

Mountain Biking

written by admin | August 23, 2018

The Keweenaw Mountain Lodge sits strategically at the top of the Copper Harbor Trail System. With multiple trailheads on our property, you are able to ride right from our cabins onto beginner, intermediate and advanced trails without having to load your bikes back onto your vehicle. Our staff at the OAC are local trail experts and will help you with ride suggestions and trail insights. If you or your family are beginner riders please join us for our free [Skills Ride](#) on Saturday's at 10:00am.



The Lodge is the perfect base-camp for your mountain biking adventures. In the summer of 2020 we constructed a bike wash and mechanic station on our property that is easily accessible from our cabins and open for our

guests to use at their convenience. In 2021 we teamed up with [Trek](#) to provide some of the top [rental bikes](#) in the region.



By staying at the Lodge, your family has easy access to the *Back 9* beginner trails. In 2018, the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge began working with the [Copper Harbor Trails Club](#) on the Back 9 Trails on the Lodge property for mountain biking activities. Walking the property in 2018 after a [10 Million Cups](#) event, representatives of the Lodge and the Trails Club were able to design desperately needed beginner trails.



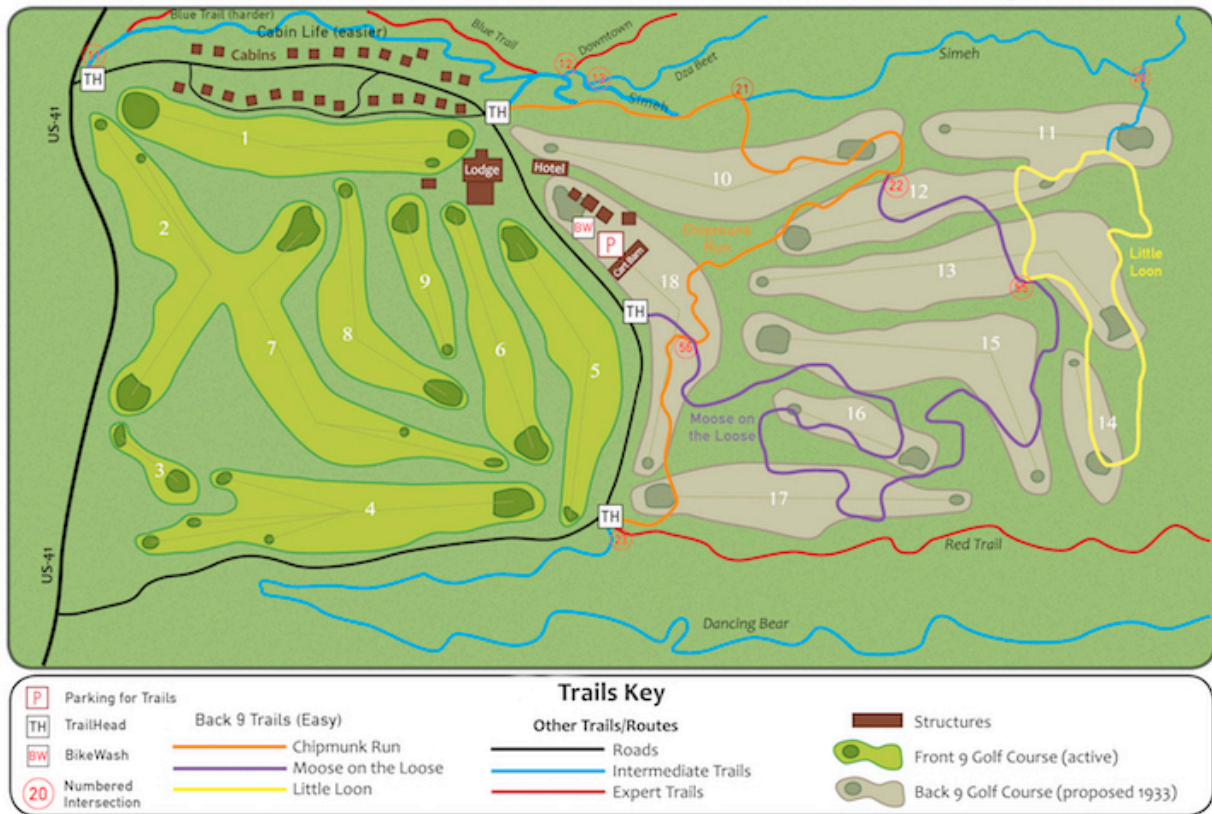
In the summer of 2019, the “Back 9” trails were updated by [Rock Solid Trail Contracting,](#) and were specifically designed with kids in mind. These “green” / beginner-level trails enable everyone to ride their bikes, and improve their skills.



In the map below, you can see the three Back 9 Trails that were created and opened during the 2019 season. These trails are Chipmunk Run (orange loop), Moose on the Loose (purple loop), and Little Loon (yellow loop).

Trails

At the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge



[Click on image above to view / download a [PDF version of the map](#)]

The names of the trails were developed in a team effort. We worked with staff at the Lodge and staff at the CHTC group to generate a short list of names. We posted the short list for each of the trails in a poll (submitted on Facebook) to get feedback from mountain bikers.

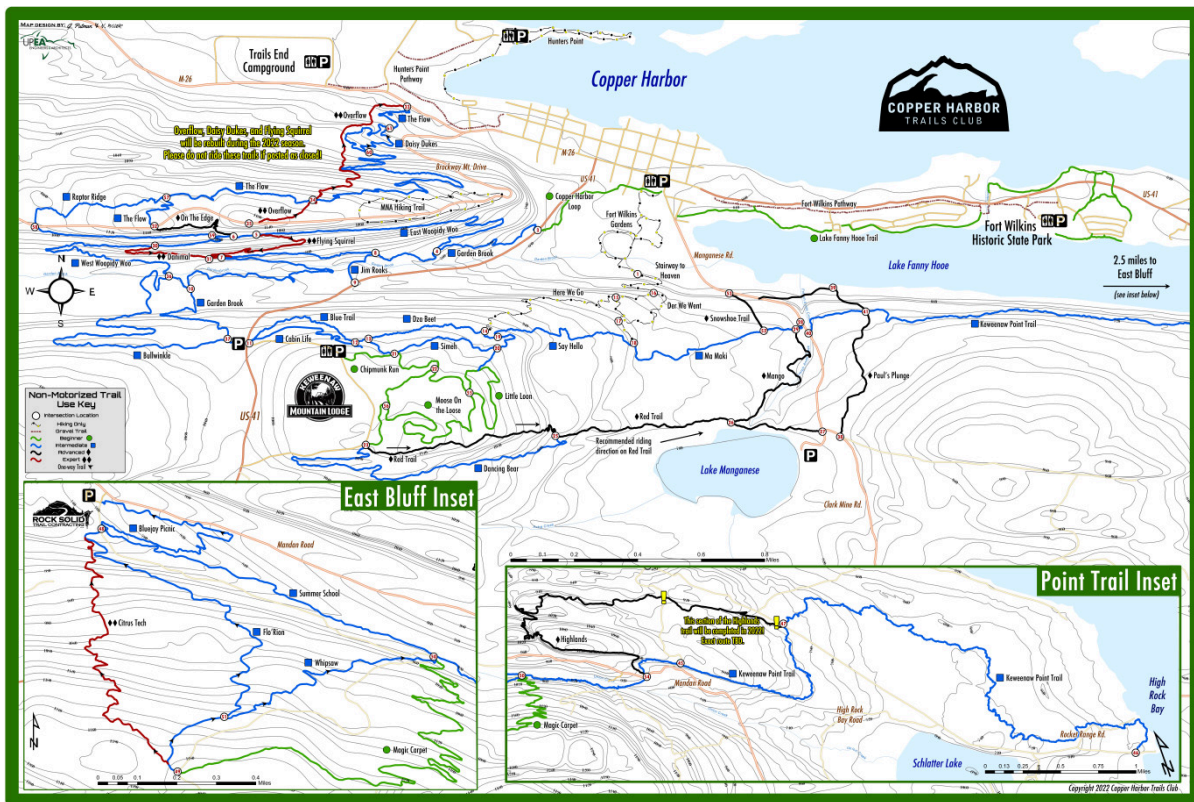






The trails at the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge are part of a larger trail system that is maintained by the Copper Harbor Trails Club.

[[Copper Harbor Trails Club Map](#)]
provided by [Trail Genius](#)





[click on images above to see a larger view of the trail maps]

The Keweenaw is one of several regions in the Upper Peninsula that has a strong mountain biking trail system. Find out more about the mountain biking trails available in the Upper Peninsula by visiting the [U.P. Mountain Biking Web site](http://www.upmountainbiking.com).

Example of Back 9 Trails signage:



Back 9 Trails: 16th Tee



You are standing on what would have been the **16th tee** at the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge! When this wilderness resort was first envisioned in 1933, 18 holes were laid out but only the front 9 were completed.

The back 9 were left undeveloped and remain forested to this day. If you look carefully while traveling along the trail, you can still see the large white pines that would have lined the proposed fairways.

Fortunately, there are no hidden sand traps or errant golf balls for trail users to worry about.

16th Hole Facts:

- Par 3
- 183 Yards
- Elevation: 1142'

Did you know that while crews were working on the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, another contingent of men were busy constructing Brockway Mountain Drive. Both sites are now on the National Register of Historic Places.



Back 9 Trails Key

Easy Trails		Other Trails/Routes		Structures
You are here	Chipmunk Run	Roads	Intermediate Trails	Front 9 Golf Course (active)
	Moose on the Loose	Expert Trails		Back 9 Golf Course (proposed 1933)
	Little Loon			


Use of these trails is voluntary and done so at your own risk. Please stay in control and respect other trail users.



Back 9 Trails




Back 9 Trails Key

 You are here

Easy Trails

 Chipmunk Run

 Moose on the Loose

 Little Loon

Other Trails/Routes


 Roads

 Intermediate Trails

 Expert Trails

Structures

 Front 9 Golf Course (active)

 Back 9 Golf Course (proposed 1933)

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Back 9 Trails

At the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge



Back 9 Trails Key

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	Chipmunk Run	Roads	
	Moose on the Loose	Intermediate Trails	Front 9 Golf Course (active)
	Little Loon	Expert Trails	Back 9 Golf Course (proposed 1933)

Welcome to the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge's Back 9 Trails! Established in 2019 in partnership with the Copper Harbor Trails Club, the Back 9 Trails offer visitors a chance to explore what was originally envisioned to be a part of an 18-hole golf course. Construction on the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge began in 1933 at the height of the Great Depression. By the end of 1934, the lodge was nearly completed and the first nine holes of the golf course were cleared and seeded. The following year the majority of the cabins were built and the Lodge was open for business. The Back 9 was never developed and has remained a wild part of the Keweenaw landscape to this day.

The Back 9 Trails consist of three looped trails totaling 2.5 miles. Each trail is rated easy and are open for non-motorized, human-powered recreation. All trails in the Copper Harbor area are free to use year-round and open to the public. We invite you to check out what makes this historic place so special on foot, by mountain bike, or by snowshoe or ski in the winter. Please make sure your journey is a safe and fun one by obeying the following safety tips.

Back 9 Trails Safety Tips

1. File a plan: let someone back in civilization know where you are going and when you expect to return.
2. Pack a snack and water if you plan to be out for long.
3. Bring an extra layer of clothing in case of inclement weather. Storms can roll in quickly off of Lake Superior.
4. Downhill riders must yield to uphill riders.
5. All mountain bikers must yield to hikers and trail runners.
6. Non-motorized, human-powered users only, please! Horses and motorized vehicles will damage the trail.
7. Leave No Trace by packing out your trash. Restrooms are available inside the lodge.
8. The Copper Harbor Trails do not close in the rain. Use the trails with caution as bridges and rocks may become slippery.
9. Always ride in control and within your ability. If you are unsure of an obstacle, please dismount and walk your bike.
10. If you encounter trees down on the trail, please let CHTC or the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge staff know!
11. Keep your distance from any wildlife you encounter.
12. Be aware of trail difficulty levels. Beyond the Back 9 Trails there are several Intermediate and Expert trails not suitable for novices.
13. The nearest emergency telephone is located at the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge. Cell service is spotty to non-existent on our trails.



Hungry or thirsty after a long day on the trail? Stop in to the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge's restaurant and bar for a trailside snack!

For more information on the Keweenaw Mountain Lodge, stop by the front desk or visit us online at www.KeweenawMountainLodge.com

Additional information on the Copper Harbor Trails can be found online at www.CopperHarborTrails.org



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MICHIGAN TRAILS

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The Copper Harbor Trails are rated the best MTB trails in all of Michigan by the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA). See page 25.

PHOTO BY
CHRIS GUIBERT

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HIKING AND WATER TRAILS.



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