Leave no Trace

Beaver Island is part of the Beaver Island Archipelago which includes High, Hog, Garden and other smaller islands. It is the largest Island in Lake Michigan with a total area of approximately 56 square miles. The Island enjoys incredible ecological diversity as its sand dunes, beaches, wetlands (including Great Lakes marshes, inland marshes, and bogs with flooring mats) inland lakes, hardwood forests, fields, meadows and other habitats support scientific research and education in the ecologically rich environment. This ecological diversity supports many plant and animal species.

Hundreds of plant species enrich the island. Animals abound from white-tailed deer to Beaver. Bald Eagles can be regularly found. Bird Watching enthusiasts track and follow many varieties such as Caspian Terns, and songbirds that breed on and migrate through the Island.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE SEVEN PRINCIPLES OF “LEAVE NO TRACE” WHILE VISITING BEAVER ISLAND:

1. Plan ahead and prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors
Maps, Guides & Tourist Information...
Available year-round. Located on the grounds of the Municipal Marina, just north of the ferry dock.

Phone  (231) 448-2505
Email   chamber@beaverisland.org
Facebook Friends of Beaver Island

WELCOME TO BEAVER ISLAND

Visitors to Beaver Island look forward to its abundant nature and solitude. There also are fine museums, gift shops, art & craft galleries, the golf course, tennis courts, Island tours, and many special events. Culinary options range from unique fast food to fine dining.

Much of what the Island offers can be enjoyed free for the finding: beachcombing, bird watching, biking, hiking, camping, hunting, fishing, cross-country skiing, or exploring the outer islands. There are over 100 miles of scenic roads, lighthouses, old trails, cabins, beaver dams, and beautiful wildflowers.

Beaver Island is a pristine paradise with a year-round population of about 650 who have a history of welcoming visitors and sharing Irish traditions as well as the crystalline waters of the Beaver Island Archipelago. Plan a visit to America’s Emerald Isle.

Chamber of Commerce

CONTENTS
4  MAP OF BEAVER ISLAND
8  TRANSPORTATION
14  HOTELS, MOTELS, LODGES, B&B’S
15  HOMES & COTTAGES TO RENT, RENTALS, RENTAL MANAGEMENT, MARINAS
18  RESTAURANTS
20  SHOPPING, EVENTS
21  ENTERTAINMENT
22  SEASONS ON BEAVER ISLAND
23  CAMPING, RECREATION
22  BEAVER ISLAND TOY MUSEUM: THE ART & TIMES
24  PICNIC AREAS, TAKE OUT MEALS
25  DARK SKY
26  BEAVER ISLAND & ARRONMORE - TWINED ISLANDS
27  BEAVER ISLAND HISTORY MUSEUM
28  BEAVER ISLAND TOY MUSEUM
31  BUILDERS & SUPPLIERS
34  PROFESSIONAL SERVICES, PUBLIC SERVICES
37  REAL ESTATE, FINANCIAL SERVICES & INSURANCE,
41  MEDIA, MARKETING, PUBLISHING, HEALTH CARE,
42  HUNTING & FISHING
43  THE GREAT OUTDOORS
43  BEAVER ISLAND TRAIL SUMMARY

2019 Beaver Island Map & Guide
19” x 28” Full Map & Guide
A must for visitors! $7.00 by mail
Please send check to: BI Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 5, Beaver Island, MI 49782.
For complete information visit: www.beaverisland.org
• Full line of groceries
• Specialty Foods
• Fresh Cut Meat & Fresh Produce
• Full Selection of Wine & Liquor
• Michigan Lotto
• Local Books
• Resort Wear by Gear for Sports
• Maps
• Cards
• Appliances
• Emerald Isle Fuel Propane

NOW SERVING BEER, WINE & LIQUOR
231-448-2736

McDonough’s Market, Inc.

mcdonoughsmarket.com
231-448-2733
Island Airways

Serving the aviation needs of Beaver Island since 1945

Operated by McPhillips Flying Service, Inc.
Beaver Island's committed aviation service provider.

Safe, efficient, and fun ride to Beaver Island
Only a 15 minute flight! • Pet Friendly • FAA Certified Air Ambulance
Here to serve all your freight needs.

www.islandairways.com
111 Airport Drive Charlevoix, MI 49720

Call For Your Reservation Today
Toll Free: 800-524-6895
Charlevoix: 231-547-2141 • Beaver Island: 231-448-2071
TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM:

To the island: (example) Travel to and from Beaver Island is made easy for visitors. Beaver Island Boat Company has two ferry’s, the Beaver Islander and the Emerald Isle. Both ferries carry passengers and cars. Reservations for cars are needed in advance and can be made starting as early as January. Don’t wait to make a reservation if you want to bring your car as space fills quickly! A trip from Charlevoix to Beaver Island typically takes a little over two hours.

Two airlines service Beaver Island and fly to and from the island every hour so you have a lot of choices for travel times. 30#'s of luggage is included in the ticket price and additional weight is charged at a nominal fee per pound. Flying to the island from Charlevoix takes approximately 15 minutes.

On the island: (example) Beaver Island is 13 miles long and 6 miles wide. If visitors want to traverse the island, transportation on the island is needed. Whether you bring your own car, bikes, or both or if you choose to rent on the island, we strongly recommend having transportation so that the entire island can be enjoyed.

Unable to bring your car on the ferry? No problem! Beaver Island has two rental car companies and bike rentals to help you navigate the island. Reservations for rental cars are required and should be made as soon as possible.

ON THE ISLAND

B’S Taxi
Seasonal taxi service to anywhere on the Island
(p) 989.239.9292

Burton Car Rental and E-Bike
(p) 231.838.2883
(e) burtoncarrentals@gmail.com

Duffy’s Auto Rental & Service
www.beaverislandrentalcars.com
(p) 231.448.3132
(e) duffer223@gmail.com

TO BEAVER ISLAND

Beaver Island Boat Company
www.bibco.com
(p) 888.446.4095 | 231.547.2311
(e) info@bibco.com

Fresh Air Aviation
www.freshairaviation.net
(p) 1.888.FLYRGHT
CHARLEVOIX
231.237.9482
BEAVER ISLAND
231.448.2089
(e) info@freshairaviation.net

Island Airways
www.islandairways.com
(p) 800.524.6895
(e) islarr@islandairways.com

Take a Breath of Fresh Air!
Discover BEAVER ISLAND

DAILY FLIGHTS FROM CHARLEVOIX
LIGHTHOUSE AIR TOURS
Charter Flights to Your Destination of Choice
888-359-7448
www.freshairaviation.net
Duffy’s Rentals has been providing Beaver Island visitors with reliable car service for years. Our primary goal is to provide the best customer service possible so you can simply enjoy the island and worry less about the details.

beaverislandrentalcars.com
231-448-3132
duffer223@gmail.com

St. James Boat Shop
STRIP WOOD CANOES • KAYAKS
DINGHIES • PADDLE BOARDS

SPECIALIZING IN HANDCRAFTED
CHERRY WOOD BOATS & BUCKETS

SINCE 1985
www.stjamesboatshop.com

Your Trusted Year Around
Beaver Island Rental Service
(231) 838-2883
(231) 448-2365
Plan a Day Trip

Want to visit for just the day? Daily round trip passage is available most days in our peak season.

You should arrive at the ferry dock by 7:30 a.m. for the 8:30 a.m. departure from Charlevoix.

The last boat departs at 5:20 p.m. from Beaver Island. Make sure to arrive about 30 minutes prior to boat departure. A day trip pairs with our historic island tours! May 25th and 27th, and September 1st and 2nd day trips are unavailable.

About Our Boats

- Comfortable passenger cabins with table seating and reclining chairs
- Open air decks with tables and benches
- Light vending available
- Well-mannered pets allowed on leashes in designated areas
- Emerald Isle equipped with stair lift
- Restrooms aboard both vessels
- Smoking is prohibited
- WIFI
All departures are the vessel EMERALD ISLE except * denotes the vessel BEAVER ISLANDER.

EMERALD ISLE is wheelchair accessible.

Rates, schedules and specific vessel are subject to change without notice. Please check our website for updates. All trips are weather permitting.
Beaver Island

Gems

Stoney Acre Grill & Pub
(231) 448 2278

Lodge & Restaurant
(231) 448 2396

Harbour Market & Deli
(231) 448 2950

www.beaverislandlodge.com
www.beaverislandrestaurants.com

BEAVER ISLAND, MICHIGAN
NEW OWNERSHIP Vic & Anna Van Deventer

13 Years in the Hospitality Industry

Various awards from Booking.com, Trip Advisor & Hotels Combined 5 Star Reviews

Eight 2 bedroom efficiencies, sleeps 6
Eight standard rooms with 2 queens, sleeps 4

In-town, close to everything: walk to the public beach & the Ferry

www.emeraldislandinn.com
PO Box 507, 37985 Kings Hwy, Beaver Island, MI 49782

Call for your reservations today!
231-448-2376
anna@emeraldislandinn.com
HOTELS | MOTELS | LODGES | B&B’S

ON BEAVER ISLAND

The Brothers’ Place
(p) 630.920.0719 off-season
231.448.2204 summer season
(e) brothersplacebi@yahoo.com

Beaver Island Lodge
www.beaverislandlodge.com
(p) 231.448.2396
(e) beaverislandlodge@tds.net

Beaver Island Retreat
www.beaverislandretreat.com
(p) 614.571.5062 or 330.413.4434
(e) contact@beaverislandretreat.com

The Convent
www.theconvent.us
(p) 231.242.3125
(e) theconvent@hughes.net

Emerald Isle Inn
www.emeraldislandinn.com
(p) 231.448.2376

IN CHARLEVOIX

Weathervane Terrace Inn & Suites
www.weathervane-chx.com
(p) 800.552.0025 | 231.547.9955
(e) info@weathervane-chx.com

The Erin Motel
(p) 231.448.2240
(e) erinmotel@comcast.net

Harbor View Motel
www.harborviewbeaverisland.com
(p) 231.448.2201
(e) harborview@tds.net

Isle Haven Resort
(p) 231.448.2853 May-October
231.740.8551 November-April
(e) pikedut@yahoo.com

Oak Woods
Condominiums and Rentals
(formerly Laurain Lodge)
www.oakwoodsloge.com
For Unit 7 Reservations and Information
(p) 517.227.1129
(e) edsalveter@yahoo.com
For Unit 9 Reservations and Information
(p) 231.675.6517
(e) S.Richards.REALTOR@gmail.com

ERIN MOTEL

UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP
Kim & Bill Battle
Rooms Newly Remodeled
Walking Distance to Boats & Restaurants
Located on Paradise Bay
for Swimming & Relaxing
26260 Main St, Beaver Island, MI, 49782
erinmotel@comcast.net • 231-448-2240
HOMES & COTTAGES TO RENT
For a list of all rentals visit: www.beaverisland.org

Enjoy the Luxury of...
Our website Visitor’s Guide offers a large selection of Beaver Island home rentals. This is a great way to relax and enjoy Beaver Island. Prices range from $600 to $2300 per week. These beautiful homes are ideal for families or two couples to economically enjoy Beaver Island for 5-7 days.

Rental listings can be found on our website’s Visitor’s Guide near the top of the left side of the home page. Take a look, there are plenty of pictures. You will be pleasantly surprised at how much hotel suite style luxury is available and affordable.

...Beaver Island Homes & Cottages

RENTALS

Burtons Rentals
(p) 231.838.2883
(e) stjamesboatshop@yahoo.com
Also book with Airbnb

Beaver Island Realty
Cottage Rental Program
www.beaverislandrealty.com
(p) 231.448.2366
(e) info@beaverislandrealty.com

Dalwhinnie Apartments
(p) 231.448.2733 or 231.448.2499
(e) tammymcd107@yahoo.com

Give Me Shelter
(p) 217.979.3040
(e) beccafoli@gmail.com
Also book with VRBO

Powers Hardware Rentals
AirBnB

Richards Rental Management Services
www.beaver-island-rentals.com
(p) 231.675.6717
(e) S.Richards.REALTOR@gmail.com

RENTAL MANAGEMENT

Richards Rental Management Services
www.beaver-island-rentals.com
(p) 231.675.6717
(e) S.Richards.REALTOR@gmail.com

MARINAS

Beaver Island Municipal Marina
North Dock
(p) 231.448.2300
SLIP RESERVATIONS
www.midnrreservations.com
(p) 800.447.2757
(e) harbormaster.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com

Beaver Island Municipal Marina
South Dock
(p) 231.448.2366
SLIP RESERVATIONS
www.midnrreservations.com
(p) 800.447.2757
(e) harbormaster.stjamestwp.bi@gmail.com
Beaver Island Retreat

Luxury, outdoor accommodations designed to bring you unprecedented comforts while experiencing serenity and dark skies in nature unspoiled

Queen Bed, Memory Foam Mattress, Bottle of Wine on Arrival
Unlimited Lump Charcoal, Unlimited Ice, Unlimited Firewood, Log Pavilion, Guest Kitchen, Guest Laundry, Individual Bath Houses

shhh... just tell them you were camping
beaverislandretreat.com
SHANOULE LODGE

A beautiful handcrafted wood lodge situated in 30 acres of hardwood trees yet only 7 minutes to town or a beach to enjoy your time on Beaver Island.

This home has beautiful wood interior with 5 bedrooms and 4 1/2 baths to comfortably sleep 10 people. It is perfect for weddings, hunting/fishing groups and large families. A wonderful place to getaway and explore all the beauty of Beaver Island.

Rents Sunday to Saturday at only $1375 a week, or $250 a night – 4 night minimum. $200 cleaning fee not included in weekly rental price.

Low season September 15th-December 10th; April-May 30th – weekly rate is $1000 or $200 night -minimum 4 nights.

Call Gustavo Artaza for Reservations at (512) 633-7994 or email gustavoartaza4@gmail.com
RESTAURANTS

Beachcomber
www.shamrockbarrestaurant.com/beachcomber
(p) 231.448.2469

Circle M Bar & Restaurant
(p) 231.448.2513
(e) petroqueen2@yahoo.com

Daddy Franks
(p) 231.448.2570

Dalwhinnie Bakery and Deli
www.mcdonoughsmarket.com
(p) 231.448.2736

Paradise Bay Coffee Shop and Restaurant
www.paradisebaycoffee.com
(p) 231.448.3003
(e) dale_terry_keyes@msn.com

Shamrock Restaurant & Pub
www.shamrockbarrestaurant.com
(p) 231.448.2278
(e) erichodgson@mac.com

Stoney Acre Grill & Donegal Danny’s Pub
www.stoneyacre-donegaldannys.com
(p) 231.448.2560

“The Restaurant” – Beaver Island Lodge
www.beaverislandlodge.com
(p) 231.448.2396
(e) beaverislandlodge@tds.net

Whiskey Point Brewery
www.whiskeypointbrewing.com
(p) 231.448.2112
(e) brewmasters@whiskeypointbrewing.com

MAINLAND

The Rowe Inn
www.roweinn.com
(p) 231.588.7351
(e) wes@roweinn.com

Villager Pub
www.thevillagerpub.com
(p) 231.547.6925
(e) glfltd@gmail.com

Island-made Craft Beverages
whiskeypointbrewing.com | 231-448-2112
Coffee Shop & Restaurant

34230 Donnell Mor's Lane, Beaver Island, Michigan 49782

Serving fresh roasted coffee, breakfast, lunch, specialty coffees, and tea. It also features convenience store items, baked goods, and souvenirs.

A farmer’s market is held every Thursday throughout the summer outside the shop. Coffee is roasted at the coffee shop at least one day each week during the summer. The public is welcome to watch the process.

Visit ParadiseBayCoffee.com for more information and to order coffee online.

(231) 448-3003

34230 Donnell Mor’s Lane, Beaver Island, Michigan 49782
SHOPPING

Beaver Gems & Shipwreck Shirts
www.beavergems.com
(p) 231.448.2888
(e) lisag@tds.net

Beaver Island Gift Shop
(p) 231.448.2860

Beaver Island Studio and Gallery
www.beaverislandstudio.com
(p) 231.448.2115
(e) calstipp@yahoo.com

Beaver Island Toy Store and Museum
(p) 231.448.2480

Debs Creations
(p) 269.214.0133

Do-It-Best Hardware
www.powershardware.com
(p) 231.448.2572

Eager Beaver Clean & Store
(p) 231.448.2050

Island Energies
(p) 231.448.2007
(e) petroqueen2@yahoo.com

Lakesports & Paradise Bay Gifts
(p) 231.448.2166
(e) christyalbin@hotmail.com

McDonough’s Market
www.mcdonoughsmarket.com
(p) 231.448.2733

St. James Boat Shop
www.stjamesboatshop.com
(p) 231.838.2883
(e) stjamesboatshop@yahoo.com

MAINLAND

Bartlett’s Home Interiors (Charlevoix)
www.bartlettshomeinteriors.com
(p) 866.547.2884 | 231.547.2884
(e) general@bartlettshomeinteriors.com

Central Drug Store
Jeff Steffey, Pharmacist
301 Bridge Street
www.central-drug.com
(p) 231.547.2424
(e) admin@central-drug.com

BEAVER ISLAND

Events 2021

MAY 29-30 Beaver Island Birding Trail
Memorial weekend

JUNE 12-13 Lilacs & Lyrics

JUNE 18-19 Beaver Island Bike Festival

JUNE 20 PABI Summer Solstice dinner

JUNE 26 Dave Bennett Quartet

JUNE 26 Beaver Island Sustainability Fair

JUNE 26 Dark Sky Viewing with Music,
Donegal Bay

JUNE 29 Trudy Works Memorial
Women’s Golf Tournament

JULY 2 Sylvia - CMU Summer Theater

JULY 3 Red Herring,
CMU Summer Theater

JULY 4 Independence Day Parade

JULY 5 Independence Day Fireworks

JULY 10 Glen McDonough Memorial
Concert

JULY 15-17 Beaver Island Music Festival

JULY 18-24 Museum Week

JULY 21 PABI Summer Gala

JULY 30-AUG 7 Baroque on Beaver

AUGUST 6-8 Beaver Island Homecoming

AUGUST 8 Bocce Ball Tournament

AUGUST 14 RFD Boys

SEPTEMBER 4 Claudia Schmidt

For location and additional events such as
dark sky events, yoga, robotics, and bingo visit
beaverisland.org or
https://bicenter.org/calender/
ENTERTAINMENT

Throughout each year a variety of events are enjoyed by Islanders and visitors alike.

Many locals of Irish descent take charge of regular celebrations, starting with a full schedule of St. Patrick’s Day fun. The ‘Bite of Beaver’ Island food fest in October also includes a craft show and fun run, helping to cap our spectacular fall color season.

The Community Center, across from the ferry dock in the “heart of downtown,” is home to a variety of events ranging from current films, comedy shows, musical productions, concerts, live theater, and more.

Three music festivals share the Island’s long summer days and cool comfortable evenings, while numerous talented local artists and craft persons call Beaver Island their home.

Beaver Island Community Center
www.biccenter.org
(p) 231.448.2022
(e) info@biccenter.org

B. I. Cultural Arts Association
www.baroqueonbeaver.org
(p) 269.217.5901
(e) info@baroqueonbeaver.org

Beaver Island Music Festival
www.bimf.net
(p) 231.838.2883
(e) bimfburton@yahoo.com

Holy Cross Catholic Hall
www.beaverisland.org/holy-cross-hall
(p) 231.448.2206
(e) pamo1@tds.net

Patrons of the Arts in Rural Communities
www.bimf.net
(p) 231.838.2883
(e) beaverislandmusicfest@gmail.com

July 15.16.17 2021
BEAVER ISLAND, MICHIGAN
BIMF.net
TIME TO SMELL THE FLOWERS
An Island Spring... more like falling in love. Wildflowers and other protected plants abound in the forests, upon the trails and dunes, In dreamtime, walk a trail wrapped in fields of lilacs, stroll over to Barney’s Lake Nature Preserve, fishing, kayaking, sightseeing, hiking, biking... all come alive in this place.

VIBRANCY OF FALL
Beaver Island’s fall colors are spectacular and occur a little later than on the mainland because of the temperature moderation brought about by Lake Michigan. The big lake remains warm enough for swimming well into September. Some lodging “bargains” are available in the spring and fall.

EXPERIENCE THE SERENITY AND ADRENALIN OF WINTER
Quiet winter island, in a silence made more intense by frozen glass bays, heavy snow blankets and towers of blue icebergs...
Stillness in crisp, vibrant air. Chilled with the thrill of cross-country skis slicing across fresh power snows in dark evergreens. Winter in a Michigan island forest, surrounded by frozen waves curved into frothy sculptures. Sledding on sand dunes, strolling down quaint winter streets of a tiny friendly town. Campfires and hot chocolate, ice skating on perfect inland lakes of silver rainbow glass. The adventure of snowmobiles cutting across fields, lakes and down groomed and unfettered trails, or back to those quaint streets to join a fleet of riders in the white. Pleasure, peace or high adventure awaits YOU on the Island.
TOUR THE GOLF COURSE AT:
www.beaverislandandgolfcourse.com
231-448-2301

Play 9 holes/18 holes
- Adults - $20/$32
- Children - $10/$15 (under age 12)

Power Carts
- 9 Holes - $15
- 18 Holes - $25
- Pull Carts - $2
- Rental Clubs - $25

Unlimited Golf
- $120 for 1 Week (7 days)
- Per Person

Punch Cards
- Pay for 10 Games, $200
- Get 11th Game Free!

Driving Range
- Small Basket - $5
- Large Basket - $10

Annual Adult Memberships
- First Member - $485
- Additional Family Member - $335

Annual Youth Membership
- Ages 12-11 - $225

Annual Private Power Cart Privileges
- $150 Per Season
- January 1 - December 31

St. James Township Campground
- $10 per night per campsite
- 12 rustic sites (no showers or electricity)
- Located on the north end of the Island (off Donegal Bay Rd. one mile from the Harbor area).

Bill Wagner Peaine Township Campground
- $10 per night per campsite
- 22 rustic sites (no showers or electricity)
- Located on the east side of the Island (seven miles south of Harbor area, via East Side Road).

Campgrounds are open April 1st through the end of November.

NO RESERVATIONS:
First-come, first-serve. Campgrounds are rarely full more than one day at a time.

QUESTIONS:
Please email the Beaver Island Chamber of Commerce at www.beaverisland.org or call 231-448-2505.

Beaver Island Golf Course
www.beaverislandgolf.com
(p) 231.448.2301
(e) BeaverIslandGolf@yahoo.com

Cycle Life Events
www.beaverislandbikefestival.com
(p) 231.342.2003
(e) john@beaverislandbikefestival.com
PICNIC AREAS

Whiskey Point or Beaver Head Lighthouses
St. James Campground or Bill Wagner Campground
Little Sand Bay
Martin’s Bluff
Cable’s Creek
Hike the Blue Trail
Stone Circle
Barney’s Lake
Sunset at Donegal Bay
Municipal Marina
Public Beach near Holy Cross Church
Arranmore Grotto
Font Lake Park
Behind Peaine Township Hall
Iron Ore Bay, French Bay, or Little Sand Bay
Greene’s Lake, Fox Lake, Font Lake, or Lake G.
Miller’s Marsh
Top of Mt. Pisgah
Watch planes come and go at either airport

Heritage Park
Hike the Kuebler Trail or the Blue Trail or many others
The Am Vets Park
And many more locations!!!

TAKE OUT MEALS

Enjoy some time outside and grab a lunch or dinner to go.

BREAKFAST & LUNCH
Dalwhinnie Bakery & Deli
(p) 231.448.2736

PICNIC SUPPLIES AND SNACKS
Island Energies
(p) 231.448.2207
(e) petroqueen2@yahoo.com
McDonough’s Market
(p) 231.448.2733

LUNCH & DINNER
Stoney Acre Grill
(p) 231.448.2560
www.stoneyarce-donegaldannys.com

DINNER
Circle M
(p) 231.448.2469

Shamrock
On-line ordering: www.toasttab.com/shamrock-bar-restaurant

Daddy Franks
(p) 231.448.2570
On-line ordering: www.toasttab.com/daddy-franks
Beaver Island is unique as our location in the middle of northern Lake Michigan gives some of the darkest night skies in the world. Sky Quality measurements (SQM) are measured on a scale from 16 to 22 with 16 indicating maximum light pollution and 22 indicating the absence of all light pollution. Readings all over the Island are consistently excellent with an average of 21SQM.

Beginning at sunset, Beaver Island delivers all the glories of the night sky. The Milky Way, Northern Lights, and meteor showers amaze amateur as well as the most seasoned stargazer. The Beaver Island Chamber of Commerce invites you to enjoy and atmosphere of quiet peace, little traffic, scenic areas, trails and waterways that mark your path to discovering the joy of relaxing under the stars.
For many generations, a bond has existed between Beaver Island and Arranmore Island, County Donegal, Ireland. Although physically separated by the Atlantic, the two islands are inextricably linked. These links were forged during the years of the Great Hunger when hordes of people fled from all parts of Ireland to escape poverty and starvation. A large number of Arranmore immigrants settled on Beaver, declaring it their own miniature Ireland in exile. In the year 2000, Beaver and Arranmore Island(s) were officially “twinned” and monuments were dedicated to recognize this unique cultural bond. On Beaver, there is the Arranmore Grotto at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery, which was built with stones from the various homes and lands of those early Irish settlers. There is also a small piece of glass from the Arranmore lighthouse that was placed in the Grotto, which reflects a beam of light back into the night sky. The Beaver Island Historical Society has collected photos and sketches of the early Irish which will be shared with the people of Arranmore, while the stories and music of their ancestors are shared through the generations. Beaver Island not only celebrates St. Patrick’s Day, but also held its first feile in 2019. The feile (Irish for festival) features presentations from local historians, live music, Irish dancing, and curragh races/rides in the harbor. These hearty celebrations from rich and authentic Irish roots enhance the Island experience for both residents and visitors alike.
Beaver Island History Museum

The history of Beaver Island is a story of both its land and its people. For over 60 years, the Beaver Island Historical Society has been working to preserve and display a history that makes this Island unique.

The Print Shop Museum offers visitors the history of Irish fishing families who fled famine in the 1840s and settled on Beaver Island. We commemorate the remarkable saga of Strangite Mormons who established a kingdom here in the 1850s. A priceless mural commissioned in the 1930s by the Works Progress Administration is on brilliant display. The Print Shop Museum also showcases Native American artifacts from the last millennium, histories of Native American lives on the islands of our Archipelago as well as documentation of their life today.

The Marine Museum tells the story of the Island’s Great Lakes history. On display is memorabilia of fishing families, steamship Captains and Lifesaving Stations. The waters around the Beaver Archipelago are the resting place of over 100 shipwrecks. Tales of these disasters are told and items washed ashore are on display.

But, our history isn’t only in our museums. A self-guided Walking Tour around the harbor in town and a self-guided Driving Tour around the Island offer you the chance to roam at your own pace. Both Tours tell stories you won’t see in our museums!

There are two lighthouses on Beaver Island. Whiskey Point Lighthouse is in the harbor in town. Used as a working light today, the original Fresnel lens is on display in the township hall on the lighthouse grounds. The Beaver Head Light is on the south end of the Island. This lighthouse is connected to the historic Keeper’s House, there is a brick Fog Station on the shore below the lighthouse and scattered around a small campus are buildings that once housed an alternative high school. Each lighthouse has a unique history and is open to the public.

We are looking forward to sharing our history with you! For more information visit our website www.beaverislandhistory.org, call 231-448-2254 or visit in person Monday- Saturday 11-5, Sunday 1-4 June-August. You are welcome to contact us outside of these times to schedule a tour.

www.beaverislandhistory.org
231-448-2254
For almost forty years, local multi-faceted artist Mary Scholl has been running her Toy Museum in a birch grove overlooking the Harbor near Whiskey Point, a continuation and expansion of the store she had owned on Chicago’s North Halstead Street before coming to Beaver Island. Her self-designed building, is packed to the rafters with immense numbers of items for children and collectors. Vintage collectibles, ranging from aisles of candy jars, postcards, rubber figures, stencils, Star Wars cards, paper doll books, polished stones, Disney figures, cowboys, and trolls -- to valuable and priceless metal vehicles from the 20’s and 30’s fastened to the roofboards. A crossbeam overhead supports a variety of tin robots, or ships or bikes or...in the cathedral space above.

The art alcove contains the few watercolors still unsold, of the hundred she creates in winter, and cards and prints of some of the originals from past seasons. She produces color prints in runs of a hundred or two, which are quickly sold out. That’s okay with her; new images are bursting out at such a constant rate that she prefers to cut herself free from concerns over or bother about the details of past work. Interviews with Mary at the Toy Museum can be viewed on youtube. Mary was also featured on “Under the Radar” and other media articles. On facebook, “Beaver Island Toy Museum and Store.” Lucky collectors have one of Mary’s illustrated Harbor Maps or bumper stickers (below). The greatest thing about the Toy Museum is that it brings out the kid in everyone. Come see for yourself and find what charms you!

Mary stocks a variety of arts and crafts: rings, scents, oils, votive candles, and jewelry. An art alcove holds paintings by local artists. Out back is a sculpture garden, cast heads, animals, children, dinosaurs, insects, and the Buddha, sitting in three plots under bounteous cherry trees, protected from the ravages of birds by an English mulberry bush. Mary’s Island-gathered collections of such plants as roses and hen-and-chicks are legendary.

In summertime, the Toy Museum is packed with customers enjoying myriad displays. Mary’s enjoyment of her client’s delight and discoveries is evidenced by frequent peals of hearty laughter ringing through the room, affirming her zest for life. Another amazing aspect of her enterprise is that Mary is a major American artist as well, a kind of primitive multi-media expressionist with an unfailing sense of form, color, and balance in her painting, poetry, jewelry and many other handmade creations marked, Mary Rose.
For all your painting jobs, both interior and exterior with quality guaranteed, Call Sam Hartwick

HARTT QUALITY PAINTING

517-983-8828

Free Estimates Residential & Commercial Interior & Exterior • Quality Guaranteed Power Washing • General Handyman

NO JOB TO BIG OR SMALL
Need something built?
Or are you looking to remodel your home?

You can depend on us.

We are a general contractor specializing in residential, commercial, new construction, and remodeling. We bring years of experience to our clients and deliver quality projects on time and within budget.

(989) 763-2342 | OFFICE (989) 772-2202
Get in touch now for more information.

P.O. Box 83 Beaver Island, Michigan 49782
BUILDERS & SUPPLIERS

Bud Martin Excavating & Well Drilling
(p) 231.448.2397
(e) petroqueen2@yahoo.com

Gillespie Enterprises Construction
www.gillespieenterprises.com
(p) 231.448.2577
(e) rich@gillespieenterprises.com

Got Wood
www.beaverislandlumber.com
(p) 231.448.2045

Greenwald & B.C. Inc. Gen. Contactors
www.greenwaldbc.com
(p) 231.448.2648
PRESTON HERRON
989.763.2342
(e) preston@greenwaldbc.com

Haggards Plumbing & Heating
www.haggardsplumbing.com
(p) 231.547.4646
(e) haggardsino@hotmail.com

Hartt Quality Painting
(p) 517.983.8828
(e) hartwicksam@gmail.com

Island Energies
(p) 231.448.2007
(e) petroqueen2@yahoo.com

Jim Wojan Excavating
(p) 231.448.2295
(e) kwojan@hotmail.com

KM Contractors LLC
www.kmcontractors.net
(p) 231.499.0136
(e) kmcontractorsllc@gmail.com

McDonough Construction
www.mcdonoughconstructioninc.com
(p) 231.448.3038 | 231.675.5444
(e) kbmc67@gmail.com

Olson Construction
wwwolsonconstructionllc.org
(p) 231.675.8180
(e) olsonconstructionbi@gmail.com

Get all your lumber needs at the Beaver Island Lumber Company
25995 Main Street, Beaver Island
Beaverislandlumber.com
231-448-2045
McDonough Construction, Inc.
36626 Kings Highway, Beaver Island
(Building 3 behind the Eager Beaver Clean and Store)
mcdonoughconstructioninc.com
mcdonoughconstructioninc@gmail.com
231-448-3038

General Contractors Specializing in:
Commercial Construction  •  Residential Construction Applegate Spray Foam Insulation
Property Management Insurance Claims  •  Construction Consulting Water Mitigation
Homes, Cottages and Cabins Excavation  •  Home Remodeling Garages, Pole Barns and Decks

Celebrating 25 Years in Business!

We are more than just a Laundromat & Carwash!
We store boats, cars, campers, construction materials...
Call us for rates and more info at
231-448-2050
Hurry, space is limited!
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

At Your Service, Captain Glen Wedding Officiant
(p) 231.448.2480 | 231.448.2789

Beaver Island Veterinary Services
Jeff Powers, DVM
www.veterinaryclinicsnorth
(p) 231.448.2860

Ebersoldt + Associates Architecture
(p) 314.241.4566
(e) vebersoldt@eplusa-arch.com

Ferguson & Chamberlain Professional Surveyors
www.Fergusonchamberlain.com
(p) 231.547.6882
(e) pappysa@fcasurveying.com

Great Lakes Energy
www.glenergy.com
(p) 888.485.2537

Haggards Plumbing & Heating
haggardsplumbing.com
(p) 231.547.4646
(e) haggardsinc@hotmail.com

Hogarth’s Pest Control
www.hogarthspestcontrol.com
(p) 800.264.6161
(e) hogarthspestcontrol@chartermi.net

JR Septic Tank Service
(p) 231.448.2896
(e) dbjrgoatman@gmail.com

Mortensen Funeral Home Winchester Chapel
www.mortensenfuneralhomes.com
(p) 231.547.2881
(e) mortynh@gmail.com

Next Level Solutions
www.nextlevelwebsites.com
(p) 877.832.6224
(e) jeff@jeffstone.org

Robert’s John Services Plumbing and Heating
(p) 231.448.2805

Simple Life Tree Care LLC and Firewood Sales
(p) 231.459.6697
(e) leviconnor@yahoo.com

PUBLIC SERVICES

Beaver Island Association
www.beaverislandassociation.org
(p) 812.558.4443
(e) beaverislandassociation@gmail.com

Beaver Island Chamber of Commerce
www.beaverisland.org
(p) 231.448.2505
(e) chamber@beaverisland.org

Beaver Island Community School
www.beaverisland.k12.mi.us
(p) 231.448.2744
(e) info@beaverisland.k12.mi.us

Beaver Island District Library
www.beaverisland.michlibrary.org
(p) 231.448.2701

Beaver Island Emergency Medical Services
(p) 231.448.2578
Emergencies: 911

Beaver Island Historical Society
www.beaverislandhistory.org
(p) 231.448.2254
(e) bihistory@tds.net

Beaver Island Post Office
(p) 231.448.2251

Beaver Island Sheriff Office
(p) 231.448.2700
Emergencies: 911

Beaver Island Transfer Station
(p) 231.448.2228

Beaver Island Volunteer Fire Dept.
(p) 231.448.2595
Emergencies: 911

CMU Biological Station
www.cmich.edu/colleges/cst/cmubs/Pages/default.aspx
(p) 231.448.2325
(e) cmubs@cmich.edu

Charlevoix Area Chamber of Commerce
www.charlevoix.org
(p) 231.547.2101
(e) info@charlevoix.org

Charlevoix Co. Commission on Aging
www.charlevoixcounty.org
(p) 231.237.0103
(e) weilanda@charlevoixcounty.org

Charlevoix Co. Road Com.
(p) 231.448.2285

Peaine Township
www.peainetwp.org
(p) 231.448.2389

St. James Township
www.stjamestwp.org
(p) 231.448.2260
Call Us Today!

(231) 264-6060 • (800) 264-6161
www.hogarthspestcontrol.com • info@Hogarthspestcontrol.com

Servicing Beaver Island For Over 20 Years

“THE BUG STOPS HERE!”

Specializing in
Carpenter Ants, Spiders & Web Sweeping, Rodents, Wasps, Bats, 
and All Of Your Pest and Wildlife Control Needs!

Butch & Holly Hogarth are proud to support The Beaver Island Chamber Of Commerce
Ed Wojan Realty

“Your Key to Beaver Island”

REAL ESTATE SALES
Residential, Recreation, Commercial and Investment Properties

- Selling Beaver Island Real Estate since 1976
- Invaluable Island Knowledge
- Realtor Emeritus of National Association of Realtors
- 5th Generation Island Resident
- Drawing Director Wojan/Cashman BI Map
- An expert at arranging financing
- Reputation for detail and accurate closings

26300 Back Highway, Beaver Island

231-448-2711

www.edwojanrealty.com
info@edwojanrealty.com

Edward B. Wojan
Broker/Owner
231-313-8682

Vicki Smith
Sales Associate
We are your Forever Real Estate Agents
Local Knowledge, Expert Advice,
Guiding you to the very best on Beaver Island.
231-547-9905

Susan McNamara
231-622-1803
suzmac416@gmail.com

Rik Lobenherz
231-675-6285
riktherealtor@gmail.com

Bingham Insurance Services
www.bingham-insurance.com
(p) 231.547.4062
(e) info@binghaminsurance.net

Charlevoix State Bank
www.charlevoixstatebank.com
(p) Charlevoix Branch: 231.448.2190
(p) Boyne City Branch: 231.582.1146
(e) jmonteith@csbchx.com

Jeff Traudt State Farm (Toledo, Ohio)
www.jefftraudt.com
(p) 800.587.2838
(e) jeff@jefftraudt.com

Northern Michigan Benefits & Insurance Services
www.nmibenefits.com
(p) 231.547.3423 or 231.675.4414
(e) tim@northernmichiganbenefits.com
SHERI KNOWS BEAVER ISLAND REAL ESTATE. YOU SHOULD KNOW SHERI.

“Welcoming neighbors, one sale at a time.”

Website - beaverislandlife.com
Phone - 231-448-2449
Email - s.richards.realtor@gmail.com
37615 King's Highway

Sheri Richards – B.I. Resident Associate Broker
Many rentals available. Check out our beautiful properties at:
www.beaver-island-rentals.com
Call or email for more info today: 231-448-2319
beaverislandrentals@gmail.com
Two Great Newspapers

Our community-minded advertisers know... the Northern Islander reaches over 800, specifically targeted readers and potential customers in the United States!

And more, online at www.northern-islander.com and Facebook: Northern Islander News & Beaver Beacon

• Island History
• News from the Island
• Great Advertising Rates
• Stories, News & Photos!

CONTACT US AT
islandnews@tds.net
231.448.3046
www.northern-islander.com

Beaver Beacon supplement included with your subscription

Keep up on Island NEWS all year long!!!

Send this form to NorthernIslander
PO BOX 295
Beaver Island, MI 49782

Please Check: ___ New ___ Renewal

If a Gift:
Send gift card to my home ___
Send gift card in my name ___
Message:

12 Issues per year!
$46.00 sent first class
$32.00 sent regular mail
*the Postal Service does NOT forward regular, standard rate Newspapers. If you are seasonal or travel, First Class is the option for you!
Subscribe online AT:
WWW.NORTHERN-ISLANDER.COM
**MEDIA | MARKETING | PUBLISHING**

**Beaver Island News on the ‘Net**  
www.beaverislandnews.com  
(e) medic5740@gmail.com

**Mitchell Graphics**  
www.mitchellgraphics.com  
(p) 800.632.7184 or 231.347.4635  
(e) ahubbard@mitchellgraphics.com

**Northern Islander**  
www.northern-islander.com  
(p) 231.448.3046  
(e) IslandNews@tds.net

**Radio WVBI 100.1 FM**  
www.wvbi.net  
(p) 231.448.2022 x107  
(e) programming@wvbi.net

**HEALTHCARE**

**Beaver Island Rural Health Center**  
www.biruralhealth.org  
(p) 231.448.2275

**McLaren Northern Michigan**  
www.mclaren.org/northern  
(p) 231.487.4000  
(e) marketing@northernhealth.org

**Munson Health Care Charlevoix Hospital**  
www.munsonhealthcare.org/charlevoixhospital  
(p) 231.547.4024

**WEDDINGS | CHURCHES**

Weddings on Beaver Island have been gaining in popularity every year.

Our Island offers not only a secluded honeymoon location for the newlywed couple, but a perfect opportunity for guests to attend and extend their stay in the unique and beautiful Beaver Island Archipelago of islands.

The ideal wedding dates are in June and September when the weather is inviting, yet outside the peak family vacation season.

(p) 231.448.2505  
(e) chamber@beaverisland.org

**Beaver Island Christian Church**  
www.bichristianchurch.com  
(p) 231.448.2599  
(e) beaverislandchristianchurch@gmail.com

**Holy Cross Catholic Church & Hall**  
www.beaverisland.org/holy-cross-hall/  
CHURCH  
(p) 231.448.2230  
(e) holycross@tds.net  
HALL CONTACT  
(p) 231.448.2206  
(e) pamo1@tds.net

**Lighthouse Fellowship**  
(p) 231.448.3166 | 231.448.2611

**St. James Episcopal Mission**  
(p) 231.448.2241
HUNTING & FISHING

Beaver Island is truly an outdoor sportsman’s dream. Imagine a remote and rustic fishing and hunting lodge with fun for the whole family.

Five-pound-plus smallmouth bass are commonly reeled in. One of the inland lakes is an undiscovered largemouth paradise. The flats-style fishing for “golden bones” is world-class.

Beaver Island is a QDM whitetail deer destination. While hunting for ducks, turkeys, upland game birds, and snowshoe hare is seasonally outstanding.

**Beaver Island Wildlife Club**  
(p) 231.448.2220

**CHARTER SERVICES & BOAT RENTALS**

**Beaver Island Boat Rentals**  
www.beaverislandboatrentals.com  
(p) 231.459.6688  
(p) 231.448.2726

**Indigo Guide Service**  
www.indigoguideservice.com  
(p) 231.898.4320  
(e) indigoguidekevin@gmail.com

**Kelly Day Charters**  
www.kellydaycharters.com  
(p) 517.974.0414  
(e) kellydaycharters@gmail.com

**Paradise Bay Boat Charter and Dive Shop**  
www.paradisebaydiveshop.com  
(p) 231.448.3195 | 231.632.1063  
(e) salty_dog_50@yahoo.com
The Great Outdoors

Surrounded by Lake Michigan, and with a number of inland lakes, a wide variety of freshwater recreations have their place on Beaver Island: scuba and snorkel diving, sail and power boating, jet skis, swimming, beautiful beaches, paddle boarding, canoeing and kayaking, as well as tons of terrestrial fun, including an exciting annual softball tournament.

Nearly half of Beaver Island consists of state forest, conservancy owned and managed, or local government owned land, and in its pristine natural state. Even some towering old-growth forest is to be found on Beaver Island.

Islanders and visitors alike cherish the abundant natural beauty. It takes much more than a few weeks to explore all the trails and wild places. Plan to start your adventure today!

Beaver Island Birding Trail
beaverislandbirdingtrail.org

Get your printed copy at the Beaver Island Chamber of Commerce
231.448.2205
www.beaverisland.org

KM Contractors specializing in Residential and Commercial Building. Giving our customers 100% satisfaction with 20+ years of experience!

Contact Ernest Martin • kmcontractorsllc@gmail.com
GARDEN ISLAND

Garden Island's name is translated from “Miniss Kitigan”, Ojibwe for Garden Island. Its early residents were Anishinaabe Indians from the mainland. These Native Americans owned farms on the Island after the treaties of 1836 and 1847. Some lived on Garden Island year-round. Many raised corn, and squash, and others worked as shermen and trappers/hunters. Records of Indian settlers indicate at least forty family groups living there in 1839. Blind Ben Keeway was well known for his net mending skills (Menders Clearing). He served Garden and Beaver Island and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan despite his handicap. He had an orchard and a garden.

Danish immigrants Larsens, Jensens, and Vincents began settling on Garden Island in the 1840s. Because the land is low (65 feet maximum height) swampy, and not very suitable for commercial farming the income of these early European settlers came from shing and lumbering. They raised cattle and planted orchards and crops to feed their families. The Vincent family, with their 12 children, lived on the North East side of the Island and were renowned for their building of seaworthy shing boats for Beaver Island and the U.P. shermen. “Boat Builders Clearing” featured a garden and orchard. This family established a cemetery for the Island’s first white settlers. Found just before entering their orchard, it contains the graves of over 30 people. Only two headstones remain. These belong to Christina and Ecedius Larsen. His homestead is known as Dane’s Farm. The Axe Wielders clearing refers to Christina Larsen’s brother Matt who is said to have skillfully built the most solid residence on Garden Island with his net mending skills (Menders Clearing). He served Garden and Beaver Island and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan despite his handicap. He had an orchard and a garden.

By the 1900s Garden Island was void of any inhabitants and is now over 97% owned by the State of Michigan. Garden Island is rich with wildlife. You can observe dozens of protected plants and owers, unusual insects, birds, white tail deer, rabbits, partridge, squirrels, coyotes, and the amazing American Bald Eagle.

The Native American Cemetery continues to be an active cemetery with over 3300 sites, making it the largest documented Native American Cemetery in North America. It is listed in the National Register of Historical Sites. The property is owned and cared for by a non-profit group. Only a few of the more recent “spirit houses” are intact. These wooden structures typically fortold of the occupant because of its size. One could imagine all the sizes and number of houses brought on by the introduction of diseases from Europe such as scarlet fever, small pox, chicken pox, etc. A typical burial would be with the deceased buried sitting on a woven cedar mat, perhaps wrapped in a bear skin (the bear being the protector of everything in Anishinaabe culture), facing the west. Spirit Houses all had a small opening facing West to allow the spirits to enter and lead the deceased to the afterlife. When walking around a spirit house, it is respectful to go in a clockwise manner (the way earth orbits the sun). This is very sacred ground so please be respectful when visiting. No matter where you walk or spend time on the Island, you will enjoy a pleasurable, spiritual experience. Please do not remove any artifacts from any of the sites. It is for all to enjoy and contemplate a simpler life. Migwech “Thank you.”
Since 1991 Little Traverse Conservancy has been working with the people of Beaver Island to conserve some of the most ecologically-significant island lands. Many privately-owned lands are now protected from future development with conservation easements. In addition, nearly 700 acres are available for public enjoyment as nature preserves or natural areas, as highlighted in this flyer.

LITTLE TRAVERSE CONSERVANCY - 3264 Powell Road
Harbor Springs, MI 49740 - 231.347.0991 - www.landtrust.org

Download the app!

Our free nature preserve app provides users with accurate, detailed, and interactive maps and information about LTC preserves that are best suited for outdoor recreation.

The app is available on both Google Play and the Apple App Store by searching “LTC Explorer.”
Barney's Lake Nature Preserve
The original 120-acre preserve was a gift to the Little Traverse Conservancy in 1990 by the heirs of Bernard and Margaret O'Donnell. Located about three miles southwest of St. James, the old O'Donnell homesite is east of the lake across from the lake viewing/access area. Once cleared fields are now a study in plant succession. Stones are piled along the old field and pasture boundaries. Wildlife commonly seen in the area include loon, great blue heron, whitetail deer, beaver, and snowshoe hare. In 2013, this preserve grew to 293 acres, 4,900 feet of Barney's Lake frontage, and 1,770 feet of Lake Michigan frontage. Features include open bog, sedge meadow, cedar swamp, and uplands with old logging trails that allow for hiking and exploring. Significant improvements - including boat racks - were made in 2011 and the trail was expanded to the west in 2013.

From St. James, take Kings Hwy. south 1¼ miles to Barney's Lake Rd. North and turn right. Go 2½ miles and the preserve can be found on both sides of the road. Look for a preserve sign on the left. Parking is on the right.

Little Sand Bay Nature Preserve
Designated by a group of island residents as the number one priority for acquisition and preservation, the Conservancy purchased the original 60 acres in 1994. In 1999, LTC assisted the state in acquiring 30 acres to the north. And in 2011, LTC purchased a 28-acre addition to the preserve with funds from the J.A. Woollam Foundation. The preserve includes a mix of shrubs, cedar swamp, and sand dunes. A short trail (4 mile) and foot bridges allow visitors to access the shore without damaging the sensitive habitat. When added with adjacent state land, nearly 1½ miles of Lake Michigan shoreline and a shallow swimming beach are now accessible.

From the Welke’s Airport, go south on East Side Dr. for approximately 200 yards. Look for a sign on the left side of the road.

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY’S
Miller’s Marsh Natural Area
With 230 acres, Miller’s Marsh is the largest and most diverse true marsh found on the island. This wetland’s diversity consists of a combination of open shallow water, extensive sedge (to the west) and sphagnum mats (to the east) surrounded by a mature second growth beech-maple forest. The preserve is home to frogs, migratory birds, and waterfowl. A small parking area leads to a one mile trail providing easy access around the marsh. Purchased by Little Traverse Conservancy in 1997, this property was conveyed to the Central Michigan Biological Station in 1998.

From St. James, take the King’s Hwy. south for 4 miles. Turn right (west) onto Paid Een Ogs Rd. Continue about 1½ miles. At the four corners and airport turn left (south) onto West Side Dr. Continue on West Side Dr. approximately five miles to Miller’s Marsh which will be on the left (east) side of the road.

George & Althea Petritz Nature Preserve
At the northeast end of Beaver Island, this preserve is walking distance from town. A trail takes you through the 27 acres to 500 feet of gorgeous Lake Michigan beach. The donor wrote: “People, animals, plants, and trees allowed. All other human-made structures or objects prohibited. I would like it to remain a place to quietly appreciate nature.”

From Port of St. James, take Main Street .7 miles north out of town. Turn left onto Lake Drive and travel .2 miles to the preserve sign on your left.

MARKED TRAILS
Bicycling
Canoeing or Kayaking
Fishing
Hiking and Snowshoeing
Horseback Riding
Parking Area
Scenic View/Birdwatching
Skiing
Swimming Beach
Signs and maps
Geocache
Remember to download the smart phone app (over) or visit our website for interactive maps: www.landtrust.org

WWW.BEAVERISLAND.ORG
GO OUT AND EXPLORE
• OBSERVE FROM ROADSIDE

BEAVER ISLAND BIRDING TRAIL

TRAIL HEADQUARTERS & WELCOME CENTER

“Every road on the Island offers good birding.”
— Donna Hardenberg, long-time Island resident and birder

TRAIL HEADQUARTERS:
The Beaver Island Community Center is conveniently located in the heart of the harbor and business area across from the Beaver Island Boat Company and kitty-corner to the Beaver Island Municipal Marina. Please stop by our inviting Welcome Center for general information about the island or to have your questions answered by a knowledgeable Island resident. Birding checklists, maps, and other information are available along with free internet access.

Visit our web site for sponsors and partners.
BeaverIslandBirdingTrail.org
Beaver Island Birding Trail Birding Sites:

North End Birding Sites:

1. Beaver Island Lighthouse (Whiskey Point Lighthouse)
   
   This lighthouse standing at the mouth of the harbor (Paradise Bay) is visible from almost all points in St. James and is an easy walk or bike ride from the Central Island Campground. Campers stroll the top of the lighthouse, and there is access to the shoreline that forms the entrance to Paradise Bay for observing seabirds and waterfront.

2. Gull Harbor Birding Site
   
   This protected area is along Gull Harbor Drive east of the Whiskey Point Lighthouse. Most of the habitat is shoreline, cedar shrub, and marshy ponds, but there are a few wooded areas behind the open areas. This is an excellent location to monitor wintering shorebirds and waterfowl in the Gull Harbor area.

3. Indian Point Preserve
   
   This beautiful natural area is managed by the Little Traverse Conservancy and contains several types of habitats, including mixed hardwood/pine and sandy dunes. There is a trail leading from the parking area through the woods to the dunes. Resident songbirds as well as spring and fall migrants utilize the woods, and shorebirds and waterfowl may be found along the beach below the dunes. 

4. Chimney Swift Tower
   
   The Chimney Swift Tower on the lawn on the north side of the Government Building was constructed to attract Chimney Swifts both during breeding season and migration. These “flying cigars” normally build their nests inside old masonry chimney, which are becoming rare across the United States. The attraction, which involves constructing towers in an effort to provide birds with nesting sites; otherwise, the species could face extinction. The base of the tower on Beulah Island contains interpretive signage with more information about Chimney Swifts.

5. St. James Township Campground
   
   This campground is located in a mixed hardwoods/pine forest at the top of the Cedar Grove Natural Area. A paved trail connects the campground to the Donegal Bay Bike Trail which leads back toward the town. The woods contain both resident and migrant songbirds and is an excellent location to look for raptors, including Bald Eagles that nest near the surrounding islands and come to Beaver Island to forage.

6. Indian Point
   
   This area of the island is composed almost entirely of private residences, but the walking roads through the area are good for a slow drive, walk, or bike ride through the second growth forest and clearings of herbaceous plants along the woods edges. This is a prime spring migration staging area for songbirds, and resident songbirds are common throughout the area. Please be considerate and do not trespass on private property.

7. Font Lake (public boat launch on Donegal Bay Road)
   
   The northernmost inland lake on Beaver Island is shallow with unique floating islands of bog leatherleaf and sweet gale on it. The shoreline consists of both open wetlands and mixed hardwood/conifer forests. Font Lake often supports nesting Common Loons, and Caspian Terns forage in the lake. Bald Eagles, Ospreys, and Northern Goshawks can also be observed. Unfortunately, the invasive Mute Swan is now found inhabiting the lake.

8. Font Lake (Peaine Township Park behind Peaine Township Hall)
   
   A short boardwalk leads from a grassy area behind the township hall through a clearing to a view of Font Lake. Common Loon, Common Tern, and various waterfowl species may be visible on the lake. The forest supports several species of songbirds, including Eastern Bluebirds. The two new bluebird boxes are designed to provide superior protection from predators and excellent climate control for successful brood rearing.

Holy Cross Cemetery
   
   This cemetery sits on a grassy knoll just outside of town. Although it is mown, some grassland bird species, such as the Eastern Meadowlark, may be observed. Please be respectful while in the cemetery.

East Side Birding Sites:

10. East Side Drive north of Welke Airport (Bohlokund Bend)
   
   The grassy area on either side of East Side Drive from the big curve (Bohlokund Bend) where the road turns south to the Welke Airport (Island Airways airport) are excellent for observing grassland birds, especially in the summer. Look for Bobolinks, Eastern Meadowlarks, and various sparrow species. Common Gallinule and various waterfowl species forage in the grassy meadows. These fields are privately owned, so please remain on the road to observe birds. In addition, many birds in this area are ground nesters and should not be disturbed during the nesting season.

11. Lone Bay
   
   This site is Michigan Department of Natural Resources property with access through Little Sand Bay (see #12). The area consists of a swampy forest gradient from hardwood/sedge to conifer/cedar. A large grassy meadow preserves habitat diversity.

12. Little Sand Bay Preserve
   
   This beautiful wetland natural area is managed by the Little Traverse Conservancy. Many species of waterfowl can be seen in the marsh as you walk the trail. The marsh is located in a coastal dune area that includes a variety of salvinia species and other aquatic plants, and the shoreline provides excellent habitat for shorebirds. This is an excellent location to spot spring and fall migrants. At the beach you can spot the natural beauty of sand dunes while watching birds forage along the shoreline.

13. Potter’s Bay and Bayview Trailhead
   
   One of the most revered islands of Beaver Island is buried at this site, and one end of the popular Kuebler’s Trail is just off the parking area next to the tombs. The cemetery is adjacent to the site of the historic Potter’s Bayhead habit that is prevalent on the west side of the island. Wood warblers are especially common here along with thrush species, various woodpecker species, and Red-eyed Vireos. The Kuebler Trail winds through several habitats, including an old dune system on the west side of Barney’s Lake (see #22) and ends at McCauley’s Point at the south end of Donegal Bay (see #27) and is a sandy beach are accessible. At this end, waterfowl and shorebirds may be observed foraging.

14. Bonner’s Bluff Landing
   
   A paved two-track that runs parallel to the Lake Michigan shoreline on top of the highest bluff on the east side of the island. This trail affords spectacular views of Lake Michigan and the mainland. This is a good area to spot birds on the water as well as in the trees along the bluff.

15. Seven Bridges Trail
   
   This trail starts across East Side Drive from the entrance to the Bill Wagner Campground just north of the Peaine Township fire station. The trail meanders through a Dry Mesic. Northern Forest, considered a threatened community because of its unique plant/animal communities. The forest consists of arborial trees and shrub species. This forest is a habitat that supports many bird species. There is a birding trail located along the road near the highest bluff on the east side of the island. This trail affords spectacular views of Lake Michigan and the mainland. This is a good area to spot birds on the water as well as in the trees along the bluff.

16. Erber Preserve
   
   This small Lake Michigan shoreline natural area is managed by the Little Traverse Conservancy. A short trail from East Side Drive leads through a mixed hardwoods/conifer area to a beach of sand and stone. Woodpecker species inhabit trees at the edge of the beach, and the beach itself affords long-view ranges of Lake Michigan where various waterbirds may be observed foraging.

17. Cable’s Creek Road (Warbler Alley)
   
   This road leads to a small parking area where a foot bridge crosses Cable’s Creek. The trail then winds up and over an old dune system in an open forest with views of the beautiful ironwood conifer stands on top of the highest bluff on the east side of the island. This trail affords spectacular views of Lake Michigan and the mainland. This is a good area to spot birds on the water as well as in the trees along the bluff.

18. Heron Preserve
   
   This beautiful lake in the center of the island is surrounded by hardwoods that exemplifies the extensive boreal forests in Canada that serve as breeding grounds for many warbler species.

19. Central Island Birding Sites:

20. Bonner’s Bluff Landing
   
   A paved two-track that runs parallel to the Lake Michigan shoreline on top of the highest bluff on the east side of the island. This bluff affords spectacular views of Lake Michigan at the south end of Sand Bay. Camp sites are located near the west end of the island. Bald Eagles, Ospreys, and Common Gulls are often seen flying over the water.

21. Beaver Head Lighthouse
   
   The picturesque Beaver Head Lighthouse sits on a high bluff with views to the south of North and South Fox Islands. There are steps leading down the bluff to the beach at the base of the lighthouse. Waterfowl can be observed on the water, and songbirds are easily observed in the trees below the bluff. There is a population of nesting Chimney Swifts in the area, and several swallow species are often seen flying over the water.

22. Barney’s Lake Preserve
   
   This natural area on both the east and west sides of Barney’s Lake is managed by the Little Traverse Conservancy. The west portion of the preserve was recently acquired, and trails are currently being developed. The area affords long range views across Lake Michigan. Bald Eagles and Red-tailed Hawks are often seen hunting from the high cliffs. American Bitterns, Sedge Wren, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, and Red-winged Blackbird.

23. Clear-cut
   
   Formerly a mature hardwood forest, this area was clear-cut to increase habitat for deer and game birds. The new dense shrub habitat attracts Indigo Buntings, American Woodcocks, and Ruffed Grouse.

24. Hanning’s Road
   
   This scenic road that cuts across the island travels through several types of habitats, including swampy forests and old fields. Woodpecker species, Indigo Buntings, and Ruffed Grouse can be observed along with resident and migrant songbirds. Because the road is not heavily used, it is conducive to hiking or slow driving.

www.BeaverIslandBirdingTrail.org
Boodlin'

going to sunset
that's what they say
at about 6 or 7, late in the day
east side to west or
just 'round the bay

people like it when you wave, remember
Go slow

plenty to see
nothin' you must do
don't let the dust clouds ruin the view
mind all the deer and
the turkeys too

people like it when you wave, remember
Go slow

pack in, pack out
don't crush those cans
you get good money for those, my man
here's to the lake, the road
and the sand

people like it when you wave, remember
Go slow

island life is
just like the earth
time flies by, and in its dearth
you can't outrun
winter
for what it's worth

people like it when you wave, remember
Go slow
Discover Beaver Island

There are many things to do on Beaver Island throughout the entire year! Many businesses remain open and look forward to visitors in the off-peak seasons. Here is just a sample of what to do on Beaver Island:

Cross Country Skiing
Snowshoeing
3RD WEEKEND IN FEBRUARY, FREE FISHING WEEKEND!

Valentine’s Day
FEBRUARY 14, 2021

Ice Fishing Tourney
FEBRUARY 16-17 2021

St. Patrick’s Day Festivities
MARCH 2021

The following businesses are here to serve you in the offseason for food and transportation and gifts. Car rentals available at beaverisland.org.

- Shamrock Bar
- Donegal Danny’s Pub & Stoney Acre Grill
- Beachcomber Bar
- Dalwhinnie Bakery and Restaurant
- McDonough’s Market
- Island Energies
- Power’s Hardware & Gifts
- St. James Boat Shop
- Fresh Air Aviation
- Island Airways
- Burton’s Rentals
  231.838.2883
- Dalwhinnie Apartments
  231.448.2733
- Emerald Island Inn
  231.448.2376
- Erin Motel
  231.448.2240
- Give Me Shelter Rentals
  217.979.3040
- Powers Hardware Rentals
  AirBnB
- Protopia Studios
  231.448.6969
- Richards Rentals
  231.675.6717

Airlines
- Island Airways
  231.547.2141
- Fresh Air Aviation
  231.237.9482

BEAVER ISLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
PO Box 5, Beaver Island, MI 49782
www.beaverisland.org
231.448.2505 | chamber@beaverisland.org