Michigan Nature Association
2005 Fall Social Event: Keweenaw Field Trips
Saturday-Sunday, September 24-25, 2005

Join us for a guided exploration of five of the 18 Michigan Nature Association (MNA) sanctuaries in the Keweenaw Peninsula: Estivant Pines, Redwyn Dunes, Gratiot Lake, Brockway Mountain, and the Robert T. Brown Teaching Sanctuary, as part of the 2005 MNA Fall Social Event. The Michigan Nature Association's presence in the Keweenaw Peninsula began in the 1970s with the purchase of the Estivant Pines Nature Sanctuary, the largest tract of old-growth white pine in the Unites States, east of the Mississippi River. Since then, MNA has acquired over 18 sanctuaries in the Keweenaw, resulting in the protection of more than 1,500 acres of land. This September, we are planning a weekend adventure to celebrate the establishment of the Keweenaw Community Foundation Fund that will further protect natural areas in the Keweenaw and visit some of our sanctuaries there.

SCHEDULE

Saturday, Sept. 24
8:15 AM – Meet at Super 8 Motel in Houghton (1220 E. Lakeshore Dr., Tel: 906-482-2240)
All participants will travel by bus to the sanctuaries. Participants will choose one of the field trips described below. Field trips will be led by Charlie Eshbach, Jeremy Emmi, Joan Chadde, and others.

Choose ONE:

(1) Hike Estivant Pines and Redwyn’s Dunes Nature Sanctuaries.
Estivant Pines Nature Sanctuary near Copper Harbor—MNA’s first sanctuary in the Keweenaw—boasts one of the largest tracts of old-growth white pine in the United States, east of the Mississippi River! Walk beneath these 500 year-old pines that tower 100 feet above the ground. In addition to this grand spectacle of trees, eighty-five species of birds nest in and around these giant pines, and a variety of northern boreal plants provide groundcover. The Redwyn’s Dunes Nature Sanctuary is located just east of Keweenaw’s Great Sand Bay along M-26 north of Eagle River. A new one-mile trail takes you along two dune ponds and out to the shore of Lake Superior.

(2) Hike Gratiot Lake and Brockway Mountain Nature Sanctuaries.
The trail in MNA’s Gratiot Lake Nature Sanctuary climbs nearly 400 ft. to the top of a bluff overlooking Gratiot Lake. One of Michigan’s most beautiful cascading waterfalls is hidden within this 100-acre sanctuary. The Brockway Mountain Nature Sanctuary offers an overlook of Copper Harbor, Lake Superior, and a spectacular view of the fall colors.

Participants will ride the bus for ease of accessing the sanctuaries. Keweenaw County members can meet us between 9:15-9:45 at the Gratiot Lake public access or the Estivant Pines trailhead, depending upon your choice of field trip. Sack lunches will be provided from the Keweenaw Food Co-op and will include a wrap (vegetarian option available), cookie, and salad. Pop, juice, bottled water (or bring your own water bottle to save resources!), snacks, and fruit will be available on the bus. Participants are responsible for their own Saturday breakfast and Saturday dinner.

6:00-7:00 PM Dinner on Your Own

7:30 PM - Keweenaw Community Foundation Celebration & Silent Auction
Meet at Keweenaw Community Foundation’s Office, 326 Sheldon Ave.(Upper Level), Houghton. Tel: 482-9673
Join us for hors’d’oeuvres, a silent auction of Copper Country items of interest, presentations by MNA’s executive director, Jeremy Emmi, and U.P. field coordinator Charles Eschbach, that will highlight the Michigan Nature Association’s activities and challenges in the Keweenaw, including the details of the newly established Keweenaw Community Foundation Endowment Fund. Meet other MNA members and learn how we can expand protection of valuable resources in the Keweenaw. All members and their guests are encouraged to attend (you need not attend the Saturday field trip). Please RSVP to michigannature@michigannature.org or phone Natalie at (517) 655-5655 even if this is the only event you plan to attend, so we can plan accordingly! Please bring your friends and invite others to attend! This will be a fun evening for all!
Sunday, Sept. 25

8:15 AM - Meet at the Super 8 Motel in Houghton (1220 E. Lakeside Dr., or Tel: 906-482-2240.)

Participants will be carpooling to the sanctuary from the hotel.

Visit the Robert T. Brown Teaching Sanctuary near Painesdale on a guided tour with Charlie Eshbach (MNA’s Upper Peninsula field representative) and Jeremy Emmi (MNA executive director). This site is part of MNA’s Statewide Land Protection Campaign and offers a rich variety of plant and animal species.

10:30 AM – Conclusion of the Robert T. Brown Teaching Sanctuary field trip. Participants will have the option to visit several additional MNA sanctuaries in the area. Those interested in extending the Sunday field trip should bring their own lunch, snacks, and water. Estimated return time is 2 PM.

Optional Accommodations are at the Super 8 Motel in Houghton, 1220 E. Lakeside Dr., Tel: 906-482-2240.

For More Information: Contact Natalie Kent at the MNA office at (517) 655-5655 or send an e-mail to michigannature@michigannature.org by Friday, September 16, or contact Joan Chadde at 487-3341 in Houghton.

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REGISTRATION FORM

Name(s) ___________________________________________________________________________________

Home Mailing Address _____________________________________________________________________

MNA Member: ______ YES     _____NO     ______ Sign me up to become a member for a special discount of $30/year

Phone: ___________________________ Email _______________________________________________

Choose ONE field trip:  _____ Estivant Pines and Redwyn's Dunes Nature Sanctuaries

______ Gratiot Lake and Brockway Mountain Nature Sanctuaries

KEWEENAW FIELD TRIPS

Includes:
Saturday Lunch, Snacks, Bus, Field Trip and evening Hors' d'oeuvres
&
Sunday Field Trip (no transportation)

MNA Members: $40 donation per person

Non-Members: $50 donation per person

OPTIONAL OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATIONS in Houghton

Super 8 Motel (Fri/Sat nights) @ $60.00/night for a shared double room or $59.00/night for single room:

Shared Double Hotel Room (2 Nights) = $120

Single Hotel Room (2 Nights) = $118

MEAL PREFERENCE

_____ Vegetarian                   ________ Meat

$ ________ TOTAL ENCLOSED

Mail with payment to: Michigan Nature Association, 326 E. Grand River Ave., Williamston, MI 48895 by Friday, September 16, 2005

About the Michigan Nature Association

The Michigan Nature Association (MNA), established in 1952, is a non-profit conservation organization dedicated to protecting examples of Michigan's unique natural habitats and rare or endangered species. Our mission is not only to preserve exceptional land and natural flora, but also to carry on programs of public conservation education and scientific study. Through the help of its members, the MNA now has over 160 nature sanctuaries across the state for people to enjoy today and into the future.