



HIGH WATER DANGERS

Lake Superior water levels hit record highs in June and are only expected to keep climbing, prompting concerns for users and waterfront communities.

Each lake rose at least several inches from May to June and some rose more than a foot from last year's levels, according to [data from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers](#).

Lake Superior

- The lake's mean hit 603.15 feet in June, breaking its 1986 record by 3 inches
- It is 3 inches higher than it was in May; 11 inches higher than it was this time last year and 15 inches higher than its long term average

Lake Michigan-Huron

- Hit 581.76 feet in June, less than an inch short of its record, after rising 6 inches since May

- 13 inches above where it was last year and 30 inches above its long-term average

High waters pose dangerous conditions and hazards. Rescuers have assisted plenty of flipped kayaks and canoes since people aren't prepared for swift and turbulent water. Boulders and unexpected debris can also lurk right beneath the surface.

Tips to remember:

- Wear a lifejacket
- Know your skill level and area you are paddling
- Be aware of low branches or obstacles
- Check the weather, it can change quickly
- Buddy up - don't go out alone

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For additional information:

- www.eup-planning.org
- www.upwatertrails.org
- <https://www.facebook.com/EUPTrails/>

- Have a plan and give it to someone onshore
- Carry safety gear such as flashlight, whistle, or cell phone in waterproof container
- Have fun, but stay safe!



We're excited to announce that the US-2 Top of the Lake Scenic Byway website is complete! The new website: <http://us2byway.com/> has information on all the communities along the route, links to local trail websites, and an interactive map highlighting all the attractions and points of interest for visitors. Please help spread the word and share our announcement on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=2229539160487710&id=1633028886805410

In case you haven't heard, the US-2 Top of the Lake Scenic Byway is located in Mackinac and Schoolcraft counties, running 96 miles from St. Ignace to Thompson, following Lake Michigan's picturesque north shore. This byway showcases how the Upper Peninsula is the "purest of Pure Michigan" through the scenic vistas, cultural landmarks and recreational opportunities found along the way.

In early 2017 a group of local leaders came together to plan for and promote the highway, and in October MDOT formally designated this section of US-2 as a Pure Michigan Scenic Byway. The US-2 Top of the Lake Scenic Byway Advisory Committee meets regularly to

US-2 SCENIC BYWAY



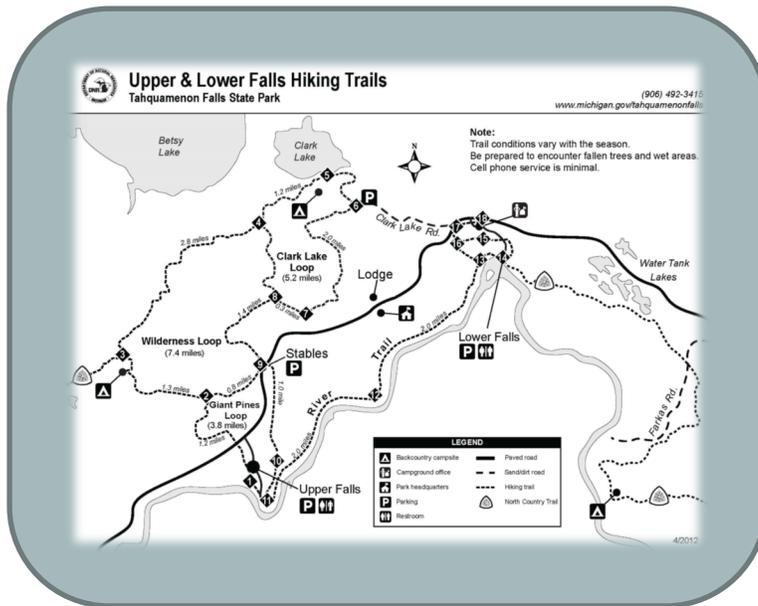
discuss promotion of the Byway. For more information or times and meeting dates contact Rebecca Bolen at rbolen@eup-planning.org.

TRAIL HIGHLIGHT

TAHQAMENON FALLS PARK

Some miles west of Paradise, Michigan **Tahquamenon Falls State Park** is a popular park most noted for its impressive waterfalls, but also popular for boating, canoeing, fishing, hiking and camping. The quarter-mile trail to the Upper Falls from the parking lot and the Brew Pub is handicap accessible and partially paved. There's also a slightly longer nature trail leading to the falls overlook. This leg of the trail leads downstream of the Upper Falls to the gorge where a set of 112 stairs will take you to the river's edge. The viewing platform at the edge of the Upper Tahquamenon Water Falls can be reached by ascending 92 stairs from the paved overlook trail, where you can get an up close view of the falls. The vertical drop of the falls is almost 50 feet and more than 200 feet wide, making it one of the largest waterfalls east of the Mississippi. The trailhead for the four mile long River Trail begins where the paved walkway to the top of the stairs that lead down to the Upper Falls gorge ends. It is one of the more popular hiking trails as it runs along the Tahquamenon River and connects the Upper and Lower Falls. Due to exposed roots and hilly terrain it is rated difficult, but also the most scenic trail in the park. Between Memorial Day and Labor Day the park offers a shuttle service between the falls. Overall, Tahquamenon Falls Park offers approximately 40 miles of hiking trails. Other popular hikes are the Clark Lake Trail and the Tahqua Trail that leads to the Rivermouth. The North Country Hiking Trail also goes through the park and past the park campgrounds. For more information visit: <http://www.michigandnr.com/parksandtrails/Details.aspx?id=428&type=SPRK>

Tahquamenon, pronounced [Tuh-KWAHM-in-uhn](#), originates from an Ojibwa word meaning "dark berry."



UPCOMING EVENTS

[August 17th—SUP Day, Sault Ste. Marie, MI](#)

[August 26th—MI Paddle Steward Workshop, Bay Mills Resort, Brimley, MI](#)

[September 14th—MI Paddle Steward Workshop, Hessel School House, Hessel, MI](#)

[September 16th—MI Paddle Steward Workshop, Soo Country Club, Sault Ste. Marie, MI](#)

[September 20th-21st—Straits State Park Trek the Mighty Mac, St. Ignace, MI](#)

