



Native Seedling Sale

Spring 2024

Order in person, by mail, or online: www.benziecd.org

80 Years of Conservation

Spring is one of the liveliest times of year to get involved in conservation. Here in Benzie County, we will be launching another aquatic field season, hosting a number of volunteer stewardship programs, and of course, distributing native seedlings to the participants of our sale. This spring also brings a major milestone.

On June 15, 2024, the Benzie Conservation District turns 80!

Conservation Districts formed after the impact of the Dust Bowl, when the need for more careful natural resource management was devastatingly apparent. Since then, Districts have appeared across the country, staffed by passionate teams who are equipped to address local environmental needs. 80 years later, the Benzie Conservation District is still driving our mission to preserve and enhance natural resources by rising to modern environmental challenges.

Today, habitat loss and climate change are well-known threats and we are proud to serve

a community so deeply engaged in mitigating these impacts through programs like our seedling sales.

By planting native species, you are supporting the intricate ecology of Benzie County to reduce habitat loss. With the Assisted Tree Range Expansion Project (ATREP) species line, you are bolstering our forests with trees that are predicted to become well-established in a changing climate. Your involvement in programs like this one is a testament to the positive outlook for Benzie's environmental future.

We envision that in the next five years, the health of Benzie's terrestrial ecosystems and agricultural land is celebrated and protected by all stakeholders. This summer, we will be organizing a community event to celebrate 80 years of preserving and enhancing local natural resources. Thank you for your involvement in our mission so far! Stay tuned for more details on the event and I look forward to seeing you at our seedling sale pickup days this April.

—Jon Throop, Executive Director

February 1, 2024

Sale begins

March 28, 2024

Last day to order

April 19 & 20, 2024

Product pickup
Beulah Village Park Pavilion
7122 Prospect Ave
Beulah, MI 49617

*Please note, seedling orders
are for pickup only*



Thank you to our seedling sale sponsors for helping make this program available to our community! For a full list of sponsors, please visit:

www.benziecd.org/seedling-sales

280 S. Benzie Blvd.
POB 408
Beulah, MI 49617
231-882-4391
info@benziecd.org
www.benziecd.org

ATREP: Assisted Tree Range Expansion Project

BUR OAK (*Quercus macrocarpa*)

Height: 50' to 100'

Rate of growth: medium.

Soils: rocky, sandy, clayey, well-drained; full sun.

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6–12”

Adaptable tree with an impressive, rounded crown. Used for windbreaks, riparian forest buffers, and timber. Acorns are enjoyed by a variety of wildlife.



TULIPTREE (*Liriodendron tulipifera*)

Height: 70' to 90'

Rate of growth: fast

Soils: prefers moist, well-drained soil; full sun

Size: bareroot seedlings are 12-18”

Member of magnolia family. Golden yellow fall color. Stems are aromatic. Greenish-yellow flowers yield lots of nectar, attracting hummingbirds. Produces alternating leaves that have distinctive lobes, resembling tulips.



SYCAMORE (*Platanus occidentalis*)

Height: up to 120'

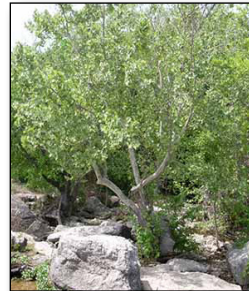
Rate of growth: fast

Soils: moist, nutrient-rich; full sun.

Size: bareroot seedlings are 18–24”

This massive tree provides cover and nesting sites for birds and other wildlife. Bark is uniquely camouflage-like, and fruit resembles ornaments in the wintertime.

Photo by Rebecca Weller, 2012



► Plant trees to research climate change

The Assisted Tree Range Expansion Project (ATREP) is a response to ongoing and impending effects of climate change felt in our region.

Simply defined, assisted tree range expansion is “the human assisted movement of species to areas just outside their established range in response to facilitating or mimicking natural range expansion.”

The ATREP trees on this page reach their upper limits in southern to middle lower Michigan. As the climate warms and weather patterns change, our region is predicted to exhibit suitable site conditions for these selected species. By establishing these species now, you can help to:

- increase ecosystem diversity
- offset widespread tree die-offs
- improve the resilience of future forests

Participants support this ongoing community-science project by gathering simple measurements about their ATREP trees. At seedling sale pickup, you will receive more information on how to gather and share your findings. The information collected from this short- and long-term research are extremely beneficial for the success of this program. Thank you!

SWAMP WHITE OAK (*Quercus bicolor*)

Height: 50' to 60'

Rate of growth: medium

Soils: acidic, drought-tolerant, wet; full sun

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6–12”

Grows wild in low-lying, swampy areas: bottomlands or river banks. Also grows in urban or suburban settings, with tolerance to compacted soil and drought.



SHAGBARK HICKORY (*Carya ovata*)

Height: 60' to 80'

Rate of growth: medium

Soils: Moist, well-drained soils; full to partial sun

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-12”

Gray bark exfoliates in long flat plates giving the tree a shaggy appearance and year-round appeal. Fall color is golden brown. Nut has a thick four-sectioned husk. Attractive to birds and small mammals.



Conifers

BALSAM FIR (*Abies balsamea*)

Height: 45' to 65'

Rate of growth: med to slow

Soils: prefers moist, well-drained acidic soil

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-9"

Aromatic tree with strong, soft needles. Popular uses include yard and Christmas trees. Plant in sun to partial shade for color and cover in northern hardwoods.



RED PINE (*Pinus resinosa*)

Height: 60' to 80'

Rate of growth: fast

Soils: sandy, well-drained soils; full sun, shade intolerant

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-12"

Perfect for most of Benzie County! Straight, tall stems create natural fence or windbreak. Extremely cold tolerant. Plant a red pine plantation as an investment.



NORTHERN WHITE CEDAR (*Thuja occidentalis*)

Height: 30' to 50'

Rate of growth: slow

Soils: cool, moist, nutrient-rich soils; partial sun and shade

Size: bareroot seedlings are 7-12"

Can grow in swamps, but likes well-drained, slightly alkaline soils. Good for hedges and windbreaks. Browsed by deer; offers cover and nesting for birds.



WHITE PINE (*Pinus strobus*)

Height: 80' to 150'

Rate of growth: fast

Soils: light, sandy to heavy soils; full sun and partial shade.

Size: bareroot seedlings are 7-10"

Michigan's state tree. Soft, five-needle bunches; welcomes variety of songbirds and wildlife. Provides privacy and wind protection.



WHITE SPRUCE (*Picea glauca*)

Height: 60' to 75'

Rate of growth: medium

Soils: tolerant of most soils; full sun

Size: bareroot seedlings are 10-18"

Christmas-tree shape compliments the yard, good for windbreak and wildlife habitat. Wood used for pulp and lumber.



Tree selection tips

Trees and shrubs are so much more than scenic additions to a yard. For the rest of their lives, these seedlings will be interconnected with the flora and fauna around them, contributing to a broad ecosystem.

Trees that are planted in sites that meet their long-term needs are significantly more likely to thrive over the years and provide their unique contributions to the habitat. Be sure to consider the following questions when selecting your seedlings:

1. How much sun or shade does your site get?
2. Is your soil moist or well-drained? Are you on a wetland or near a body of water?
3. As your seedlings age, will they have the space to grow upwards and outwards?

For more information about matching trees to your landscape, please contact us with questions or consult the following resources:

1. USDA Plants Database (plants.usda.gov)
2. Climate Change Field Guide for Northern Michigan Forests (forestadaptation.org)

Hardwoods

NORTHERN RED OAK (*Quercus rubra*)

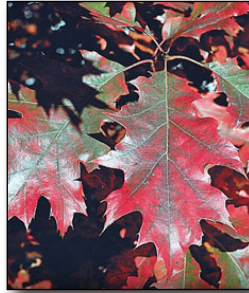
Height: 50' to 70'

Rate of growth: fast

Soils: all soils; tolerant of drought

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-12"

Long-lived, great source for hardwood lumber. Excellent shade tree; leaves are reddish-purple in fall. Acorns preferred by variety of birds and mammals; also good for cover and nesting sites.



SUGAR MAPLE (*Acer saccharum*)

Height: 80' to 120'

Rate of growth: slow

Soils: all soils; full sun, no shade

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-12"

Sugar maple is widely used for commercial syrup production and candies, as its sap has twice the sugar content of other maple species. Planted as an ornamental or shade tree; brilliant fall colors.



WHITE OAK (*Quercus alba*)

Height: 80' to 100'

Rate of growth: slow to medium

Soils: various soils; full sun/partial shade

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-12"

Wildlife love sweet, white oak acorns. Water and rot resistant; used for wine barrels, flooring, lumber. Excellent shade tree; red-to-purplish fall colors.



► Temporary plantings

On product pickup day, you'll notice that your seedlings are bundled snug in cool, moist paper. This wrapping keeps your seedlings healthy for as long as possible while they're out of the soil. The combination of water and shade prevents the plants' roots from getting parched, but within a couple days after pickup, the seedlings will need to draw nutrients from soil.

If you can't get your seedlings in their permanent homes right away, heel them in to a temporary location.

As demonstrated in the images below, heeling in only takes a few easy steps:

1. Dig a shallow trench
2. Unbundle the seedlings
3. Space them out in the trench
4. Cover their roots with soil
5. Water roots to keep them moist

AMERICAN CHESTNUT (*Castanea dentata*)

Height: 50' to 75'

Rate of growth: fast

Soils: moderately acidic, sandy loam

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-12"

Likes morning sun. Wildlife love the sweet nuts, which can be used for stuffing, butters, beer, flour, and so on. Wood is excellent for construction, fencing, and furniture.



WHITE BIRCH (*Betula papyrifera*)

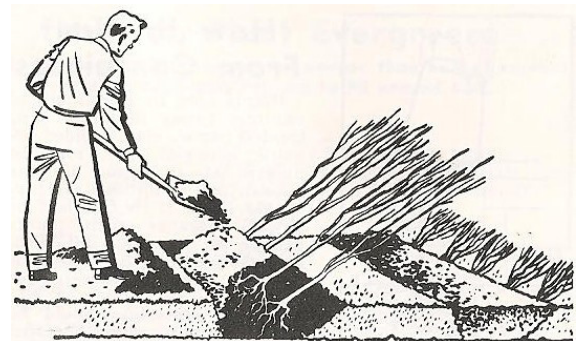
Height: 50' to 70'

Rate of growth: med to fast

Soils: various soils; full sun/partial shade

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-12"

"Paper birch," often a landscape tree. Birds and mammals eat the buds and seeds. Helps reduce erosion, protect aquatic environments, increase biodiversity.



Wildlife Trees & Shrubs

ALLEGHENY SERVICEBERRY (*Amelanchier laevis*)

Height: 15' to 25'

Rate of growth: medium

Soils: Moist, well-drained soil; partial sun/shade

Size: bareroot seedlings are 12–18”
Small, understory tree with four-season interest. It has early spring flowers, orange-red fall color, and gray bark. The edible purplish-black fruit in late summer attracts birds.



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AMERICAN HAZELNUT (*Corylus americana*)

Height: 15' to 18'

Rate of growth: medium to fast

Soils: various soils; full sun to partial shade

Size: bareroot seedlings are 12–24”
Ornamental tree with sweet, edible nuts (filberts). Plant two trees for pollination. Attracts wide variety of wildlife. Provides food, cover and nesting sites.



EASTERN REDBUD (*Cercis canadensis*)

Height: 25' to 35'

Rate of growth: medium

Soils: well-drained soils; adaptable; full sun to light shade

Size: bareroot seedlings are 12–18”
Showy lavender to pink flowers in spring. Ornamental lawn tree for smaller yards. The seeds provide winter food for birds; blossoms attract pollinators.



BLACK ELDERBERRY (*Sambucus nigra*)

Height: 10' to 12'

Rate of growth: fast

Soils: Likes moist, well-drained soil; full sun; drought intolerant.

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6–12”
White, fragrant flowers. Berries small, purple-black color. Relished by songbirds and wildlife. Shrub for erosion control; berries used in wines, jams, juice.



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BLACK CHERRY (*Prunus serotina*)

Height: 60' to 90'

Rate of growth: fast

Soils: rich, moist soil and full sun.

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6–12”
Showy, fragrant white blossoms in spring. Fruit is loved by birds and other wildlife, but leaves and twigs can be harmful to livestock if ingested. Wood is highly valued for furniture and paneling.



NINEBARK (*Physocarpus opulifolius*)

Height: 6' to 9'

Rate of growth: fast

Soils: wide variety of soil types; full sun/part shade.

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6–12”
White flower clusters in summer; fruit pods in fall. Great nectar source; fruits eaten by several birds. The bark continually molts in thin strips, each time exposes a new layer of bark, as if it had “nine lives.”



PERSIMMONS (*Diospyros virginiana*)

Height: 35' to 40'

Rate of growth: slow

Soils: moist, sandy, and well-drained soils; thrives in full sun

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-12"

Nice ornamental; leaves turn yellow to red in fall. Fruit can be used in puddings and baking; also provides nectar for pollinators, and food for a wide variety of wildlife.



HIGHBUSH CRANBERRY (*Viburnum trilobum*)

Height: 6' to 15'

Rate of growth: medium

Soils: moist, but adaptable to dryer & sunny sites; hardy if established

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-12"

White flowers, red groups of berries. Persists through winter. Food source to wildlife and early spring birds such as cedar waxwings, turkey & grouse.



WHITE FLOWERING DOGWOOD (*Cornus florida*)

Height: 15' to 50'

Rate of growth: medium

Soils: Likes moist, well-drained soil; full sun to partial shade.

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-12"

Showy blossoms and attractive fall foliage. Many bird varieties and upland game birds (e.g. wild turkey) consume the seeds. Also provides shelter and habitat for wildlife species.



WINTERBERRY (*Ilex verticillata*)

Height: 5' to 15'

Rate of growth: slow

Soils: wetlands to drier soils; full sun to partial shade.

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-12"

Attractive bright red fruit eaten by small mammals and more than 48 species of birds. Plant male/female for pollination. Warning: poisonous to humans. Very popular for landscaping. Good for stabilizing hills.



RED OSIER DOGWOOD (*Cornus sericea*)

Height: 6' to 10'

Rate of growth: medium to fast

Soils: prefers wetland, streams & ponds; full sun to light shade.

Size: bareroot seedlings are 6-12"

Often called red willow. White flowers and berries; bark and leaves red in autumn. Soil stabilizer, landscape border. Attracts turkey, ruffed grouse, bobwhite, pheasant.



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Grasses & Wildflowers

BIG BLUESTEM (*Andropogon gerardii*)

Height: 6' to 8'

Rate of growth: medium

Soils: medium to well drained soils; adaptable

Coverage: 1 ounce covers 200 sq ft. Attracts butterflies; deer resistant; acts as claybuster. In late summer produces three-parted seed heads. The green leaves & stems change to reddish-copper in winter. Top choice for erosion control.



BEACH GRASS (*Ammophila breviligulata*)

Height: 2' to 3'

Rate of growth: fast

Soils: sandy soil

Coverage: depends on planting grid
Natural erosion control. Grass forms a dense cover in sandy areas. Plant 6"- 8" deep, one stem per hole in a 12" up to 18" square grid, depending on flatland or slopes. 100 plugs per bundle. Keep roots moist before planting.



LITTLE BLUESTEM (*Schizachyrium scoparium*)

Height: 1' to 3'

Rate of growth: medium

Soils: from sandy to clay-loam

Coverage: 1 ounce covers 200 sq ft
Wonderful for a border or dry garden; great erosion control. Foliage is soft, textured, and green or bluish, turning orange in autumn. Flowering plumes grow in clumps. Excellent nesting/roosting site.



ECO-TURF GRASS SEED MIX

Height: 4" to 6"

Rate of growth: slow

Soils: loam/sand/gravel and well drained clay; full sun/partial shade.

Coverage: 1 pound covers 140 sq ft
Deep-rooted fescues as an alternative to traditional mixes. No intense watering, mowing or fertilizing. Choose not to mow and enjoy a soft look lawn. Contact us for bulk pricing over 5lbs.



INDIAN GRASS SEED (*Sorghastrum nutans*)

Height: 3' to 8'

Rate of growth: medium

Soils: sandy to clay-loam; adaptable

Coverage: 1 ounce covers 200 sq ft
Birds love the golden seedheads in autumn. Also great winter interest. Can tolerate wet to dry soils from sand to clay. Plant with Little Bluestem for a fabulous fall combination and landscape backdrop. Full sun.



POLLINATOR SEED MIX

Height: varies

Rate of growth: med to fast

Soils: formulated for sandy soils

Coverage: 4 oz. covers 500 sq ft
Attracts pollinators: bees, wasps, butterflies, moths, and beetles. Includes 10 native wildflowers. Plant in proportion to grass mix for better stability on cleared ground; keep moist for germination.



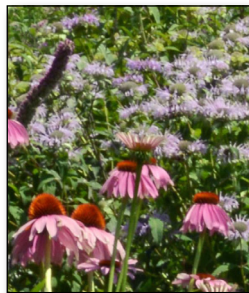
PRAIRIE SEED MIX

Height: varies

Rate of growth: medium

Soils: sandy, loamy

Coverage: 1 oz. covers 200 sq ft
Wildflowers and bunchgrasses combine in this BCD-custom mix for a diverse, prairie-style landscape. The grass to flower ratio is specially formulated to promote harmony among the species.



COMMON MILKWEED (*Asclepias syriaca*)

Height: 2' to 5'

Rate of growth: fast

Soils: sandy, clay, or rocky calcareous soils

Coverage: Approx 100 seeds/gram
Common variety produces profusion of lavender flowers in mid-summer and is mandatory food source for Monarch caterpillars who feast on the leaves. Can be toxic if ingested.



Tree Care Products

PLANTSKYDD REPELLENT

Safe and effective deer, rabbit, and rodent repellent. Dried blood (porcine and/or bovine) is the main ingredient. Browsing animals smell what they believe is a predator.

Ready-to-use liquid: 85 oz. (5 liters)

Powder concentration: 1 lb. makes 4 qts

Granules canister: 1 lb., sprinkle to distribute around plants

Ready-to-use sprayer: 1 qt.



TREE TUBE (FLEXIBLE MESH) & STAKE

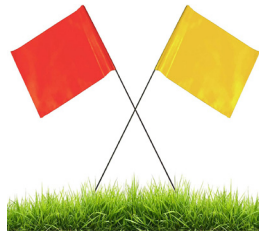
Protect young seedlings from nibbling intruders for up to five years. 3-1/4" x 36", constructed of flexible material. Allow 10" to 12" of tubing to extend above tree to compensate for later growth and tree top protection. Bamboo stake & ties included in price. Best for shrubs.



MARKER FLAGS

Mark newly planted seedlings with red, orange or yellow flags. 30" wire stake, 4 x 5" flag.

Withstand high winds and harsh weather. Use for landscaping, underground utilities, sewers and surveying. Tough, tear-resistant PVC marking flags. Wire stake pushes easily into the ground.



TREE TUBE (RIGID) & STAKE

These seedling protectors are 100% recycled polyethylene (milk jug plastic). They have a tab-flared top to protect seedling from sharp edges. Tube walls have vents starting halfway up to allow herbicide spray around the base. Cost per tree protector includes one stake and ties. 5' tall.



"TREES PLANTED" SIGNS

Protect your trees and your labor. Alert others to stay off your plantings with these orange or yellow & black, 7" x 12" metal signs.

The Michigan Conservation Districts logo runs on the bottom of sign and states:

Your Land
Your Water
Your Michigan



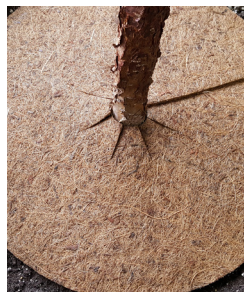
TERRA•SORB

Helps retain the moisture of the roots on the trees when planting. One ounce packet of Terra-Sorb granules covers approx. 1,000 seedlings. Mix 1 oz. with 1 1/3 gallons of water for dipping bareroot plants. After stirring, granules turn to gel to dip/coat seedling roots immediately before planting. Can be used on all seedlings.



TREE MATS

Coir (natural coconut husk) mats help retain the moisture of the seedling roots and protects from weed growth after planting. Round mat has a diameter of 17" with cutout for tree trunk.



Your ad here!

Interested in sponsoring a future Benzie Conservation District seedling sale?
Please contact our office for details.

info@benziecd.org

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Nature guides, outdoors, & more

TUMBLING COMPOSTER

Produce high quality compost quickly and efficiently. Let one bin "cook" while you add fresh compost materials to the other side. Built-in paddles mix the material as you turn the tumbler. Assembly required. BPA-free recycled polypropylene, steel. 28" W x 36" H x 26" deep overall. Weighs 30 lbs. Holds 5 cubic feet total.



SUPER HOT COMPOST STARTER

Great to use with our compost tumbler! Contains blood meal, bone char, alfalfa meal, kelp meal, pasteurized poultry litter, natural nitrate of soda, feather meal, and peanut meal. Activates eight bushels (approx. 10 cubic feet) of compost materials. Comes in a 7-lb. resealable bag.



TEE SHIRTS

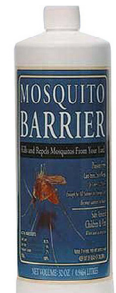
Show support for your conservation district in style! Bright lime green BCD logo on navy, v-neck tee.

- Unisex sizes: S, M, L, XL, XXL.
- 60% Combed Ringspun Cotton
- 40% Polyester
- Sideseamed for a perfect fit
- Short set-in sleeves
- Denim heather



MOSQUITO BARRIER

Repels mosquitos from yard. Poison-free, natural and lasts 2 to 4 weeks. Quart bottle will provide coverage for the average yard for one full summer. One gallon covers five acres. The liquid is 99% pure garlic extract; it typically becomes odorless 20 minutes after application.



TOPO MAPS

Topographical maps of Benzie County & surrounding regions:

Bear Lake	Empire
Benzonia	Frankfort
Beulah	Karlin
Burdickville	Lake Ann
Copemish	Platte River
Elberta	Thompsonville



POCKET GUIDES

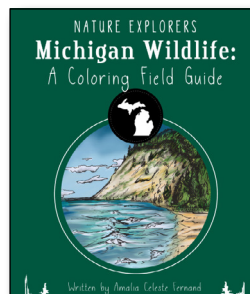
Handy, waterproof foldout guides:

- Animal Tracks
- Bats
- Bears
- Bees & Pollinators
- Birds of Prey
- Dragonflies & Damselflies
- Edible Wild Plants
- Freshwater Fishes
- Great Lakes Butterflies & Pollinators
- Great Lakes Trees & Wildflowers
- Hummingbirds
- Invasive Weeds of North America
- Mammals
- Michigan Birds
- Michigan Wildlife
- Mushrooms
- Nests & Eggs
- Night Sky
- Reptiles & Amphibians
- Snakes
- Trout & Salmon
- Turtles
- Waterfowl
- Wilderness Survival



NATURE EXPLORERS, MICHIGAN WILDLIFE: A COLORING FIELD GUIDE, by Amalia Fernand

Children and adults will appreciate this unique coloring AND guide book! It features informative facts (size, diet, habitat, life cycle, and nature knowledge about each species), information on being a nature explorer, a species checklist, and a nature knowledge dictionary. Written by local environmental educator, Amalia Celeste Fernand, Nature Explorers, International.



NATURE ART POSTERS

Stunning posters include illustrations of species in the Midwest /Great Lakes region. Printed on 80# coated stock using fade-resistant inks. Museum quality and suitable for framing.

- Apples: (19 x 27")
- Backyard Birds: (19 x 27")
- Bees: (24 x 36")
- Birds of the Great Lakes (19 x 27")
- Butterflies: (19 x 27")
- Fishes of the Great Lakes: (19 x 27")
- Land Mammals: (19 x 27")
- Owls: (19 x 27")
- Raptors: (19 x 27")
- Wading Birds: (19 x 27")



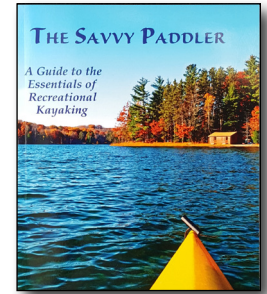
OUTDOOR GUIDEBOOKS by Jim Stamm

The Savvy Paddler: A great guide for recreational kayakers!

Benzie County Rivers, Lakes & Creeks: Explore local paddling and fishing.

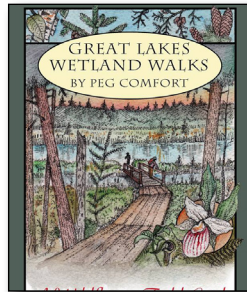
Benzie County Trail Guide: hiking, biking, x-country skiing, and snowshoeing.

Rivers & Lakes of Grand Traverse & Leelanau Counties: more waters to explore!



GREAT LAKES WETLAND WALKS by Peg Comfort

Color photographs of wetland flowers are organized by seasons: spring, early and late summer, along with a simplified step-by-step process for identifying common flowers. Loaded with resources: glossary, field guides, diagrams, and more. This guide is sure to make your wetland walks memorable.



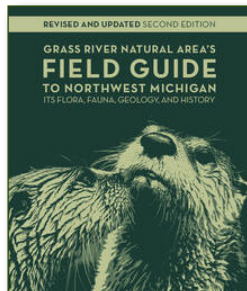
PICTURE PERFECT SLEEPING BEAR

This history in photographs explores the fascinating past and preservation efforts of Sleeping Bear country. People were asked to send in their best photos and fondest memories, and the stunning response provides visible testimony to the love that people have for this place. Created by Friends of Sleeping Bear.



FIELD GUIDE TO NW MICHIGAN, by James Dake

Regional best-selling guide on Northwest Michigan with color photography describing over 500 species of plants, animals, insects, and other natural wonders of our region. Revised and updated second edition.



► Upcoming programs

As we enter year two of our five-year strategic plan, one of our goals is to increase collaboration with partners so Benzie County residents have access to a wide variety of conservation opportunities. Below is a snapshot of a few events to look forward to in 2024:

Winter:

- Winter Webinar Series: forestry education, Leelanau Conservation District
- Invasive species webinars by the Invasive Species Network

Spring:

- Volunteer seedling sale packing days
- Garlic mustard workbees with the Invasive Species Network
- Volunteer stream monitoring program
- Volunteer river cleanups: Betsie and Platte

Summer:

- *Benzie Conservation District's 80th anniversary celebration*
- Japanese barberry tradeup days with the Invasive Species Network
- Botanizing float: plant identification paddle

Fall:

- Volunteer stream monitoring program
- Benzie Conservation District annual meeting

Please note: this is not an exhaustive list. Some event details are being finalized and are subject to change. Find updates by following us on Facebook and Instagram and by visiting www.benziecd.org/events.





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