

Chapter 7: Recreation

Introduction

Within Burt Township there is an array of recreational facilities and attractions. This chapter will examine those opportunities that are available to residents and tourists.

Recreation Administration

Burt Township has been actively involved in the planning of recreation facilities for a number of years. Because the area economy is heavily dependent on the tourist industry, facilities for both transient visitors and local residents are a high priority. To this end, the Burt Township Board acts as the administrative body for recreation in the Township.

Two advisory committees have been established by the Burt Township Board.

Recreation Committee – Composed of Township residents who advise and recommend to the Township Board on recreation issues and needs.

Beach Access Committee – Composed of Township residents who advise and recommend to the Township Board on beach access acquisition and development, and raise funds to be used by the Township Board as matching funds for grant applications.

Burt Township employs two persons responsible for maintenance, security and operations at Township owned/operated facilities. The marina attendant is responsible for pumping gas and maintenance at the Marina. A manager at Woodland Park is responsible for its operations, assisted by a part-time seasonal (summer) laborer. The Township Supervisor is responsible for supervision of these employees.

The Township Board spends about \$40,000 per year for operations and maintenance of its facilities; the majority of which is for Woodland Park. During the past five years the Township has upgraded the ball field and constructed a bicycle/walkway, with local funds exceeding \$20,000.

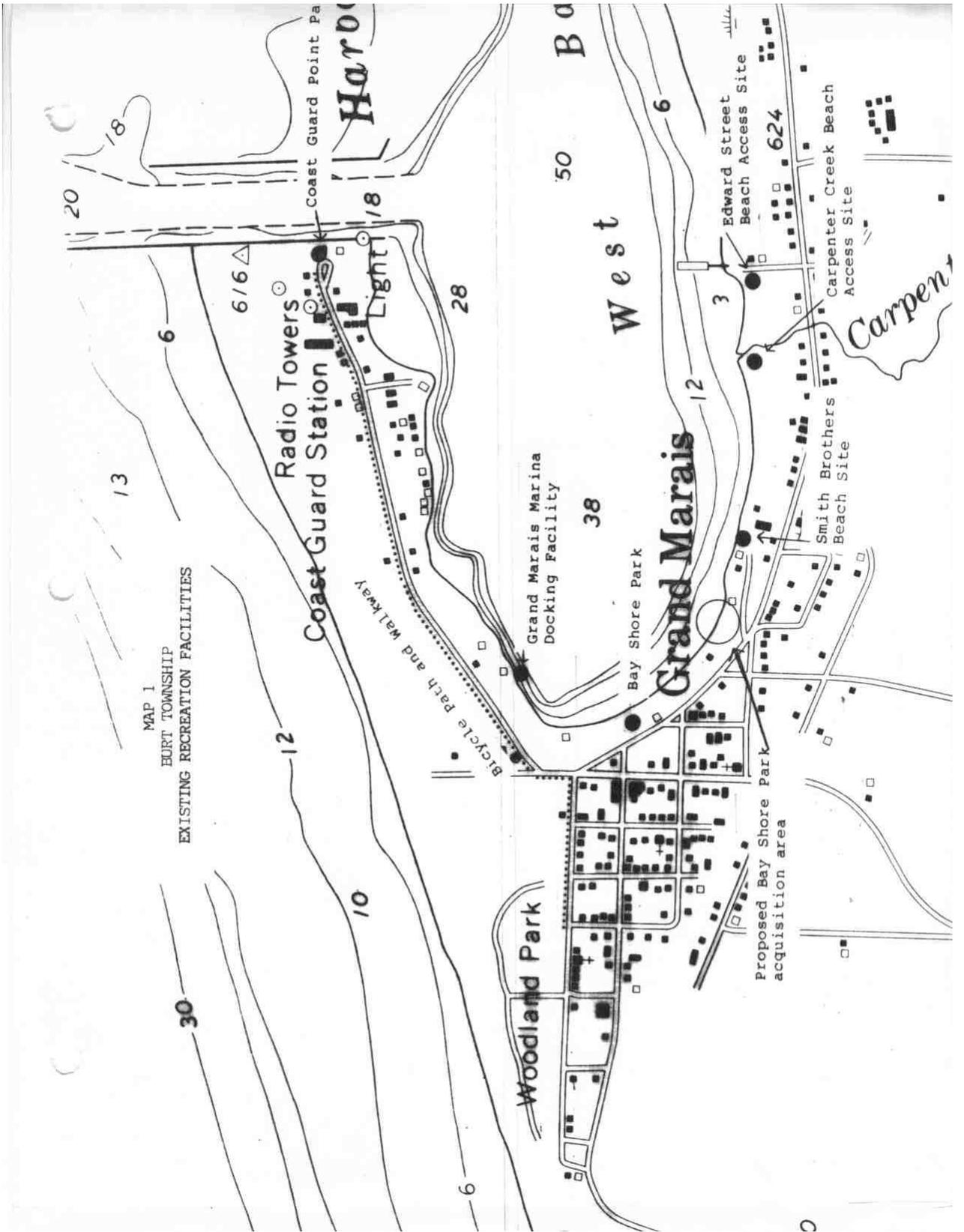
Existing Facilities and Programs

Recreational facilities in the Grand Marais area are owned and maintained by the Burt Township Board or the National Park Service, as indicated on Maps 1a and 1b.

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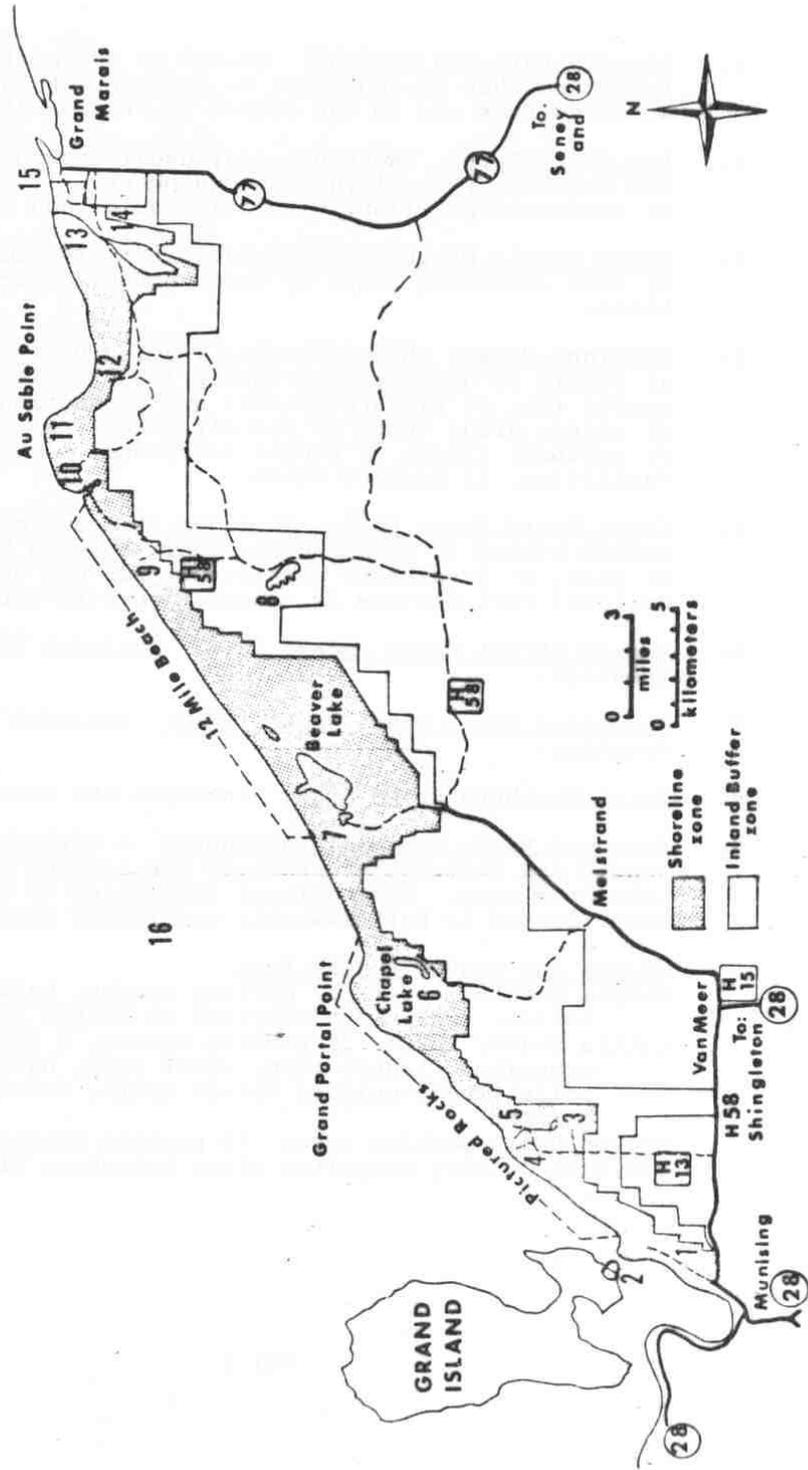


MAP 1
HURT TOWNSHIP
EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES



MAP 2
 PICTURED ROCKS NATIONAL LAKESHORE

1	Munising Falls	16	Lake Superior
2	Sand Point	15	Sable Falls Lake
3	Miner's Falls	14	Grand Sable Lake
4	Miner's Castle	13	Grand Sable Dunes
5	Miner's Beach	12	Log Slide
6	Chapel Falls	11	Au Sable Lighthouse
7	Little Beaver Lake	10	Hurricane River
8	Kingston Lake	9	Twelve-Mile Beach
9	Beaver Lake	8	Lake
10	Chapel Lake	7	Beaver Lake
11	Chapel Lake	6	Little Beaver Lake
12	Chapel Lake	5	Miner's Beach
13	Chapel Lake	4	Miner's Castle
14	Chapel Lake	3	Miner's Falls
15	Chapel Lake	2	Sand Point
16	Chapel Lake	1	Munising Falls



1. Bicycle Path and Walkway: Begins at pier on Coast Guard Point and then branches off to Agate Beach, up through Woodland Park and to the corner of Brazel Street.
2. Bay Shore Park: (West Bay [day use]) Includes a) rest room and bathhouse, b) playground equipment, c) swimming beach, d) bandstand/pavilion, e) picnic tables and grills.
3. Grand Marais Marina Docking Facility: Includes a) toilet, b) boat launching ramp, c) water and electric hookup for boats.
4. Woodland Park: (Burt Township Trailer Park) Includes a) weekly or daily camper spaces (modern sites), b) tennis courts (2), c) playground area and recreation building, d) picnic areas (both on and off sites), e) picnic grills, f) softball field, g) public telephone, h) toilet and shower facilities, i) Donahey Woods.
5. Coast Guard Point Park: Includes a) Grand Marais Historical Museum housed in former Coast Guard housing building, b) park, c) breakwater parking lot (25 car capacity) by National Park Service in cooperation with Burt Township.
6. Edward Street Beach Access Site: Includes 350 foot frontage.
7. Carpenter Creek Beach Access Site: Includes 100 foot frontage.
8. Smith Brothers Beach Site: Includes 250 foot frontage.
9. Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore: A variety of geological scenic and cultural attractions are located within the Lakeshore area. Recreational facilities of the Lakeshore area located in Burt Township are listed below:

Chapel and Beaver basins Area

Chapel parking area: 37 parking spaces, handicapped vault toilet, trail with overlook to Chapel Falls.

Little Beaver Lake: 20 parking spaces, 8 drive-in campsites, launch ramp, water pump, handicapped vault toilet, self-guiding nature trail, interpretive program circle.

Beaver Basin Parking Area: 15 parking spaces, six back country campsites along Lakeshore Trail.

Au Sable Area

Au Sable Point: Au Sable Light Station

Twelvemile Beach: 23 parking spaces, a picnic area, 37 drive-in campsites, 4 handicapped vault toilets, 3 water pumps, self-guiding nature trail, interpretive program circle.

Hurricane River: 10 parking spaces (lower), 22 drive-in campsites (10 at lower, 12 at upper), 4 picnic sites (lower), 2 handicapped vault toilets, 2 water pumps, two back country campsites along Lakeshore trail.

Recreation Needs

In order to determine the type of recreational areas and facilities which should be provided for in a given community, it is necessary to follow recreation guidelines.

The CUPPAD Regional Commission has adapted recreational guidelines from the National Recreation and Parks Association for use by rural townships. Rural recreation areas should provide recreational activities for all ages, a multi-purpose area with an athletic field for organized team sports. Areas should also be provided for passive pursuits. Recreation area guidelines are:

Population Served:	Entire Township
Accessibility:	Central to Population
Minimum Size:	5 Acres
Desirable Size:	7 – 10 Acres

However, the specific facilities to be provided should be based on the expressed desires of the residents of Burt Township.

- Through meetings with the Township's Ad Hoc Recreation Committee and at Township Board meetings where recreation facilities were discussed, the following recreation needs have been identified by township officials and the public:
- Improvements to Woodland Park, including tot lot, fitness strip, bleachers, benches, fencing, improve outfield at baseball field, surface tennis courts, outdoor basketball court, outdoor portable stage, senior citizens shuffleboard, electric and water outlets, bathhouse, lights for baseball field and tennis courts.
- Improvements to Donahey Woods area, including stairs and trails to beach, top soil at entrance, protective posts, mooring slips.
- Improvements to Marina, including additional mooring buoys, floating dock for small boats and bathhouse.
- Acquire the Pickle Barrel and preserve the structure.
- Acquire the Historical Museum.
- Develop a bicycle path and walkway to begin east of town at Ellen Street and continue along H-58 to the Burt Township Cemetery.
- Acquire additional bayshore property where appropriate in Grand Marais.

At public Township Board meetings, the board members discussed the various projects and needs for improving recreational facilities. Through consensus of the group and input from the recreation committees, the Township Board has presented a schedule for the recreation projects. The schedule is based on a number of factors, including anticipated demand, available funding and the desire to improve recreation facilities throughout town.

Recreation Development Schedule

As part of the Burt Township Recreation Plan adopted in 1990, a recreation development schedule was prepared. This schedule identifies a number of proposed projects along with an estimated cost and potential funding source. The schedule outlines projects for a five-year period (1990-1994), which is consistent with the planning period as recommended by the DNR for recreation plans.

Burt Township Recreation Development Schedule

<u>Project</u>	<u>Cost-Source</u>
Senior citizen outdoor shuffle-board (Woodland Park)	\$1,000 – Women’s Club
Landscaping (Bayshore Park)	\$2,000 - Chamber
Bathhouse (Marina)	\$90,000 - LAWCON/Local
Mooring buoys (Marina)	\$10,000 – Local
Senior Citizen outdoor area (Woodland Park)	\$5,000 Michigan Equity Grant
Bleacher benches (Woodland Park)	\$875 – Local
Bayshore Area Property Acquisition	\$60,000 – MNRTF/Local
Tourist Information Center (Woodland Park)	\$15,000 – Michigan Equity Grant / Local
Pickle Barrel Building and Property Restoration	\$50,000 – Historical Grant
West bath house, softball field lights, tennis court lights (Woodland Park)	\$130,000 – Recreation Bond/Local
Bicycle path and walkway (West town)	\$20,000 – MNRTF / Local
Marina Improvements	\$250,000 – DNR Waterways/Local