

Campground Descriptions

Lake Ottawa 32 units
Iron River, MI High level of development
Larger campsites for families

Golden Lake 22 units
Iron River, MI Moderate level of development

Imp Lake 22 units
Watersmeet, MI Moderate level of development

Marion Lake 39 units
Watersmeet, MI Moderate level of development

Clark Lake 48 units
Watersmeet, MI Moderate level of development

Black River Harbor 40 units
Bessemer, MI High level of development
Larger campsites for families

Norway Lake 28 units
Kenton, MI Moderate level of development

Lake Ste. Kathryn 25 units
Kenton, MI Moderate level of development

Perch Lake 20 units
Kenton, MI Moderate level of development

For More Information:

Ottawa National Forest
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or

Kenton Ranger District
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906-852-3500

or

Visit our website at:
www.fs.fed.us/r9/ottawa

USDA-Forest Service

OTTAWA
NATIONAL
FOREST



Campground Concessionaire
Information

O·T·T·A·W·A
NATIONAL FOREST

Our Recreation Program

The Ottawa National Forest is home to 96 developed recreation sites, over 700 miles of trails, one harbor and 3 wilderness areas. The remote setting of the Forest and the variety of recreation opportunities available makes the Ottawa a premiere vacation destination for the outdoor enthusiast.

During the past several years, the Ottawa's recreation program has managed to provide high quality recreation experiences to our visitors in spite of the fact that our budget has declined significantly. Given the fact that we don't anticipate our budgets to increase, we are taking steps now to ensure recreation opportunities are available in the future.

The Forest recently completed an internal review of our recreation program. The review helped us identify our priority work and some of the obstacles that we face.

Concessionaire Operations

Based on the findings of our internal review, and in an effort to address budget and staffing shortages, the Ottawa National Forest will be moving to concessionaire operations on selected campgrounds across the Forest in fiscal year 2004.

What are Concessionaire Operations?

Concessionaire operations allow for a private contractor to operate campgrounds in accordance with pre-determined guidelines and requirements. Contractors keep the fees collected as payment.

Why go to Concessionaire Operations?

Once a campground is placed with a concessionaire (contractor), the operation and maintenance of the facility become the responsibility of the concessionaire, relieving the Forest of routine maintenance and upkeep. This will allow us to focus our efforts on other Forest priorities.

Benefits to the Forest

What are the Benefits of Concessionaire Operations?

Concessionaire operations have multiple benefits to the Forest Service and our visitors:

- There is an opportunity for local individuals/groups/counties to manage these sites providing economic benefits to the local community.
- Amenities may be provided by the selected concessionaire (e.g., firewood, ice, fishing bait, etc.)
- Camp sites will be listed on the National Recreation Reservation system (NRRS).
- Forest personnel will be able to shift our workload from general campground operations and maintenance, freeing up time to focus on other priorities.
- Dollar savings to the Forest will be realized as we will no longer be responsible for garbage collection, pumping toilets, cleaning, fee compliance, etc. These dollar savings can be transferred to other critical work.
- A percentage of the concessionaire revenue is returned to the Forest.