



Camping in the Apostle Islands



Camping in Apostle Islands National Lakeshore requires a permit. Permits are available online through Recreation.gov. This fee-based permit system allows campers to reserve campsites in advance.

Campsite descriptions and photos are available at go.nps.gov/ApostleCamping and at www.recreation.gov. Use the information on the following pages to help plan your visit.

To make camping reservations on-line, search for “*Apostle Islands National Lakeshore Camping Permits*” at www.recreation.gov.

To make reservations or for help planning a trip, call 715-779-3397 ext. 2 between 8 am and 4:30 pm (Central Time).

CAMPING IN THE LAKESHORE

Permits, Fees, and Reservations

Reserve individual campsites, group campsites, or primitive camping zones, before you depart for the islands. Each camping permit may cover up to 14 consecutive nights. All permits are for the specific campsite assigned on the permit, except in Primitive Camping Zones. Primitive Camping Zones are island specific.

Individual campsites accommodate up to seven campers (all ages) and three tents. They may be reserved starting 30 days before the start of a trip for a fee of \$15/site/night. Group campsites accommodate a party of 8-21 campers and cost \$30/site/night. They may be reserved beginning in March through the Group Camping Lottery. There is a \$10 reservation fee for each trip. Fees must be paid when the reservation is made.

Permits are required and may be printed online seven days prior to the start of a trip. The confirmation email from recreation.gov is not the actual camping permit. Permits may be picked up in person at the Lakeshore's headquarters visitor center in Bayfield.

Permits are non-transferrable. If anyone in the party fails to comply with the conditions of the permit, legal responsibility will be applied to the individual, group, organization, or commercial entity whose name appears on the permit.

Refunds and Itinerary Changes

A 50% refund of the nightly camping fees may be issued for a cancellation of an entire trip, if cancelled before the start of the trip. The \$10 reservation fee is non-refundable. No refunds are issued for partial cancellations. No refunds are issued after a trip starts.

If itinerary changes are necessary during a trip, campers may contact park staff by phone (715-779-3397x2), in person at the Bayfield Visitor Center or online via Recreation.gov.

No charges will apply for changes made due to severe weather conditions, campsite closures, or if the Apostle Islands Cruises Camper Shuttle is cancelled. Campers

choosing to make itinerary changes for other reasons within seven days of the beginning of the trip or during the trip will be charged a \$15 fee each time they change the itinerary.

Primitive Camping Zones

Camping is available outside of individual or group campsites on all islands except Devils, Eagle, Gull, Long, and York. Primitive camping zones have been established on the rest of the islands for visitors seeking a remote backcountry experience. Primitive camping zone maps are available on the park's website at go.nps.gov/ApostleCamping. A fee of \$15/party/night will be charged. Only one camping party will be allowed per night in most camping zones. Primitive camping zones on Oak, Outer, and Stockton islands can have two parties per night. Primitive camping zones are limited to a maximum of five campers. Use backpacking stoves for cooking and practice "Leave No Trace" camping techniques, including not camping in the same spot recently used by someone else.

Note: Most of the best landing areas already have an individual or group campsite nearby. It may be challenging to find a landing spot when using a zone.

The following areas are CLOSED to camping:

- * Areas excluded from primitive camping zones and closed to camping to protect sensitive natural and cultural resources.
- * Areas posted as closed to protect bird nesting areas and threatened or endangered species.
- * Areas in view of any designated trail.
- * Areas within 1/4 mile of any building, historic structure, individual or group campsite, or another camping party.
- * Areas within 100 feet of a flowing stream.
- * Private land or lease holdings.

Campsite Amenities

All individual and group campsites include a fire-ring and at least one bear proof box. Other amenities are listed in the chart to the right.

LEAVE NO TRACE CAMPING PRACTICES

Fires

Build campfires in fire receptacles where provided or on a sand beach near the water's edge, below the vegetation line. Fires are not allowed on beaches on Raspberry Island, Julian Bay, and Presque Isle Bay on Stockton Island, or on beaches within 150 feet of campsites where fire receptacles are provided. Beach and camp fires may not be larger than 3 feet in height or diameter. To prevent transporting invasive species, do not transport firewood to or between islands in the national lakeshore. Use dead wood on the ground for firewood. Chainsaws cannot be operated in the national lakeshore.

Do not leave fires unattended. Extinguish fires before leaving the area. Fires are not permitted in portable grills or stoves on docks, or topside areas of boats tied to public docks. Open fires will be prohibited when fire danger is high.

Tent Pads

Place tents on tent platforms or within tent pads where they are provided at sites.

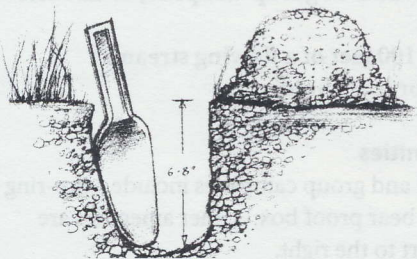
Garbage/Refuse

Carry your garbage/refuse out of the park. Do not dispose of garbage in toilets, bury it, burn it, or throw it in the lake.

Human Waste

Use vault toilets or stump privies where provided. Otherwise, take care to dispose of human waste properly.

1. Be 200 feet from the nearest campsites and the nearest body of water.
2. Dig a hole at least six inches deep.
3. Cover your hole thoroughly when finished.
4. Bag toilet paper and pack it out.



Water

Potable water may be available at Little Sand Bay, East Bay Sand Island, and at Presque Isle Bay on Stockton Island. Be prepared to boil water from the lake for at least two minutes or filter it with an adequate filter (0.4 microns pore size) before use to eliminate waterborne organisms such as Giardia l., a microorganism which causes a severe intestinal disorder. Please do not use or dispose of any type of soap within 100 feet of any water source.

Pets

Pets must be kept on a leash that is six feet or shorter, and never left unattended. Pet excrement must be immediately collected and disposed of in the nearest trash receptacle or buried in a forested area using a small hole dug in soil at least six inches deep, at least 200 feet from any trail, campsite, beach, dock, or water source. Pets are not allowed in public buildings or on scheduled Apostle Islands Cruises trips (except service animals with proper certification).



Quiet Hours

To insure a quality camping experience, quiet hours are enforced from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.

Insects and Ticks

Biting insects can be prevalent from June to September. Wearing pants and long sleeved shirts provides some protection from mosquitoes, flies, and ticks. Insect repellents are helpful. The tick that transmits Lyme disease and Ehrlichiosis is found in the park, so check yourself frequently. If you notice a rash, flu-like symptoms, or pain in the joints following a tick bite, call your physician.

Protecting Your Park

Beaches and sandspits are some of the park's most popular attractions. They also support fragile plant communities. Please use established trails, boardwalks, and sand ladders. Do not trample beach grasses and lichens. The islands provide homes for many bird and animal species. Please observe wildlife from a distance. Help keep the area's historic record intact by leaving artifacts where you find them.



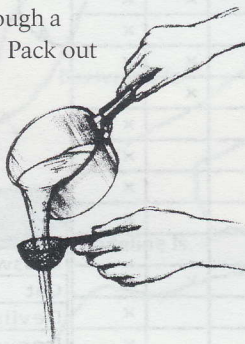
BEAR PRECAUTIONS

Black bears may be on any of the Apostle Islands, but are most common on Oak, Sand, Manitou, and Stockton islands. To avoid a close encounter:

- Make noise when you hike. Travel in groups on established trails.
- Watch for bear signs such as tracks, scat, claw marks on trees, diggings, and torn-up stumps.

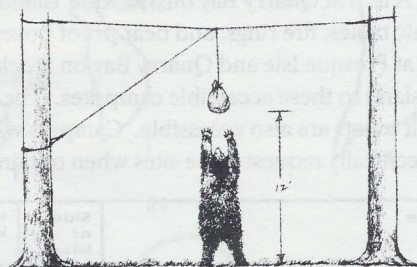
Reduce Food Odors

- Avoid strong smelling foods.
- Do not cook in, or take food, garbage, dish towels, or toiletries into a tent.
- When cooking, wipe your hands on a small hand towel and store it with your food.
- Separate kitchen and sleeping areas.
- Wash dishes and clean the site after cooking.
- Wastewater from cleaning dishes attracts bears. Use minimal amounts of water to clean dishes.
- Wastewater must be filtered through a strainer to remove food particles. Pack out food scraps with other garbage.
- Strained wastewater must be broadcast on the ground at least 50 yards from camp or disposed of in a vault toilet.



Store Food Securely

- All food, beverage containers, garbage, cooking materials, condiments, utensils, and toiletries (such as toothpaste or soap) must be secured from wildlife. Bear proof lockers are provided for this purpose at all designated campsites.
- Where lockers are not available, campers should hang their food and related items in a tree away from their tent, at least 10-12 feet from the ground and five feet away from the trunk. Suspending the food cache



between two trees or counterbalancing two bags over a branch are effective methods.

- Cook stoves may not be left unattended until they have been cleaned of food scraps.
- Never leave food or water bottles unattended.

If You Encounter A Bear...

- Never approach a bear, even to take pictures. Keep at least 50 yards away.
- Never feed a bear.

...In The Backcountry

- Walk away while facing the bear.
- Do not look directly in the bear's eyes.
- Speak quietly, act passively, letting the bear know you are not a threat. Leave the area.
- If the bear approaches, wave arms and talk louder so the bear can identify you as a human.

...In A Visitor Use Area (campsite, dock, picnic area)

- Make yourself look as big as possible. Show that you are in charge by using a loud/strong voice.
- Bang pots, yell, make noise until the bear leaves the area.
- Put food and trash away.
- Throwing small rocks in the direction of the bear should be done with caution. Do not try to hit the bear.
- Report the encounter to park staff as soon as possible.

...And The Bear Acts Aggressively Towards You

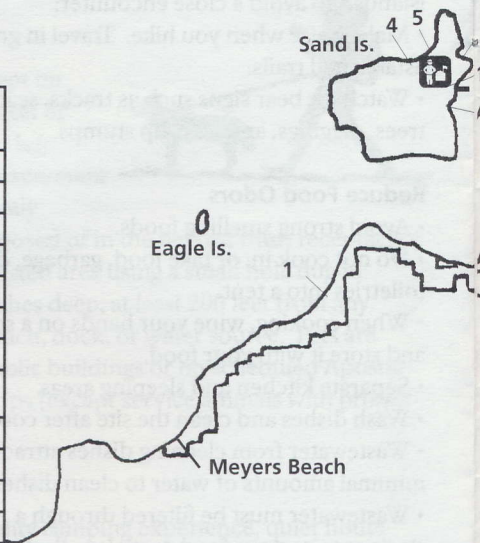
- Leave the area immediately. Do not run.
- Report the encounter to park staff as soon as possible.

CAMPING PRACTICES

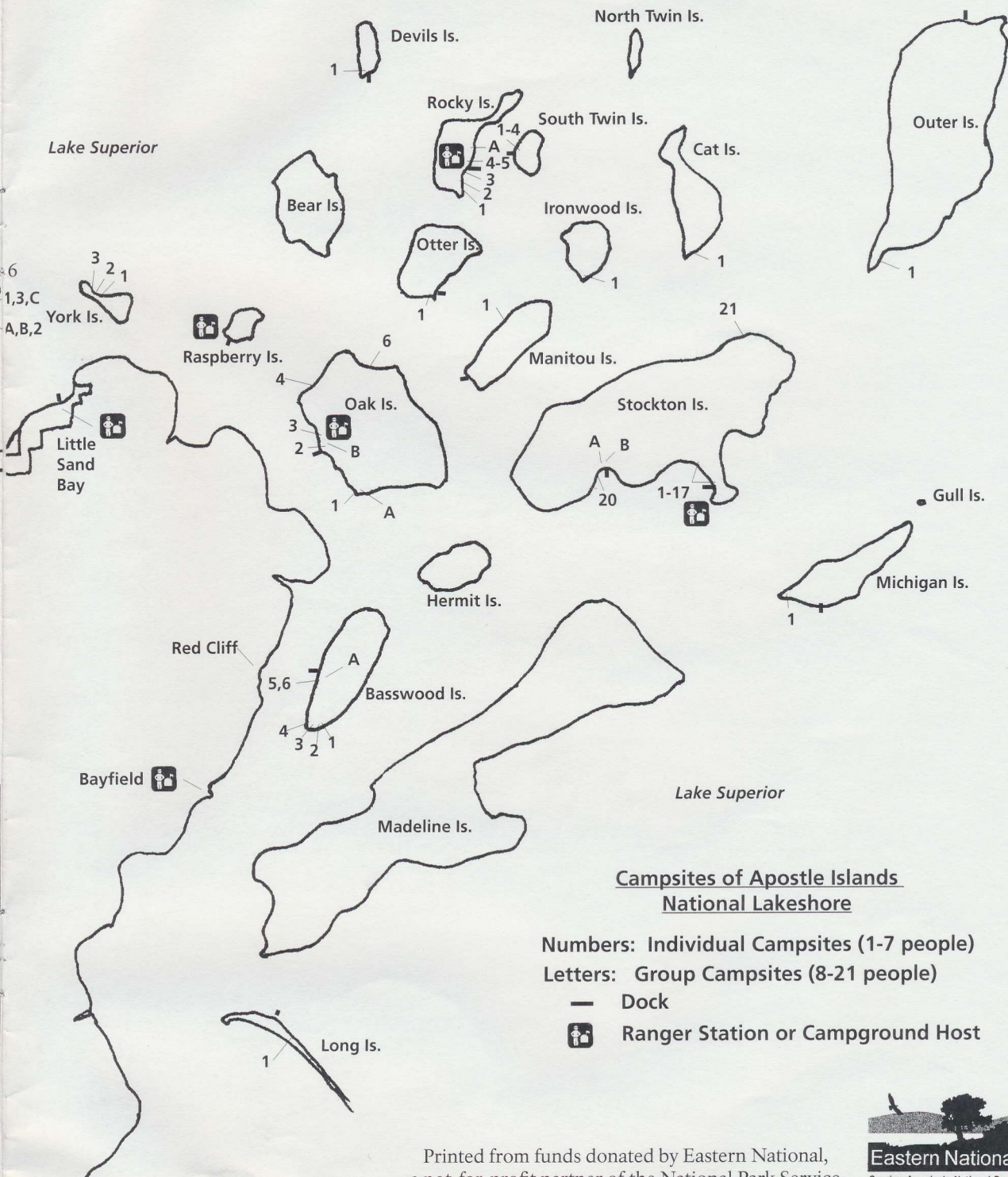
Accessibility

Campsite #1 at Stockton Island's Presque Isle campground, campsite #3 at Sand Island East Bay, group campsite C at Sand Island East Bay, and group campsites A & B at Quarry Bay on Stockton Island feature accessible tent pads, picnic tables, fire rings, and bear proof boxes. A boardwalk leads from the docks at Presque Isle and Quarry Bay on Stockton Island and at East Bay on Sand Island to these accessible campsites. The routes from the campsites to the vault toilets are also accessible. Campers with mobility impairments should specifically request these sites when obtaining a permit.

| Campsite | Side of Island | Seasonal Water | Vault Toilet | Tent Pad | Picnic Table |
|--|----------------|----------------|--------------|----------|--------------|
| Basswood 1-4: South end of island | South | | X | X | X |
| Basswood 5, 6: 200 yards south of dock | West | | X | X | X |
| Basswood Group A: 200 yards south of dock | West | | X | X | X |
| Cat 1: Near sandspit | South | | X | X | |
| Devils 1: Near dock | South | | X | | X |
| Ironwood 1: Near sandspit | South | | X | X | |
| Long 1: 0.5 miles SE of LaPointe Light | North | | X | X | X |
| Mainland 1: Lakeshore Trail, 5 mi. from trailhead | North | | X | X | X |
| Manitou 1: Beach 2 mi. N of fish camp | NW | | X | | X |
| Michigan 1: Sandspit 1 mi. W of lighthouse | SW | | X | | X |
| Oak 1: Sandspit, 1.5 mi. SE of dock | South | | X | X | X |
| Oak 2: 200 yards west of dock | SW | | X | | X |
| Oak 3: 0.25 mi. west of dock | SW | | | X | X |
| Oak 4: NW beach, 2.8 mi. from dock | NW | | X | X | X |
| Oak 6: North bay, 3.9 mi. from dock | North | | X | | X |
| Oak Group A: Clearing near sandspit | South | | X | | X |
| Oak Group B: Near dock | SW | | X | | X |
| Otter 1: Sandspit near dock | South | | X | | X |
| Outer 1: East side of sandspit | South | | X | | |
| Rocky 1-5: Within 0.5 mi. of NPS dock | East | | X | X | X |
| Rocky Group A: 0.25 mi. north of NPS dock | East | | X | | X |
| Sand 1, 2: East Bay | East | X | X | | X |
| Sand 3: East Bay | East | X | X | X | X |
| Sand 4, 5: Lighthouse Bay | North | | X | | X |
| Sand 6: Justice Bay | NE | | X | | X |
| Sand Group A, B: East Bay | East | X | X | | X |
| Sand Group C: East Bay | East | X | X | X | X |
| South Twin 1-4: Sandspit near dock | West | | X | X | X |
| Stockton 1-17: Presque Isle Bay | South | X | X | X | X |
| Stockton 20: Quarry Bay | South | | X | X | X |
| Stockton 21: Trout Point | NE | | | X | X |
| Stockton Group A & B: Quarry Bay | South | | X | X | X |
| York 1-3: North beach | North | | X | | |



| Island | Acres | Miles of Trails |
|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Basswood | 1917 | 7.2 |
| Cat | 1348 | 0 |
| Devils | 318 | 1 |
| Ironwood | 659 | 0 |
| Mainland | 2568 | 4.5 |
| Manitou | 1363 | 2.75 |
| Michigan | 1578 | 1.5 |
| Oak | 5078 | 11.85 |
| Otter | 1333 | 1.9 |
| Outer | 8000 | 8.7 |
| Rocky | 1100 | 1.9 |
| Sand | 2949 | 2.6 |
| South Twin | 360 | 0.35 |
| Stockton | 10054 | 14.5 |
| York | 321 | 0 |
| Long | 338 | 0 |
| Total | 39284 | 58.75 |



Campsites of Apostle Islands
National Lakeshore

Numbers: Individual Campsites (1-7 people)

Letters: Group Campsites (8-21 people)

— Dock



Ranger Station or Campground Host