

Gull Island

Gull Island (Bellows Island) is about three miles offshore to the southeast. You'll see two chimneys that mark the remains of a stone house built in 1910 by Byron Woolsey for Professor Lee Ustick of Harvard University. The house was abandoned in the 1940s. The island is now the domain of nesting gulls and cormorants. Gull Island is now under the Leelanau Conservancy and is **off limits to visitors**. A good way to experience the island is a slow circumnavigation. Keep well-clear of the shore so nesting birds are not disturbed. Bring binoculars and camera. When upwind of the island, you'll have a clear, quiet, odorless and bug-free view. Downwind can be quite the opposite, so choose your route and speed carefully. Also be aware of shallows and large rocks. If sailing, the island often generates some very unpredictable winds – in the afternoon on sunny days all winds tend to blow toward the island!



Ustick House on Gull Island – 1966

Kayaks, Canoes & Rowboats

Non-motorized boats only on these lakes

Kehl Lake (Leg Lake):

This is a small lake within Leelanau Conservancy land. You can shore launch and store your boat at the end of Kehl Rd.

Mud Lake (Woolsey Lake):

This is a larger lake within the State Park. It's shallow and can be accessed off Densmore Road from the parking circle, just off CR629, four miles from town.

Northport Bay Yacht Club - Sailing

Each season, Northport Bay Yacht Club sponsors **ten races on Saturday and ten Tuesday evening races**. Racing is informal and collegial. Cruising boats get very generous handicaps to encourage participation. The **Applebee Series** consist of ten races with two throw out races, each starting at 1p on Saturdays, as of 6/23/18.

Tuesday evening **Sutton Olympic Series**
6p races start June 19 thru August 28.

Access northportbyc.org for further details re: skipper's meetings, course, location, handicaps, start times, etc. Email NBVC2015@hotmail.com with questions.

Crew volunteers (all races) may send a brief summary of experience and contact information to NBVC2015@hotmail.com

Race winners receive flags &/or ribbons; season winners receive vociferous accolades and special awards.

Never raced your boat but like to try it? We can put an expert on board with you till you feel comfortable and enjoy it.

NORTHPORT



BOATING, SAILING & FISHING

G. Marsten Dame Marina

105 Rose Street 231-386-5411
Northport's marina is a DNR harbor of refuge and has large transient capacity. Pump out service, fuel and ice.

Northport Youth Sailing School

105 Bay Street 231-386-7401
The Northport Youth Sailing School conducts classes for youth 8 to 18 years old. Each session is ½ day, morning or afternoon, Monday – Friday. "Come Sail With Us."

There are ten sessions available (AM or PM):
July 2,3,5 & 6 July 9--13
July 16--20 July 23—July 27
July 30--August 3

Beginner, intermediate and advanced instruction is available. NYSS classes are taught by certified US Sailing instructors. The school uses Optimist dinghies for beginners; Laser Picos and Lasers for more advanced students. Classes are \$175 per session.

Scholarships are available.
northportsailing.org

Miscellaneous

Fuel:

- In the water at the Marina
- Deep's Corner Store (gas station)

Marine Supplies:

Northport Bay Boat Yard 231-386-5151

Tri-County Marine 231-386-7917

Ace Hardware Store--stainless steel nuts, bolts, shackles, pins. 231-386-7331

Travel Lift Service, Boat Repair, Service & Storage:

Northport Bay Boat Yard (up to 75 ft), one mile north of town, 10824 North Shore Dr. 231-386-5151

Boat Repair & Storage:

Tri-County Marine, north of the village, at 943 Mill Street. 231-386-7917

Slip Rental and Storage:

Ahgosatown Landing Marina and RV Sites, on M-22, between Northport and Omena, on Grand Traverse Bay. 231-620-2402

North Shore Outfitters

119 Waukazoo Street 231-386-1222
Rentals of kayaks, pontoon boats, stand-up paddleboards, water mats, bikes & ebikes. Beach and cottage essentials, clothing and M-22 gear for sale.

Northport Visitor Center
204 Rose at 2nd
north of marina

northportvisitorcenter.org

Fishing

The Mill Pond

The Mill Pond (3rd St. at Warren) is part of Northport Creek and is a DNR designated trout stream. There is a large, thriving population of native brook trout in the pond and stream. The Mill Pond is also stocked in April with rainbow trout, primarily for the children's Fishing Derby. This is sponsored by the Northport Sportsman's Club and is held the last Saturday of April, opening day for trout season.

Trout Behavior: The rainbows are cruisers. You often see them moving along the shores, especially in morning light. The brookies are more territorial. They'll hold in a good feeding area, often in groups.

Bait Fishing: The worm or leech and bobber will work for most of the year, especially early in the season, on rainbow trout.

Spin Casting: Small silver spoons with a black or red head and a medium retrieve seem to work for brook trout.

Fly Fishing: The best success year round is on a wet fly 1-5 feet down on a medium retrieve. Trout in ponds are looking for moving prey - nymphs that are hatching out from the bottom or small fish. You can backcast at the south end of the pond but roll casting is required in the other areas.

Flies that usually work:

May – small black nymphs, griffiths gnats, brassie. **June** – Midges (black), brassie.

July & August – Weeds are usually a problem so flashier flies in red or lime work.

Fishing License: Anyone 17 years and older must purchase a fishing license. Fishing licenses: *Dick's Pour House*, 231-256-9912, in Lake Leelanau, *The Fish Hook*, 231-256-9501, in Leland; and *Jon's Barber Shop*, 231-271-3424, in Suttons Bay.

People generally practice catch-and-release with brook trout.

What are those splashes and jumping fish?

You'll often see many rising trout on the mill pond. Sometimes they're grabbing bugs off the surface. Mostly they're chasing fast rising bugs (nymphs) that have hatched out of the bottom and are making a run for the surface to spread wings and fly away. The brook trout chase them and their momentum often takes them right out of the water. If you're fly casting, cast about five feet past a rise, let the fly sink for a few seconds and then retrieve it.

Marina Fishing

There is a wide variety of fish in the marina and outside the breakwall including smallmouth bass, pike, brown trout, and panfish. There are also round gobies and very large carp. The round goby is an invasive species and must be killed and not returned to the bay.

Fishing is prohibited from the finger docks (wooden docks). Please be considerate of boaters docked along the walls. Don't fish between docked boats and be aware their boat is their home.

Boat Launching

At the Marina: 231-386-5411
Double ramp with dock. Overnight boat, trailer parking, overflow trailer parking, long term boat and trailer parking are available. Check at the harbormaster office. Launch donation is \$5.

Northport Bay Boat Yard Ramp:

231-386-5151
Concrete ramp and dock. You can also arrange for short and long term on-trailer storage for power boats and rigged sailboats.