

Keweenaw

Keweenaw National Historical Park
National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Wendy Davis Selected as New Park Superintendent

Wendy Davis, a 27-year veteran of the National Park Service (NPS), was selected as the new Superintendent of Keweenaw National Historical Park in Michigan. Davis began her assignment on September 12, 2016.

Davis began her career with the NPS as an archeologist in the Alaska Region in 1989. She found she was spending more time with the public, focused on education, than she was in the field. Soon she was developing curriculum for K-12, and designing interpretive publications, and exhibits for the Alaska Region. Gradually, Wendy transitioned to the NPS Interpretation and Education team in Washington D.C.

As the service-wide education coordinator, Wendy became a leader in the expansion and improvement of the NPS Junior Ranger program. Her philosophy: What we do means nothing if we cannot communicate with the rest of the world about it -- and let others, especially youth, help us discover, explore, and tell the stories of their national parks.

Ms. Davis moved to the Upper Peninsula from the east coast where she was working as the Associate Manager for Interpretive Planning at the Harpers Ferry Design Center in West Virginia. As a planner, Davis worked on interpretive plans at Keweenaw National Historical Park, “I began a project with the Keweenaw Heritage Sites almost three years ago and immediately fell in love with the place and the people, and the story of copper mining in the Upper Peninsula.”

Ms. Davis has spent her entire NPS career building and maintaining unique partnerships to accomplish shared goals and create new ways of doing business in the Service. “We are pleased to welcome Wendy as the Superintendent of Keweenaw National Historical Park,” stated Regional Director Cam Sholly. “She has a proven track record of accomplishment, along with the leadership and partnering skills necessary to guide the park into the future.”

Calumet Visitor Center

Address:
98 5th Street
Calumet, MI 49913

Hours: Nov-April
Friday-Saturday
10am to 3pm

Phone:
(906) 483-3176

Free admission to three floors of museum exhibits.

Use links below to find us at:



An Archaeologist in Your Classroom



Are your students interested in the past, but want a more hands-on way of investigating history than reading and writing? Introduce them to archeology! The National Park Service's Midwest Archeological Center (MWAC) has developed a series of lesson plans designed to help you bring this exciting science out of the field and into your classroom.

Students will learn what archeology is and what archeologists do by exploring national parks in the Midwest region. They will study artifacts, learn what cultural resources are, and discuss why it's important to preserve them for future generations. They may even discover a career path. The best part? All the materials—and the instruction!—is delivered by MWAC archeologists through videoconferencing.

Designed for second-fifth grades, the content is adaptable for middle school students.

The lesson plans are part of the NPS's distance learning program that uses new and traditional broadcast media to bring students to national parks for curriculum-based exploration and discovery. Like actual field trips, distance learning opportunities are park-based and aligned with state or national core curriculum standards and include pre and post-visit activities.

To learn how you can take advantage of this educational opportunity, visit <https://www.nps.gov/teachers/classrooms/archeointro.htm> or contact Jo Holt at 906-483-3038.

On-Line Lessons Available for Grades 2-4

Rich with history, culture, and beauty, the Keweenaw Peninsula has attracted individuals from around the world for many years and many reasons. Located in the heart of the Copper Country, Keweenaw National Historical Park offers a prime opportunity for school and youth groups to discover the area and its history by visiting and exploring exhibits in the park's Visitor Center. With displays portraying copper mining and local community life, the center becomes a perfect environment to teach and learn.

Developed by a teacher, eight lesson plans were designed, creating increased access to the parks history. Each lesson consists of pre and post-visit activities geared towards the different learning styles of elementary-age students. Options include hands-on activities, writing activities, as well as higher-level thinking discussion questions.

Preparation for educators is minimal. Background information, worksheets, and some historical photos are included in each lesson as well as links to online sources and suggested supplemental materials. Research was conducted throughout the summer and information was verified by park historians. With this in mind, educators can be confident that the material is sound and up to date. Each lesson can also be easily modified to suite educator needs without a lot of additional research.

Topics connect learners to real-world scenarios, local history, and world events. These topics include immigration, life as a miner, community life, and occupations outside of mining. In a broader scope, the lessons also reveal the influence of world events on the production of copper products, and the impact of copper mining beyond the local region.

All lesson plans are found on the Keweenaw National Historical Park website and are in a PDF format. The lessons are formatted in an easy-to-read design that lists the targeted grade level, the activities, and the length of each lesson. The park encourages educators to explore these new resources and connect future generations to the rich diversity and history of the Copper Country.



<https://www.nps.gov/kewe/learn/education/classrooms/lesson-plans.htm>

Left: Kids explore the Calumet Visitor Center during a class visit.

Join, Save, Support



Join IRKPA and save 10% on Keweenaw and Isle Royale books and other products. Your membership entitles you to savings at our sales outlets, purchases through our website and at other participating national park bookstores around the country.

By joining, you are making a direct contribution to our public lands partnered with IRKPA. Sales proceeds are combined with membership gifts to support research and educational programs pertaining to Isle Royale and Keweenaw National Historical Park. Every year (IRKPA) contributes approximately \$25,000 in cash and in-kind aid to the two parks.

This year, IPKPA is helping to support park education projects like Youth Historians and the GRACE (GIS Resources & Application for Career Education) Project.

Consider IRKPA for your holiday shopping needs. Attend the Holiday Open House December 3rd at the Calumet Visitor Center and save 10% off your total purchase!

Want a Ranger In Your Classroom?



Keweenaw National Historical Park wants to visit your fourth grade class! We want to visit every fourth grade class in Baraga, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Marquette, and Ontonagon Counties. The Every Kid in a Park Initiative was launched last year and has been renewed for the 2016-2017 school year. The Initiative provides a free Every Kid in a Park Pass that grants fourth graders entry into federally owned public lands for free.

A Keweenaw National Historical Park Ranger will visit your fourth grade classroom and hand deliver the Every Kid in a Park Pass to your students. The pass will be distributed at the end of an educational program introducing them to the National Park Service and their park pass. The ranger program fulfills Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations and lasts 40-50 minutes and may be adjusted to any learning abilities or class size.

In addition to introducing students to the National Park Service and the Every Kid in a Park program, this ranger visit will prepare your class for the 2017 Copper TRACES educational field day that will be held in Calumet, MI. This free event was held for the first time last year and reached nearly 400 students in the Upper Peninsula. This year, Keweenaw National Historical Park would like to reach twice as many students! More information regarding the 2017 Copper TRACES event will be made available to teachers in an information packet distributed at the time of the ranger visit.

To schedule this ranger visit please contact Park Ranger Emma Woodruff at: emma_woodruff@nps.gov or by calling (906)483-3042.