



# Crisp Point

## Lighthouse



Experience  
the adventure!

Visit one of Michigan's  
best kept secrets.



### Crisp Point Light Historical Society

450 W. Marr Rd. • Howell, Michigan 48855

517.230.6294 or 517.546.5283

cplhs@sbcglobal.net • CrispPointLighthouse.org

#### PLEASE HELP US IN OUR EFFORTS

- 1 Year Single Membership — \$20
- 1 Year Family Membership — \$30
- 2 Year Single Membership — \$35
- 2 Year Family Membership — \$50
- Lifetime Family Membership — \$500 donation
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#### CPLHS

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Howell, Michigan 48855

#### Thank you for your kind and generous support!

Crisp Point Light Historical Society  
is a 501 (c)(3) Non-Profit Origination

Commodity Code #8009-0546 Design: ImpediCreative Photography: DavidHolmes, DougCrouch, Don Ross

#### IMPORTANT DATES

- 1896 Crisp Point Light proposed
- 1902 Project approved
- 1903 Fog signal building constructed
- 1903 Boiler destroyed by storm Machinery for second fog signal installed
- 1903-4 Lighthouse constructed
- 1904 Became operational
- 1906 Brick service room built connected to lighthouse tower
- 1907 Landing crib built
- 1965 All but light tower destroyed by Coast Guard
- 1993 Light was decommissioned
- 1996 Brick entrance building destroyed by erosion & storms
- 1997 Light listed as the most endangered lighthouse in the U.S.A.
- 1997 Luce County becomes owner, gives 40 year lease to Historical Society
- 1998 Rock brought in to save tower
- 1999 Road extended to lighthouse, tower painted, upper windows installed
- 2000 Trees planted to stop wind erosion
- 2001 Boardwalk constructed
- 2002 Benches were installed
- 2003 Large stone brought in for erosion control
- 2006 Stone brought in to protect east side of tower
- 2006-8 Entrance building was rebuilt
- 2007 More large stone brought in to protect east side of tower
- 2009-10 Visitors Center with restrooms constructed
- 2010 Shrubs planted, Boardwalk & Viewing Platform constructed, repaired shoreline stone barrier & added rock by east stairs

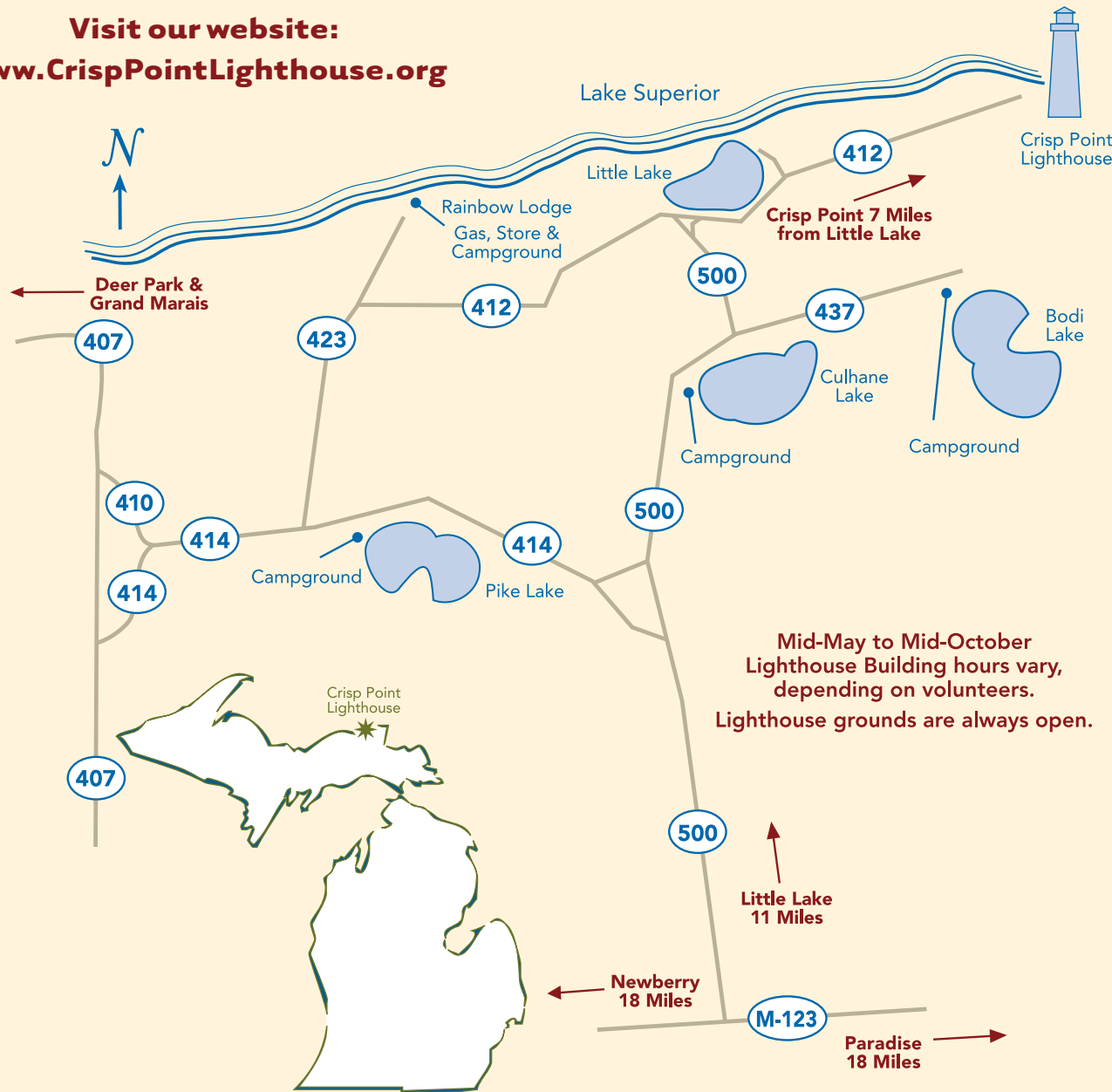
#### FUTURE PROJECTS

- Paint Lighthouse
- Replace Lantern Room Windows
- Provide Emergency phone service
- Build more boardwalk
- Install more vegetation and stone to help minimize erosion



Surrounded by thousands of acres of forest on the remote shores of Lake Superior, it is nearly impossible to find a more beautiful, peaceful, and picturesque place in the State.

Visit our website:  
[www.CrispPointLighthouse.org](http://www.CrispPointLighthouse.org)



Crisp Point was one of four original Lake Superior Life Saving Stations. It was built in 1875 and became operational in 1876. Plans to build Crisp Point Lighthouse were originally proposed in 1896 and every year after, until it was finally approved in 1902, to be built with a budget of \$18,000. Fifteen acres of land with a quarter mile of lake frontage was purchased in 1903 for \$30. Due to continuous erosion, the lighthouse grounds now consist of less than three (3) acres.

On May 5th, 1904 the light became operational. The tower housed a fixed 360 degree red fourth order Fresnel Lens. The lighthouse tower stands fifty-eight feet in height from its base to the ventilator ball of the lantern. The tower was placed on a ten foot deep and fourteen foot wide concrete foundation. The lighthouse station also contained a service building attached to the tower, a two family, two story brick keepers house, fog signal building, a boat house, oil house, and barn. Over time numerous cribs, groins, and sheet piling were constructed to prevent erosion, only to be destroyed by the massive forces of Lake Superior.

In 1965, because of vandalism and maintenance problems, the United States Coast Guard decided to destroyed all remaining buildings except the light tower and its attached service building. In 1996 the service building to the tower perished, the result of numerous Lake Superior storms. It was at this time, Crisp Point Lighthouse was listed as the most endangered lighthouse in the United States. Beginning in 1998 and other years since, large stone has been placed along the shoreline to help slow the threat of erosion. Erosion caused by wind and water will always be a major concern at the light.

The service building to the tower was rebuilt over a two year period and opened in 2008. In 2009 the Crisp Point Visitors Center opened. The center is a replica of the fog signal building, containing historical displays, merchandise and restrooms.

The Crisp Point Light Historical Society (CPLHS) was formed in 1992 and is a nonprofit 501.C.3 organization. CPLHS is an all volunteer group whose purpose is to restore and preserve Crisp Point Lighthouse for future generations. The solitude and tranquility felt at the light are irreplaceable and the sunsets are some of the best you'll see anywhere. We invite you to visit Crisp Point Lighthouse, it is definitely worth the trip.