



"Evolution of the Hiking Man" photo by Sunoh Choe

Dear Gayle,

With a sudden burst of green, summer on the Superior Hiking Trail is here!

Trail Conditions:

- In contrast to the Twin Cities metro area the North Shore temperatures have remained "cooler by the lake."
- It has been raining a lot on the North Shore in the past weeks. Anticipate lots of mud in every section of trail.
- Please be aware that ticks and mosquitoes are out in full force. Use bug spray, tuck your pant legs into your socks, and wear clothing that offers good protection.
- Trail crews will begin "weed whipping" in July so until then hikers may experience areas of tall grass that may partially obscure the trail. You can **volunteer** to help with weed whipping on trail sections in Duluth.

SHTA Office and Store:

- Hours are 10 AM - 5 PM Monday through Friday.
- Visit shita.org 24 x 7 for information on trail sections, trail conditions, and downloadable maps.
- Shop online anytime.
- We've added a voice mail system to our office, just follow the prompts to reach the right person to help you.

SHTA Makes Land Purchase on Encampment River

ACCESS TO CROSSING SECURED

The 6.3 mile section from Lake County 301 to Castle Danger is classic SHT -- rolling valleys and rocky pine studded ridge lines intersected by 3 creeks. Uniquely, this trail section is also built exclusively on privately held land. Learning that the property on the west bank of the Encampment River was going to be up for sale the SHTA Board of Directors made the decision to purchase the property parcel in order to secure access to this important river crossing. A permanent trail easement will be placed on the property to protect it into the future.

CROSSING THE ENCAMPMENT RIVER

The Encampment is a "flashy" north shore river that reacts swiftly to spring snow melt and summer and fall rain events. In the summer it's usually just a hop, skip and jump to cross it at the designated point. Hikers should be aware that the river is unbridged and take the alternative 6.8 mile road walk in early spring or if the area has received heavy rains. Road walk directions are posted at the trailheads or can be found on our website.



Encampment River Crossing
with typical water levels.

[View this trail section on our website](#)

New Trail, Old Memories With Conservation Corps

In his first week on the job the Superior Hiking Trail's new Executive Director spent time out on the trail in Duluth and the North Shore...

Not only was it satisfying to see crew leaders from Conservation Corps Minnesota & Iowa carve out a new piece of Superior Hiking Trail near Gooseberry State Park earlier this

month. It was also nostalgic for me.

I was among a group of high schoolers, in 1971, that represented the reincarnation of the Depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps. President Nixon created it and the U.S. Forest Service managed it. Thirty other kids and I had the time of our young lives creating campsites in the Chippewa National Forest near Bemidji, learning about forest management, and literally crawling on our bellies for 50 yards in order to sneak up on a bald eagle nest. (Eagles were so rare back then you had to sneak up on them.)



For three years in the late 1970s I worked as a crew leader and camp director for YCC Minnesota. The conservation corps has morphed many times over the decades, but Minnesota has remained committed to the ideals of providing young people a chance to do conservation work, for the benefit of everyone. (Corps members are paid through Americorps.)



On a cool June day near Gooseberry Falls State Park, SHTA's trail maintenance coordinator Han Taylor trained CCMI crew leaders on trail building basics, including the fine points of an effective digging motion with the Pulaski. These crew leaders will in turn lead high school-age corps members on doing conservation projects all over the state this summer, including projects in North Shore state parks.

CCMI crew leaders, with their leader Jonathan Goldenberg, were scratching out a new segment of the Superior Hiking Trail, near Gooseberry; we lost the existing route when private landowners asked that the route through their property be changed. We will be developing that re-route throughout the summer. Once it's open, you'll be able to enjoy a new trail segment made possible in part by an old

tradition in conservation - the conservation corps.

Denny Caneff, Executive Director

[Visit the Conservation Corps website to read about another crew project on the SHT.](#)

Explore the Superior Hiking Trail on a Guided Hike



COME, SIT, STAY, HIKE. GOOD DOG!

June 24th Doggie Hike at 10:00 AM

Fox Farm Road to Rossini Road, 6.4 miles

This hike is dog-friendly! Leashed, friendly dogs are welcome to join hikers on this walk along the West Branch of the Knife River and past several beaver ponds.

Meet at the Rossini Road Trailhead Parking Lot:

At Highway 61 milepost 14.9, turn north (inland) on Homestead Road and go 5.75 miles. Turn right (east) on West Knife River Road and go 1.5 miles. Turn left (north)

on Culbertson Road and go 1.5 miles. Turn right (east) on Two Harbors Road and go 0.5 miles. Turn left (north) on Laine Road and go 3.5 miles. Turn left on Rossini Road and go 1.3 miles to trailhead parking lot on left.

WOODS, BEAVER PONDS, AND BOARDWALKS

July 22nd at 10:00 AM

Bally Creek Road to Pincushion Mountain Trailhead, 8.3 miles

Hike through shady red pine forests and cross a 193 foot boardwalk over an active beaver dam. Take in Lake Superior on the descent to the Gunflint Trail, then make a final climb to dramatic views at the Pincushion Mountain trailhead.

Meet at the Pincushion Mountain Trailhead Parking Lot: At Highway 61 mile 110, turn left on Cook County Road 12 (Gunflint Trail) and go 2.0 miles. Turn right on Cook County Road 53 (Pincushion Drive) and go 0.25 miles to parking lot.

[Learn about future guided hikes](#)

Make Your Support More Than Words!

Everyone has their reasons for hiking the Superior Trail. It's beautiful right now with the fresh green of early summer and warmer days bring wildflowers and wildlife to life. The Superior Hiking Trail Association continues to make investments in the trail; like land acquisition, hiring trail crews, building and improving trail structures. For 30 years the SHT has remained open to everyone, without permits or fees because of members and supporters like you.

If you've been a trail user but have not become a member or made a donation we hope you'll take a moment to do it now. Just follow the link to our website and show your support.



Join or Donate Now!

[Website](#) [The Superior Hiking Trail](#) [Go Hiking](#) [Get Involved](#) [News & Events](#)

Superior Hiking Trail Association

218-834-2700
volunteer@shta.org
www.shta.org

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