

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 CR 629, four miles from town.

Northport Bay Yacht Club - Sailing

Each season, Northport Bay Yacht Club sponsors 11 **races on Saturdays** and 11 races on **Tuesday evenings**. Racing is informal and collegial. Cruising boats get very generous handicaps to encourage participation.

The 1p Saturday **Applebee Series** begins 6/21/25 through August 30. The 5p Tuesday evening **Sutton Series** begins June 17 thru August 26.

Access northportbyc.org for further details re: skipper's meetings, course, location, handicaps, start times, etc. Call Commodore Mike @ 269-207-1953 or Vice Commodore Bill @ 616-881-6414 with questions.

If you'd like to be a crew member on a boat or enter your sailboat in the races, we welcome your interest. Members are encouraged to socialize at *The Mitten Brewing Company* in Northport, following the races.

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. marine@villageofnorthport.net

Northport Youth Sailing School

105 Bay Street 231-943-NYSS
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):

June 30 – July 3	July 7 - 11
July 14 - 18	July 21 - 25
July 28 - August 1	

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 \$210 per session.

Scholarships are available.
northportsailing.org

Miscellaneous

Fuel:

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

Marine Supplies:

Northport Boat Yard 231-386-5151

Tri-County Marine 231-386-7917

Northport Building Supply & Ace Hardware:
stainless steel nuts, bolts, shackles, pins.
231-386-5231

Boat Service, Storage & Sales:

Northport Boat Yard
One mile north of town
10824 N. Shore Dr.
231-386-5151

Summer storage; heated/unheated & outside
storage. Haul/launch boats up to 75 feet.
Services, sales & boating supplies.

Boat Repair & Storage:

Tri-County Marine 231-386-7917
11646 N. Monique Dr.

Slip Rental and Storage:

Ahgosatown Landing Marina and RV Park,
on M-22, between Northport and Omena,
on Grand Traverse Bay. 231-620-2402
6490 N. West Bay Shore Drive

North Shore Outfitters

119 Waukazoo Street 231-386-1222
Rentals of pontoon boats, kayaks, stand-up
paddle boards, water mats, bikes, eBikes
and more. northshoreoutfitters.net

Northport Visitor Center
204 Rose at 2nd north of marina
northportvisitorcenter.org

northportomenacalendar.com

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. Available @ *Northport Trading Post* (in Northport) 231-944-0161, *Dick's Pour House* (in Lake Leelanau) 231-256-9912, *Lake Leelanau*

Narrows Resort @ 231-624-6201 & The Fish Hook, 231-256-9501 (in Leland.)

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 fee is \$5 or \$50 for a seasonal pass.

Northport Boat Yard:

231-386-5151 On-site boat ramp; hauls & launches boats up to 75 feet.