

History of Loda Lake

Loda Lake, once surrounded by virgin pine forest, was owned by the Pere Marquette Railroad in the 1890's. After they harvested the timber, the cut-over land was purchased by Chicago rail stockholders, the Hanson family who built a summer home near the current parking lot. After Frederick Hanson made a bet with his Chicago friend, Thomas Hunt, that the Loda land was not farmable, Hunt established a successful farming operation, winning that bet. After 7 years, the Hunts moved to Oregon and several successive families farmed at Loda Lake. Meanwhile at Loda, the Hansons built additional buildings for their servants, and an art studio for son-in-law, Albert Schmidt, who later became a well-known artist in the American southwest. Remnants of these buildings are visible along the cultural trail. Following the depression, Hanson relatives sold the land to the U.S. Forest Service. Members of the Federated Garden Clubs of Michigan (now Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc.) were looking for a place to establish a wildflower sanctuary in Michigan and identified Loda Lake as an ideal location. The Forest Service signed an agreement with the Club in 1949, a partnership that continues to this day.

A Recreation Fee is Required at this Site

Your recreation fee helps pay for the facilities and services at this site. You can pay here or at a Forest Service Office, or visit our website to learn more about other options.

GPS Coordinates

W: 85.83088 N: 43.638028

Directions from White Cloud, MI:

- Travel north on M-37 for 7 miles.
- Turn left and travel west on 5 Mile Road for 1 mile.
- Turn right and travel north on Felch Road for 1 mile.
- The site is located on the right side of the road.

Contact Information

Toll Free: 1-800-821-6263
Website: www.fs.usda.gov/hmnf

Baldwin Ranger Station
Phone: (231) 745-4631

Supervisor's Office
Phone: (231) 775-2421
TTY: 711



Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. support and assist the US Forest Service in managing Loda Lake. Visit www.michigangardenclubs.org and select *Projects* for information on docent-led hikes, educational programs, and volunteering for work days or as a docent. You can also find information on making a donation to help preserve the future of this unique area.

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United States Department of Agriculture



Forest Service

Loda Lake

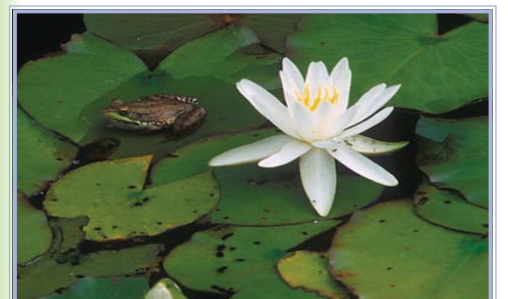
A National Wildflower Sanctuary



Pink Lady's Slipper



American Goldfinch



Sweet Scented Water Lily

Witness the Wonder of Wildflowers

Huron-Manistee National Forests

- 1 Bracken fern (*Pteridium aquilinum*)
Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*) S
Juneberry (*Amelanchier* spp.) E
Hepatica (*Hepatica acutiloba*) E
*Periwinkle (*Vinca minor*) invasive
Maple-leaved viburnum (*Viburnum acerifolium*)
White oak (*Quercus alba*)
Sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*)
Wild geranium (*Geranium maculatum*) S
White trillium (*Trillium grandiflorum*) E
- 2 Wild lily of the valley (*Maianthemum canadense*) E
Pennsylvania sedge (*Carex pensylvanica*)
Witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*)
Blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*)
Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)
Starflower (*Trientalis borealis*) E
- 3 Partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*) S
Starflower (*Trientalis borealis*) E
Black cherry (*Prunus serotina*)
Black huckleberry (*Gaylussacia baccata*)
Blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*)
Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*)
Witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*) F
- 4 White pine (*Pinus strobus*)
False solomon's seal (*Smilacina racemosa*) E,S
Wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*) E
- 5 Wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*)
Blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*)
Bigtooth Aspen (*Populus grandidentata*)
Black huckleberry (*Gaylussacia baccata*)
- 6 Starflower (*Trientalis borealis*) E
Wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*) E
Wild lily of the valley (*Maianthemum canadense*) S
Juneberry (*Amelanchier* spp.) E

In water:

- Bullhead waterlily-yellow (*Nuphar variegatum*) S
Fragrant waterlily-white (*Nymphaea odorata*) S, F

16 Observe both sides of trail

- Self-heal (*Prunella vulgaris*) S
Yellow violet (*Viola pubescens*) E
Northern white violet (*Viola petatum*) E
Bigleaf aster (*Aster macrophyllus*) S,F
Jack-in-the-pulpit (*Arisaema* sp.) E,S
Jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*) S
Sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*)
Lady fern (*Anhyrium felix-femina*)
Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*)
Tick trefoil (*Desmodium paniculatum*) S

- 17 Lady fern (*Anhyrium felix-femina*)
Cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*)
Jewelweed (*Impatiens capensis*) S,F
Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*)

- 18 Indian cucumber root (*Medeola virginiana*) E,S
Starflower (*Trientalis borealis*) E
Wintergreen (*Gaultheria procumbens*) E
Pink lady's slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*)

- 19 Red Pine (*Pinus resinosa*) plantation
Wild lily of the valley (*Maianthemum canadense*) E
Spinulose wood fern (*Dryopteris carthusiana*)
Red maple (*Acer rubrum*)

- 20 Swamp dewberry (*Rubus hispidus*)
Cow vetch (*Vicia cracca*) alien E,S
Bladder campion (*Silene cucubalus*) alien E,S
Evening lychnis (*Lychnis alba*) alien S,F

- Pink lady's slipper (*Cypripedium acaule*)
opposite of post E

- 7 Trailing arbutus (*Epigaea repens*) left of post E
Swamp dewberry (*Rubus hispidus*)
Partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*) S
Bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*) (turn right around corner) E

- 8 Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*)
Sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*)
Cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*)
Cattail (*Typha latifolia*)
Swamp rose (*Rosa palustris*) S
Tufted loosestrife (*Lysimachia thyrsiflora*) S
Bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*) E
Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*)
Sarsaparilla (*Aralia nudicaulis*) S
Common shinleaf (*Pyrola* sp.) S
Cowwheat (*Melampyrum lineare*) S

9 North side of trail:

- Marsh bellflower (*Campanula aparinoides*) S
Swamp rose (*Rosa palustris*) S
Marsh fern (*Thelypteris palustris*)
Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*)
Sensitive fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*)
Pitcher plant (*Sarracenia purpurea*) E,S

South side of trail:

- Mountain-holly (*Nemopanthus mucronata*)
Tree clubmoss (*Lycopodium dendrodiium*)

In water:

- Pickerelweed (*Pontederia cordata*) S
Fragrant waterlily-white (*Nymphaea odorata*)
Watershield (*Brasenia schreberi*) S

- Wild basil (*Satureja vulgaris*) S,F
Goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.) S,F
*St. johnswort (*Hypericum perforatum*) S

21 Barn foundation

- Sumac (*Rhus* spp.) growing in southeast corner of foundation.
Wild bergamot (*Monarda fistulosa*) S,F
Rough-fruited cinquefoil (*Potentilla recta*)

22 Old Orchard and Pollinator Garden

- Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) S
Apple (*Malus pumila*)
Horsemint (*Monarda punctata*) S
Sweet everlasting (*Gnaphalium obtusifolium*) S,F
British soldiers lichen
Sheep sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*)
Goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.) S,F
Prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia humifusa*) S
Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) S
Black-eyed susan (*Rudbeckia hirta*) S
Lance leaved coreopsis (*Coreopsis lanceolata*) S
Hoary vervain (*Verbena stricta*) S
Prairie smoke (*Geum triflorum*) E,S
Butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) S
June grass (*Koeleria macrantha*) S
Dwarf dandelion (*Krigia virginica*) S
Hoary puccoon (*Lithospermum conescens*) S
Lupine (*Lupinus perennis*) E,S
Hairy beardtongue (*Pestemon hirsutus*) E,S
Foxglove beardtongue (*Penstemon hirsutus*) S
Little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*) F
Big bluestem (*Andropogon gerardii*) F
Indian grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) F
Smooth blue aster (*Symphotrichum leave*) F

- 10 Sedge (*Carex stricta*)
Cattail (*Typha latifolia*)
Blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*)
Mountain-holly (*Nemopanthus mucronata*)
White pine (*Pinus strobus*)

- 11 Swamp rose (*Rosa palustris*) S
Willow (*Salix* sp.) shrubs - north side of boardwalk
Cinnamon fern (*Osmunda cinnamomea*)
Tag alder (*Alnus rugosa*)
Tufted loosestrife (*Lysimachia thyrsiflora*) S
Goldthread (*Coptis trifolia*) E

- 12 Poison sumac (*Toxicodendron vernix*)
North side of boardwalk – **Do not touch**
Cattail (*Typha latifolia*)
Tag alder (*Alnus rugosa*)
Royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*)
Red osier dogwood (*Cornus stolonifera*)
Dwarf raspberry (*Rubus pubescens*) E
Monkey-flower (*Mimulus ringens*) S

- 13 Round-leaved sundew (*Drosera rotundifolia*) nearby S
Spotted joe-pye weed (*Eupatorium maculatum*) S
Swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) S
Poison sumac (*Toxicodendron vernix*) seedling – south side by cranberry
Cranberry (*Vaccinium macrocarpon* and *V. oxycoccos*)

- 14 Blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*) E
Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*)
Black Huckleberry (*Gaylussacia baccata*)

- 15 Hard-stem bulrush (*Scirpus acutus*)
Swamp dewberry (*Rubus hispidus*) S
*Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)

- 23 White lettuce (*Prenanthes alba*) S,F
Yellow violet (*Viola pubescens*) E
Hog peanut (*Amphicarpaea bracteata*) S

- 24 Tick trefoil (*Desmodium paniculatum*)
Trailing arbutus (*Epigaea repens*) E
Common speedwell (*Veronica officinalis*) E,S
*White sweet clover (*Melilotus alba*) S
Partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*) S

- 25 Common clubmoss (*Lycopodium clavatum*)
Groundcedar (*Lycopodium complanatum*)
Sweetfern (*Comptonia peregrina*)

* Denotes invasive species to be eradicated

Best Viewing Times:
Key: E = Early, Spring (April – May)
S = Summer (June – August)
F = Fall (September – October)

Help Loda Lake's plants flourish. Please do not pick, dig, or remove plants.

Cultural Trail Sites:

- C1 Hanson family summer home
- C2 Servant's quarters
- C3 Hanson family garage
- C4 Albert Schmidt studio
- C5 Farmhouse
- C6 Farmhouse garage
- C7 Sheep barn
- C8 Silo
- C9 Hip roof barn