

# Hancock Middle School

8th grade

## Self & Community class:

- This is a project-based class where the student develops citizenship skills by being active participants in their community.
- Class projects range from helping others within the school, serving various community members or by becoming knowledgeable and active stewards of the Great Lakes.
- The brochure project was chosen because students were able to interact with the natural world, learn to identify common trees of the Western U.P. and develop signage that the community can benefit from while walking along the trails at Paavola Wetlands Preserve.

## Sources:

Kershaw, Linda. Trees of Michigan. Lone Pine Publishing International. WA. 2006.

## Approximate Distances of the Trails:

Trailhead to the end of Pond Overlook Trail: .8 miles  
Swamp Crosscut (entire length): .48 miles  
Powercut Trail: .11 miles  
Farmstead Trail: .16 miles  
White Pine Crosscut: .12 miles  
Succession Loop: .7 miles



Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative

Hancock Middle School partnering with Keweenaw Land Trust

## Paavola Wetlands Preserve Tree Identification Walking Trail Brochure



**Tour #1: Pond Overlook Trail with 1st part of Swamp Crosscut—approximately 1 mile.**

Tour #1 highlights: Glacial grooves. Beaver pond overlooks. Nice conifer trail along the Swamp Crosscut as well as bear claw marks. Jack Pine & Red Pine on Pond Overlook trail. This tour is not as wet. More wildflowers.



**Tour #2: Farmstead Trail leading into White Pine Crosscut and the Succession Loop—**

Tour #2 highlights: Will see old Finnish homestead. Lots of Red Maple and tall White Pine. Rock wall visible. Can be wet in spots. Beaver activity with close-up pond view.



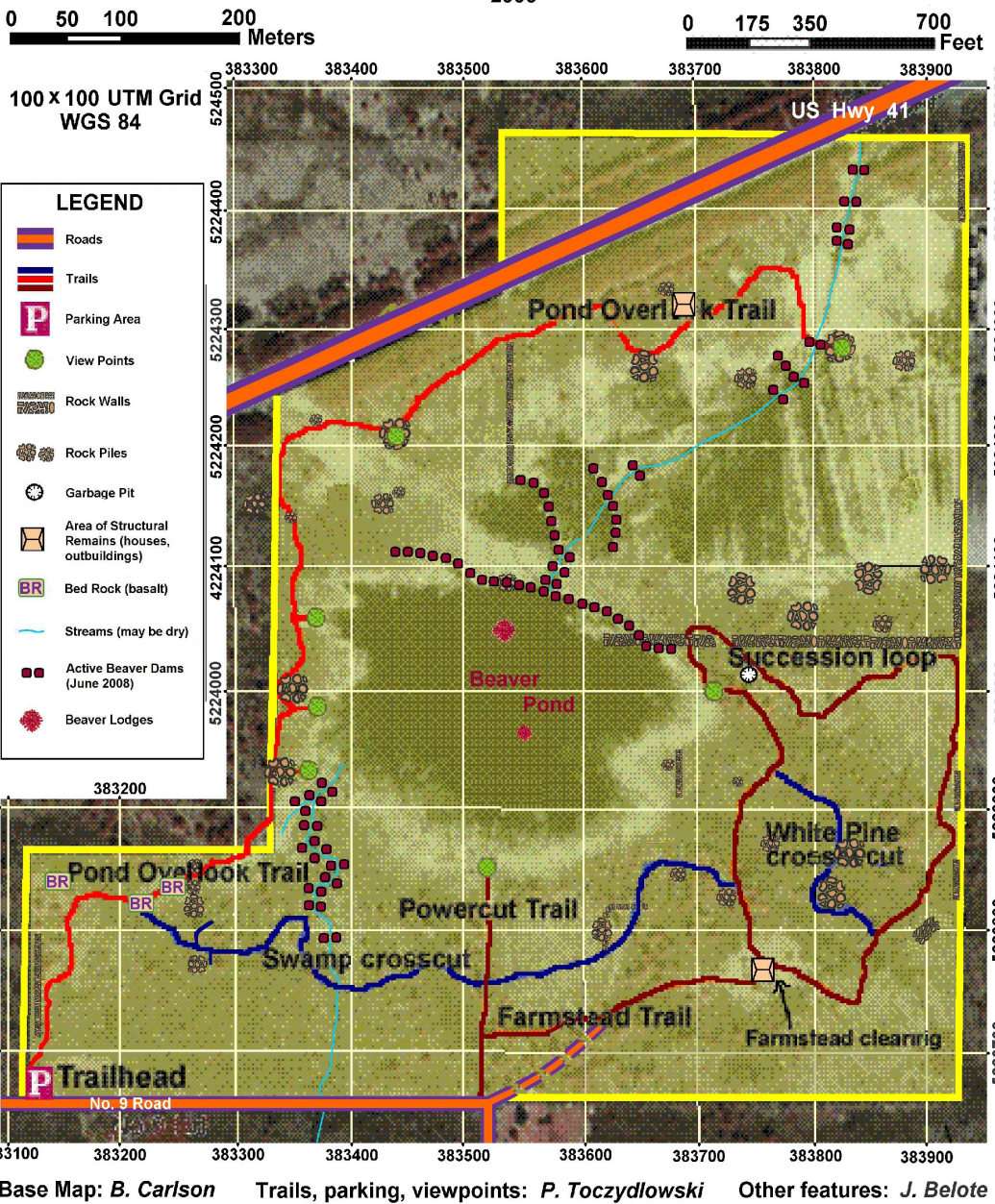
Created by the 8th Grade Self & Community class at Hancock Middle School, 2009 – 2010. This brochure and tree identification walking trail project was sponsored by the Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative.



The Lake Superior Stewardship Initiative is part of the Great Lakes Stewardship Initiative, which was established by the Great Lakes Fishery Trust with the support of the Wege Foundation.

## Paavola Wetlands Preserve Trail Map

Keweenaw Land Trust PRELIMINARY VERSION  
2008







# Paavola Wetlands Preserve Tree ID Walking Trail—Information About Trees & Shrubs

## What Trees Will You Find?

**Deciduous Trees:** produce flowers and have broad leaves that fall off.



**Mountain Ash *Sorbus Americana*.** It has compound leaves. In the fall it produces orange berries.

### Northern Red Oak *Quercus rubra*.

It is the only native oak tree found in the U.P. In younger trees, the bark is smooth and gray-green in color while in older trees, the bark is dark gray and divided into rounded ridges. Oak trees produce acorns.



Drawn by: Jaxon Martin

**Tag Alder *Alnus rugosa*.** Produces dark, dull oval shaped leaves and has twisted branches. Has cone-like catkins (looks like a brown mini-pine cone).



Drawn by: Sean Patchin



Drawn by: Jaxon Martin

**Red Maple *Acer rubrum*.** Produces small red flowers in the spring. The leaves have serrated edges with 3-5 palmate lobes which turn bright red orange or yellow in fall. Prefers cool, moist habitats.

### Highbush-Cranberry *Viburnum trilobum*.

Grows to about 6' tall with clusters of white flowers which turn into bright red fruits in the fall. Leaves look like small, 3 lobed maple leaves.



Drawn by: Kailey Auguston

**Red-Osier Dogwood *Cornus sericea*.** Has opposite, grayish green smooth leaves with serrated edges. The dogwood has red bark and branches with white flowers which mature into white "eye-ball" like fruits in the fall.



Lindsey Hanson

**Black Hawthorn *Crataegus douglasii*.** Likes clearings. Produces a dark fruit and dangerous 1" long thorns. The leaves are oval shaped with coarse teeth.

### White Birch or Paper Birch *Betula papyrifera*.

When they are young, the bark is red, however the bark turns white and can peel when the tree matures. The leaves are heart-shaped and serrated. Likes to grow in disturbed areas where cutting or burning has taken place.



Drawn by: Jaxon Martin

Drawn by: Alex Hill



**Sugar Maple or *Acer saccharum*.** The palm-like leaf has 5 lobes with smooth edges. During spring it will produce small, green flowers. It can grow in moist to sandy soil. It takes 30-40 quarts of sap to make one 1 quart of maple syrup.

"That tree looks strong. It's so muscular." -Wade Hanke

**Blackberry or *Rubus*.** Thorny shrub found along the Swamp Crosscut trail near the homestead. The fruit is actually made up of tiny berries clustered together.



Photo by: Jim Belote

**Coniferous Trees:** produce cones, leaves are needle-like and most are evergreen.



Drawn by: K. Bastion

**White Pine *Pinus strobes*.** Has 2-6" long needles that are wispy and in bundles of five. Can grow in a variety of areas including sand dunes, rocky ridges and swamps. This tree often towers above all others in the forest canopy.

**White Cedar *Thuja occidentals*.** Produces scale-like, flat needles. The cedar tree prefers cool, humid habitats with calcium rich soil.



Drawn by: Ryan LaBerge



Drawn by: Ryan LaBerge

**Balsam Fir *Abies balsamea*.** Has flat needles and produces a "Christmas-tree" smell. The cones are erect. The crown is spire shaped. Likes low, swampy soil.

"I saw bear scratchings on trees, beaver chewed trees, and many different cool things (at Paavola)." -Lindsey Hanson



Drawn by: G. Stromer

**Jack Pine *Pinus banksiana*.** Needles are .75—1.5" long and can be straight or slightly twisted. Needles are in bundles of twos and sharply pointed. The cones are 1-3" long and point toward the branch tips.



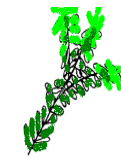
Drawn by: Tori Johnson



Drawn by: Alex Hill

**Tamarack *Larix laricina*.** Has soft, bright green needles in bundles of 10-20. Prefers to grow in cold climates in a moist or bog-like habitat. This is the only pine tree that loses its needles every fall which makes it a deciduous, conifer.

**White Spruce *Picea glauca*.** A thick tree with new needles a pale blue-green color. The needles on a spruce go all the way around the stem and are 4 sided. Cones hang near the branch tips.



Drawn by: Matthew Kao

## Other Sights at the Preserve:

**Beaver** - Are nocturnal. There are two lodges found in the pond with at least twenty smaller dams.



Drawn by: Ashlyn Kero

**Bear**— claw marks found in birch and aspen trees— look closely!



Photo by Jim Belote

Homestead-built in 1902 and was originally two rooms with an attic. The structure changed three times between 1902 and 1960. The homestead was once a potato farm until much later when the beaver came.

According to the 1910 census, the Matt Karjala family lived here with their ten children. Helen (Helma), who was one of the ten, married (Noponen) and ended up living in the house until the early 1990s.



Photo by: Jim Belote

## About Keweenaw Land Trust:

Keweenaw Land Trust (KLT) is a local non-profit organization that is dedicated to protecting our land, water and quality of life through conservation, stewardship and education. KLT works with community partners and private land owners to establish and steward public nature preserves, protect natural resources, and create opportunities for nature based outdoor education and low-impact recreation. [www.KeweenawLandTrust.org](http://www.KeweenawLandTrust.org)