



Michigan DNR At A Glance

“Not only is our environment a source of recreation and pride, but three of Michigan’s top industries – agriculture, tourism and timber – depend wholly on a sustainable environment for their very existence.”

Governor Jennifer Granholm

Mission:

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use, and enjoyment of the State’s natural resources for current and future generations

Vision:

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources will be recognized as the leader in holistic natural resources management. Our organizational structure will complement our mission and goals with a unified purpose and sense of direction. The department will be responsive and proactive in an ever-changing environment.

Goals:

1. **Revitalize, Expand and Diversify the user base:** Identify and implement programs and information that reach urban populations, promote retention and recruitment of outdoor users and development of innovative partnerships with organizations and businesses.
2. **Be a Great Place to Work:** Create an environment where a diverse staff seeks career growth through increased knowledge and advancement opportunity and develop programs for sharing knowledge across divisions and between generations of workers.
3. **Promote Stewardship of Michigan’s Natural Resources through education, awareness and action:** Work to educate citizens, organizations and businesses to increase their sense of ownership of the state’s resources while providing stewardship opportunities to express their commitment.
4. **Restore, Protect and Manage our Natural Resources through Ecosystem Management:** Implement resource management actions integrating the best science available while considering the social and economic impact of decisions.
5. **Provide Quality Public Outdoor Recreation:** Make Michigan’s outdoors a destination for both citizens and visitors by promoting the state’s outdoor assets, improving access, and by understanding the needs and interests of current and potential users.
6. **Secure Long-Term Sustainable Financial Support:** Work with the Governor’s office, Legislature and stakeholders to align programs and services to reflect the level of funding available to the department.

Michigan DNR and Natural Resource Facts:

- Approximately 1,400 permanent employees and 1,600 seasonal employees implement over 70 programs under the supervision of DNR Director Rebecca A. Humphries and her management team.
- Michigan has 11,000 inland lakes.
- Michigan has 3,000 miles of freshwater shoreline—more than any other state in the nation.
- Michigan has more total shoreline than any state except Alaska.

Fisheries

- Michigan has 36,000 miles of rivers and streams, including 1,000 miles of blue ribbon trout streams.
- In Michigan, you're never more than six miles from great fishing.
- More than 2 million anglers fish Michigan waters each year.
- The DNR has six fish hatcheries, which produce more than 700,000 pounds of fish every year. Forty percent of all recreational fishing in Michigan depends on stocked fish, including 70% of the Great Lakes trout and salmon fishery.

Wildlife

- Michigan's two scenic peninsulas provide 8 million acres of public hunting land, including 4.5 million acres managed by DNR.
- The DNR leases several thousand acres of farmland in southern Michigan for public hunting and 2.2 million acres of private forestland in northern Michigan, enrolled as commercial forests, provide even more hunting access.
- The DNR manages 400,000 acres in more than 70 state wildlife areas, most in southern Michigan.
- The DNR manages and protects 400 species of animals, including the birds and mammals that sustain our rich hunting heritage and nongame wildlife, including threatened and endangered species.
- Michigan leads the nation in hunting white-tailed deer. More than 680,000 hunters took part in the 2007 deer seasons, spending 9.7 million days afield. According to DNR estimates, the total harvest from all seasons was 484,000 deer.
- Hunters also spend 2.5 million hunter-days afield in pursuit of our most popular small-game species, including the cottontail rabbit, fox squirrel, ruffed grouse and ring-necked pheasant.
- More than 60% of Michigan's residents are actively involved in viewing and photographing wildlife.

Parks and Recreation

- In Michigan, you are never more than an hour's drive from a state park or recreation area.
- Michigan's 98 state parks and recreation areas welcomed over 23 million visitors in 2008, including more than 4 million campers.
- The DNR maintains 15 Great Lakes Harbors of Refuge and 750 public launch sites
- Michigan has more than 931,000 registered watercraft (3rd in the nation) and more than 390,000 registered snowmobiles (more than any other state).
- Michigan has more than 1,300 public boat launching sites.

Forest, Mineral and Fire Management

- The DNR manages the largest state forest system in the nation (3.9 million acres).
- Michigan is a leader in rails-to-trails, maintaining more than 6,200 miles of groomed snowmobile trails.
- Michigan's 145 state forest campgrounds offer 3,000 rustic campsites.
- Widely differing forest cover and ownership patterns throughout Michigan provide unique management challenges and opportunities. For example, 90% of our population resides in southern Michigan, while 90% of the Upper Peninsula is forested.
- In addition to managing 12% of the state's total land area, the DNR manages 6 million acres of mineral estate and leases rights to explore for oil and gas.
- Nearly 50,000 oil and gas wells have been drilled in Michigan—about 12,000 are active.
- The development of oil, gas and other minerals on state-owned lands contributed more than \$67 million to the Natural Resources Trust Fund during the 2008 fiscal year. Without the Trust Fund, no additional parks and recreation lands would be acquired.

Natural Resources Boost Michigan's Economy

- Michigan ranks 3rd in the nation in licensed hunters (more than 735,000) who contribute \$1 billion annually to our economy. Some 3.2 million people, age 16 and older, participated in wildlife viewing activities, adding \$2.7 billion to the economy.
- Michigan ranks 5th in the nation in numbers of licensed resident and nonresident anglers who contribute \$2 billion annually to our economy.
- Michigan ranks 1st in the nation in the number of registered snowmobiles and ranks 3rd in the number of registered boats; recreational boating contributes \$2 billion annually to our economy and when there is an abundance of snow, snowmobilers create a \$1 billion bonanza for northern Michigan communities.
- Michigan state parks and recreation areas contribute more than \$580 million annually to our economy.
- Michigan DNR manages the largest dedicated state forest system in the nation; forest products industry and recreational users contribute \$12 billion and 200,000 associated jobs annually to our economy.
- The development of oil, gas and other minerals on state-owned lands contributed more than \$67 million to the Natural Resources Trust Fund during the 2008 fiscal year.

Breakdown of Restricted Funds

