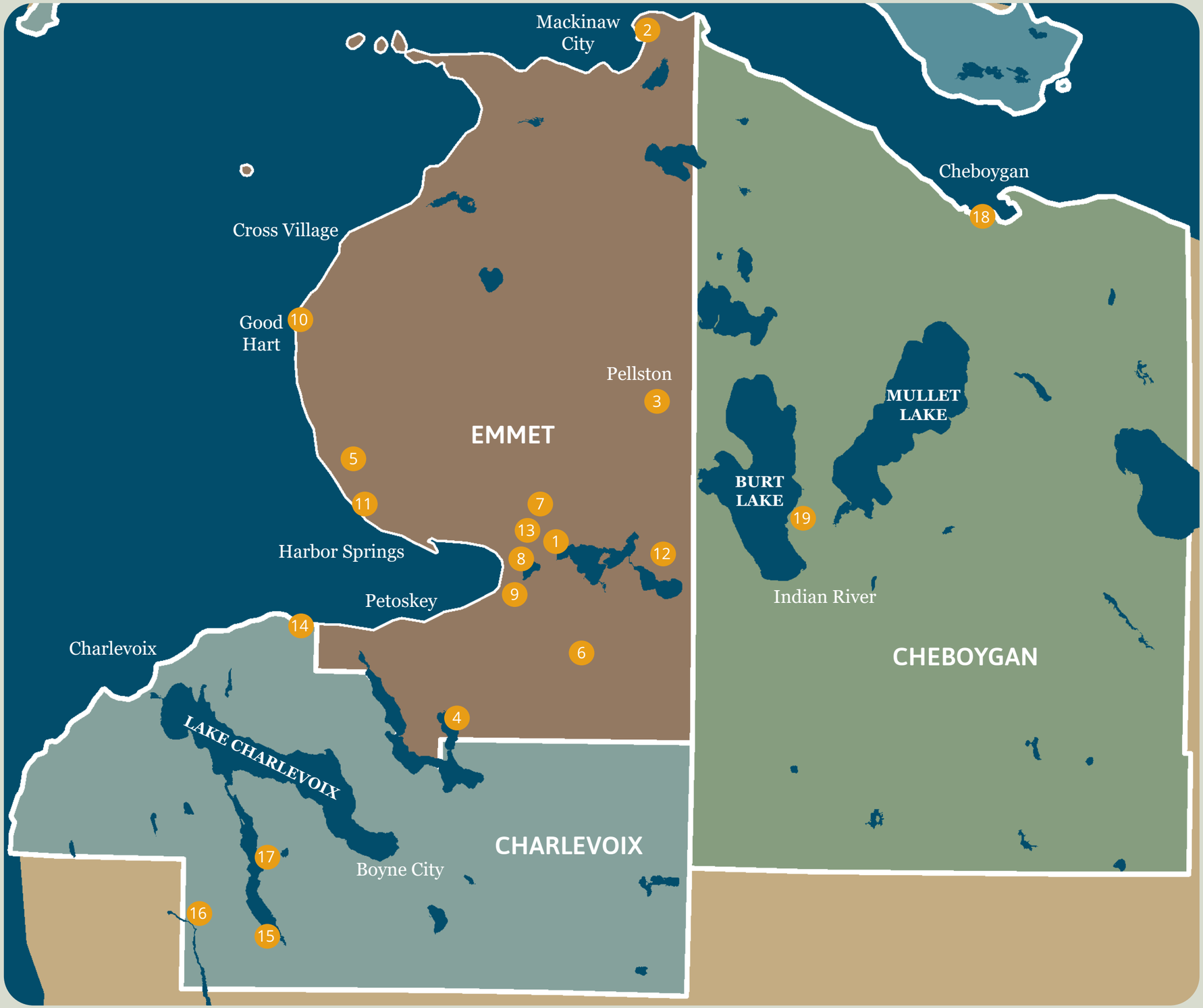


FLAT & FRIENDLY HIKING TRAILS

LOWER PENINSULA

PROTECTING THE NORTH COUNTRY WE ALL LOVE

The mission of the Little Traverse Conservancy is to protect the natural diversity and beauty of northern Michigan by preserving significant land and scenic areas, and fostering appreciation and understanding of the environment.

Our service area includes Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Chippewa, Emmet, and Mackinac counties.

Your support makes this work possible! Thanks to Little Traverse Conservancy members, these trails are open to the public for free. Please consider becoming a member by visiting our website at ***www.landtrust.org/donate.***

2nd Edition, September 2025

1 Sally & Art Hailand Jr./ Helstrom Family

A flat wide .75 mile trail system loops through the property (markers 1-4). There are a few slopes as you cross a bridge and the trail has some roots at the beginning. On the Helstrom property you will be led through woods mostly on boardwalks.



4855 West Conway Rd, Harbor Springs

2 Headlands International Dark Sky Park

Headlands Waterfront Event Center is equipped with ADA-accessible lit sidewalks that run from the parking area to the building, amphitheater, shoreline, and throughout the designated night sky viewing area.



15675 Headlands Rd, Mackinaw City

3 Uh-ni-nah-tig ziibing/ Joan and John Hutto

A .26-acre popular access point to the Maple River frequently used by anglers and kayakers was donated by John and Joan Hutto in 2021. In late 2024, a wheelchair-accessible fishing platform was added to the preserve.



2546 Pine Trail Rd, Brutus

4 Jones Landing
Bear Creek Township

This ADA-accessible park features a covered pavilion, restrooms, picnic area, playground, boat launch, restroom facilities, and a sandy beach. There is an ADA-accessible sidewalk that leads to the water.



1193 W Gruler Rd, Petoskey

5 Seberon "Boo" Litzenburger

The first half mile of this trail includes crushed aggregate leading to a viewing platform overlooking Five Mile Creek. The lower trail is only accessible by hiking down a steep incline.



5285 Five Mile Creek Rd, Harbor Springs

6 Alan and Virginia McCune

Entering via the Berger Road trailhead, trail markers 1-5 will bring you through .75 mile of trails with a view of the Minnehaha Creek. Once you go deeper into the property, you will find steep grades and rooty uneven trails. The trail markers leading from 4 to 6 have a gentle, but long grade down to the creek and bridge.



1565 Berger Rd, Petoskey

7 Offield Family Viewlands
Pond and Labyrinth Trail

From the lower parking area, you will find over a half mile of low slope crushed aggregate trail and reflection labyrinth created in partnership with Bluestem Meadow. A flat paved trail also leads to an accessible viewing and fishing platform at the pond. Trails past the labyrinth are paved, but are very steep.



995 Hideaway Valley Dr, Harbor Springs

8 Round Lake

This one mile flat trail loops through a mixed hardwood and conifer forest. The trail leads out to an overlook platform and bench at Round Lake.



3264 Powell Rd, Harbor Springs

9 Spring Lake Park
Bear Creek Township

This park includes over a half mile of ADA-accessible trail and boardwalk overlooking Spring Lake. Restrooms, a pavilion, and a fishing platform are also available. This trail also connects to the Little Traverse Wheelway and the North Western State Trail.



1590 Harbor-Petoskey Rd, Petoskey

10 St. Ignatius Church Beach
Friendship/Readmond Township

A very short trail leads to an ADA-accessible overlook of Lake Michigan. There is also access to the beach by stairs. NOTE: North of Church Beach on Lamkin Drive is Readmond Township Park. Here you will find additional access features, including beach access via a beach mat.



101 N Lamkin Rd, Harbor Springs

11 Thorne Swift

This beloved preserve includes the Elizabeth Kennedy Nature Center. The Cedar and Pond Trail is a one mile loop, somewhat rooty, but flat and wide, leading on and off boardwalks through multiple habitats, and eventually stairs to Lake Michigan. Balsam Trail has steep slopes and a lake overlook platform.



6696 Lower Shore Dr, Harbor Springs

12 Waldron Fen

The trail leading south into the pine trees is flat and will take you around the fen for an almost two mile hike. If you follow the trail to the east, between trail markers 1 and 2, you will find steeper sections and more roots than the rest of the preserve. Dogs are not allowed at this preserve due to nesting birds.



9417 Banwell Rd, Alanson

13 Watson and Joseph J. Schott

The inner loop of this preserve is almost a half mile trail and will take you on a single narrow trail that has some gentle slopes and roots. The outer loop includes more slopes.



9005 Mink Rd, Harbor Springs

14 Enji-minozhiiyaamigak: The Place of Peacefulness

Roughly .5 mile of universally accessible trail meanders on a gentle slope to a lake overlook platform. The trail surface is a combination of crushed aggregate and boardwalk. A set of stairs provides access to the cobblestone beach. This preserve protects over a quarter mile of Lake Michigan shoreline.



6413 Division Ave, Charlevoix

15 Don & Eileen Klein Trail/ Rogers Family Homestead

In partnership with the City of East Jordan, this fully ADA-accessible half mile trail connects the City of East Jordan to LTC's Rogers Family Homestead Preserve. An additional mile can be found at the Rogers Preserve which is crushed aggregate and flat.



85 Bridge St, East Jordan

16 St. Clair Lake - Six Mile Lake

Visitors can enjoy a short universal access trail (the Mary Behrens Sorrell Trail) for people of all ages and abilities. The preserve includes one mile of undeveloped shoreline and is excellent for canoeing and kayaking. The natural area has a small parking area and a universally accessible canoe/ kayak launch.



11800 Ellsworth Rd, Ellsworth

17 Charles M. Taylor III / Olstrom Family

A wonderful half mile hike out to Lake Charlevoix is offered at this preserve. Note that the trail gets somewhat rooty when you get out to markers 6 and 7 in the cedar forest just before the lake.



133 South Peninsula Rd, East Jordan

18 Duncan Bay

This preserve offers a one mile flat path to the shores of Lake Huron, just west of Cheboygan State Park, where an overlook platform is found. Gentle ramps lead on and off of the boardwalks and bridges.



829 Duncan Ave, Cheboygan

19 Hildner-Bearce/ Waubun/Davis Family

Nearly two miles of trails at this complex offers a classic Up North hardwood forest hike in close proximity to Burt Lake. These trails are mostly flat and wide, but are somewhat rooty in places. Please note the trail from markers 17 to 19 is steep.



1007 Chippewa Beach Rd, Indian River

LEGEND

Emmet County

Charlevoix County

Cheboygan County

Wheelchair/ADA-accessible:
These trails are flat and surfaces are crushed aggregate or paved.

Flat and Barrier Free:
Trails are wide and dirt paths with little to no roots or hills.

Easy:
Trails will have some gentle slopes, roots, or may be a narrow or single track.

Hunting Allowed

Designated Birding Trail