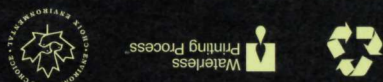
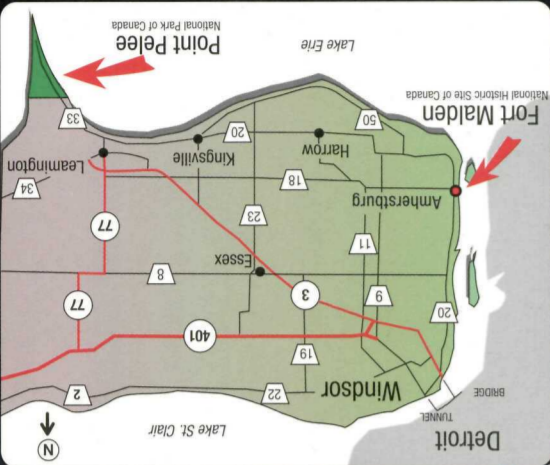


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## Point Pelee National Park



In our continuing commitment to "green" our operations, our visitor guides have been printed on recycled paper using an environmentally certified waterless printing process.



Stand at the Tip of Canada any day of the year!  
 Canada's Deep South beckons...  
 Parks Canada protects and presents national parks in ways that offer opportunities for you, and future generations, to understand, appreciate and enjoy them.  
 Create a piece of nature in your neighbourhood by planting a tree, volunteering for an environmental group, or hanging a bird feeder.

## Welcome

National parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas are ideal places to experience Canada's natural and cultural heritage. At Parks Canada, we are proud to work on behalf of all Canadians to protect and present this legacy.

Established in 1918, Point Pelee National Park and its newest addition, Middle Island, comprise the most southern land in Canada.

The park is home to more rare and endangered plants and animals than anywhere else in Canada.

Experience the 'jungle like' forests of "Canada's Deep South" by foot or bicycle. Climb the tower at the Marsh Boardwalk and gaze upon one of the largest marshes remaining on the Great Lakes. End your visit by standing at the Tip of Canada. This is your guide to experience Point Pelee National Park!

Spring	April	May 1 - 24
Park Hours *	6 am - 9:30 pm	5 am - 9:30 pm
Visitor Centre	10 am - 5 pm	8 am - 5 pm
Shuttle to Tip	10 am - 5 pm weekdays 8 am - 5 pm weekends	6 am - 8 pm
DeLaurier House & Barn exhibit	closed	10 am - 5 pm
Nature Nook Book Store	10 am - 5 pm	8 am - 5 pm
Cattail Café	closed	11 am - 4 pm
Bike/Canoe Rentals	closed	10 am - 3 pm

Fall	September 7 - October 11	October 12 - 31
Park Hours *	6 am - 9:30 pm	6 am - 9:30 pm
Visitor Centre	10 am - 5 pm	10 am - 5 pm
Shuttle to Tip	8 am - 7 pm	8 am - 6 pm weekends only
DeLaurier House & Barn exhibit	10 am - 5 pm	10 am - 5 pm
Nature Nook Book Store	10 am - 5 pm	10 am - 5 pm
Cattail Café	11 am - 4 pm weekdays 11 am - 7 pm weekends	closed
Bike/Canoe Rentals	10 am - 3 pm weekdays 10 am - 6 pm weekends	closed

Summer	May 25 - June 25	June 26 - September 6
Park Hours *	6 am - 9:30 pm	6 am - 9:30 pm
Visitor Centre	10 am - 5 pm	10 am - 6 pm
Shuttle to Tip	10 am - 7 pm	10 am - 7 pm
DeLaurier House & Barn exhibit	10 am - 5 pm	10 am - 5 pm
Nature Nook Book Store	10 am - 5 pm	10 am - 6 pm
Cattail Café	11 am - 4 pm weekdays 11 am - 7 pm weekends	11 am - 7 pm weekdays 11 am - 8 pm weekends
Bike/Canoe Rentals	10 am - 3 pm weekdays 10 am - 6 pm weekends	10 am - 6 pm weekdays 10 am - 7 pm weekends

Winter	November 1 - March 31/05
Park Hours *	7 am - 6:30 pm
Visitor Centre	10 am - 5 pm weekends only
Shuttle to Tip	closed for season
DeLaurier House & Barn exhibit	closed for season
Nature Nook Book Store	12 am - 5 pm weekends only
Cattail Café	closed for season
Bike/Canoe Rentals	closed for season

Services provided in collaboration with the Friends of Point Pelee  
 \* Park admission fees apply.

**HOURS OF OPERATION**

## Natural Resource Management

Point Pelee National Park was established primarily to protect migratory birds. However, it is also the only Parks Canada representative of the Carolinian zone - home to species characteristic of more southerly regions.



Two years ago, we received special funding for a Species At Risk program. Staff and partners are working together to develop recovery strategies for species at risk populations and to ensure their continued existence in the national park and local area.

[www.speciesatrisk.gc.ca](http://www.speciesatrisk.gc.ca)

### "The Nemos of Point Pelee" A Fish Population Study



Researchers have determined the make-up of the marsh's fish population and how we can help to ensure their survival. Results indicate that there are 33 species of fish in the marsh including four species at risk.

### "The Golden Blooms of June" Eastern Prickly Pear Cactus

Since this cactus is a species at risk and the patches in the park have been declining over the last few decades, studies are underway to assist in developing recovery actions.



### "Where have all the turtles gone?" Turtle Predation Monitoring



The boxes you may have seen by the park roadsides are part of a monitoring program to study turtle populations and learn more about their predators.

### The Southern Flying Squirrel "A happy ending!"

After relocating 99 squirrels to the park more than 10 years ago, we are happy to report that the project is a success, with a population now around 700 and growing!



These nocturnal mammals disappeared many years ago due, in part, to loss of habitat and predation by feral cats. Today, the Southern Flying Squirrel can, once again, call the park their home!

### Amphibians and Reptiles "Give 'em a Brake"



During spring and fall, Spring Peeper frogs, turtles and snakes cross the park road to access feeding and breeding habitats. Hundreds are killed each year. Please drive carefully.

## Interpretive Programs and Events Schedule

\* Schedule is subject to change, including cancellation due to inclement weather. Call for info and to confirm.

March 15 - 19	March Break	Family birding hikes, Kid's Craft Centre and nature films.
April 4	Wildlife Week	Take a guided spring hike and create a poster for the contest.
May 1 - 31	Festival of Birds	A month-long celebration. View the jewels of the birding world as they migrate. Ask for a schedule of events. \$
June 20	Father's Day	Join an Interpreter for an exploration of the marsh in our freighter canoe. Father's ride free! Register by June 19. \$
June 26 - September 6	Summer Interpretive Programs	Daily programs such as Creature Feature, Marshville, Weekend Freight Canoe Tours and Pelee Express. Schedules available.
July 1	Canada Day	Free admission. Canadian themed hat contest. Celebrate Canada's birthday with cake and "Tip your hat to the Tip!"
July 3 and July 31	Murder Mystery Campfire	"A terrible crime has been committed at the Marsh Boardwalk and we need your help to solve it!" Fun for all ages.
July 17	Canada's Parks Day	A national day showcasing parks and historic sites across Canada. Free admission. Guided hikes and backyard pond workshop.
August 7	Annual Butterfly Count	All-day count. Includes butterfly workshop. Register by Aug. 1. \$
September 4	Murder Mystery Campfire	See above description.
September 8 - October 3 (Wed.-Sun.)	Monarch Hikes and More	Two hour guided hikes of the Tip. View migrating birds, dragonflies and the beautiful monarch butterfly. \$
September 11	W.E. Saunders Birding Odyssey	Enjoy a day of birding and friendly competition. Beginner birders welcome. Teams are led by an expert birder. \$
September 12	Butterfly Gardening Workshop	Make your backyard a natural sanctuary with the help of local experts from the Backyard Habitat Program of Essex County and Windsor.
September 18	Annual Native Plant Sale	Organized by the Backyard Habitat Program of Essex County and Windsor.
October 22 and 29	Legends of the Night	Join an Interpreter at the campfire and take a walk on a jack-o-lantern lit trail. Separate myth from truth about nocturnal animals.
December 20	Annual Christmas Bird Count	Census of winter birds. Register by Dec. 13. Small fee supports Bird Studies Canada's publication of results. \$
February 6, 2005	Winter Active Day	5 km hike to Tip. Warm up with healthy snacks and hot drinks. Participants are eligible to win door prizes.

Programs offered in collaboration with the Friends of Point Pelee.

Fees apply.

### Hey Kids!

Join our club and become a Point Pelee Junior Naturalist!

Ages 7 - 12

July - August	weekly Saturday 10 am - 12 pm
September - June	monthly last Saturday of the month

## Friends of Point Pelee

- Shop in the Nature Nook Book Store
- Have lunch at the Cattail Café
- Buy a membership with the Friends
- Rent a bike or canoe
- Be a volunteer
- Donations accepted

Friends of Point Pelee help fund Park programs and projects in the areas of education, scientific research and habitat restoration.

fopp@mnsi.net 519-326-7925 fax 519-326-6173 ph

## Fact Sheet Series

If the Visitor Guide information has managed to wet your appetite, check-out our Point Pelee Fact Sheet Series! Available at the Visitor Centre and Gateway or by contacting the park, our menu of topics includes:

- Birding
- Monarch Migration
- Species at Risk
- Public Safety
- Middle Island
- What's Unique about Point Pelee?
- History of Point Pelee National Park
- Maintaining and Restoring Ecological Integrity



American Goldfinch

## Latest Challenges Related to Ecological Integrity

Strategies are being developed for:

- The Emerald Ash Borer, a non-native invasive insect
- The large Double-crested Cormorant population on Middle Island

## POINT PELEE NATIONAL PARK OF CANADA

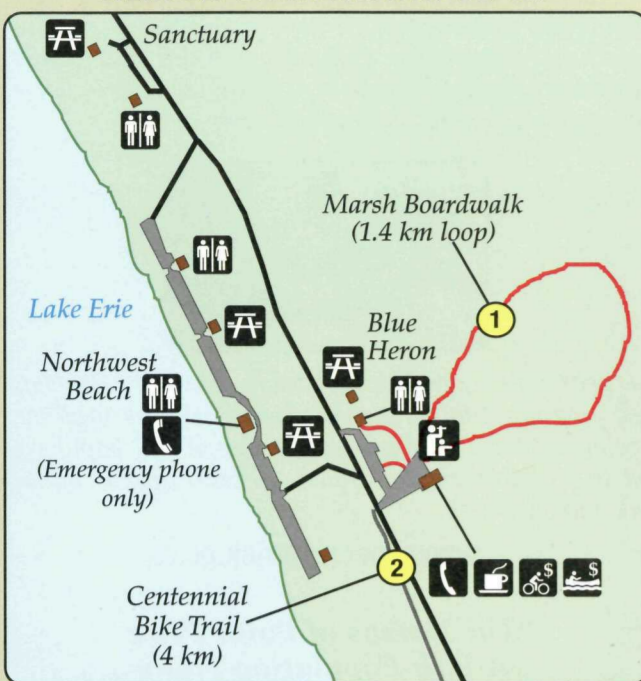
LEAMINGTON, ONTARIO



Visitor Guide 2004



## Marsh Boardwalk Area



## Explore the Park Trails

**1 Marsh Boardwalk** 1.4 km (loop)  
Both floating and stationary boardwalk including two observation areas with telescopes.  
Habitats: open ponds and cattail marsh.



Freighter Canoe Tour

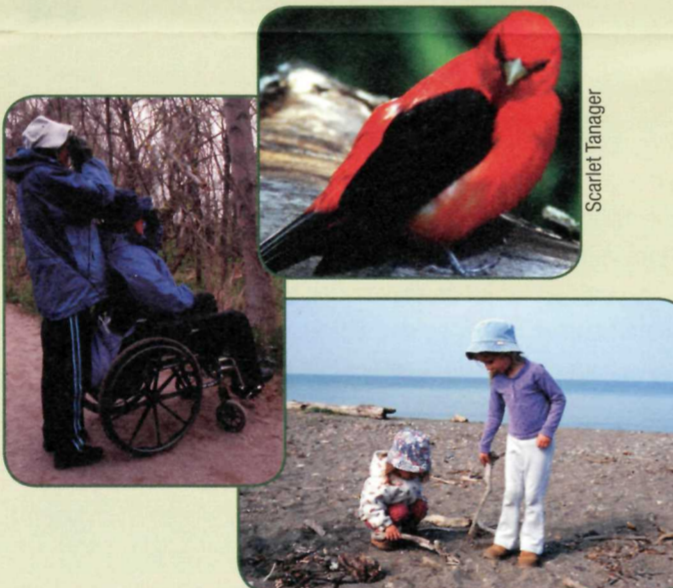
**2 Centennial Bike Trail** 4 km (one way)  
Runs parallel to park road from Marsh Boardwalk south to the Visitor Centre. Gentle, tree lined, winding trail. Stop at picnic sites along the way. Also used by walkers.  
Habitats: hackberry dry forest and beach.



**3 DeLaurier Trail** 1.2 km (loop)  
Historic house and barn with exhibits and artifacts featuring the park's cultural and human heritage. One observation platform.  
Habitats: open fields, cedar savannah, swamp forest, marsh, and old canals once used by farmers.

**4 Tilden's Woods Trail** 1 km (loop)  
Begins at northeast corner of Visitor Centre parking lot.  
Habitats: horsetails and mature swamp forest, cedar savannah.

**5 Shuster Trail** 0.5 km (one way)  
Begins along Tilden's and keeps going straight to east beach (no visitor facilities).



Scarlet Tanager

**6 Chinquapin Oak Trail** 1 km (one way)  
Access to historic cemetery. Access from Tilden's Woods Trail or near White Pine picnic area.  
Habitats: mixed dry forest, restored roadway.

**7 Woodland Nature Trail** 2.75 km (loop)  
Begins behind Visitor Centre. Partially boardwalked wetland and mature forests. Interpretive trail guides available.  
Habitat: swamp and dry Carolinian forest and cedar savannah.

**8 Botham Tree Trail** 0.5 km (loop)  
Begins at Visitor Centre. Trail guides available. Identifies trees unique to the Carolinian forest.

**9 Tip Trail** 0.4 km (one way)  
Access to the most southern point of mainland Canada; sandspit reaches out into Lake Erie. Length and shape of sandspit varies according to water levels and currents. Shuttle from Visitor Centre drops you off at trail head from April to October. Exhibits and telescope.  
Habitats: early successional woodlands and beach.

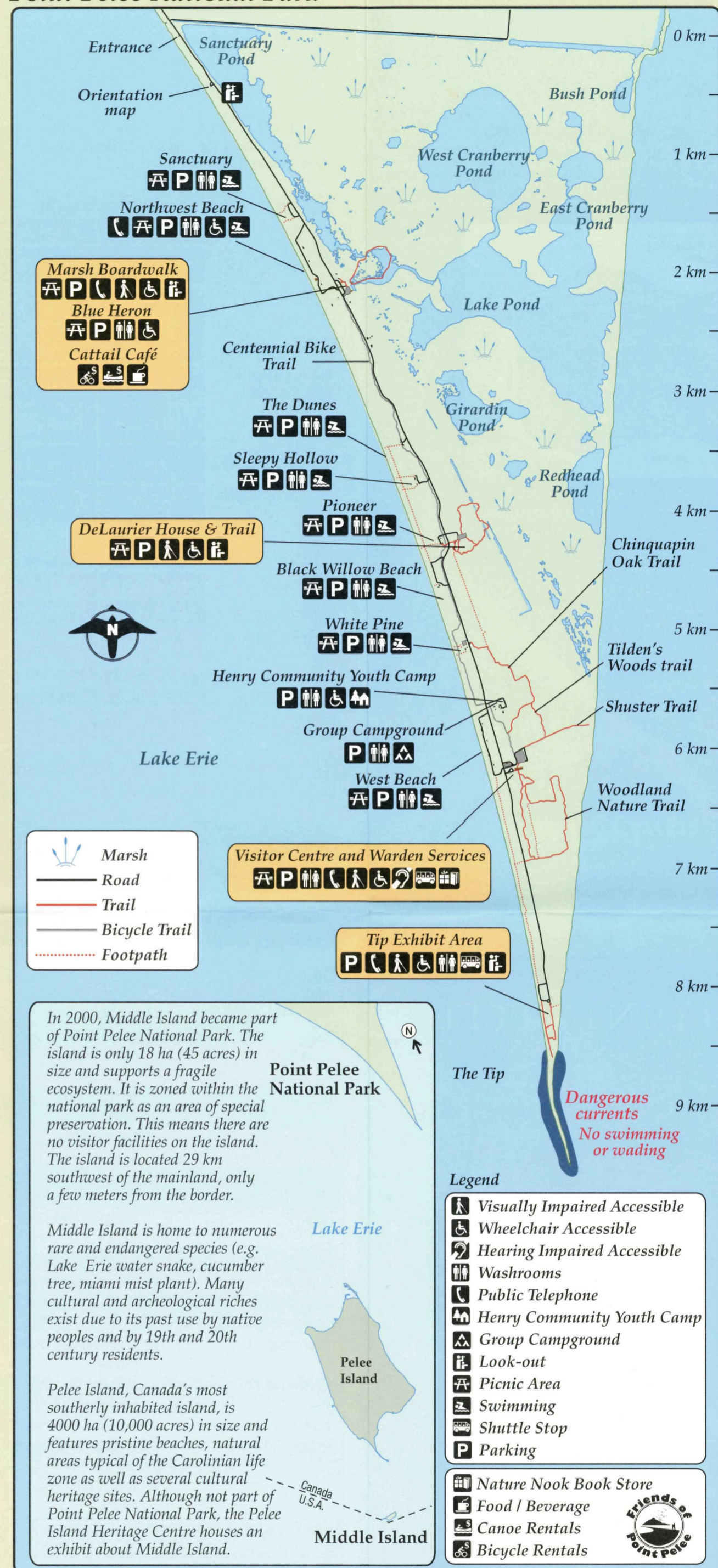
There are no lifeguards at Point Pelee National Park. Do not swim at beaches during times of rough water. Please supervise children closely. Emergency life saving equipment is available at Northwest Beach, Black Willow Beach and West Beach.

### Caution at the Tip

Dangerous currents exist. For your safety, it is illegal to enter the water beyond the posted red warning signs.

**Warning**

## Point Pelee National Park



In 2000, Middle Island became part of Point Pelee National Park. The island is only 18 ha (45 acres) in size and supports a fragile ecosystem. It is zoned within the national park as an area of special preservation. This means there are no visitor facilities on the island. The island is located 29 km southwest of the mainland, only a few meters from the border.

Middle Island is home to numerous rare and endangered species (e.g. Lake Erie water snake, cucumber tree, miami mist plant). Many cultural and archeological riches exist due to its past use by native peoples and by 19th and 20th century residents.

Pelee Island, Canada's most southerly inhabited island, is 4000 ha (10,000 acres) in size and features pristine beaches, natural areas typical of the Carolinian life zone as well as several cultural heritage sites. Although not part of Point Pelee National Park, the Pelee Island Heritage Centre houses an exhibit about Middle Island.

### Visitor Code

- Park roads are used by people and wildlife. Obey the speed limit and park only in designated areas.
- Bicycles are restricted to the bike trail and roadways.
- Feeding wildlife and fish is prohibited.
- Pets must be under physical control and on a leash, max 3 m (9ft). Remember to stoop and scoop!
- Prevent the spread of insect pests, do not bring wood into the park. Use charcoal in stoves and barbecues.
- Collecting natural objects is prohibited.

- Stay on designated trails to avoid poison ivy and ticks. Do not enter closed areas.
- Alcohol is prohibited in the park.
- Beach water quality is monitored weekly. Poor water quality results will be posted at the park entrance.
- Avoid stable flies by wearing light coloured clothing and staying in windy areas.
- Fireworks and firearms, including bows and arrows, are prohibited.



Poison Ivy