

# EXPLORE

# NAHMA

You could just do nothing, hang around on the front porch and join in the banter. If you must get around and see the area, here are a few ideas.

**General Store Tour** – The old General Store is next to the inn. Originally, it was the company store for the Bay de Noc Lumber Company. It has gone through several changes over the years and was featured on American Pickers. It is now an entertainment venue, but there are several displays of the vintage products once sold there.

**Historical Museum** – The historical museum is just a block away. It is open by appointment only. Hours vary by season.

**Monarch Butterfly Migration** – thousands of monarch butterflies pass through the peninsula every autumn. See Sand Town Point & Stonington Point below for details. Historically the migration takes place the last two weeks of August and the first two weeks of September. It does vary, year to year.

**Indian Point Cemetery** – The cemetery is only a mile away take the first left onto EE 25 Road, Delta Route 499. You will come to a large white cross. The sign to the cemetery is on the right. Take that road past the houses and onto the two track into the forest. In a short distance see a sign for 8025. Take a right at that sign to the cemetery. The road can be quite rough.

**Sand Town Point Memorial** – The Memorial site is on Delta Route 499 just past the Sand Town Bridge. Interpretive signs tell the story of Sand Town and the people who lived there. The site is now a way station for migrating Monarch Butterflies. This is a great spot to view sunset.

**Fayette** – Fayette is a famous “ghost town” originally built to serve the iron industry. It is a state park, a few miles east on the Garden Peninsula.

**Kitch-iti-kipi** – Also known as the Big Spring or the Mirror of Heaven, this is the largest spring in Michigan. 10,000 gallons per minute bubble upward from the bottom. The spring is famous for the enormous trout living there and the raft that takes visitors across the water. Many strange legends are attached to the spring. Go east until you see the signs for Palm Book State Park.

**Stonington Point** – this is a major gathering point for Monarch Butterflies during their fall migration. The point is cool all year long. There are picnic facilities and an abandoned lighthouse to climb. Go west on U.S Route 2. Just before reaching the town of Rapid River see a sign announcing Stonington. The road is Route 513. Go south on a paved road for 16 miles. At that point you can park and walk the last mile or drive on to the point. The last mile is a gravel road along the bay. The Monarch Butterfly Migration occurs approximately the last 2 weeks of August thru the first 2 weeks of September. All roads out of Nahma lead to Route 2.

## **LIGHTHOUSES**

**Peninsula Point Lighthouse** – This is an abandoned lighthouse on Stonington Point where the Monarch Butterflies gather. The lighthouse is just three stories tall and is open so you can climb to the top.

**Sandpoint Lighthouse** – This lighthouse is located in Escanaba. It is part of the Historical Museum complex. Just go to Escanaba and head downtown. Keep going through town until you reach the lighthouse.

**Seoul Choix** – This lighthouse is several miles to the east near Gulliver. It is one of the most unusual lighthouses in the upper peninsula and is open for tours during season.

**TRAILS & EASY WALKS** – You are in the upper peninsula, home to hummingbird size mosquitoes and vampire black flies. If you are going for a walk, consider using repellants liberally.

**Channel Trail** – Behind the inn is a paved lot and boat launch. On the east side of the boat launch, near the restrooms, is a broad groomed path that follows the boat channel. It is a short easy walk with 2 decks with benches along the way. At the far end is a view of Lake Michigan.

**Hemlock Cathedral Trail** – This stand of Hemlock trees survived the lumber boom at the turn of the 1800's and you can enjoy these 300 year old trees today. The trail in is only a half mile or so and the quiet and sense of wonder will stay with you long after you leave. The name Maywood Trail dates from the 1800's when this stand was first dubbed The Hemlock Cathedral. Take County road 513 south onto the Stonington Peninsula. Travel about 7 miles to the Little Bay de Noc Recreation Area. Take the Maywood History Trail and you will reach an area called the Hemlock Cathedral.

**Moss Lake Trail** – Details coming, the trail is up route HH13 just across U.S. 2 from the River Road route 497.

**Nahma Marsh Trail** – Less than a mile north of the inn on Route 497, River Rd. GG, the road that goes by the locomotive, is the Nahma Marsh Trail. The trailhead is marked by an official sign with a bird-watching symbol. The short two track to the parking area is on the west side of the River Road. The beginning of the trail is on the south edge of the parking area.

The trail is fairly smooth, but it is not groomed. Flip flops are not recommended. The trail winds along the marsh, an extensive wetland. There are benches along the pathway where you can pause. At the far end of the trail, about a half mile, is a large viewing platform. It is a perfect spot to get photos of the wetland birds in the

marsh and the bald eagles overhead. The “dark skies” at the marsh are awesome at night especially during meteor storms and northern light displays.

**Kayaking** – The channel behind the inn leads to Lake Michigan. The Sturgeon River can be reached at several points on Routes 497 and 499. Going east on Route 2 just a few miles reaches the Fish Dam River boat launch.

**Festivals & Events** – Be sure to pick up a festival schedule. Something is always going on around Nahma.

**DIRECTIONS & ROUTES FROM NAHMA** – There are 3 roads leading in and out of Nahma. The road in front of the Nahma Inn is Main St. LL. Standing on the porch you are facing north. Going to the right, east, the road passes the Historical Museum, passes the golf course and leads to U.S. Route 2. Going left, west the road passes the art gallery and then curves north where you can choose to go straight up Route 497, River Rd. GG or take the first left onto EE 25 Road, Delta Route 499. There are destinations along each of the roads.

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