

Interpreter

A Publication of
Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association
9096 Highway 61, PO Box 63
Schroeder, MN 55613 218.740.2755

Restoration continues at Sugarloaf

It took ten thousand years for the natural habitats of Sugarloaf Cove to emerge. And it took less than 100 years for humans to alter them heavily. Now our work of restoring the Cove back to its natural setting is well underway. But instead of ten thousand years, we're trying to get it done in a few decades.

This summer, restoration work at Sugarloaf will get back in high gear. We have three new initiatives underway to accelerate the recovery of natural habitats on the site.

Native plants internship

One lucky and talented college student will spend the summer at Sugarloaf Cove jumpstarting our native plant restoration work. Thanks to funding from the HECUA Partners Internship Program, a full-time intern will be on site from June to August. The intern will inventory our existing native plant restoration work, develop a plan for ongoing plantings and maintenance, and then literally "dig in" for new plantings. We'll be reintroducing native wildflowers, transplanting native trees, and of course finding ways to keep out the hungry deer.

Service learning

Thanks to a grant from Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program, the University of Minnesota Extension Service is contracting with Sugarloaf to bring high school students from North Shore schools to Sugarloaf to help with planting conifers and naturalizing our red pine

plantations. Students from Silver Bay High School are already helping.

Coastal Forest demonstration

Sugarloaf has received a grant from the Minnesota DNR to develop a demonstration site for restoration of what we're calling a "North Shore coastal forest." We intend to show other North Shore landowners how to restore their aging birch, fir, and aspen forests into that unique natural mixture of spruce, white pine, cedar, and other species that grows right alongside the shore.

You can help. Sign up for a day or weekend as a site host and if you want, we'll get you out into the woods and wetland of the Cove with a shovel, a watering can, or a clipper.



High school students from Silver Bay are helping study and restore our red pine plantations.

SICA's VISION is a healthy Minnesota North Shore of Lake Superior where an informed citizenry takes personal and group responsibility to ensure that natural and ecological systems and human economic and social systems coexist in a fashion sustainable into the future.

Site hosts NEEDED



Come spend a day or weekend at Sugarloaf Cove as a volunteer site host. Hosts greet our visitors from all over the world, keep things tidy around the interpretive center, and add a lot to the Sugarloaf experience. You can also practice your art, do light maintenance work, or keep up our phenology listings. Site hosts can stay overnight at our private campsite for free. It's a great way to support Sugarloaf and have a fun and friendly time on the North Shore.

To volunteer, contact the Sugarloaf office at sugarloaf@lakenet.com or (218) 740-2755.

Cove

Water Water Everywhere

JOHNNY WAS A HERO
BUT JOHNNY IS NO MORE.
WHAT HE THOUGHT WAS H2O
WAS H2SO4



substantial part of the world's fresh water. It offers us a year-round vista of changing dramatic perspectives, from those days of almost ominous calm when you know something is about to happen to those exciting moments when the wind switches to the northeast and the famous storms boil down the North Shore from Canada into SICA's executive director's backyard on Park Point. The lake moderates temperatures to idyllic coolness in summer and not-too-bad cold in winter. It conveys international and inter-lake shipping traffic and supports a modest fishery. It is surprisingly clean, but it is impacted by airborne

The inhabitants of Earth live in two primary fluid environments, air and water. Both of these, in pure form, are relatively simple atomic structures – air being a mixture of mostly nitrogen, oxygen, and carbon dioxide, and water being even simpler – two parts hydrogen to one part oxygen. Pure water is very uninteresting, having neither taste, smell, nor color. The total supply of water on Earth changes very little over the millennia although the location, condition, and status of water resources shift continuously.

pollutants and local pollution to a point that needs attention.

In view of the ever-present threats to move water to places that have more political clout than good sense, I worry that Lake Superior water may be offered the chance to go to California or Beijing or even Israel. After all, we could easily spare an inch or so. If anyone raises this as a serious argument and starts asking the government for a few billion dollars to make it happen, remember that it isn't the first inch that is so bad, it's the last inch.

Here in Minnesota we have the blessing of Lake Superior, which is a reservoir for a

RICHARD SLADE, SICA BOARD PRESIDENT

Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Highlights in 2003:

- Started North Shore Naturalist workshops
- Significantly increased staffing on site in summer
- Membership increased 75%
- Set goal for new role as North Shore-wide interpretive resource
- Initiated strategic planning process
- Held successful Twin Cities area fund raiser
- Ongoing networking and collaboration with other North Shore organizations
- Secured over \$10,000 in program and restoration grants for 2004

Association Members

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Tom & Kay Becken
Jim & Fran Mullin
Betty Savage (Life Member)
G. Richard Slade

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Richard & Beatrice Ojakangas	John & Patricia Leinen, Jr.
	Perry McGowan and Sheila Smith
	Jackie & Dell Schott
	Lorraine Tressel

North Shore Naturalist Workshops: Summer 2004

To sign up for these workshops, you can download a registration form at www.sugarloafica.org. Or contact Andrew at the Sugarloaf office, (218) 740-2755 or sugarloaf@lakenet.com.

SAWTOOTH MOUNTAIN ECOLOGY FIELD TRIP with Chel Anderson

JUNE 5 (\$50 SICA members, \$60 non-members)

Join local botanist/ecologist and favorite instructor Chel Anderson for an insider's guide to the North Shore's Sawtooth Mountains. Unique northern hardwood forests of sugar maple and yellow birch will be abloom with spring wildflowers. See how the landscape, shaped by ancient volcanoes and glacial ice, combines with today's climate to create rare habitats. Program starts at Sugarloaf Cove.

WATERFALLS OF THE NORTH SHORE with John Green

JUNE 12-13 (\$100 SICA members, \$110 non-members)

John Green is one of the great naturalists of our time, with a lifetime of study on the North Shore. Hike in and tour the North Shore's scenic waterfall gems with John, from Gooseberry to the Pigeon River. Participants will be immersed in the geology of the waterfalls and the ecology of the habitats that surround them. Program starts at Sugarloaf Cove.

WHAT'S THIS ROCK? EXPLORING THE GEOLOGY OF MINNESOTA'S NORTH SHORE with Jim Miller

JULY 10-11 (\$100 SICA members, \$110 non-members)

How many times have you walked along a cobble beach or a rocky ledge on the North Shore and wondered - What's this rock? Where did it come from? Why is it here? We will use Sugarloaf as our home base for a series of field trips to several sites along the North Shore to examine volcanic rocks that tell a dramatic story from over one billion years ago. Program starts at Sugarloaf Cove.

THE REAL "NORTH" SHORE: SLEEPING GIANT & OUIMET CANYON PROVINCIAL PARKS with Mike Jones

JULY 24-25 (\$100 SICA members, \$110 non-members,
travel/camping/lodging costs extra)

Just past the Minnesota/Ontario border are a set of provincial parks even more dramatic and beautiful than our own North Shore. Mike Jones has spent his career in those parks as an interpreter, geologist, and adventurer. He'll lead participants to the hidden highlights of vast and wild Sleeping Giant and the exotic landscape of Ouimet Canyon. Group camping at Sleeping Giant, with other lodging available. Meet at Sleeping Giant the first morning. Carpooling from Sugarloaf is possible.

NORTH SHORE LIGHTHOUSE TOUR

SEPTEMBER 11-12 (\$100 SICA members, \$110 non-members)

From the weather-beaten ruin on Minnesota Point to the efficient Grand Marais harbor light, the lighthouses of the North Shore are both accessible and dramatic. This weekend tour will take you to them all and give you unusual access to the lights and their keepers. Carpooling to be arranged. Starts in Duluth.

Sugarloaf Wish List

We'd like to make a cozy corner in our center at Sugarloaf Cove. We're looking for:

SMALL COUCH OR COZY CHAIR IN GOOD
CONDITION

NICE CABIN-Y BOOKSHELF

SMALL RUG

READING LAMP

15" OR 17" COMPUTER MONITOR

Board members needed

Do you love the North Shore? Do you support the ecological restoration of shoreline habitats? Want to be at the cutting edge of education and interpretation on the shore? Consider joining the Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association board of directors!

The board is comprised of volunteers from all over the state of Minnesota. It's a great group of folks committed to Sugarloaf and the North Shore. Board members serve a three-year term. There are four board meetings a year, plus committee meetings.

We are particularly eager to find board members with financial and nonprofit management experience. Elections are held at the Annual Meeting August 21. If you're interested, contact board president Dick Slade at gslade31@aol.com, or Andrew at the Sugarloaf office.

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S I C A A C T I V I T I E S

A P R I L 1 0

Second Saturday at Sugarloaf

The Changing Forest, taught by UMD students

M A Y 8

Second Saturday at Sugarloaf

What's that Bird, taught by UMD students

J U N E 5

Sawtooth Mountain Ecology field trip, with
Chel Anderson (see inside)

J U N E 1 2

Second Saturday at Sugarloaf

Spring wildflower walk

*All Second Saturday programs start at 10 am at the
Sugarloaf Cove Interpretive Center.*

Address Correction Requested

*The Sugarloaf Interpreter is published quarterly by Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Association.
Subscription is a benefit of membership. Single copies available on request.
Submissions welcome. Send to sugarloaf@lakenet.com. Designer: Wendy Strombeck.*

*Annual memberships are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to Sugarloaf Interpretive
Center Association, and mail to the SICA office at 1040 Minnesota Avenue, Duluth, MN 55802.
SICA is an educational, non-profit 501(c)(3) Minnesota Corporation.*



membership
APPLICATION

Please enroll me as a member of the Sugarloaf Interpretive Center
Association in the category I have indicated.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____

M E M B E R S H I P C A T E G O R I E S

- \$ 25 Contributing
 \$ 50 Supporting
 \$ 100 Sustaining
 \$ 500 Patron
 \$ 1000 Benefactor
 \$ _____ Other

New Renew

Sugarloaf Interpretive Center Assoc.
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Duluth, MN 55802
sugarloaf@lakenet.com

T H A N K Y O U !