



“Take a hike!” Gwinn Middle School



Welcome to Gwinn Middle School’s hiking club: “Take a hike!” I am excited to begin this new club for our school and community. The goal of our club is to immerse students, parents, and community members in the amazing natural beauty of hiking trails, “mountains,” lakeshores, ice caves, rivers, and waterfalls in the Upper Peninsula. It is amazing how many of such adventures are all within one hour or less from our community!

I am most easily contacted via email at kgollakn@gwinn.k12.mi.us. Please contact me whenever you have questions about our club activities. I will also send information to you from this email as well as post details on our club website at www.GMStakeahike.weebly.com.

Sincerely,

Kristy Gollakner
Kristy Gollakner



Hiking

Hiking is an exhilarating! There are few things I find more enjoyable than being outside enjoying wildlife & seeing amazing natural creations—all while getting a good workout. Hiking requires one to have a level of endurance to keep walking even when tired. Hiking safely requires a certain knowledge of outdoor survival skills—especially in the event that a hike doesn’t go as planned. Hiking immerses us in the amazing natural world we call home.

Fund Raising

We will have shirts printed for purchase. The cost for each shirt is \$12.

Our club will do one fund raising event during October through a company called “Nature’s Vision.” The first \$10 earned by the member will repay their shirt cost. Additional funds will go towards the purchase of field guides for use during hikes and other purchases our club determines would be helpful. I shall also work to secure several sponsors to help fund our adventures. I’d like club members to also work with me on this challenge.

Gear



The following gear is necessary for our hikes.

- ⇒ Sturdy shoes (fall/spring), Warm boots (winter)
- ⇒ Weather appropriate clothing—dress in layers since you will get warm when hiking. We will discuss these needs for each hike.
- ⇒ Small Backpack to hold water bottle, snacks, and extra layers.
- ⇒ A GREAT ATTITUDE... Because attitude is the difference between an ordeal and an adventure.

Commitment



We will rely upon parents and community members to transport all hikers from the school to our destination on our adventures. To save on gas and reduce our carbon footprint we will carpool. Not every parent needs to attend every hike, but every parent is always welcome to do so. Each hike’s success relies upon adult participation.

We will meet after school one day per month (to be determined based upon member schedules) and will have adventure on our hikes on one Saturday per month. Our tentative schedule is on the back of this flyer.

Take A Hike

Tentative Schedule

All hikes are Saturday's!

Times noted show when we leave from the school's student parking lot. Be there 15 minutes early please.

September

First meeting. Get forms returned right away for club membership

October

Fall Hike: Hogback Mountain, Marquette, 10/12 (10 a.m.)

November

Fall Hike Dead River Falls, Marquette, 11/16 (10 a.m.)

December

Snowshoe: Anderson Lake, Gwinn—night time. 12/14 (6 p.m.)

January

Winter Hike: Laughing Whitefish Falls, Sundell, 1/11 (10 a.m.)

February

Winter Hike: Ice Caves, Eben, 2/15 (10 a.m.)

March

Winter Hike: Hogback Mountain, Marquette 3/15 (10 a.m.)

April

Spring Hike: Dead River Falls, Marquette, 4/12 (10 a.m.)

May

Spring Hike: Pictured Rocks, Grand Portal Point Loop and/or Chapel Rock, 5/10 (10 a.m.)

June

Tuesday, June 3rd, Community Presentation of movies

Footwear Notes

Fall Hike: cool temps, but dry
Winter Hike: cold, ice & snow
Spring Hike: cool, but muddy

Hiking Notes

1. If a hike is cancelled due to weather, we will hike the next day (Sunday) at the same time.
2. All hikes rely on enough adults to transport students.
3. Members must turn in their hike confirmation form for each hike by the Tuesday before each hike.

Meetings & Hikes

Our club will meet once a month after school from 3:15-4 p.m.

We may have additional meetings during lunch on occasion if the need arises. As a club member, you

are expected to attend all meetings. Our hikes will also be once monthly. I realize that our lives are busy and not all members will be able to attend every hike we do.

Members will:

- 1) discover healthy activities that they can continue lifelong.
- 2) gain greater appreciation for our natural world and its wonders.
- 3) increase their local flora and fauna (plants and animals) identification skills.
- 4) develop a higher level of outdoor survival knowledge.



Club Goals

- 5) educate others about the natural beauty to be enjoyed in our area by producing a video featuring one of our destinations.

Digital cameras will be provided for members to document our adventures. Personal cameras can be used as well. We will download all pictures to save for movie building in May! We will hold a presentation evening for parents and community members to view our videos created so they can learn of these amazing places to enjoy our local natural wonders and why we need to care for them.

