

# Watch the Raptor Migration on Brockway Mountain with David Flaspohler, Michigan Tech Ornithologist



Photo by M.J. Shupe, Studio Pizza and Gallery

**Involve your students in a very special opportunity to observe the famous raptor migration at Brockway Mountain!!**

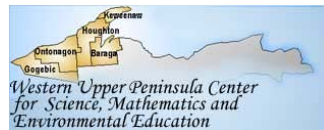
David Flaspohler, MTU ornithologist, will provide 30-minute presentations about the raptor migration and help to identify the hawks, eagles and falcons.

The Keweenaw Raptor Survey is conducting an official count of the number and species of migrating birds this spring, for the first time in over a decade. **In 1992, 14,784 raptors were observed during the last two month survey!!**

In addition, your class can take a **.75-mile hike at the Klipfel Nature Sanctuary on Brockway Mountain with Michelle Miller, the Center's educator/naturalist.** See the back of this flyer for more information on nature sanctuaries and hiking trails around Copper Harbor. Sign up soon! Early birds get the worms! (Some binoculars and ID guides will be available.)

### **For More Information Contact:**

Michelle Miller, Outdoor Science Field Trip Coordinator.  
Tel: 906-487-3341 Email: [michellem@mtu.edu](mailto:michellem@mtu.edu)



## **Watching Raptors on Brockway ~ Wednesday, April 21, 2010 REGISTRATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Students \_\_\_\_\_ Grades of students : \_\_\_\_\_ Hike at Klipfel with Michelle: YES NO

**Select the 1/2 hour time slot you would like your group to spend with the bird expert:**

\_\_\_ 11:00-11:30

\_\_\_ 11:30-12:00

\_\_\_ 12:00-12:30

\_\_\_ 12:30-1:00

\_\_\_ 1:00-1:30

\_\_\_ 1:30-2:00

### **Return Reistration Form to:**

Michelle Miller, Outdoor Science Field Trip Coordinator

Western Upper Peninsula Center for Science, Mathematics and Environmental Education

Tel: (906) 487-3341 Fax: (906) 487-1620 Email: [michellem@mtu.edu](mailto:michellem@mtu.edu)

**There is no charge for this event. It's FREE and open to all educators and their classes. Reserve your spot TODAY!**

# Nature Sanctuaries near Copper Harbor\*

## **James H. Klipfel Memorial Nature Sanctuary at Brockway Mountain**

**Ownership: Michigan Nature Association**

This 160-acre sanctuary includes a half-mile of Brockway Mountain Drive and one of the most popular overlooks along the Mountain Drive, because of its openness and grandeur. The drive along the mountain ridge top is often proclaimed to be the most dramatic in Michigan with the most outstanding scenery. A short .75 mile loop trail offers a breath-taking view looking north over Lake Superior.



This overlook provides an extraordinary opportunity to watch hawks during their spring migration. Updrafts occur on Brockway Mountain along the south-facing cliff when winds are from the southwest, southeast, and south. The hawks use these updrafts to carry them north over Lake Superior. The best place to see the hawks is when they come from the west or Eagle Harbor toward a concentration point at the west end of Brockway Mountain. The birds often fly below the level of Brockway Mountain and are easy to spot and identify.

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## **Brockway Mountain Wildlife Sanctuary & Oren Krumm Trail**

**Ownership: Copper Country Audubon**

In 1996, Boy Scout Oren Krumm laid out and cleared a walking trail on the Brockway Sanctuary for his Eagle Scout project. This was expanded a couple years later by the Houghton Boy Scout Troop to make a loop approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile long. A trail map and brochure was created by several Michigan Tech students for a technical writing project.



The Brockway Mountain Sanctuary bedrock is composed of Lake Shore Traps, which are lava flows inter-bedded in the exposed Copper Harbor Conglomerate. Thin, dry, highly drained soils are typical on the uplands and ridges, with thicker, rich accumulations in the lowlands and small valleys.

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## **James Dorian Rooks Memorial Nature Sanctuary at Garden Brook**

**Ownership: Michigan Nature Association**

About .25 miles past the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge entrance, and 0.5 miles before the intersection of US-41 and M-26, look for the MNA sanctuary sign on the left (north) side of the highway, and park in the designated parking area at the trailhead.

This is a 2 miles roundtrip that extends up the hillside from US-41 in a northwesterly direction to Brockway Mountain Drive. Garden Brook traverses the sanctuary, with its headwaters in the Klipfel Memorial Sanctuary and its outflow into Lake Fannie Hooe. Garden Brook is a typical "babbling brook" that is easily crossed on foot in late summer. The exposed ridgeline of Brockway Mountain subjects plants to the full force of winds off Lake Superior, creating a microclimate reminiscent of the Rocky Mountains.

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## **Hunter's Point along Lake Superior**

**Ownership: Grant Township**

Hunter's Point Park is bounded on the north by the waters of Lake Superior and on the south by the waters of Copper Harbor. The trail from the Copper Harbor Marina to Hunter's Point Park is a well-worn trail and is fairly flat. It is about 0.3 mile (1,600 feet) in length. It connects with the South Trail, which runs along the south shore of Hunter's Point. Feeder trails running north from this trail connect with the main parking area and the trail running along the north shore of Hunter's Point. The North and South Shore Trails meet near the middle of Hunter's Point, and between them form a loop trail system.



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## **Estivant Pines Old Growth Forest Near Copper Harbor**

**Ownership: Michigan Nature Association**

The Estivant Pines is the largest tract (377 acres) of old growth Eastern White Pine (*Pinus strobes*) preserved in Michigan, containing hundreds of 300-500 year old white pine measuring 3-5 feet in diameter! This virgin forest is a living museum. All sizes of white pine are present from tiny seedlings to giants.



Visitors to the Estivant Pines have a choice of three loop trails ranging from 1 to 2.5 miles.