

# North Western State Trail

## OVERALL MILEAGE

The North Western State Trail is 32 miles from M-119 in Petoskey to the trailhead in downtown Mackinaw City. The 10' wide asphalt trail is 7.5 miles, from M-119 at Spring Lake Park to downtown Alanson. The unimproved section of trail from Alanson to Mackinaw City, 24.5 miles, is dirt, sand and gravel (*a project to improve this section is in the works*).

### Point-to-Point on trail miles

Spring Lake Park to Conway	2.5
Conway to Oden	2.3
Oden to Alanson	2.7
Alanson to Pellston	8.0
Pellston to Mackinaw City	16.5

## Trail highlight: The Michigan Fisheries Visitors Center in Oden



Did you know that in this tiny spot on the map - Oden - is one of Michigan's most valuable resources? The facility is one of the most advanced fish culture facilities of its kind. It is the brown and rainbow trout broodstock station and is a major rearing facility for those two species. Plus, it's an interpretation center and it's a cool place to visit; you can even get creek-side, into the bank views of the river habitat that lives at the Oden State Fish Hatchery. The site also has public restrooms and an interpretive center, as well as ample parking.

More details, hours: [www.michigan.gov](http://www.michigan.gov)



## About the N.W. State Trail

Discover the natural beauty and the quaint small towns along "The Fishing Line" from Petoskey to Mackinaw City along the North Western State Trail. The trail runs along the former Grand Rapids and Indiana line of Pennsylvania Railroad (once known as "The Fishing Line") that opened in 1882 and continued in some areas until 1992.

### PETOSKEY

The Petoskey to Alanson section of trail, 7.5 miles, has been improved with a 10' wide asphalt surface. The trail begins at Spring Lake Park on M-119 where you will find parking, restrooms, an interpretive trail and picnic facilities. To get to downtown Petoskey (3 miles) or Harbor Springs (6 miles) take the Little Traverse Wheelway via the pedestrian crossing of M-119.



The trail immediately runs adjacent to two small lakes with great views and wildlife viewing. At the Round Lake overlook a small beach can be accessed via the Little Traverse Conservancy's Fochtman Nature Preserve trail.

### CONWAY & ODEN

The trail continues through the small community of Conway and onto the Michigan Fisheries Visitor Center where there is parking and bathrooms. The Center is a great destination with interesting interpretive displays, hiking trails and the

Oden Fish Hatchery. Back on the trail, you'll travel through Oden, across a boardwalk and along US-31. At Powers Road the trail ends and a shared road route is posted along Milton Road (0.5 miles) into downtown Alanson. Bathrooms and parking are available next to the Township Hall (bathrooms are around back near the playground).

### ALANSON

While you are in Alanson take time to enjoy its small town charm. There are great restaurants and shops, the Inland Waterway Museum, the swinging bridge and Crooked River locks. And, do not miss Sanctuary Park (at the end of East Street) where a hand propelled ferry takes you to an island boardwalk trail.

### Little Traverse Conservancy Nature Preserves

Found along the North Western State Trail are various nature preserves protected through the Little Traverse Conservancy (LTC). These beautiful properties are open to explore but please be mindful of the environment. For more information, visit [www.landtrust.org](http://www.landtrust.org), call 231.347.0991, or download the LTC app for your smart device.



This map courtesy of the following organizations:



### Top of Michigan Trails Council

445 East Mitchell Street  
Petoskey, MI 49770  
(231) 348-8280  
[www.trailsCouncil.org](http://www.trailsCouncil.org)

*Our mission is to advocate and facilitate the development and maintenance of a safe, multi-use, year-round recreational trail system in Alpena, Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Montmorency, Otsego and Presque Isle counties.*

### Become a member!

Call the number above for membership details and for information about Northern Michigan trails. Please help our trail efforts through a tax-deductible donation.



### Emmet County

200 Division St.  
Petoskey, MI 49770  
(231) 348-1704  
[www.emmetcounty.org](http://www.emmetcounty.org)

*Emmet County is located in the Northwest tip of Michigan's Lower Peninsula and is a place like no other. Here, a rich history meets unparalleled natural beauty; where stretches of sandy beaches, quaint downtowns and year-round activities beckon families, entrepreneurs, outdoor enthusiasts and everyone in between. Emmet County is also home to the Headlands, one of just seven International Dark Sky Parks in the United States!*

### Learn more about Northwest Michigan!

For complimentary area maps, park and community information, and Emmet County's annual magazine, Imagine, contact [info@emmetcounty.org](mailto:info@emmetcounty.org) or call 231) 348-1704.

## TRAIL MAP

# North Western State Trail



## 7.5 miles

Petoskey  
Conway  
Oden  
Alanson

[www.trailsCouncil.org](http://www.trailsCouncil.org)

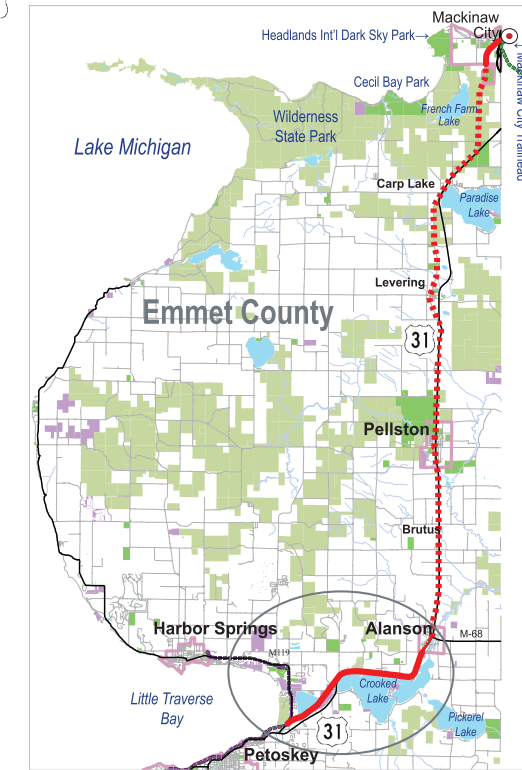


# North Western State Trail

32 miles connecting Petoskey, Alanson, Pellston and Mackinaw City

## M-119 to Alanson segment, 7.5 miles

M-119 to Conway, 2.5 miles • Conway to Oden, 2.3 • Oden to Alanson, 2.7 miles



### ABOUT THE NORTH WESTERN STATE TRAIL

The M-119 to Alanson trail segment located on the former Grand Rapids and Indiana line of the Pennsylvania Railroad was surfaced in 2013 through a unique partnership between Emmet County and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Funding was made possible from Michigan Department of Transportation - Federal Transportation Enhancements, Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Recreation Improvement Fund, Emmet County, Local Revenue Sharing Board, DALMAC Fund, and the Petoskey-Harbor Springs Area Community Foundation.



All Emergencies: Dial 9-1-1

## Trail etiquette

- Obey traffic signs.
- Stop, look & listen for motor traffic before crossing.
- This is a multi-use trail; be respectful and share the path.
- Always stay to the right side of the trail except to pass.
- When passing, announce your presence with a bell or by saying, "on your left."
- Always travel at a safe speed.
- Move off the pathway when stopping.
- Pets should be on-leash and under control.
- Wear a bicycle helmet.

Please do not litter!

