



Beaver Log

The official newspaper of
Acadia National Park

July-October 2010

Photo by Bob Thayer

Wabanaki Ways

For 12,000 years, Native American peoples have inhabited the land we now call Maine. Today four distinct tribes—the Maliseet, Micmac, Passamaquoddy and Penobscot—are known collectively as the Wabanaki, or “People of the Dawnland.”

Mount Desert Island and Acadia National Park have remained in the center of Wabanaki traditional homelands for thousands of years. Long before Europeans arrived, the Wabanaki traveled here in seaworthy birchbark canoes. Setting up temporary camps near places like Somes Sound, they hunted, fished, gathered berries, harvested clams, and traded with other Wabanaki. Some called Mount Desert Island “Pemetic,” meaning “range of mountains.”

In the nineteenth century, Wabanaki people came to sell their handmade ash and birchbark baskets to wealthy travelers, and to harvest precious basket-making resources like sweetgrass. Summer tourists and summer residents alike were entertained by elaborate Wabanaki dance performances at venues such as

Sieur de Monts and the town of Bar Harbor. Led by Wabanaki guides, canoe trips around Frenchman Bay and the Cranberry Islands were a convenient and pleasurable way for visitors to reach the outer islands.

Today, each tribe has a reservation and government headquarters located within their territories throughout Maine. Still, Wabanaki people have a unique and spiritual relationship with this land, from the first rays of dawn seen from Cadillac Mountain to the last light of dusk slipping behind Bar Island. Many Wabanaki people today come for much the same reasons as others—to hike the mountain trails and enjoy the striking scenery. Yet some still come to gather precious sweetgrass, sell handmade baskets, and to show respect for this sacred landscape, as their ancestors did for thousands of years.

If you’d like to learn more about Wabanaki history and culture, attend a Ranger program, or visit the Abbe Museum at Sieur de Monts Spring or in downtown Bar Harbor.



Birchbark Canoe Making Demonstrations

Wabanaki traditional art today incorporates skills and aesthetic knowledge passed down through generations. Join internationally known Passamaquoddy artist David Moses Bridges as he demonstrates birchbark canoe and basket making. *Free.*

Jordan Pond House Lawn, 11 a.m.–4 p.m.

Wednesday, July 7

Wednesday, July 14

Sunday, August 1

Wednesday, August 4

Sieur de Monts Nature Center, 2–5 p.m.

Sunday, July 11

Demonstrations will be held at the Abbe Museum, downtown Bar Harbor in the event of inclement weather. July 11 event will be sheltered.

David Moses Bridges in birchbark canoe. Photo courtesy of Darel Gabriel Bridges.

Welcome to Acadia!



Superintendent Sheridan Steele. Photo by Peter Travers.

It is hard to imagine an Acadia without birds and beavers, but imagine what Acadia might look like 20 years from now if today’s youth remain uninspired to protect it. If young people spend 6 hours a day on cell phones and computers, national parks and the outdoors seem to be increasingly irrelevant. You and your family have a wonderful opportunity to enjoy Acadia today—and to help us inspire the next generation of stewards.

Thanks to every parent visiting Acadia for recognizing the importance of children learning from and playing in the outdoors. We encourage you to find the “youth” in yourself and to experience this special place through your senses. Walk barefoot and wiggle your toes in the sand at Sand Beach. Smell the sweet fragrance of the balsam fir trees. Taste the sweet blueberries that grow along so many of our carriage roads and trails. Listen for the song of the loon as you walk on the Ocean Path. And most importantly, create lasting memories—so together, we may inspire our youth to preserve this truly unique place.

—Superintendent Sheridan Steele

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These mountains are the bones of the earth, which, being broken and upheaved, form some of our most striking and beautiful scenery, giving us lovely valleys, wild mountain passes and sparkling freshwater lakes, within the sound of the murmuring sea.

—Travel writer Benjamin De Costa, "Rambles in Mount Desert", 1842

Closures

Construction

Many projects are underway this year to improve park facilities. Through October, you may encounter short delays and temporary closures of some roads and parking areas. For more information, inquire at the visitor center.

Nightly Closures

To protect park resources, the following areas are closed at dark.

- Bass Harbor Head Lighthouse is closed to visitors and vehicles.
- Carroll Homestead, Lake Wood, and Thompson Island Picnic Area are closed to vehicles.

Wildlife Closures

The following closures are in place to protect nesting birds.

- The Precipice Trail, Orange and Black Path (formerly East Face Trail), and areas around Beech Cliff (not Beech Cliff Ladder Trail) are closed until the peregrine chicks leave the nest (usually late summer). Check with rangers for more closures.
- During eagle or seabird nesting season, Schoodic, Sheep Porcupine, Long Porcupine, Rolling, Bar (Somes Sound), Heron, and Thrumcap Islands are closed. Please respect posted closures.



Explorations in Acadia

Activities

Hiking

More than 125 miles of hiking trails offer something for everyone. Pick up a guide to the most popular trails, rated by difficulty, at the visitor center or campgrounds. Always carry a detailed hiking map, available for purchase at the visitor center, for longer hikes.

Junior and Senior Ranger Programs

Learn about the park while you complete the Junior Ranger program activities and earn a certificate and patch. A Senior Ranger program is available for ages 18 and over. Pick up a free Junior Ranger book or purchase a Senior Ranger book at park information centers.

Ranger-Led Programs

Join us for boat cruises, evening programs, mountain hikes, short talks, and nature walks. Pick up a monthly program schedule at park information centers.

Scenic Drives

Drive 27 miles on the Park Loop Road and Cadillac Mountain Road to view the spectacular scenery of Acadia. Stop to stroll down a path or read a wayside exhibit. A self-guided audio tour of Acadia and the surrounding area, covering 56 miles, is available for purchase at the visitor center.

Swimming

Ocean temperatures at Sand Beach rarely rise above 55° F (13° C). For warmer water, try Echo Lake on Route 102. Many other ponds and lakes on the island are public water supplies where swimming, wading, and pets are prohibited. Please respect posted regulations.

Facilities

Hulls Cove Visitor Center

Watch the 15-minute orientation film and plan your visit with a three-dimensional map of the island. Books, maps, and information are available. Open daily 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (June - August), 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (September), 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (October).

Campgrounds

Blackwoods and Seawall Campgrounds are located on Mount Desert Island. Reservations are recommended at Blackwoods from May 1 to October 31 (877-444-6777). Seawall has first-come, first-served, and reservation sites. Neither campground has hook-ups. There is no backcountry camping in the park.

Picnic Areas

Picnic areas are located throughout the park. Charcoal fires are permitted in park-owned or private grills in these areas.

Information

Call 911 for all emergencies.

Accessibility

The Access Guide, available at the visitor center, lists accessible facilities in the park. Accessible programs are listed in the monthly program schedule, available at the visitor center.

Island Explorer Shuttles

Fare-free Island Explorer buses operate throughout Mount Desert Island, check page 4 for more details.

Parking

During the summer and fall, the park can be quite congested. Please drive carefully and observe posted signage. Parking is only permitted in designated (posted) areas, parking lots, and established roadside pullouts.

Pets

Pets must be kept on a six-foot or shorter leash. Except service animals, pets are not permitted on Sand Beach or Echo Lake Beach from May 15 to September 15, in public buildings, or on ladder trails. Kennels are available in nearby towns.



Walking and Biking

More than 45 miles of historic carriage roads are available for exploration by foot, bike, or horseback. Maps and guidebooks are available. Motorized vehicles, except motorized wheelchairs, are prohibited on carriage roads. Horses are not permitted on some sections. Bicycles are not permitted on hiking trails or private carriage roads. Bicycle rentals are available in nearby communities.

Self-guided walks include Carroll Homestead (easy ½ mile), Jordan Pond Nature Trail (easy 1-mile loop), and Sieur de Monts Spring (easy ½-mile loop). An accessible trail atop Cadillac Mountain offers access to a portion of the park's highest summit.

Museums and More

Islesford Historical Museum: Learn about the Cranberry Isles and their people. Accessible by boat from Northeast Harbor or Southwest Harbor. Open daily 10 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. (Open at 10:45 a.m. to noon and 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Sundays.) Closes on September 30 for the season.

Nature Center and Wild Gardens of Acadia: Discover Acadia's natural resources and learn how they are protected. Located at Sieur de Monts Spring. Open daily 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (summer), 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (September through October 11) with a brief closure for lunch.

Abbe Museum: Explore the story of Maine's earliest people, from 12,000 years ago to today. The museum is privately operated and charges a nominal fee. Located at Sieur de Monts Spring and downtown Bar Harbor. History talks daily at 10 a.m., free with admission. www.abbemuseum.org

Parlez-Vous Français?

Une traduction française d'information de parc est disponible au centre d'accueil à Hulls Cove sur la route 3 ou au *park headquarters* sur la route 233.

Sprechen Sie Deutsch?

Parkinformation auf Deutsch finden Sie im Besuchercenter in Hulls Cove an der Strasse #3. Vielen Dank für Ihren Besuch.

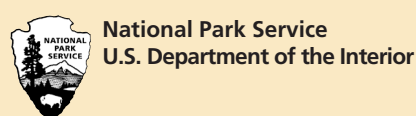
Religious Services in the Park

On Sundays Christian Ministry in the National Parks holds services in the park. All are welcome. The schedule is:

- 8:00 a.m. - Blackwoods Campground
- 10:00 a.m. - Seawall Campground
- ½ hour before sunset - Blue Hill Overlook (weather permitting)

Size Restrictions

Vehicles taller than 11'8" cannot drive the entire Park Loop Road system. See the park map for bridge heights. Vehicles longer than 20' and trailers are not permitted on Bass Harbor Head Road or the southern end of Schooner Head Road. There is a 35' limit for trailers and vehicles in campgrounds.



Acadia National Park protects more than 49,000 acres of granite-domed mountains, woodlands, lakes and ponds, and ocean shoreline, creating striking scenery and diverse habitats. This varied environment combines with a rich cultural history to create unparalleled scientific, educational, and recreational opportunities in a spectacular setting.

Acadia National Park

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Be Careful Out There!

No one ever plans to get hurt on vacation, but it does happen. Most accidents at Acadia occur while visitors are hiking, biking, exploring the shoreline, and driving. Keep these tips in mind to help ensure a safe visit to the park.



Watch your step. Be prepared: wear sturdy shoes and carry water, a map, first aid kit, and flashlight. Tell someone your plans before you begin your hike.



Keep your speed down and be prepared to stop. Remember to yield to pedestrians and horses. Road gravel can be loose, especially on curves and hills. Bicycling on the carriage roads is a major cause of visitor injuries.



Be careful while walking near cliff edges and along the shore. Loose gravel and wet rocks create dangerous footing, which can result in serious falls. Stay away from the edge.



Drive safely and wear your seatbelt. The speed limit is 35mph in the park unless otherwise noted. It's easy to get distracted by scenery—pay attention. Do not drink and drive.

Remember that your actions can make the difference between a happy memory and an unpleasant experience!

Abbe Museum Programs

Thursday, July 1, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Children's Birchbark Etching Workshop with David Moses Bridges, Passamaquoddy.

Saturday, July 10 – Native American Festival, College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor.

Friday, July 16, 10 a.m.–12 p.m.

Music-by-the-Sea Concert Series: Burnawurbskek Singers.

Friday, July 30 and Saturday, July 31, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Ash and Sweetgrass Fancy Basket Workshop with Molly Neptune Parker, Passamaquoddy.

Wednesday, August 4, 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m.

Music-by-the-Sea Concert Series: Hawk Henries, Nipmuc.

Saturday, August 21, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Beaded Jewelry Workshop with Gal Frey, Passamaquoddy.

Tuesday, August 31, 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Victorian Style Fancy Basket Workshop with Pam Cunningham, Penobscot.

Friday, September 17, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Wabanaki Wood Carving Demonstration with Erik Sappier, Penobscot.

Saturday, October 9, 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

Children's Ash and Sweetgrass Fancy Basket Workshop with Paula Thorne, Penobscot.

For more information, location, and to register call (207) 288-3519 or check www.abbemuseum.org.



Set Sail on an Ocean Adventure!

Check the program schedule available each month for ranger-led boat cruises. These four diverse tours provide a whole new way to see the park while hearing the stories of the Maine coast. Once you get back home, visit the eCruise on the park website (www.nps.gov/acad) to recapture the spirit of your journey.

Keep Wildlife Wild

Acadia offers many opportunities for observing wildlife. During your visit you may find deer feeding in meadows, songbirds darting through forests of peeling birch trees, and raptors circling high overhead. Because of Acadia's small size and proximity to towns and residential areas, these animals often come in close contact with people. Each of us must do our part to make this contact easier, helping ensure the safety and health of wild animals. When you encounter wildlife, remember these steps:

- **Leash your pet:** Keep your pet on a six-foot or shorter leash at all times and stay on designated trails or roads. This is for your pet's safety too!
- **Never feed wild animals:** This means gulls, too, no matter how persistent they are. Human food can make wildlife ill and create beggar animals that no longer retain a healthy respect of humans.
- **Keep your distance:** Do not approach wildlife. If you find yourself too close, back away and give them room to escape. Use binoculars to get a close-up view.
- **Be careful along roads:** Animals often gather near roadsides, especially at dusk and dawn. Pay close attention and lower your speed, allowing them and you a better chance to see each other and avoid an accident.
- **Store food securely:** When camping, store all food, garbage, and cooking equipment in an enclosed vehicle or hard-sided locker whenever you are not present.
- **Respect wildlife closures:** These closures protect wildlife like nesting peregrines, loons, seabirds, and eagles, which are especially sensitive to disturbance. Intrusion by humans can cause nesting attempts to fail.



The challenging Precipice Trail is not for the faint-of-heart. Photo by NPS/Sheridan Steele.

What's in a name?

Acadia's trail crew is replacing some of the signs along the trail system to return to the historic names of trails. Many original names reflect a trail's history, either honoring the person in whose memory the trail was created or reflecting its unique construction (for example, "path" refers to a highly constructed trail, usually on the east side of the island). Therefore, Dorr Mountain East Face Trail becomes Emery Path and Schiff Path; Gorge Trail becomes Gorge Path. Until maps catch up with this effort, trail names on your maps may differ from the names posted on trail signs.

Where Do Your Fees Go?

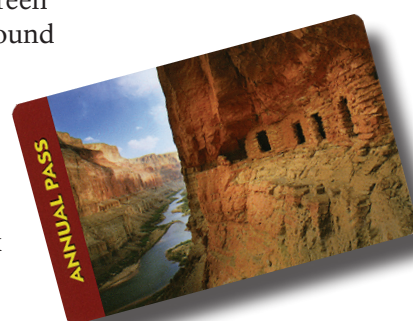
The majority of fees paid in Acadia stay right here. The Recreational Fee Demonstration Program, first authorized by Congress in 1996, mandates that 80 percent of fees paid in Acadia stay in the park to be used for projects that *directly* benefit park visitors and resources. Your fees are used for a variety of projects that improve the condition of natural and cultural resources and make the park a safer place for you to visit. Some of these recent and upcoming projects include:

- Island Explorer seasonal public transportation system
- Construct Schooner Head Path and install signs with historic trail names

Please support these and other projects by buying a park pass at the following locations:

- Sand Beach Entrance Station
- Hulls Cove Visitor Center
- Thompson Island Visitor Center
- Park Headquarters
- Bar Harbor Village Green
- Blackwoods Campground
- Seawall Campground

All visitors who enter the park, regardless of how they enter, must pay an entrance fee. We thank you for your support!



2010 Fees

Entrance Fees/Passes

- \$10 (May 1–June 22) / \$20 (June 23–Oct. 11) entry permit allows for a 7-day visit
- \$40 annual Acadia National Park Pass allows unlimited visits to Acadia for one year from date of purchase

National Park Passes

- \$80 Interagency Annual Pass gets you into any federal fee area for one year from date of purchase
- \$10 Interagency Senior Pass allows lifetime access for U.S. citizens who are 62 years or older
- Free Interagency Access Pass allows lifetime access for U.S. citizens with a permanent disability

Camping Fees

- Blackwoods Campground: \$20 per night per site (in season).
- Seawall Campground: Drive-up sites \$20 per night. Walk-in sites \$14.
- To make a reservation at either campground, call 877-444-6777 or visit www.recreation.gov.

Protect Your Park: Leave No Trace

You can help protect Acadia's vulnerable natural and cultural resources by learning how to Leave No Trace (LNT). Follow these principles to learn how to become a good steward of our park lands.

Plan Ahead and Prepare: Bring a map, food and water, and anything else you'll need. Ride the propane-powered Island Explorer shuttle bus to your destination.

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces: Stay on trails and durable surfaces like bare granite to protect fragile plant life. Camp in designated campgrounds only. Do not swim in bodies of water marked as water supplies.

Dispose of Waste Properly: Pack it in; pack it out. Carry out anything you brought into the park. Better yet, carry out any litter you find, too!

Leave What You Find: Removing natural and historic objects like beach cobbles, flowers, marine life, and antlers not only destroys natural resources, but also is illegal. Cairns, or trail markers, are carefully maintained by the park; please do not add to or remove them.

Minimize Fire Impacts: Fires are permitted in designated locations, such as campgrounds and picnic areas.

Respect Wildlife: Don't approach or feed wild animals.

Be Considerate: Pay attention to others. Keep your dog on a leash, let natural sounds prevail, and limit your group size.

You can learn more about these Leave No Trace principles on the park website at www.nps.gov/acad/supportyourpark/leavenotrace.htm.

Park Accessibility

Acadia National Park is constantly striving to improve its accessible facilities and services so that all visitors have access to park resources. A complete list of accessible options is featured in the Access Guide, available online at www.nps.gov/acad/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm or at the visitor center and other park contact stations.

Accessibility highlights include:

- Accessible interpretive programs, marked by the universal access symbol, are listed in the monthly program schedule.
- Assistive listening devices (ALDs) are available for use at park programs by visitors with limited hearing. A transmitter broadcasts the ranger's voice directly into the ears of individuals equipped with a receiver which improves hearing and understanding. The ALDs are available by reservation for any interpretive program. For more information, call 207-288-3338 and press "0" Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- The accessible trail atop Cadillac Mountain permits access to a portion of the park's highest summit. Follow this short trail for scenic views of Frenchman Bay, the Porcupine Islands, and the town of Bar Harbor.
- The introductory video at Hulls Cove Visitor Center features audio description and captioning.



These are only a few of the accessible options available in the park. Contact a park ranger if you have any questions.



Cadillac North Ridge Trail Hikers

Parking is very limited. Go green and take the Island Explorer bus (Park Loop Road - Route 4). Last bus departs from trailhead at 4:20 p.m.

Go Green - Ride the Bus

Fare-free Island Explorer buses operate throughout Mount Desert Island, linking the park to neighboring village centers. By parking your car and riding these propane-powered buses, you help reduce traffic congestion, parking, and air pollution problems on the island.

Pick up a copy of the bus schedule at the visitor center. You can also flag down the bus anywhere it is safe to stop along its route. When planning your trip, remember that the Island Explorer does not service Cadillac Mountain. Your entrance fee supports this service. *Island Explorer service ends on October 11.*

Enhance Your Visit



Eastern National operates educational bookstores in several locations throughout the park. Stop and shop for books, maps, videos and more. Members and teachers earn discounts and support research and education in the park. For more information, visit www.easternnational.org.

The Acadia Corporation operates shops at Cadillac Mountain, Thunder Hole, and Jordan Pond. Visit the Jordan Pond House (207-276-3316) for tea and popovers on the lawn, a tradition since the late 19th century, or a full lunch or dinner. Closes for the season on October 25 (open 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. only October 17-25).

Carriages of Acadia, Inc. (877-276-3622), the new concessioner at Wildwood Stables, offers narrated tours of the park's historic carriage roads on horse-drawn carriages. Two accessible carriages are available. Private tours and stabling for your personal horse are also available. Closes for the season October 24, weather permitting.

Two companies offer narrated bus tours of the park—perfect if you wish to sit back and relax as you learn. Both tours begin and end in Bar Harbor and include a stop on Cadillac Mountain, and other popular sights. Reservations recommended.

- National Park Tours (207-288-0300) offers 2½-hour tours.
- Oli's Trolley (207-288-9899) offers both 1-hour and 2½-hour tours.

Tidepool Tips

The zone where ocean meets land—the intertidal zone—is one of the most fascinating areas in Acadia. Here you can see creatures with amazing survival skills that allow them to stay alive when, twice each day, the tide leaves them exposed. These marine organisms are not indestructible, however. Our careless handling and footsteps can do damage that the changing tides cannot. When you are near the water, keep these safety tips in mind:

- Watch for waves and where you walk—it's slippery by the sea.
- Animals are fragile—be sure to leave them be.
- Three points of contact, with arms and feet around, will help keep you firmly connected to the ground.
- Explore the world around you and use your senses as a guide. Give the animals a moment, they really love to hide.
- Return all the creatures, from where they once were found, take a moment to tuck them in with seaweed safe and sound.



Friends of Acadia is a private, nonprofit organization dedicated to

ensuring the long-term protection of the natural and cultural resources of Acadia National Park and its region. To meet this mission, Friends of Acadia channels private donations to conservation and historic preservation projects in the park, monitors planning and legislative activities affecting Acadia, and sponsors volunteers in Acadia.

For more information about Friends of Acadia, please contact:

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