



# Nordhouse Dunes

Manistee Ranger Station  
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The Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness Area is a place to get away from it all. The dunes area is small, about 3,500 acres, but unique. It is the only congressionally designated wilderness area located along the Lake Michigan shoreline in Michigan's lower peninsula. Most of the dunes are 3,500 to 4,000 years old and some stand about 140 feet high. Unlike other dune systems, the Nordhouse Dunes are interspersed with woody vegetation such as juniper, jack pine and hemlock. Small water holes and marshes decorate the area and dune grass covers many of the dunes. The beach is wide and sandy, excellent for solitary walks and sunset viewing.

## LOCATION

The Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness Area is located 12 miles southwest of Manistee County, Michigan.

## ACCESS

The Dunes Area is accessed by Nurnberg Road while the northern boundary is accessed from the Lake Michigan Recreation Area.

## FACILITIES AVAILABLE

The trail system within the dunes is limited and minimally signed. The wilderness provides a unique recreation experience. Availability for solitude varies with the weather and the seasons.

There is no water system in the dunes. Drinking water must be carried in or purified. Parking facilities are located at Nurnberg Road and at the Lake Michigan Recreation Area.



## SEASON

The Wilderness Area is open year around. For more information, call the Manistee Ranger Station.

## FEEES

A Huron Manistee National Forest vehicle pass is required at this site. Please contact the Ranger Station for complete details and cost.

## CONSIDERATIONS

\*Due to the fragile nature of the dunes, campfires and campsites must be more than 400 feet from the Lake Michigan waterline or 200 feet from the Nordhouse Lake waterline.

\*Camping is prohibited within 400 feet inside the Wilderness boundary along Nurnberg, Green, and Lake Michigan roads.

\*Woody material from beaches and other sandy areas must not be removed. (example: driftwood, shipwreck timbers, pine knots, etc.)

\*Public nudity is not allowed

\*Motor vehicles, motorized equipment, and mechanized equipment (example: bicycles) are prohibited.