CASS LAKE AREA CHAMBER

2019 Visitors Guide

Including Cass Lake, Winnie, Leech Lake, Walker, Bena, Pennington, Deer River, Bemidji and Blackduck Areas

info.casslake@gmail.com 1-800-356-8615 www.casslake.com

CASS LAKE AREA CHAMBER

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CASS LAKE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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WINTER FISHING CHALLENGE

Saturday, February 9th, 2019
On Cass Lake, MN

CASS LAKE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS

SummerFest

JULY 12-13, 2019

Fishing wisdom. We didn't check the tackle box the night before, or get up before sunrise. But we did power the boat that would help him realize there's more to fishing than just catching fish. When the energy you invest in life meets the energy we fuel it with, beautiful things happen.

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Welcome to the Cass Lake Area

Cass Lake is located in the heart of the Chippewa National Forest & the Leech Lake Reservation. There is much history here, in this beautiful land, some of which we would like to share with you in this 2019 Visitor Guide. If you are looking to visit for the first time, we welcome you, & If you have been blessed to have lived or vacationed here in the past, perhaps we will refresh your memory of bygone days of sun, fun, fishing and pure relaxation, with this edition of our Visitor's Guide!

We are a year round vacation destination! Many of our resorts are open year round to provide comfortable accommodations for all four seasons! Winter provides hours of ice fishing, either spearing or angling. Others explore the forests on snowmobile, with hundreds of miles of maintained snowmobile trails. Cross country skiers or those on snowshoes enjoy nature's quiet beauty. Spring is a welcomed warming, as snow melts & blooming plants appear. Opening fishing season brings out the boats and returning "snowbirds" to the area. Summer is a great time for a variety of activities on the lake- fishing, canoeing and water sports to name a few. Fall is a real pleasure to observe, as the great forests burst into color & the days begin to cool. Hunters are anxious to find that illusive, "big buck", or bag grouse, geese, or duck.

No matter which season, the Cass Lake area brings events and festivals for visitors to enjoy. Stop in to visit Lyle's Logging Camp and Museum at the old Depot along Hwy 2. You may want to shop, dine at a variety of bars/restaurants, enjoy the 5 area Casinos, or just relax and savor the serenity of the area.

Come, visit the Cass Lake area & discover what families have been coming here to enjoy for 120 years. You will take home lasting memories that will bring you back season after season & year after year!

Cass Lake Area Chamber

© Aaron Fairbanks

The Cass Lake Area Chamber of Commerce office is located in the Minnesota Welcome Center of the Cass Lake Area, off Highway 2 along the shorelines of Cass Lake. Whether you're looking for information, a beautiful view, or just to stretch your legs, stop in and see what the Chamber, the City of Cass Lake, and the Area has to offer. Email us at: info.casslake@gmail.com or visit us at: www.casslake.com.

Cass Lake Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

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Cass Lake Stats

Population..... 770
Elevation..... 1330 ft. above sea level
Avg.Rainfall..... 26.4in
Avg.Snowfall..... 41.1in
Summer High.....79.4°F
Summer Low.....60.5°F
Winter High.....22.2°F

Now & Then

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY 2019

8-10th Outdoor Sports Show- Bemidji www.bemidji.org
9th Cass Lake Area Chamber & Palace Casino Winter Fishing Challenge www.casslake.com
21 & 22nd North Country Buyers Show- Walker
21-24th 40th Annual Eelpout Festival- Walker

MARCH 2019

2nd 5th Annual Northland Fat Bike Rally Race, Bemidji
9th Woman's Expo- Walker

APRIL 2019

5-7th Bemidji Annual Home Sport & Travel Show- Bemidji www.bemidji.org
23rd Average Ice-out Date for Cass Lake
27th North Star Shooting Sports Club Annual Banquet -Leech Lake

MAY 2019

11th Fishing Opener www.dn.state.mn.us
Annual Paul Bunyan Coop Celebration www.paulbunyancommunications.net
Cass Lake Fireman's Walleye Tournament & Fundraiser
Cass Lake Memorial Pow Wow www.casslake.com
24-26th Leech Lake Memorial Pow Wow www.leech-lake.com

JUNE 2019

1st Muskie opener In Minnesota www.dnr.state.mn.us
8th Chippewa Triathlon www.chippewatriathlon.com
3rd Week of the Month, Peak Flowers Bloom Bog Walk www.dnr.state.mn.us/events/index.html
20-22 13th Annual Moondance Jammin Country
21-22nd 8th Annual Moondance Softball Tournament www.moondancejam.com
Late June, Lady Slipper Blooms Trail

JULY 2019

Traditional Pow Wow- Cass Lake www.llojibe.org/powwow/schedule.html
12 & 13th Cass Lake SummerFest www.casslake.com
12-14th Deer River Wild Rice Festival www.wildricefestival.com
18-20th Moondance Jam 29th Anniversary-Walker www.moondancejam.com
20 & 21st Art in the Park, Bemidji www.watermarkartcenter.org
31st-Aug 3 14th Annual Dragon Boat Races -Bemidji www.bemidjidragonboat.com

AUGUST 2019

2nd Moondance Dueling Pianos www.moondancejam.com
2-3rd Dragon Boat Festival-Bemidji www.bemidji.org
16 & 17th Cajun Fest-Northern Lights Casino Ent-Walker, Mn www.leech-lake.com

SEPTEMBER 2019

1st Goose Hunting Opener www.dnr.state.mn.us
Labor Day Pow Wow- Cass Lake www.casslake.com
14th Small game, Deer Hunting Season Archery Opener
28th Moondance 7th Annual Harvest Moon Festival www.moondancejam.com

OCTOBER 2019

4-5th Cystic Fibrosis Walleye Classic-Stony Point Cass Lake www.cysticfibrosiswalleyeclassic,com
Pheasant, Beaver, Mink, Muskrat, Otter Openers www.dnr.state.mn.us

NOVEMBER 2019

9th Deer Hunting Season Firearms Opener www.dnr.state.mn.us
29th The Night We Light Parade-Bemidji www.bemidji.org

DECEMBER 2019

Cass Lake Area Chamber/ Boys & Girls Club Santa Event www.casslake.com
Reeds Customer Appreciation Sale-Walker www.leech.lake.com
Wreath Making 101 www.dnr.state.mn.us/events/index.html

JANUARY 2020

Snowshoe Hike-North Country Trail www.leech-lake.com

FEBRUARY 2020

8th Winter Fishing Challenge-Cass Lake www.casslake.com

Cass Lake Museum/ Lyle's Logging Camp Open Memorial Weekend to Labor Day

Naturalist Programs Every Friday and Saturday throughout the summer at Norway Beach Visitor Center

For Concert Event Information go to:
www.northernlights.com • www.thesanfordcenter.net
www.moondancejam.com • www.jammincountry.com

For Sports Event Information go to:
www.thesanfordcenter.net

Now & Then

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7th Annual

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7th Annual

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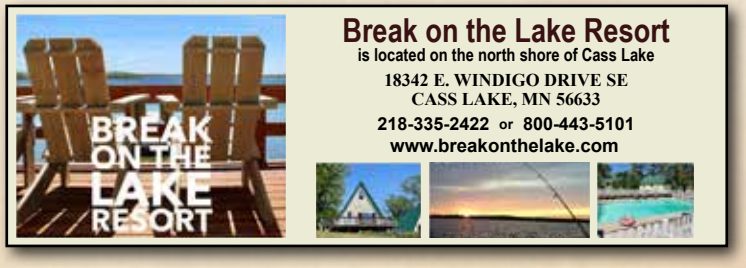
Area Lakes

Cass Lake

Cass Lake, just northeast of the City of Cass Lake, is the largest of the eight lakes that make up the Cass Lake Chain of Lakes and the eighth largest lake in Minnesota. The scenery is incredible on the 15,596-acre lake with 26.9 miles of forested shoreline, sandy beaches and depths down to 120 feet deep in areas. Cass Lake is known for its fine populations of walleye, muskie, and a variety of pan fish. Whether you are after that trophy muskie or a mess of perch, Cass Lake's maze of steep drop-offs, mid-lake bars, and sunken islands are sure to be holding just what you have been dreaming of.



Now & Then

© CNF

Pike Bay

Pike Bay is connected directly to Cass Lake and is the southernmost lake of the Cass Lake Chain. Pike Bay is famous for its trophy walleye, muskie, and jumbo perch.

Star Island

Star Island is one of the most unique features of the Chippewa National Forest. Named for its star shape by the Ojibwe Indians, "Star Island" is the largest of four islands in Cass Lake. Star Island has over eight miles of shoreline and encompasses 980 acres of both public land and private homes. The Chippewa National Forest is responsible for managing more than three-fourths of the island for public, scenic, and recreational use. Unique to Star Island is the "Ten Section Area", which was one of the earliest designated portions of the national forest. The old growth trees are a favorite with the bald eagles. The earliest residents of Star Island are believed to be the Woodland people about 1,500 years ago.

Lake Windigo, sitting inside Star Island, is the only spring fed lake within a river fed lake in the northern hemisphere. Lake Windigo's unique location earned it a notation with "Ripley's Believe It or Not" in 1958. The lake covers 199 acres with a maximum depth of 25 feet.

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Area Lakes

Lake Andrusia

Lake Andrusia has excellent year around walleye fishing. In addition, northern pike are abundant in Lake Andrusia as well as trophy muskie, largemouth bass, perch and rock bass.

Kitchi Lake

Kitchi Lake's 1,758 acres are easily accessible by boat from Cass Lake. The Turtle River and Kitchi Creek flow through Kitchi with access to Big and Little Rice Lakes. Kitchi Lake holds northern pike, bluegills, black crappies, perch, walleye, muskie and large mouth bass.

Leech Lake

Leech Lake is the third largest of Minnesota. It is 102,947.83 acres in size and has a maximum depth of 150 feet. The lake is known for its trophy muskie and walleye, as well as jumbo perch, crappie, northern pike, and largemouth bass.

Sand Lake

Sand Lake is 3,391.79 acres in size and has the maximum depth of 70 feet. Sand Lake is 53 miles from Cass Lake in Deer River.

Lake Winnibigoshish/Little Winnie

Lake Winnibigoshish or Big Winnie, as it more commonly known, is the fifth largest lake in Minnesota, covering more than 67,000 acres. It has an average depth of 15 feet, and a maximum depth of 78 feet. It was created in 1884, when the Lake Winnie Dam was built on the Mississippi River. Two other lakes were created in the area as well, Cut Foot Sioux and Little Winnie. Scenic unspoiled shoreline with many convenient boat accesses, and abundant walleye, northern, perch & bass await you. Lake Winnie is also host to a walleye fish hatchery. The Minnesota Dept of Natural Resources encourages people to visit the hatchery. To schedule a tour, call 218-327-4430

Little Winnibigoshish, known as "Little Winnie" is 945.29 acres in size and has the maximum depth of 28 feet. The wooded habitat of the Chippewa National Forest surrounding the lakes has the largest bald eagle population in the lower 48 states, & offers ample opportunities for hikers, photographers & naturalists alike.

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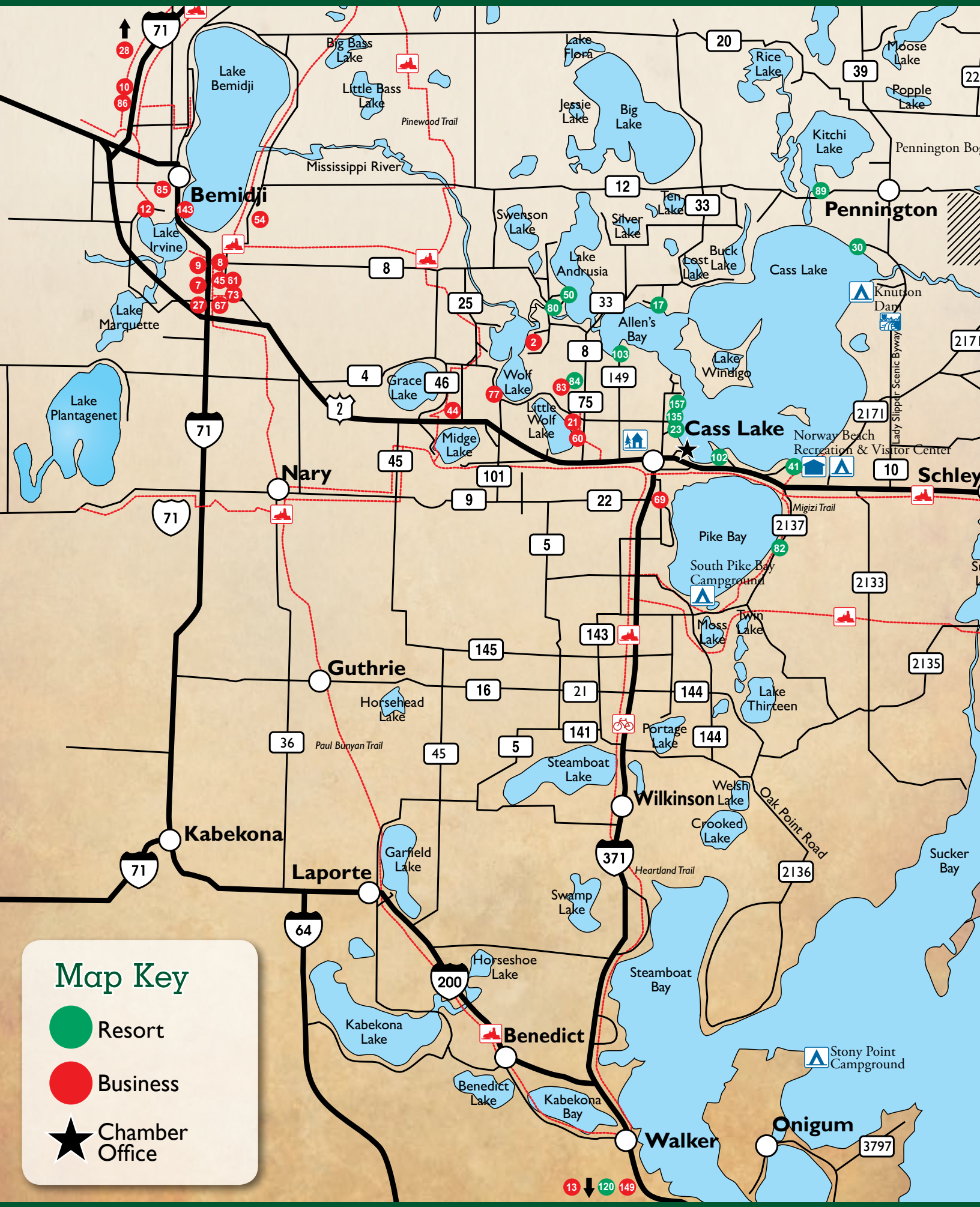
Now & Then

Camp Rabideau

Camp Rabideau was created by President Roosevelt in 1933 as one of more than 4,500 Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps nationwide. The CCC's were created to employ young men to work on conservation & public works projects to bring the nation out of the Great Depression.

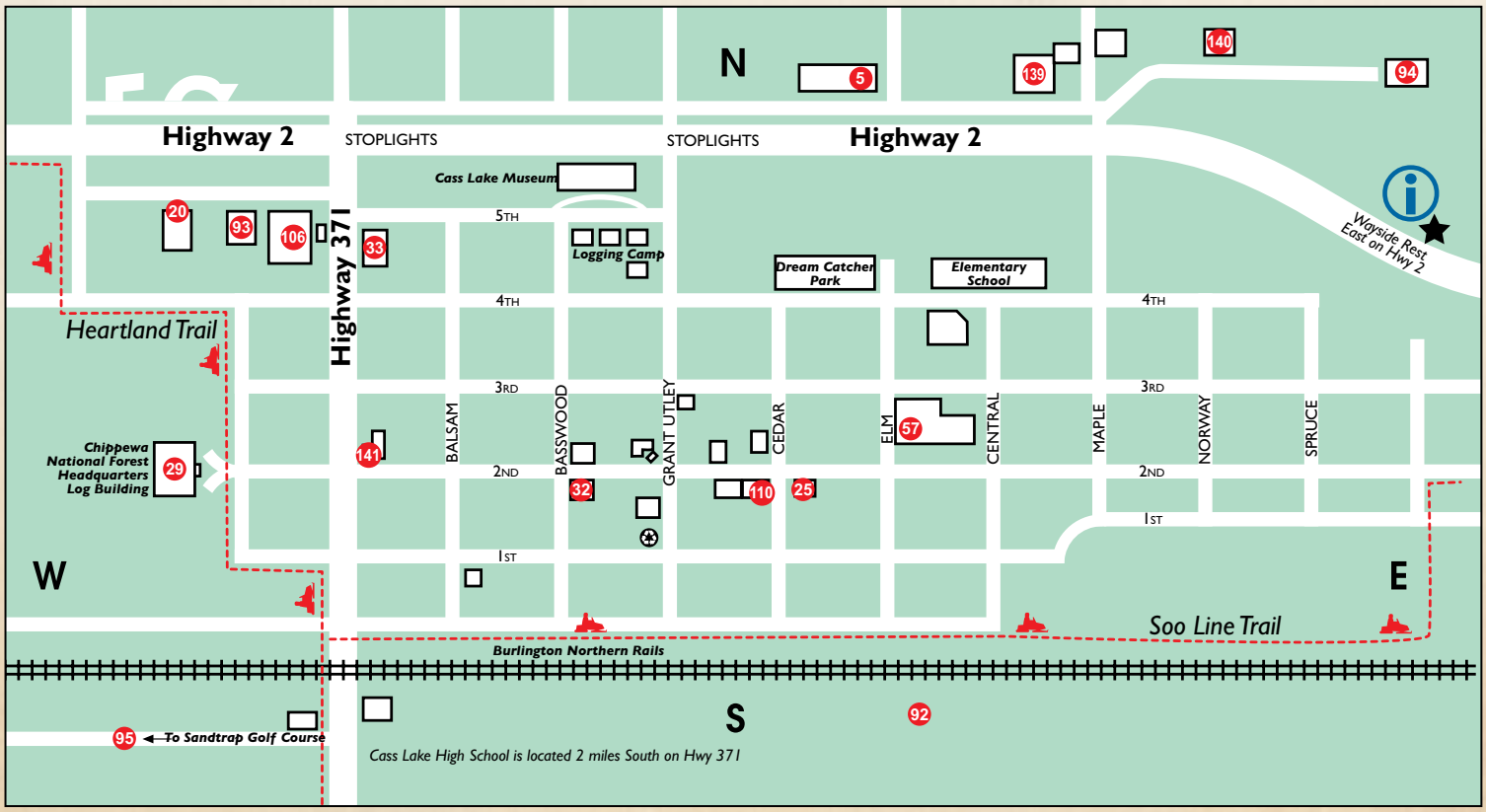
Minnesota CCC projects centered mainly on forestry and state and national park projects. They also supported soil and water conservation. The men in forest camps cut and cleared brush to help conserve existing forests and planted 123,607,000 trees. They participated in tree disease prevention programs, built roads, strung telephone lines, and fought forest fires. The accomplishments of the men of the CCC are evident throughout the state. Examples of rustic-style structures, many on the National Register of Historic Places, still stand in Minnesota state parks. The trees planted have revitalized Minnesota's forests. The CCC program peaked in Minnesota in 1935 with 104 active camps. Enrollment nationwide began to decline in the early 1940s as young men joined the military for World War II and as the economy began to rebound. Despite efforts to make the CCC permanent, funding for the program ended on June 30, 1943. All of Minnesota's camps closed in 1942. More than seventy-seven thousand Minnesota men found employment with the program. The young men of the CCC credited the program with teaching self-discipline and leadership, instilling confidence and self-respect, and helping them to develop useful career skills.

Camp Rabideau was listed as a National Landmark in 2006, as the best preserved CCC Camp in the United States, with fifteen buildings remaining. Tours are free and available Memorial Day through Labor Day. The camp is located six miles south of Blackduck on County Road 39. For more information call 218-835-4291


Map Key
Resort
Business
Chamber Office
Bemidji
Lake Bemidji
Big Bass Lake
Little Bass Lake
Pinewood Trail
Mississippi River
Lake Irvine
Lake Marquette
Lake Plantagenet
Nary
Guthrie
Horsehead Lake
Paul Bunyan Trail
Kabekona
Laporte
Garfield Lake
Lake Flora
Jessie Lake
Big Lake
Rice Lake
Moose Lake
Popple Lake
Kitchi Lake
Pennington Bog
Pennington
Swenson Lake
Silver Lake
Ten Lake
Lake Andrusia
Lost Lake
Buck Lake
Cass Lake
Knutson Dam
Allen's Bay
Lake Windigo
Grace Lake
Wolf Lake
Little Wolf Lake
Midge Lake
Cass Lake
Norway Beach Recreation & Visitor Center
Lady Slipper Scenic Byway
Schley
Migizi Trail
Pike Bay
South Pike Bay Campground
Moss Lake
Twin Lake
Lake Thirteen
Portage Lake
Steamboat Lake
Wilkinson
Welsh Lake
Crooked Lake
Oak Point Road
Heartland Trail
Swamp Lake
Sucker Bay
Steamboat Bay
Horseshoe Lake
Kabekona Lake
Benedict
Benedict Lake
Kabekona Bay
Stony Point Campground
Walker
Onigum

Lake
33
35
Pigeon Dam Lake
Cut Foot Sioux Visitor Ctr
Little Cut Foot Sioux Lake
Cut Foot Sioux Lake
Deer Lake Campground
Williams Narrows Campground
148
46
2204
2171
Burns Lake
Kenegama Lake
Tower Lake Trails
Sugar Lake
2168
Mississippi River
Lake Winnibigoshish
Tamarack Point Campground
Winnie Dam
Winnie Campground
2163
Birches Campground
Little Winnie
Lydick Lake
2167
9
Mississippi River
Sand Lake
4
34
46
56
35
Bowstring Lake
2
Bena
Portage Lake
Pipe Line Trail
72
Six Mile Lake
2132
Waboose Bay
8
2127
Rock Springs Trail
Portage Bay
Drumbeater Lake
Leech Lake Dam
Federal Dam
46
6
119
2
Deer River
136
51
Boy River
4
Boy Bay
Leech Lake
Soo Line ATV Trail
Triville Trail
Headquarters Bay

City of Cass Lake

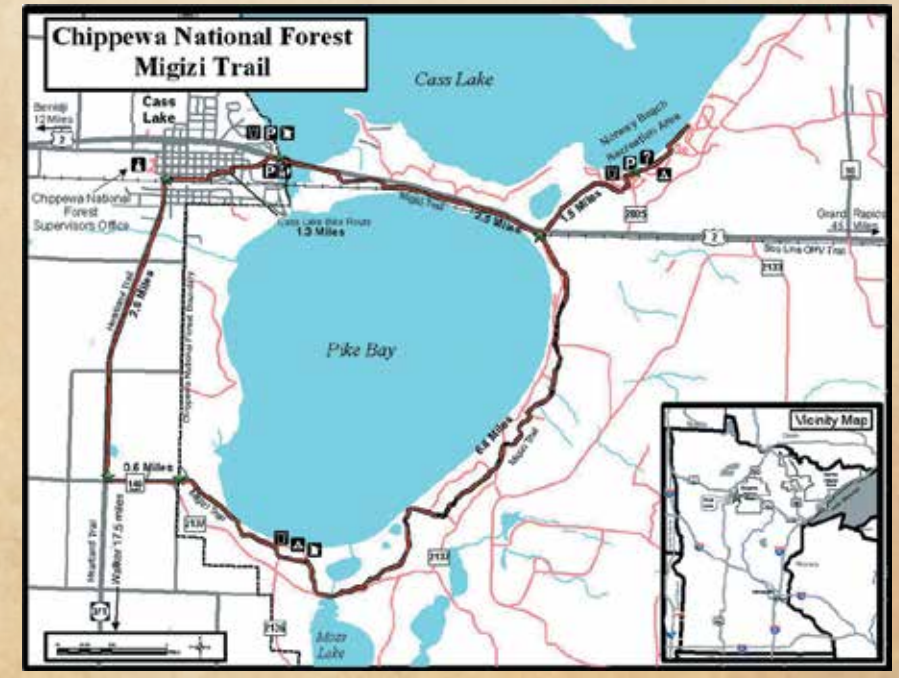


Biking & Hiking

There is no better way to see the Chippewa National Forest than on a trail. Forty-one miles of paved bike trails line the west side of the forest and mountain bikers can travel over 43 miles of unpaved trails on the east side between Deer River and Marcell. The Migizi Trail circles Pike Bay in Cass Lake on a 19-mile paved loop. The Paul Bunyan Trail is 120 miles long that runs from Bemidji State Park to Crow Wing State Park by Brainerd with 112 miles currently paved. The Heartland Trail runs from Cass Lake to Park Rapids and is 47 miles of paved trail.

Include the kids when you hit the trail. Most Minnesota state trails are paved and constructed on former railroads, so they are generally level and kid-friendly.

For more information on Minnesota State Trails, go to: mndnr.gov/trails or call the MN Department of Natural Resources at 888-646-6367



Now & Then

Directory

ACTIVITIES/ ENTERTAINMENT

Moondance Events - 149
PO Box 969
Walker, MN 56484 • 1-877-MOONJAM
www.moondancejam.com

Northern Lights Casino & Hotel - 120
6800 Y Frontage Road NW
Walker, MN 56484
1-877-544-4879
www.northernlightscasino.com

Palace Casino & Hotel - 84
6280 Upper Cass Frontage Road
Cass Lake, MN 56633
www.palacecasinohotel.com
1-877-9-PALACE

White Oak Casino - 119
45830 US HWY 2
Deer River, MN 56636
1-800-653-2412
www.whiteoakcasino.com

AUTOMOTIVE

Auto Shack - 8
710 Washington Ave. S
Bemidji, MN 56601
218-444-6545

Bob & Jill's Drive & Buy - 9
Bemidji, MN 56601
218-760-0304
www.bobandjillsdriveandbuy.com

BANK SERVICES

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Sailstar Marina - 94
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218-335-2316

CHURCHES

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kady@amikbuilders.com

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218-335-2027

Che We Express - 139
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Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-8827

Teal's Market - 106
Jct. Hwy 2/371, 604 Lyle Chisholm NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-2249
www.tealsmarket.com

GOLF

Sandtrap Golf Course - 95
6355 Golf Course Rd NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-6531

GUIDE SERVICES

Northern Adventures Guide Service - 77
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218-335-2078 • 218-766-7543
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fishandcanoe.com

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218-335-2445
www.leechlakelumber.com

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Directory

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730 Industrial Park Dr. SE
PO Box 516 • Bemidji MN 56619
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Safari Liquor - 93
708 Lyle Chisholm Dr. NW, PO Box 161
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218-335-8527 • www.safariliquors.com

NEWSPAPERS/PRINTING

Arrow Printing, Inc. - 7
1375 Washington Ave S
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218-751-1564 • www.arrowprintinginc.com

Bemidji Pioneer - 67
1320 Neilson Ave SE • Bemidji, MN 56601
218-333-9200 • www.bemidjipioneer.com

Cass Lake Times - 25
210 2nd Street, PO Box 398
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-2290 • www.casslaketimes.com

ORGANIZATIONS & SERVICE GROUPS

Beltrami Electric Cooperative, Inc. - 10
4111 Technology Drive NW, P.O. Box 488
Bemidji, MN 56619
218-444-2540 • 1-800-955-6083
www.beltramielectric.com

Chippewa National Forest - 29
200 Ash Avenue NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-8600 • www.fs.usda.gov/chippewa

City of Cass Lake - 32
330 2nd St. NW, P.O. Box 877
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-2238 • www.ci.casslake.mn.us

Enbridge - 72
26 E. Superior Suite 309
Duluth, MN 55802
218-464-5722 • www.enbridge.com

Leech Lake Area Boys & Girls Club - 57
Open M-F from 3:00pm-5:30pm for Age 6- Grade 5 and from 6:00pm-9:00pm for Teens (Middle School and Up)
208 Central Ave., PO Box 817
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-4058
www.bgcleechlake.com

Leech Lake Tribal College - 21
6945 Little Wolf Rd NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-4200 • lltc.edu

Minnesota Chippewa Tribe - 69
15542 State Hwy 371, PO Box 217
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-8581 • www.mnchippewatribe.org

Northern Event Rentals - 2
3859 Cornflower Ct • Bemidji MN 56601
218-209-6160

PETS, GROOMING & BOARDING

Canine Divine Pet Grooming & Boarding - 54
102 Lake Avenue NE • Bemidji, MN 56601
218-444-7818

RADIO/TELEVISION/ INTERNET

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324 Beltrami Ave • Bemidji, MN 56601
218-444-1025 • http://coyote102.com/

KOJB 90.1 FM *The Eagle* - 60
6530 US Hwy 2 • Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-7252 • www.kojb.org

Leech Lake Telecommunications - 140
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RESORTS/LODGING

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4083 Kangas Curve Road SE
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218-335-2480 • 1-800-279-4831
www.sunsetcove-resort.com
info@sunsetcove-resort.com

Birch Villa - 157
16364 60th Ave NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-6795
www.birchvilla.com • info@birchvilla.com

Now & Then

Break on the Lake - 17
18342 E. Windigo Dr. SE
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-2422 • 1-800-443-5101
www.breakonthelake.com
breakonthelake@gmail.com

Cass Lake Lodge - 23
16293 60th Ave. NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-6658 • www.casslakelodge.com
cllodge@paulbunyan.net

Chippewa Pines - 30
27418 Chippewa Paws Lane SE
Pennington, MN 56663
218-335-6897 • 1-800-701-6897
www.chippewapinesresort.com
info@chippewapinesresort.com

Joe's Lodge - 50
15228 Joe's Lodge Drive SE
Bemidji, MN 56601
218-335-6773
www.joeslodge.com
vacation@joeslodge.com

Lakewood Lodge - 56
53026 County Road 35
Deer River, MN 56636
218-659-2839 • 1-800-495-8437
www.lakewoodlodge.com
vacation@lakewoodlodge.com

Norway Beach - 41
15868 Norway Beach Road NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-8857 • 1-800-752-7262
www.norwaybeachresort.net
norwayb@dishmail.net

Oak Haven - 80
14333 Roosevelt Road SE
Bemidji, MN 56601
218-335-2092 • 1-877-860-9948
www.casslakeresort.com
oakhaven@bemidjiresort.com

Ojibway - 82
15191 Pike Bay Loop NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-6695
www.ojibwayresort.com
ojibway@uslink.net

Palace Casino & Hotel - 84
6280 Upper Cass Frontage Rd NW, Cass Lake, MN 56633
1-800-442-3910
www.palacecasinohotel.com

Pike Hole Resort - 89
25061 Conner Road NE
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-2328
www.pikeholeresort.com
pikeholeresort@gmail.com

Sah-Kah-Tay Resort - 135
16348 60th Ave NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-2424
1-800-23-beach 1-800-232-3224
sahkahtayresort@gmail.com
www.sahkahtay.com

Stony Point Resort & Campground - 102
5510 US 2 NW, P.O. Box 518
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-6311 • 1-800-332-6311
www.stonyptresortcasslake.com
stonypoint@arvig.net

RESORTS/DINING

Allens Bay Lodge/ Sunset Cove Resort - 103
4083 Kangas Curve Road SE
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-2480
www.sunsetcove-resort.com

Canal House Restaurant- Stony Point Resort - 102
5510 US Hwy 2 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633
218-335-6311
www.stonyptresortcasslake.com

Cass Lake Dairy Queen - 5
115 6th St NE Ste A
Cass Lake, MN 56633
Phone 218-335-2908

Chippewa Paws Restaurant- Chippewa Pines Resort - 30
27418 Chippewa Paws Lane SE
Pennington, MN 56663
218-335-6897
www.chippewapinesresort.com

Red Cedar Grill - 83
6280 Upper Cass Frontage Road
Cass Lake, MN 56633
www.palacecasinohotel.com
1-877-9-PALACE

SPORTING GOODS

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218-751-4477 • 218-368-6370
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History & Culture

History of the City of Cass Lake

In the Ojibway language, the lake was called "Gaa-Mi-Squa-Wah-Sko-Koo" meaning, "The place of the many red cedars". It was called "Lac du Cedre Rough" by the early fur traders, who in 1794, had built a post for the Northwest Fur Company at the entrance of the Red Cedar River.

The search for the source of the Mississippi River brought many explorers to the area. In 1820 the Cass Expedition, headed by Territorial Governor, Lewis Cass of Michigan, arrived, but was prevented from traveling further upstream due to the low water level that year. Not seeing the inflow of the river, Gov Cass designated the lake as the headwaters of the Mississippi. Upper Red Cedar Lake was renamed "Cass lake" in honor of this early explorer.

Fur pelts were the main source of income until 1851, when Cass County was organized, and the lumbermen swarmed in to harvest the beautiful dense forests. Logging camps, saw mills & planning mills sprang up. The Settlement grew, and with the arrival of the Great northern Rail Road in 1898, hastened the platting of the town site. In December of 1898 the town's original name was, "Tuller", named after the first Postmaster's brother in law. When known, the residents quickly made their complaints known to the Post Mater General. In response, by the end of March 1899, the name was changed to "Cass Lake", as it remains today, 120 years later.

Due to a series of changes in the right-of-way of the railroad, Cass Lake became an important and more densely populated settlement. Logging and sawmill operations became the backbone of the area economy. Logging still plays an important role in our economic structure today, as does the Casinos, Leech Lake Tribal Government and the Leech Lake Tribal College. Because of the beautiful lakes and forests of northern Minnesota, tourism also plays a large roll in supporting local businesses & the many wonderful Resorts here.

We would like to welcome all who come to discover the rich history, culture, and beauty of the Cass Lake Area!

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

The Ojibwe Indians, later named Chippewa by the US Federal government, arrived in what is now Minnesota in the early 1700's. At the time of the white man's arrival into Minnesota, the Chippewa occupied over half of the state. Most of the occupied Indian lands in Minnesota were ceded to the Federal government in 1807 and through a series of legislative acts; several Indian Reservations were "reserved" for Native Americans. The Leech Lake Reservation is one of six reservations affiliated with the federally recognized Minnesota Chippewa Tribe; the fourth largest Tribe in the nation.

Cass Lake Museum and Lyle's Logging Camp

Experience some of Cass Lake's past in the historically accurate Lyle's Logging Camp. Replicas of equipment once used by loggers are on display and each building is furnished just as it was in the early days. The museum's six buildings were built virtually single-handed by retired forester Lyle Chisholm. Adjacent to Lyle's Logging Camp is the Cass Lake Museum, formerly a railroad depot and one of the few remaining original Soo Line buildings in Minnesota.

Logging camps varied in size from accommodating just a few men, to up to 200 or more. For a number of years following the founding of Cass Lake, there were many men in camps of this type during the winter months in the surrounding area. The museum is open Memorial Weekend through Labor Day. Call for more information: 218-335-6723

Chippewa National Forest

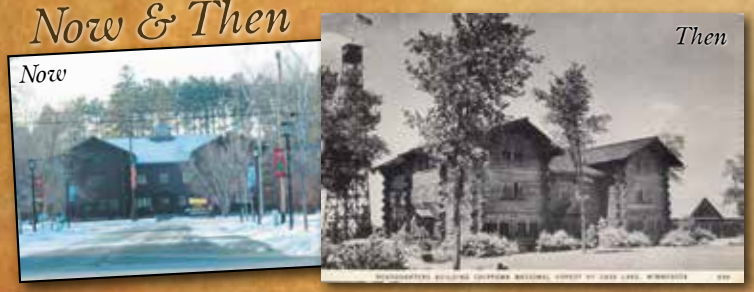
The Chippewa National Forest was the first National Forest established east of the Mississippi River in 1908. Originally known as the Minnesota National Forest, the name was changed in 1928 to honor the original inhabitants. The Forest has a rich history, ranging from prehistoric times to the early logging era and Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) days.

The Forest boundary encompasses about 1.6 million acres. Water is abundant on the Chippewa, with over 1,300 lakes, 925 miles of streams, and 400,000 acres of wetlands. The Forest's landscape is a reminder of the glaciers, which blanketed northern Minnesota some 10,000 years ago.

As you visit the Chippewa National Forest you will observe a working forest. Recreation developments, wildlife habitat projects, and timber harvest are evident. Timber is harvested from about one percent of the Chippewa National Forest each year. Timber sales provide raw materials for the paper and wood industry, and improve wildlife habitat for white-tailed deer, ruffed grouse, and non-game species such as hawks, swallows, and sparrows. - CNF

Cass Lake was once District Headquarters of the US Forest Service. Twice the Christmas tree for Washington DC (known as "The People's Tree" project started in 1964) was chosen from the Chippewa National Forest. Once in 1992 and more recently in 2014. Pictured above is the selected tree, and the community send off to Washington DC near the Forestry Building.

Now & Then



Lady Slipper Scenic Byway

Lady Slipper Scenic Byway goes "over the river and through the woods," just like the song says. The river is the Mississippi River, where it passes out of Cass Lake as a wilderness stream, close to the beginning of its long journey. The woods are the pines, aspen, and birches of the Chippewa National Forest, which covers a wide expanse of north central Minnesota. The byway itself is a 28-mile drive that follows County Road 39 between the small, northwoods town of Blackduck and Highway 2, east of the City of Cass Lake.

© Explore Minnesota Tourism 2004, Artwork by Mike Wohnoutka

Along with scenic views of the Forest, the Lady Slipper Scenic Byway brings you to beaches, trails and an interesting piece of our country's history. This byway was recently renamed in honor of the state flower, the showy lady slipper. These lovely orchids, with pink pouches and white petals, grow in abundance along the byway's roadsides in late June, especially just north of Pennington.

Webster Bog

Travel the boardwalk, located near Webster Lake to see and learn about carnivorous bog plants from the interpretive signs along this half-mile trail.

Pennington Bog

This bog, which is located North on the Ladyslipper Scenic Byway by Pennington, contains an abundance of orchids and extends on to adjacent State land as a scientific Natural Area. ***A free entry permit is required, available from the Regional DNR office in Bemidji***

Itasca State Park

In 1832, the Anishinaabe (meaning, "Original People") leader & guide, Ozawindib, from Star Island, led explorer Henry Schoolcraft to the source of the Mississippi River. Schoolcraft and a missionary companion, created the name, "Itasca" from the Latin words for "truth" and "head" (veritas caput). In the late 19th century, Jacob Brower, historian, anthropologist & land surveyor, came to the area to settle the dispute of the actual location of the Mississippi's headwaters. He saw how the region was being quickly transformed by logging, and was determined to protect some of the beautiful pine forests for future generations. His efforts led the State Legislature to establish Itasca as Minnesota's First State Park on April 20, 1891. (by a margin of only one vote!) Thankfully, the park now totals more than 32,000 acres and includes more than 100 lakes. Here you can walk across the mighty Mississippi as it starts its winding journey 2,552 miles to the Gulf of Mexico. In 1965 it was named as a National Natural Landmark, and was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. Explore, bike or hike the park's many scenic trails. Camp under the stars or stay at the historic Douglas Lodge or cabins. You don't want to miss visiting this historic park! For more information call 218-266-2100 or visit www.dnr.state.mn.us

Lost Forty

The Lost Forty area consists of virgin red and white pines that were untouched by the early loggers due to an error that incorrectly mapped the area as a lake. A one-mile self guided interpretive trail and picnic area are at the site. See the Lost Forty and see what northern Minnesota looked like before loggers came to the area in the late 1800's.

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Activities

Amusement/Entertainment

The Cass Lake area features something for everyone. Be sure to visit one of the Casino's in the area. Bingo or other casino games may interest you. Stop in at one of the local restaurants/bars and get a sampling of live local music and entertainment. For big name acts and events try the Northern Lights Entertainment Center, the Sanford Center - home of BSU Hockey, or Moondance Country/ Moondance Jam.

Canoeing & Kayaking

Travel the route of the Anishinabe Indians and the early explorers. The Chippewa National Forest offers several canoe & kayak routes, ranging from the mighty Mississippi and the unpredictable Leech Lake to the slow-moving Rice River and other small creeks. The "headwaters" of the Mississippi River is the third longest river in the world, and only a 45-minute drive away. It is one of those sites you must see.

Fishing

Fishing opener kicks off in May. With eight lakes on the Cass Lake Chain, Lake Winnie, Leech Lake, and the many surrounding lakes, we have some of the best fishing for walleye, northern pike, muskie, bass, perch, and pan fish. Whether you're after a fish dinner or a trophy for your wall, we have it all. For information on fish consumption for area lakes go to www.dnr.state.mn.us.

Ice Fishing

As soon as the lakes freeze over, the villages start to appear, and the angling and spearing begins. With many ice houses for rent, you can enjoy the peacefulness of ice fishing too.

Four Wheeling / ATV

If trail riding on ATV's is your idea of a good time, then Cass Lake should be your destination. Cass Lake is home to the trailhead of the Soo Line North ATV Trail. The 148 mile trail is made up of three sections. The Trail is open to Class 2 ATV's from April 1 to November 30 with camping, lodging, and food available in the various towns along the trail.

Golfing

For all you golfers, we have a variety of courses, from amateur to professional, Sandtrap Golf Course and Greenwood Golf Course are sure to suit your needs.

Hunting

Our area residents are very fortunate to live and work where they do. Many area sportsmen's, travel and hunt in many states, but some of the best all around hunting is right here in the Cass Lake area. We have a wide variety of hunting, from deer and bear to small game, and waterfowl. We are home to the Chippewa National Forest, which has over 400,000 acres, and is open to the public for hunting.

Sandtrap Golf Course
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Now & Then

The Cass Lake Community Library

The Library's unique stone building was built in the early 1940's by the local Junior Chamber of Commerce & the Commerce and Civic Association for use as a museum. The Library opened in June 1947 in the old City Hall, but moved across the street in November 1957 to occupy the basement of the museum. In 1969 the library joined the KRLS, and in June 1974 moved to the upstairs of the building, where it remains today. The library provides free wireless Internet access & public Internet computers & printing. Contact the library for Children's Story Time schedule. Phone 218-335-8865 or email at: casslake@kris.org

Norway Beach Recreation Area

Norway Beach is located four miles east of Cass Lake, on Hwy 2. There are a variety of family activities available here, such as camping, interpretive trails, public swimming beaches, paved bike trails, boat ramps & reserveable picnic shelter. You can also visit the Norway Beach Visitor Center. For more information phone 218-335-8600.

Pow Wow Celebrations

Pow Wow celebrations bring together traditional dancers from all over the United States and Canada, outfitted in historic dress and colors. Pow Wows are religious and social gatherings of the Indian people and visitors are invited to participate. The grand entry march that begins each Pow Wow is a spectacular display of colorful outfits and traditional meanings associated with the earth, birds, and wildlife; interpreted by the dancers. For more information, go to www.llojibwe.com or call 218-335-8200.

"Mino Bimaadiziwin"

(In Ojibway meaning, "A good Life")

Swimming / Snorkeling / Sailing

Our sandy beaches and lakes are perfect for relaxing in the sun, taking a dip in the lake, or snorkeling and discovering all the lakes wonderful life forms. Cass Lake is also great for sailing. With the right wind you can race around the islands or just set your sails on a slower pace ride to enjoy the sites.

Snowmobiling

Under a blanket of snow, the Chippewa National Forest becomes a land of unexplored adventures. Over 315 miles of motorized trails provide access for snowmobilers to 1,300 lakes, scenic woodlands, and frozen wetlands. Trails connect to nearly 200 miles of routes beyond the Forest. Snowmobilers may also travel on unplowed National Forest roads unless posted closed to recreational motor vehicle use.

Distance from Cass Lake

Bemidji*	**17**
Blackduck*	**45**
Brainerd*	**82**
Duluth*	**135**
Fargo*	**134**
Grand Forks*	**129**
International Falls	**127**
Minneapolis/St.Paul*	**215**
Walker	**21**

CASS LAKE AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

PO Box 548, 105 US Hwy 2
Cass Lake, MN 56633
1-800-356-8615
info.casslake@gmail.com
www.casslake.com