



# Around the Archipelago

# 2016 National Park Service CENTENNIAL FIND YOUR PARK

## The National Park Service Turns 100

IT WAS KIND OF A ROCKY START. IN THE 44 YEARS following the establishment of Yellowstone as the world's first "national park" in 1872, the United States authorized 34 additional national parks and monuments, but no single agency provided unified management of the varied federal park lands.

On August 25, 1916, President Woodrow Wilson signed the act creating the National Park Service (NPS), a new federal bureau in the Department of the Interior responsible for protecting the 35 national parks and monuments then managed by the department and those yet to be established. This "Organic Act" states that "the Service thus established shall promote and regulate the use of the Federal areas known as national parks, monuments and reservations... by such means and measures as... to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

August 25, 2016 is the centennial anniversary of the National Park Service. Our first hundred years have seen many challenges, changes, and accomplishments. The NPS is pulling out all the stops to honor its history, but also set the stage for preserving and managing the national park system in the future. Our goal for the centennial is to "connect with and create the next generation of park visitors, supporters and advocates."

One way we are celebrating the centennial is with Find Your Park ([www.findyourpark.com](http://www.findyourpark.com)), a public awareness and education campaign to reintroduce the NPS to all Americans. Find Your Park encourages people to find their own personal connections within the network of national parks and public lands, whether it's a local park or one of the "crown jewel" national parks.

In September 2015, the President launched the Every Kid in a Park initiative to provide an opportunity for every 4th grade student across the country to experience their federal public lands and



Top: Fourth graders from the Bayfield School show off their new "Every Kid in a Park" passes providing free access to national parks for the 2015-16 school year. Bottom: Apostle Islands National Lakeshore celebrates the NPS Centennial in the Bayfield Apple Festival parade.



waters in person throughout the 2015-2016 school year. All kids in the fourth grade now have access to their own Every Kid in a Park pass at [www.everykidinapark.gov](http://www.everykidinapark.gov). This pass provides free access to national parks, national forests, national wildlife refuges, and more!

All the parks in the system are also planning special events to celebrate the centennial. Review the sidebar on this page to see what is planned at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore this year. The work of leaving the parks unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations is an ongoing task...and we've just gotten started.

### Centennial Events at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore has planned a number of special events to celebrate the NPS Centennial including:

**Chequamegon Bay Birding and Nature Festival.** May 19-21. The 10th annual festival will include numerous guided trips in the park and a keynote presentation on the NPS Centennial by assistant chief of interpretation Neil Howk.

**Mural Dedication in Ashland.** June 25th at 11 am. A permanent, outdoor, public mural celebrating the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore will be completed and dedicated in a public ceremony in the park's newest gateway community of Ashland, WI. This is a partnership of the NPS, the Friends of the Apostle Islands, the city of Ashland, and the Ashland Mural Walk Project ([www.visitashland.com/murals](http://www.visitashland.com/murals)).

**National Park Service Trivia Contest: Battle of the Gateway Communities.** July 4 at 7 pm at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center in Ashland. Cheer on two teams of representatives from local communities as they test their knowledge of the National Park system.

**World Ranger Day.** July 31st. Apostle Islands National Lakeshore will show the film "Thin Green Line" at the Bayfield visitor center. The film shines light on worldwide conservation efforts. A wayside exhibit about the dedication and sacrifice of the world's rangers dedicated at the 8th World Ranger Congress in May will be unveiled on the grounds of the Visitor Center.

**Bayfield Apple Festival.** October 7-9. The NPS Centennial is the theme of the 2016 Apple Festival. Apostle Islands National Lakeshore will staff a booth during the festival and prepare entries for the venetian boat parade and the Apple Fest parade.

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### 4 Park News



What am I?



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

## Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

Wisconsin's northernmost landscape meets Lake Superior in the Apostle Islands archipelago. The area's scenic, historical, biological, and recreational values were recognized in 1970 when Congress named 20 of the 22 islands and 2,500 acres of the Bayfield peninsula as a national lakeshore. In 1986, Long Island was also included. The Gaylord Nelson Wilderness, including 33,500 acres of the lakeshore, was established in 2004. The Ashland Harbor Light was added in 2015.

### Superintendent

Bob Krumenaker

### Mailing Address

Apostle Islands National Lakeshore  
415 Washington Avenue  
Bayfield, WI 54814

### Phone/Website/Email

(715)779-3397  
www.nps.gov/apis/  
APIS\_Webmaster@nps.gov  
(800) 877-8339 TTY (Calls are relayed using specially trained assistants.)

### Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/apostleislandsnationalakeshore>

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.



# Fees Change in 2016

FOLLOWING EXTENSIVE PUBLIC input, changes to recreational fees at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore went into effect January 1, 2016. Most of the fee revenue collected at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore stays in the park and is used for critical and highly visible projects to benefit the public and to provide additional services needed during ice cave events.

### Park Fees

#### Camping

Camping reservation fee	\$10/trip
Individual site or zone:	\$15/night
Group site:	\$30/night

#### Docking (between 6 pm and 6 am)

Boats less than 40 feet:	\$15
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Boats 40 feet or more:	\$30
<b>Parking</b>	
Meyers Beach day use, vehicle less than 20' (including trailer):	\$5
Meyers Beach day use, vehicle 20' or more:	\$8
Meyers Beach annual parking pass (cost based on vehicle length):	\$25-40
Bayfield Headquarters overnight or special event:	\$10
<b>Guided tours/interpretive programs</b>	
Per child:	\$3
Per adult:	\$5
Per immediate family:	\$10

**Make camping reservations on-line at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).**



Camping is available on 19 of the lakeshore's 21 islands and at one campsite on the mainland. Permits are required for all camping in the national lakeshore. To make camping reservations on-line, go to [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov), and search for "Apostle Islands National Lakeshore Camping Permits". To make reservations by phone, call 877-444-6777 between 9 am and 9 pm (Central Time), or for help planning a trip, call 715-779-3397 ext. 1 between 8 am and 4:30 pm (Central Time).

The Golden Age Passport or Interagency Senior Pass (for U.S. citizens 62 or older) and Golden Access Passport or Interagency Access Pass (for permanently disabled U.S. citizens) provide a 50% discount on camping, docking, parking and guided tours at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

**Far left:** User fees are charged for docking at park docks for more than 30 minutes between 6 pm and 6 am.

**Near left:** Fees are also charged for guided tours like at the Raspberry Island Lighthouse.

## Planning a Visit / Essential Information

### Headquarters Visitor Center

Open Mon-Fri 8 am to 4:30 pm, May 2-May 27  
Open Daily 8 am to 4:30 pm, May 28-Sept. 30  
October 1-May, 2017 (call or go to <https://www.nps.gov/apis/planyourvisit/hours.htm> to determine availability)

### Little Sand Bay Visitor Center

Open Daily 9 am to 5 pm, June 18-Sept. 5 (as staff is available)

### Sailing and Boating

The Apostle Islands offer outstanding boating opportunities. Public docks are found on 13 of the islands in the national lakeshore. Space is reserved at some docks for National Park Service (NPS) vessels and excursion boats. The remaining space is available to the public on a first come, first served basis. A fee is charged to dock for more than 30 minutes between 6 pm and 6 am (see fee chart at the top of the page). Public boat launches (non-NPS) are located in Ashland, Bayfield, Cornucopia, Little Sand Bay, Red Cliff, and Washburn. The cost is \$12/launch in Bayfield, \$6/launch at Little Sand Bay, \$5/launch at Red Cliff. All watercraft must be decontaminated before launching in the lake. Marinas are in Ashland, Bayfield, Cornucopia, LaPointe, Pikes Bay, Port Superior, Red Cliff, Roys Point, Schooner Bay, and Washburn.

### Personal Watercraft (Jet skis)

The use of personal watercraft is not allowed within the national lakeshore's boundaries.

### Paddling

Sea kayaks are very popular for travel among the Apostle Islands. To prevent the spread of the deadly VHS virus, all watercraft must be decontaminated before launching in the lake. Two kayak launch points are located within the national lakeshore's mainland unit. Meyers Beach is a popular spot to begin a tour to the mainland sea caves. There is a day use parking fee at Meyers Beach. A kayak launch is located west of the NPS dock at Little Sand Bay. There is no fee for launching at Little Sand Bay. It costs \$5 to launch a kayak in Red Cliff and \$7 in Bayfield. For more information go to [www.nps.gov/apis/planyourvisit/kayaking.htm](http://www.nps.gov/apis/planyourvisit/kayaking.htm)

### Island Tours/Shuttles

Apostle Islands Cruises (an authorized National Park Service concessionaire) offers a variety of nonstop sightseeing excursions and island shuttles. Their office is located in the Bayfield Pavilion near the Bayfield city dock. All cruises depart from Bayfield. Reservations are recommended. For more information call 800-323-7619 or visit on-line at [www.apostleisland.com](http://www.apostleisland.com)

### Collecting

Native fruits (except apples), nuts, and berries not from plants listed as threatened or endangered species may be collected in quantities up to one gallon per person per week. Up to five gallons of apples per person per week may be harvested in the park. All edible mushrooms not listed as threatened or endangered species may be collected in quantities up to one gallon per person per week. The gathering of fruits, nuts, berries, apples and mushrooms by hand in the quantities identified will not have an adverse affect on the various plant species. Fruits and nuts collected in the park must be for personal use only. Wildflowers may NOT be collected in the park.

### Firearms

Federal law allows people who can legally possess firearms under federal, Wisconsin, and local laws to possess firearms in Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. It is the visitor's responsibility to understand and comply with all applicable firearms laws. Federal law prohibits firearms in certain facilities in this park; those places are posted with signs at public entrances.

### Fishing and Hunting

A Wisconsin fishing license with a Great Lakes trout and salmon stamp is required for fishermen 16 or older. Sport fishermen are drawn to the Apostle Islands region by the opportunities to catch lake trout, rainbow trout, brown trout, and coho salmon. Emergency restrictions were implemented in 2008 to prevent the spread of the deadly VHS virus. More information is available on our website at [www.nps.gov/apis/planyourvisit/fishing.htm](http://www.nps.gov/apis/planyourvisit/fishing.htm)

Hunting activity may occur in the national lakeshore from September (after Labor Day) through May 15. Archery hunts for island deer run from mid-September to the end of September and from the beginning of November through December. There is a muzzle loader season during the month of October on all islands except Long. A free access permit is required for most hunting on the islands. For detailed information go to <https://www.nps.gov/apis/planyourvisit/hunting.htm>. All hunting is in compliance with federal, state, and tribal laws.

### Accessibility

- The Headquarters visitor center in Bayfield offers accessible parking, a ramped entry on the west side of the building, power operated door openers, accessible restrooms, an auditorium with a hearing assistance system, and an accessible exhibit area.
- The Little Sand Bay visitor center has accessible parking, a ramped entry to the visitor center, an accessible exhibit area, and accessible restrooms.
- Campsite #1 at Stockton Island's Presque Isle campground and the group campsites at Quarry Bay feature an accessible boardwalk from the dock to the campsites. Accessible campsites are also planned for Sand Island this year. Campers with mobility impairments should specifically request these sites when obtaining a permit.
- Apostle Islands Cruises can accommodate visitors with mobility impairments. Deckhands will assist visitors onto the main deck of the boat. The *Island Princess* includes an accessible toilet room and accessible seating spaces. The *Superior Princess* and the *Ashland Bay Express* can accommodate wheelchairs up to 30" wide.

### Guided Lighthouse Tours and Campfire Programs

Ranger-guided tours of the Raspberry Island lighthouse will be offered daily between 9 am and 4:30 pm from June 18 through mid-September. Park staff may be available to conduct guided tours of the lighthouses at Devils, Michigan, and Sand islands from late June to early September. Tours will generally be available daily on request from about 9 am to 4:30 pm. Guided lighthouse tours cost \$3/child, \$5/adult, or \$10/immediate family.

Join park staff at the Presque Isle campfire circle on Stockton Island nightly from late June through Labor Day. The free talks last about 45 minutes and cover such topics as bears, Native American culture, wilderness, and shipwrecks. Programs start at twilight.



## ...Rules and Precautions for a Safe Trip

### Weather

Check both the nearshore (within five miles of shore) marine forecast and the open waters forecast before going out on the lake. NOAA's National Weather Service office in Duluth (<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/dlh/marine.php>) has both nearshore and open waters forecasts for Lake Superior. Marine weather forecasts are broadcast on marine band radio channel 7 -162.500 MHz. Weather information is available at ranger stations and visitor centers. Current air temperature, wind speed and direction measured at the Devils Island Light is available on the web ([http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/station\\_page.php?station=disw3](http://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/station_page.php?station=disw3)).

### Paddling

Canoes are not recommended for travel between the islands. Calm days may make canoe use possible along the mainland or island shorelines, but weather conditions can change rapidly. Sea kayaks have become very popular for travel among the islands, but may be difficult for other boaters to see. Brightly colored kayaks clustered in a group offer greater visibility. Allow plenty of time to accomplish your intended route. Beginners should not try to cover more than ten miles in a day. Inform a friend or relative of your travel plans. Kayakers should wear a personal flotation device (PFD) and use wet suits or dry suits when paddling in the Apostles. Paddlers should also pack such items as: a marine radio or cell phone, a first aid kit, extra paddle, sunscreen, insect repellent, compass, nautical charts, 50 feet of line, waterproof matches, a head lamp, dry storage containers, and provisions for at least one extra day.

### Boating

- Do not overload your boat.
- Use PFDs. Each boat must have a U.S. Coast Guard approved type I, II, or III PFD for each person on board and one throwable type IV PFD.
- All children under age 13 must wear PFDs while aboard recreational vessels underway except when in an enclosed cabin or below deck.
- Boat sober.
- Exhibit anchor lights from sunset to sunrise.
- Stay at least 100 feet from commercial fishing nets.
- Be wary of shoal areas and when beaching a boat. NPS and U.S. Coast Guard vessels provide towing only in life threatening emergency situations.
- Make sure your boat is equipped with: paddles or oars, fire extinguisher, spare propeller and shear pin, compass and nautical charts, running lights, flashlight, whistle or horn, first-aid kit, radio, an anchor with sufficient line, and a manual bailing device.

### Swimming

The average annual water temperature of Lake Superior is about 40 degrees Fahrenheit, but on calm sunny summer days, surface water temperatures in the Apostle Islands' protected shallow bays can climb into the 70s. There are no lifeguards in the national lakeshore. Swimming is done at your own risk. Swimming is not allowed within 100 feet of all harbors, public docks, and vessels secured to docks. Diving or jumping into the lake from the cliffs at Devils Island, Sand Island, or the mainland sea caves is not permitted.

### Drinking Water

Well water is only available at Little Sand Bay, on Sand Island, and at Presque Isle on Stockton Island. Water from the lake should be boiled for two minutes or filtered through an adequate filter (0.4 microns pore size) before use. This precaution eliminates many organisms including Giardia, a microorganism which causes an intestinal disorder.

### Black Bears

Stockton, Oak, and Sand islands host resident bears, but bears can swim to any of the Apostle Islands. Never approach a bear, even to take pictures. Keep at least 50 yards away. Never feed a bear. There are several ways to avoid a close encounter with a bear where you camp or picnic. Reduce food odors by washing dishes and cleaning the kitchen site after cooking. Use minimal amounts of water to clean dishes and broadcast that wastewater on the ground at least 50 yards from camp. All food, beverage containers, garbage, cooking materials, condiments, utensils, and toiletries (such as toothpaste or soap) must be secured from wildlife contact. Bear-proof lockers are provided at all designated campsites in the park. Where food lockers or closed vessels are not available, hang all

food and related items in a tree away from the tent and at least 12 feet from the ground and five feet from the trunk. Do not bury, scatter or try to burn food scraps. Bag garbage and pack it out. If you encounter a bear near a dock, campsite, or picnic area, use tone of voice and body posture to show you are in charge, yell and make noise until the bear leaves the area, then report the encounter to park staff.

### Fires

Campfires must be built within fire receptacles where provided or on the sand beach near the water's edge, below the vegetation line. Fires are not allowed on beaches at Raspberry Island; at Julian Bay and Presque Isle Bay on Stockton Island; or on beaches within 150 feet of developed areas, docks or campsites where fire receptacles are provided. Beach and camp fires may not be larger than 3 feet in height or diameter. Dead wood on the ground in forested areas or unvegetated beach areas may be collected for firewood. Firewood cannot be carried into, or between islands in, the national lakeshore. Chain saws cannot be operated in the national lakeshore. Before leaving a campfire, the fire must be extinguished and free of litter with no evidence of food that could attract wildlife. 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.

### 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 assistance dogs accompanying visually or hearing impaired people.)

### Insects and Ticks

Biting insects can be prevalent on the islands from June to September. Wearing long pants and long sleeved shirts will provide some protection from mosquitoes, biting flies, and ticks. Insect repellents are helpful. The ticks that transmit Lyme Disease and Ehrlichiosis are found in the park. If you notice a rash, flu-like symptoms, or pain in the joints following a tick bite, call your physician.

### Hazard Trees

High winds can cause even healthy trees to fall down. Beware of trees with recognizable flaws (leaning or partly uprooted, dead areas, hanging branches) near campsites, docks, outhouses, and picnic areas. Do not linger in areas adjacent to hazard trees, especially during high winds. Report any such trees near visitor use areas to park staff as soon as possible.



To avoid dangerous mishaps, paddlers should monitor weather forecasts and conditions, stay close together with their group, and know their limits.



Black bears may be found on any island. All food, beverage containers, cooking materials, garbage, etc. must be locked up **INSIDE** bear-proof food lockers except during meals. Violations are subject to fines.



Severe weather can occur with little or no warning. NPS and Coast Guard vessels provide towing only in life threatening emergency situations.



Fires must be less than 3 feet in height or diameter. Please do not leave fires smoldering or unattended.



Well water is only available in the park at Little Sand Bay, the Presque Isle campground at Stockton Island, and at this spigot at East Bay on Sand Island.

**Emergency Contacts**  
Call 715-779-3397 (day, NPS),  
or 219-395-1008 (NPS 24-hour  
dispatch),  
or 715-373-6120 (night, Bayfield County  
Sheriff),  
or 911 and specify your location (Bayfield  
or Ashland County),  
or marine channel 16.

# Park News

## Exhibits at Michigan Island Lighthouse

A series of new exhibits will be installed at the Michigan Island Lighthouse this summer. The exhibits will explain why the light was built where it is, how the light worked, and what it was like to live on the island. Volunteer lighthouse keepers will once again staff the island to greet visitors from mid-June to early September. Ranger-guided tours of the light station (fee) will be available when the cruise boat visits Michigan Island on Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from late June to Labor Day. A dedication on August 25, 2016 will celebrate the rehabilitation of the light station and installation of the new exhibits.

## American Marten Rediscovered

The Apostle Islands are home to a wide array of well-known wildlife but are also home to a little mammal that was previously thought to be extinct in Wisconsin: the American Marten (*Martes americana*). Marten were extirpated from Wisconsin in the 1920s, but reintroduced on Stockton Island by the Wisconsin Conservation Commission in the 1950s. The last sighting of these small carnivores on the islands was in 1969. . . until recently.

A combination of trail camera photographs, sightings, and genetic analysis recently confirmed the presence of the state-endangered marten on Manitou, Otter, Outer, Rocky, and Stockton islands. Park staff is working closely with UW-Madison, Northland College, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources office and the Wisconsin DNR to learn more about the occurrence, distribution, and origin of marten in the park. Genetic analysis will help determine if the marten in the park are related to the 1950s introduction, are part of an original population, or came from a mainland population. Funding from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative will allow collection of additional scat and hair samples for analysis and use of trail cameras to help understand the habits and origins of American marten in the Apostle Islands.

## “Friends” Raise Money for & Awareness of Our Park

By Erica Peterson, President of the Friends of Apostle Islands National Lakeshore

It is hard to imagine the U.S. without national parks and Lake Superior without the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. For those of us who know the Apostle Islands we are thankful that they are part of the national park system. Those 21 islands on this inland sea and their seven light stations are testimony of America's investment into places of unparalleled beauty and national significance.

Because of that designation we will always walk on their trails, anchor in their shadows, play on their sand spits and camp under their tall trees. And that is just the beginning. This summer discover the allure that has attracted both wildlife and humans for centuries. We hope that in your adventures and explorations of the Park's natural and cultural treasures you will discover the reasons why so many of us have to return season after season to paddle, sail, cruise, hike or view from afar.

In the spirit of this year's National Park Centennial Celebration - "Find YOUR Park!" And in doing, consider joining over 700

"Friends of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore" who contribute annually to the Park's well being. Their contributions and volunteerism this year include continuing landscape restoration efforts for Michigan Island light station, getting local 4th graders out in the islands for one-day field trips, upgrading the real-time wave sensor at the sea caves, co-funding a local project to build a historic skiff for Raspberry Island, supporting nomination for a national marine sanctuary that would surround the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore, and celebrating the Centennial with a large outdoor mural in Ashland.



The Friends of the Apostle Islands NL staff a booth at Canoeopia 2016 in Madison, Wisconsin.

Donors help support the "Friends" year-round fund raising efforts. Sale items, including beautiful photos of the lighthouses, can be found on their website at [www.friendsoftheapostleislands.org](http://www.friendsoftheapostleislands.org). Sign up for their newsletter and attend their special events. More importantly, gift back to the park you love and cherish, knowing that your contributions directly support the preservation and appreciation of our heritage.

## National Parks of Lake Superior Foundation

The National Parks of Lake Superior Foundation (NPLSF) is a 501 (c) 3 organization with a mission to support the five U. S. national parks on Lake Superior through fund raising and advocacy. NPLSF collaborates with the National Park Service (NPS) to identify unfunded projects at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore that will help enhance visitor experience. Last year, NPLSF provided funds to help restore the historic concrete walks at the Raspberry Island Light Station. This year's funds will support a ranger from our Costa Rican sister parks to attend the World Ranger Congress. See <http://www.nplsf.org> for more information.

## Ashland Mural Unveiled

A permanent, outdoor, public mural celebrating the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore will be completed and dedicated in a public ceremony in the park's newest gateway community of Ashland, WI on June 25. Ashland artist Susan Martinsen is designing and creating the mural. The mural is on the building housing Star Liquor at 823 Main Street West.

## Sand Island Dock and Campsite Changes in 2016

Boating access to East Bay on Sand Island will continue to be challenging for the summer of 2016. Both docks at Sand Island East Bay are unsafe and remain closed to the public. Beginning mid-summer and concluding in the late fall, a new crib style dock will be installed to replace the failing docks at East Bay. Boaters should plan on no dock availability at East Bay this summer.

Facilities project money and Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding is helping the park add new accessible campsites on Sand Island. There will be one new group campsite and one new individual site at East Bay. To prepare for this work, campsites #1 and #2 at East Bay have been relocated. In addition, two more individual campsites will be added, one at Justice Bay and one at Lighthouse Bay. Staff will also begin work in the late summer to install accessible boardwalk trail and a picnic area at East Bay.

## Little Sand Bay Visitor Center to be Replaced

After multiple rounds of public input in 2015, design is underway for a new visitor center to replace the current facility which is in poor condition. The new energy-efficient facility, which will include an expanded outdoor plaza, will honor the site's rich history in its design and exhibits. Construction is currently expected in 2017-18.



The old Michigan Island Lighthouse will have new exhibits on display this summer.



American marten have recently been identified on several of the Apostle Islands.



A mural illustrating the national lakeshore's natural features will be completed this June in Ashland.



Several new campsites will be added on Sand Island this summer.

From the Superintendent

## Preparing for the Bicentennial



by Bob Krumeraker

The National Park Service (NPS) Centennial is about creating, and reinforcing, personal connections. This and other national parks will only thrive with the support of a public that values them for more than their scenery and as a backdrop for their vacation.

A recent review of NPS policies advised that in our rapidly changing world, where the pace and extent of changes in technology, demography, development outside park boundaries, and even climate would have been inconceivable 100 years ago, the "overarching goal" should be . . . "to steward NPS resources for continuous change that is not yet fully understood, in order to preserve ecological integrity and cultural and historical authenticity, provide visitors with transformative experiences, and form the core of a national conservation land- and seascape."

Climate-driven changes are subtle, affecting water temperature, ice cover and extent, and ultimately the plants and animals that define the park ecosystem. Unquestionably the Apostle Islands will look different a century from now as a result of climate change. Fortunately, park neighbors and visitors care deeply about the Lake and this place, supporting the park staff's highly visible efforts to be out front on climate change and sustainability.

Other threats are less subtle. Developmental pressures in the watershed such as the Penokee Iron Mine -- currently on hold -- and the largest Confined Animal Feeding Operation ever proposed in the state, currently being evaluated by the Wisconsin DNR for an operating permit, pose a real risk to water quality, and by extension, the fishery and even the recreational experience.

It is critical as we enter the second century of the NPS that those who care about the park be involved in the public discussion, encouraging thoughtful decision making that weighs the risks, not just to the park, but to those quality of life values and even to the economic engine the park has become.

The world is more complicated now than it was in 1916, when the NPS was born. Our task today, with increasing urgency, is to keep (or make) the park relevant to both current and future generations, and to people of every demographic stripe, including some who don't yet know the park is there for them -- and is waiting for their engagement. For some, it's beauty or recreation or inspiration. For others, it's ecological integrity or historical authenticity, or wilderness. If they can find their park here, the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore will still be here --and thriving despite the changes -- for the NPS bicentennial 100 years from now. For more information go to <https://www.nps.gov/apis/learn/current-park-issues.htm>