Number of Lake Erie Islands in Ohio: 15*
2010 Island Population: 945 (not including Johnson's Island)
Number of Access Sites: South Bass Island: 13
Middle Bass Island: 4
North Bass Island: 3
Kelleys Island: 6
Number of Right-of-Way Sites: 1
Miles of Publicly Accessible Coast: 9.7 miles

Lake Erie Islands

Ohio has over a dozen natural islands in Lake Erie's Western Basin. The Lake Erie Islands range in size from miniscule rock outcroppings that disappear and reappear with the rise and fall of the lake's water levels, to larger inhabited land masses. Ohio's largest island is Kelleys Island (2,837 acres), followed by South Bass (1,523 acres), Middle Bass (771 acres) and North Bass (677 acres) islands. The remaining Lake Erie Islands in Ohio are all smaller than 100 acres. Johnson's Island, located in Sandusky Bay, is 300 acres. Canada's Pelee Island (10,330 acres) is the largest island in Lake Erie. Ohio's islands are renowned for their natural resources, recreational opportunities, cultural attractions and charm.

South Bass Island is the southernmost and most developed of the three Bass Islands. It is located in Ottawa County approximately three miles north of Catawba Point. In the 1850s, the grape-growing and wine-making industries began to flourish, which helped establish the island as a popular vacation destination. The 625-room Hotel Victory was built in 1892. When it opened it was the largest resort hotel in the country and featured the first co-ed swimming pool. Fire destroyed the hotel in 1919. South Bass Island, which includes the village of Put-in-Bay, remains a popular summer resort. The island's most prominent landmark is the 352-foot tall Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial. The monument was constructed between 1912 and 1915 to commemorate the United States' victory in the Battle of Lake Erie (1813) during the War of 1812. Each year, the island hosts the Inter-Lake Yachting Association regatta. South Bass Island is accessible via commercial ferry (departing from Port Clinton, Catawba Island and Sandusky), airplane or personal watercraft.

Middle Bass Island is situated between South Bass and North Bass islands. It is located in Ottawa County. French explorer Robert de LaSalle first named the island "Isle de Fleures," or Island of Flowers in 1679 because of its many wildflowers. The island was renamed "Middle Bass" in 1856. Like South Bass, Middle Bass Island's grape-growing and wine-making history is rich. In 1866, Andrew Wehrle established the Golden Eagle Wine Cellars, which by 1875 was believed to be the largest wine producer in the country. In 1923, fire destroyed the winery's dance pavilion and 60-room hotel. Three years later, Peter Lonz, who started a winery on the island in 1884, and his son, George, merged operations with the remains of the Golden Eagle Winery. Middle Bass Island's most recognizable landmark, the Lonz Winery building closed in 2000 and is now state-owned. The island is accessible via commercial ferry (departing from Catawba Island and Put-in-Bay), airplane or personal watercraft.

North Bass Island, also known as Isle St. George, is the northernmost and least developed of the three Bass Islands. It is located in Ottawa County, 18 miles north of the Ohio mainland and less than two miles from the Canadian border. Since the 1850s, grape production has been a key part of the island's heritage. In 2004, the state of Ohio purchased 589 acres on North Bass to preserve it from development. North Bass Island is accessible by airplane or personal watercraft. There is no ferry service to the island and no public dockage available.

Kelleys Island is located in Erie County. The entire island is incorporated as the village of Kelleys Island. It is Ohio's largest island. Kelleys Island was originally referred to as "Island Number 6" and later Cunningham Island. It was officially renamed "Kelleys" in 1840 after brothers Datus and Irad Kelley, who developed infrastructure for shipping along with timber operations, limestone quarries, orchards and vineyards. Kelleys Island features Inscription Rock, a 32-foot by 21-foot flat-topped limestone boulder with prehistoric Native American pictographs, known as "petroglyphs," etched into its surface. The carvings, which illustrate animals and human figures, are estimated to be less than 1,000 years old. Glacial Grooves State Memorial, on the north side of the island, features North America's finest example of exposed glacial grooves. The 430-foot long geologic wonder is 35 feet wide and 15 feet deep. Kelleys Island is accessible via commercial ferry (departing from Marblehead and Sandusky), airplane or personal watercraft.

South Bass Island Public Access Sites

LEI1	South Bass Island Lighthouse
LEI2	South Bass Island State Park
LEI3	Alfred Parker Park
LEI4	West Shore Ice Ramp – South
LEI5	West Shore Ice Ramp – North
LEI6	Stone Laboratory Peach Point Campus
LEI7	Oak Point State Park
LEI8	DeRivera Park, including "B" Dock
LEI9	Put-in-Bay Village Marina ("A" Dock and "C" Dock)
LEI10	Put-in-Bay Public Boat Launch
LEI11	Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial
LEI12	Scheeff East Point Nature Preserve
LEI13	Put-in-Bay Village Beach

Middle Bass Island Public Access Sites

LEI14	Middle Bass Island State Park
LEI15	Petersen Woods
LEI16	Kuehnle Wildlife Area
LEI17	Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve

North Bass Island Public Access Sites

LEI18	Honey Point Wildlife Area
LEI19	North Bass Island State Park
LEI20	Fox's Marsh Wildlife Area

Kelleys Island Public Access Sites

LEI21	North Shore Alvar State Nature Preserve
LEI22	Kelleys Island State Park
LEI23	North Pond State Nature Preserve
LEI24	Scheele Preserve
LEI25	Inscription Rock State Memorial
LEI26	Hancock-Wood Electric Scenic Overlook

Lake Erie Islands Right-of-Way Sites

(see page 41)

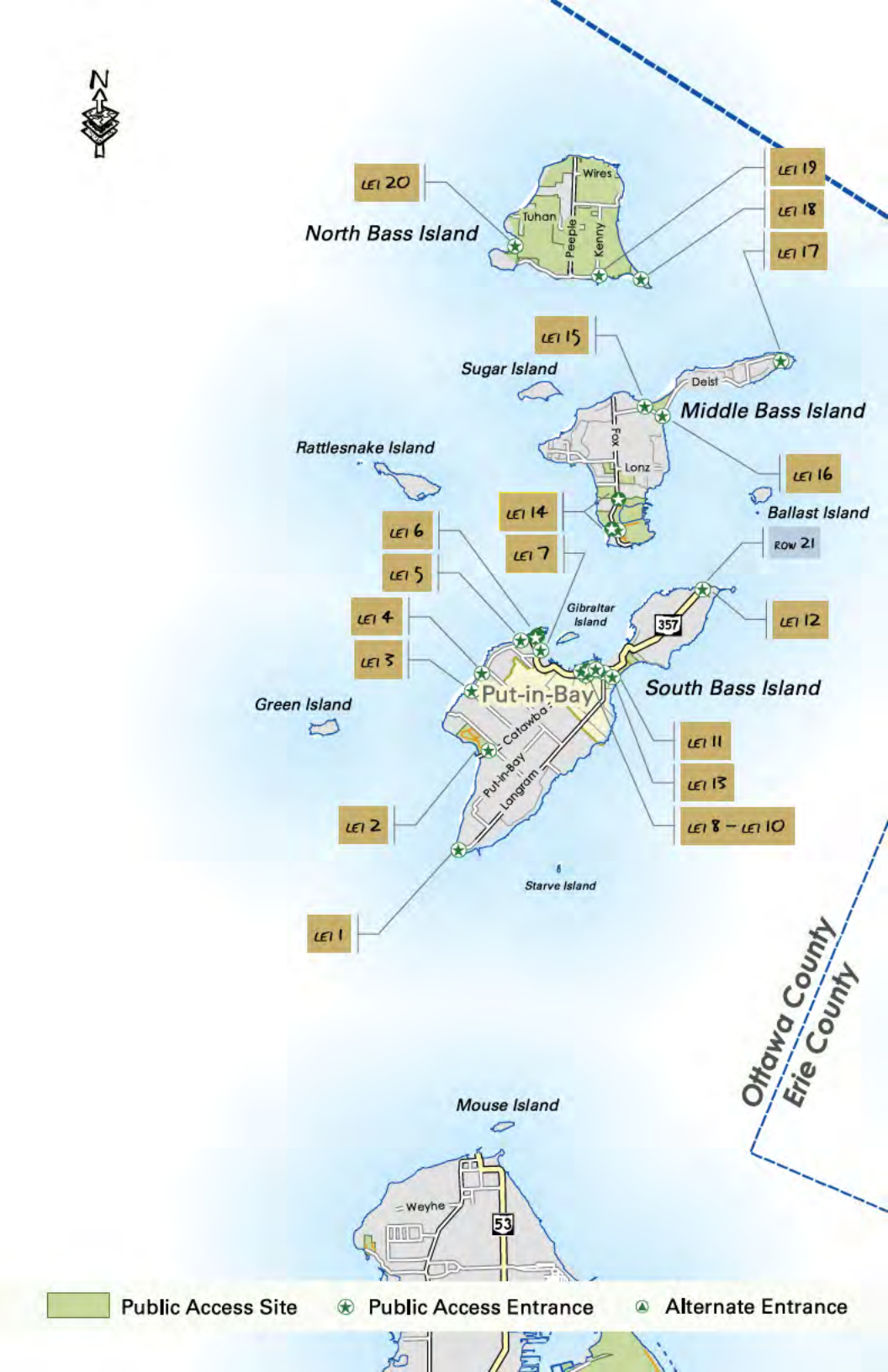
ROW21	East Point (State Route 357), Put-in-Bay Township

Public Access Management

State	13
Local	7
Park District	2
Non-Profit	2
Federal	1
Other	1

Top: View from Scheeff East Point Nature Preserve (LEI12), Put-in-Bay Township

** Ohio's Lake Erie Islands include Ballast, Buckeye, Gibraltar, Green, Johnson's, Kelleys, Middle Bass, Mouse, North Bass, Rattlesnake, South Bass, Starve, Sugar, Turtle (shared with Michigan) and West Sister islands.*


N
LEI 20
North Bass Island
Wires
Tuhan
Peeple
Kenny
LEI 19
LEI 18
LEI 17
LEI 15
Sugar Island
Deist
Middle Bass Island
Fox
Lonz
Rattlesnake Island
LEI 16
Ballast Island
ROW 21
LEI 14
LEI 6
LEI 7
LEI 5
LEI 4
Gibraltar Island
357
LEI 12
LEI 3
Put-in-Bay
South Bass Island
Green Island
Catawba
Put-in-Bay
Longram
LEI 11
LEI 13
LEI 2
LEI 8 – LEI 10
Starve Island
LEI 1
Ottawa County
Erie County
Mouse Island
Weyhe
53
Public Access Site
Public Access Entrance
Alternate Entrance

CANADA
Lake Erie
LEI 21
LEI 22
LEI 23
LEI 24
LEI 22
LEI 26
LEI 25
Titus
Monagan
575
Kelleys Island
Division
Lakeshore
Woodford
Harbor
Kelleys Island
Interior Access Site
Right-of-Way Access Site
2 Miles

South Bass Island Lighthouse

Location:
End of Langram Road

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
South Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 37.75′

Longitude:
W 082° 50.45′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Cultural
Educational

Shore Access:
No
Fence

Location Map:

Amenities:

The South Bass Island Lighthouse has been guiding ships since 1897 through Lake Erie's South Passage (the water route between South Bass and Kelleys islands to the north and Catawba Island and Marblehead Peninsula to the south). The lighthouse, located at the southern terminus of Langram Road at the southernmost tip of South Bass Island in Put-in-Bay Township, is a Queen Anne-style brick home with two-and-a-half stories of living space, a full basement and an attached 60-foot light tower. In 1967, The Ohio State University assumed care of the home and grounds while the U.S. Coast Guard maintains the light. In 1990, the lighthouse was added to the National Register of Historic Places. The 3-arce site is open for foot traffic and features a butterfly garden and historic marker. A fence lines the steep bluff, prohibiting access to the water.

South Bass Island State Park

Location:
1523 Catawba Avenue

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
South Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 38.57'

Longitude:
W 082° 50.13'

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Recreational

Shore Access:
Yes
Terrain
Boat Ramp

Location Map:

Amenities:

The 33-acre South Bass Island State Park is located on Catawba Avenue on the western side of South Bass Island in Put-in-Bay Township. The park provides amenities for both day-use and overnight visitors, including a boat ramp, a vehicle/trailer parking lot, picnic facilities with shelter and a smooth cobble beach. South Bass Island State Park offers 125 non-electric camp sites, 10 full-service camp sites, one cabin and four 'cabents' (combines certain features of a cabin and tent). The park property was the location of the Hotel Victory, an 180,000 square-foot, 625-room hotel that opened in 1892. When built, it was one of the largest hotels in the world and featured a co-ed swimming pool, a rarity in its time. Fire destroyed the hotel in 1919. Remnants of the pool are still visible at the campground. A small area of glacial grooves can also be found in the campground.

Alfred Parker Park

Location:
West Shore Boulevard at Trenton Avenue

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
South Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 39.05′

Longitude:
W 082° 50.32′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Scenic

Shore Access:
No
Fence

Location Map:

Amenities:

The 0.45-acre Alfred Parker Park is a pocket park located at the intersection of Trenton Avenue and West Shore Boulevard on the west side of South Bass Island. The park is a lightly-developed area of green space within the Trenton Avenue right-of-way. Alfred Parker Park includes seating and a picnic table. It is primarily a scenic overlook. Green Island, a state-protected wildlife area not open to the public, is visible from the park. A fence lines the rocky bluff, prohibiting access to the water. The park's namesake, Captain Alfred Parker, was the skipper of a popular island ferry and also served as a Put-in-Bay Township trustee for more than 30 years.

West Shore Ice Ramps

South and North

Location (South):
West Shore Blvd, southwest of Mitchell Road

Location (North):
West Shore Blvd, northeast of Portsmouth Avenue

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
South Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

South:
Lat: N 41° 39.20′
Long: W 082° 50.20′

North:
Lat: N 41° 39.47′
Long: W 082° 49.78′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Recreational

Shore Access:
Yes
Terrain
Boat Ramp

Location Map:

Amenities:

South

North

There are two publicly accessible ice ramps located along West Shore Boulevard on the west side of South Bass Island. The southern ramp is located south of the Mitchell Road intersection and the northern ramp is located between Portsmouth and Bayview avenues. Both sites are utilized as emergency boat launches and for paddling, fishing and winter lake access. Only the south ramp has a parking lot. Neither site has roadside signage denoting public access. There are no amenities at either site.

Stone Laboratory Peach Point Campus

Location:
State Route 357 and West Shore Boulevard

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
South Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Visitors Center:
Lat: N 41° 39.52′
Long: W 082° 49.60′

Research Facility:
Lat: N 41° 39.50′
Long: W 082° 49.61′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Educational

Shore Access:
Yes
Path to Shore
Shore Structure

Location Map:

Established in 1895, Ohio State University's Stone Laboratory is the oldest freshwater biological field station in the United States. The lab offers various research and teaching workshops and hands-on field opportunities that focus on biological and natural sciences, geology and issues facing Lake Erie and the Great Lakes. Science-based college-credit courses are available to undergraduate and graduate students, advanced high school students and to educators. Stone Laboratory, along with dormitories, a dining hall and other living quarters, is located on the university-owned Gibraltar Island, which is located within Put-in-Bay Harbor. The island is only open to the public during special programs and staff-guided tours.

Stone Laboratory's Peach Point Campus is located along State Route 357 on South Bass Island. The satellite campus includes the Aquatic Visitors Center, the Peach Point Research Facility, the Bayview Field Station Office and housing. Both the visitor center and research facility grounds are open to the public.

Stone Laboratory Peach Point Campus

LEI6.1

Aquatic Visitors Center

Amenities:

The Aquatic Visitors Center is located on South Bass Island's Peach Point on West Shore Boulevard in Put-in-Bay Township. Housed in a former state fish hatchery, the center provides hands-on activities and exhibits to help teach the importance of protecting the Lake Erie ecosystem. Events and displays highlight fish species, fish anatomy, fisheries management, invasive species and current research. The center has six aquariums filled with Lake Erie fish and microscopes are available to view plankton and other organisms. The state hatchery closed in 1988 and was transformed into the visitor center by the ODNR Division of Wildlife in 1992. The Ohio State University's Ohio Sea Grant Program took over management in 2009. A public fishing dock, borrowable fishing equipment, bait, courtesy docks, small picnic area and benches overlooking the harbor are also available. The visitor center is open seasonally. Admission is free.

LEI6.2

Peach Point Research Facility Grounds

Amenities:

The Stone Laboratory's Peach Point Research Facility was once a former federal fish hatchery. It currently facilitates a chemistry lab, offices and holding tanks for aquatic organisms. The building is only open to the public during annual open-house events. The facility's grounds are publicly accessible and include paved walkways, an educational kiosk, a historical marker and connecting access to the Aquatic Visitors Center and its amenities.

Oak Point State Park

Location:
Bayview Avenue (State Route 357) at Portsmouth Avenue

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
South Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 39.39′

Longitude:
W 082° 49.56′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Recreational

Shore Access:
Yes
Shore Structure

Location Map:

Amenities:

The 1.5-acre Oak Point State Park is the smallest state park in Ohio. It is located on Bayview Drive (State Route 357) in Put-in-Bay Township, approximately one-half mile from downtown Put-in-Bay. The park occupies a triangular piece of land that extends into Put-in-Bay Harbor and points toward Gibraltar Island. Oak Point State Park offers daily and overnight dockage, fishing access, a small picnic area, restrooms and panoramic views of the Stone Laboratory's Peach Point Campus, Gibraltar Island and Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial.

DeRivera Park

including "B" Dock

Location:
Bayview (State Route 357) and Delaware avenues at Catawba and Hartford avenues

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay

Island:
South Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 39.20'

Longitude:
W 082° 49.06'

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

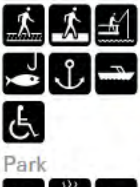
Site Type:
Recreational

Shore Access:
Yes
Path to Shore
Shore Structure

Location Map:

Amenities:

"B" Dock



Park

The 7-acre DeRivera Park is located in downtown Put-in-Bay. It is bounded by Catawba, Delaware and Hartford avenues to the west, south and east, respectively. Bayview Avenue (State Route 357), to the north, forms a divide between the parkland area to the south and the park's dock and harbor-side walkway to the north. The DeRivera Park Trust, formed in 1866, operates and maintains the park's "B" Dock at Put-in-Bay's public marina. The trust also helps protect the park and aids its upkeep. Primary funding is generated from income raised at "B" Dock. The dock has daily and overnight rates. DeRivera Park features War of 1812, World War I and World War II memorials, a fountain, gazebo, picnic area, playground and a public bathhouse.

Put-in-Bay Village Marina

("A" Dock and "C" Dock)

Location:
Bayview Avenue (State Route 357), between Catawba and Hartford avenues

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay

Island:
South Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 39.25'

Longitude:
W 082° 48.98'

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Recreational

Shore Access:
Yes
Shore Structure

Location Map:

Amenities:

The Put-in-Bay Village Marina is located on Bayview Avenue (State Route 357) in downtown Put-in-Bay. The village operates the marina's "A" Dock and "C" Dock. The DeRivera Park Trust operates and maintains the "B" Dock. The public may walk the length of each dock. The marina has daily and overnight rates. Electric and water hook-ups are available. A wide, handicapped-accessible sidewalk with benches runs the entire length of the harbor. Put-in-Bay's public boat ramp is adjacently located to the east of the "C" Dock.

Put-in-Bay Public Boat Launch

Location:
Bayview Avenue (State Route 357) at Hartford Avenue

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay

Island:
South Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 39.25′

Longitude:
W 082° 48.97′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Recreational

Shore Access:
Yes
Boat Ramp

Location Map:

Amenities:

The Put-in-Bay Village Public Boat Launch is located on Bayview Avenue (State Route 357) just west of the Hartford Avenue intersection. It is adjacent to the Put-in-Bay Village Marina's "C" Dock.

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial

Location:
93 Delaware Avenue

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay

Island:
South Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 39.25′

Longitude:
W 082° 48.67′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Cultural
Educational

Shore Access:
Yes
Shore Structure

Location Map:

Amenities:

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial was built to commemorate the United States' naval triumph in the Battle of Lake Erie during the War of 1812 and to celebrate long-lasting peace between Great Britain, Canada and the United States. It is named after Master Commandant Oliver Hazard Perry, who led the American fleet to victory in the battle. The 352-foot tall monument was constructed between 1912 and 1915 and was added to the national park system in 1936. It is the world's tallest Doric-style column and is the third tallest U.S. memorial. An open-air, 317-foot high observation platform provides panoramic views of the islands, Lake Erie and the shores of Ohio, Michigan and Ontario. The 23.9-acre site is located at Bayview (State Route 357) and Toledo avenues in Put-in-Bay and spans an isthmus of South Bass Island. A visitor center includes interpretive displays, a theater and book store. September 10, 2013 marked the bicentennial of the Battle of Lake Erie.

Scheeff East Point Nature Preserve

Location:
Eastern terminus of State Route 357

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
South Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 39.25′

Longitude:
W 082° 48.67′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Natural

Shore Access:
Yes
Path to Shore
Terrain

Location Map:

Amenities:

The 9-acre Scheeff East Point Nature Preserve is located on the northeastern tip of South Bass Island at the northern terminus of State Route 357 (Columbus Avenue). The preserve is a passive-use site that features a walking path around its perimeter, access to a beach and benches. Rocky shores and upland vegetation provide ample habitat for the Lake Erie water snake, migratory songbirds, waterfowl and butterflies. A complex of purple martin gourd homes is located near the parking area and tree swallow boxes are spaced along the trail and throughout the preserve's meadows. The preserve offers fishing and birding opportunities, shore access for paddlers and scenic views of Lake Erie and surrounding islands. A natural sanbar provides access to Buckeye Island (east) when water levels are low. Dedicated in 2009, Scheeff East Point was the Put-in-Bay Township Park District's first property. The land was purchased with federal Endangered Species Act funding and donations from numerous partners and many community members, including the Scheeff family.

Put-in-Bay Village Beach

Location:
End of Delaware Avenue

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay

Island:
South Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 39.17′

Longitude:
W 082° 48.77′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Recreational

Shore Access:
Yes
Terrain

Location Map:

Amenities:

The Put-in-Bay Village Beach is located at the eastern terminus of Delaware Avenue, just east of downtown Put-in-Bay. It is adjacent to and south of the Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial grounds. The 95-foot sand beach has a picnic table, bench and provides fishing and paddling access. Kelleys Island can be seen in the distance. There are no additional amenities at this site and no sign denoting the beach as public.

Middle Bass Island State Park

Location:
1719 Fox Road

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
Middle Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 40.42′

Longitude:
W 082° 48.69′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Recreational

Shore Access:
Yes
Path to Shore
Terrain
Boat Ramp

Location Map:

Amenities:

Middle Bass Island State Park is located in the southern portion of Middle Bass Island. The park's primary feature is its 190-slip marina, which opened in 2009. The marina provides seasonal dockage for island residents and transient dockage for visitors. Amenities at the marina include electric and water hook-ups, a boat ramp, shower house and restroom facilities. Overnight dockage is available by reservation. Middle Bass Island State Park also includes 20 non-electric camping sites and hiking trails. Natural areas with endangered plant and wildlife species, wetlands, woodlands, pocket beaches and glacial grooves are also located throughout the park. The Lonz Winery building, a Middle Bass Island landmark, is now state-owned and located on park property. The former winery building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989. Middle Bass Island is accessible via personal watercraft, public ferry or by airplane.

Petersen Woods

Location:
Deist Road, east of Fox Road

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
Middle Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 41.41'

Longitude:
W 082° 48.23'

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Natural

Shore Access:
Yes
Terrain

Location Map:

Amenities:

The nearly 2-acre Petersen Woods is an undeveloped woodlot in the northern part of Middle Bass Island. It is located on Deist Road and is adjacent and west of Kuehnle Wildlife Area. Petersen Woods provides habitat for the state-threatened Lake Erie water snake, migratory songbirds and wading birds. Petersen Woods was acquired in 2004 by the Black Swamp Conservancy's Lake Erie Islands Chapter. It was the chapter's first property. The site offers birding opportunities and fishing access. There are no recreational or passive amenities. Future site plans include nature trails, a boardwalk and an observation platform. An additional 0.75 acres of emergent wetland known as the Lawrence Evans tract, situated between Petersen Woods and Kuehnle Wildlife Area, was also acquired by the conservancy's Lake Erie Islands Chapter.

Kuehnle Wildlife Area

Location:
Deist Road, east of Fox Road

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
Middle Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 41.32'

Longitude:
W 082° 48.23'

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Natural Outdoors

Shore Access:
Yes
Terrain

Location Map:

Amenities:

Kuehnle Wildlife Area is a triangular-shaped, 20-acre protected area that spans a narrow isthmus connecting the greater part of Middle Bass Island to the island's East Point. It is located on Deist Road and is adjacent and east of Petersen Woods. Its primary feature is a mixed-emergent marsh, also known as Hauncks Pond, which is suitable for fishing, bird watching and nature photography. The environments at Kuehnle Wildlife Area provide habitat and resting spots for migratory songbirds, raptors, waterfowl and wading birds. It also harbors a number of threatened and endangered plants, rare salamanders, Blanding's turtles and the Lake Erie water snake. Both the north-facing and south-facing shores are reinforced with dikes, which are accessible for fishing. There are no recreational or passive amenities.

Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve

Location:
End of North Shore Road, east of Norman Drive

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
Middle Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 40.78′

Longitude:
W 082° 46.93′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Natural

Shore Access:
Yes
Terrain

Location Map:

Amenities:

The 7.8-acre Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve is located on North Shore Road near the northeastern tip of Middle Bass Island. The preserve, which overlooks Lake Erie's Schoolhouse Bay provides waterborne access for kayakers and includes approximately 600 feet of shore. The property is owned by the Put-in-Bay Township Park District and features a diversity of habitats, such as natural beach, mature hardwood forest and grassland. These environments support Lake Erie water snake, migratory bird and songbird populations. Middle Bass Island East Point Preserve is managed as a passive-use nature preserve and a location for launching of kayaks and canoes only. Other recreational activities include fishing, hiking and bird watching. The preserve includes a locally-maintained hiking trail. Motorized vehicles and bicycles are not permitted.

Honey Point Wildlife Area

Location:
Southeastern tip of North Bass Island

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
North Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 42.46′

Longitude:
W 082° 48.28′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Outdoors

Shore Access:
Yes
Terrain

Location Map:

Amenities:

Honey Point Wildlife Area is located in the extreme southeastern portion of North Bass Island. It covers the small peninsula known as Honey Point, which points in a southeasterly direction toward Middle Bass Island's East Point. The wildlife area is adjacent to North Bass Island State Park and is not accessible by road. A portion of Honey Point Wildlife Area was created through a donation and the rest was purchased with state funds and federal grants to help preserve its natural setting. A small wetland area located in the center of the protected site, known as Smith's Pond, provides nesting areas for waterfowl and habitat for shorebird and songbird populations. Honey Point Wildlife Area is accessible for fishing, hunting, trapping and wildlife viewing. Paddlers may access the shore. Swimming is prohibited.

North Bass Island State Park

Location:
Kenny and Meires roads

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay Township

Island:
North Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 42.48'

Longitude:
W 082° 48.93'

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Recreational
Natural
Outdoors

Shore Access:
Yes
Terrain

Location Map:

Amenities:

The 451-acre North Bass Island State Park is the largest public access site on the 677-acre North Bass Island. The park, along with Fox's Marsh and Honey Point state wildlife areas, totaling 593 acres, were purchased with state funds and federal grants. North Bass Island State Park is available for primitive camping (special permit required), bicycling, hiking, picnicking, wildlife viewing and other low-impact outdoor activities. Fishing is permitted in appropriate areas along the state park's 3.5 miles of shore. Trails are planned to connect points of interest. North Bass is the northernmost island in Ottawa County. It is located 18 miles from the Ohio mainland and less than two miles from the Canadian border. It is accessible via personal watercraft and airplane. There is no public dockage available. There is no ferry service to the island.

Fox's Marsh Wildlife Area

Location:
Western
North Bass Island

Jurisdiction:
Put-in-Bay
Township

Island:
North Bass Island

County:
Ottawa

Latitude:
N 41° 42.72'

Longitude:
W 082° 49.86'

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Outdoors

Shore Access:
Yes
Terrain

Location Map:

Amenities:

Fox's Marsh Wildlife Area is located in the southwestern portion of North Bass Island and fronts one half mile of publicly accessible shore on the island's western side. It includes one quarter mile of beach along Manila Bay. It is bound by North Bass Island State Park to the south, east and northeast. The 132-acre wildlife area and 451-acre state park, as well as Honey Point Wildlife Area, were purchased with state funds and federal grants to help preserve the island's natural setting. The 60-acre Fox's Marsh, which is the primary feature at the wildlife area, exhibits most of the island's remaining natural coastal wetlands. The marsh's environments support habitat for fox snake, Lake Erie water snake, waterfowl and migratory shorebird and songbird populations. Fox's Marsh Wildlife Area is accessible for fishing, hunting, trapping and wildlife viewing. Paddlers may access the shore.

North Shore Alvar State Nature Preserve

Location:
Northern Kelleys Island, within Kelleys Island State Park

Jurisdiction:
Kelleys Island

Island:
Kelleys Island

County:
Erie

Latitude:
N 41° 37.21′

Longitude:
W 082° 42.67′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Natural

Shore Access:
No
Edge of Bluff

Location Map:

Amenities:

North Shore Alvar State Nature Preserve is located within Kelleys Island State Park on the north side of Kelleys Island. Alvars are glacially-exposed limestone or dolomite bedrock outcroppings with little to no surface soil and sparse vegetation. The North Shore Alvar is frequently scoured by wind, waves and ice, which limits the diversity of sustainable vegetation. Only a few specially-adapted plant species can survive the alvar's terrain and conditions. The North Shore Alvar is reachable via the one-mile North Shore Loop Trail. The trailhead is accessible from the state park's boat ramp parking area. The alvar itself is open to foot traffic. There are no amenities at the nature preserve.

Kelleys Island State Park

Location:
920 Division Street

Jurisdiction:
Kelleys Island

Island:
Kelleys Island

County:
Erie

Main Entrance:
Lat: N 41° 36.94′
Long: W 082° 42.37′

East Quarry Trail:
Lat: N 41° 36.41′
Long: W 082° 41.71′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Recreational

Shore Access:
Yes
Path to Shore
Boat Ramp

Location Map:

Amenities:

Kelleys Island State Park is located in the northern and central portion of Kelleys Island. The 677-acre state park features amenities for day-use and overnight visitors, including a 100-foot public swimming beach, a double-lane boat launch and two picnic areas. The park's 127-site campground, located on Division Street, has a volleyball court, playground, store and shower facilities. Overnight guests may also reserve one of two Yurts or one of two "Rent-A-Camp" units. Kelleys Island State Park offers the one-mile North Shore Loop Trail and four miles of multiple-use trails for hikers and mountain bikers through the East Quarry area. The park allows fishing and limited hunting in designated areas and affords birding opportunities. Kelleys Island State Park is adjacent to North Shore Alvar (northwest) and North Pond (north and east) state nature preserves. A designated dog swimming area is marked. Glacial Grooves State Memorial is located within the park.

North Pond State Nature Preserve

Location:
Ward Road, east of Division Street

Jurisdiction:
Kelleys Island

Island:
Kelleys Island

County:
Erie

Latitude:
N 41° 36.43′

Longitude:
W 082° 41.96′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Natural

Shore Access:
Yes
Path to Shore

Location Map:

Amenities:

The 45-acre North Pond State Nature Preserve is located within Kelleys Island State Park on the north side of Kelleys Island. The entrance to the nature preserve is on the north side of Ward Road, opposite the parking lot, one-half mile east of Division Street. The preserve can also be accessed from the state park beach. North Pond is one of the last remaining natural wetland environments directly connected to Lake Erie. It is a lake embayment that is usually separated from Lake Erie's North Bay by a sandbar. The pond itself formed as a result of the lake receding from an ancient shore. The remnant waterline crosses through the site. North Pond State Nature Preserve features a one-mile boardwalk, information kiosks, a raised observation platform, sand beach, birding opportunities and many observable wetland plant species.

Scheele Preserve

Location:
Monagan Road, north of Hamilton Road

Jurisdiction:
Kelleys Island

Island:
Kelleys Island

County:
Erie

Latitude:
N 41° 36.52′

Longitude:
W 082° 41.18′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Natural

Shore Access:
Yes
Path to Shore

Location Map:

Amenities:

The 36-acre Scheele Preserve is located in the northeastern portion of Kelleys Island on Monagan Road. It is one of eight preserves on the island protected by the Cleveland Museum of Natural History and is the only preserve open to the public. Scheele Preserve touches 490 feet of Lake Erie shore. A dirt trail leads hikers and walkers from the parking area through open meadow and woods to a sand beach. Much of the trail within the preserve's panhandle is densely wooded and marked with painted blazes on trees. The Scheele Preserve's natural environments provide habitat for fox snakes, butterflies and a variety of migratory songbirds and owls. A picnic table is located near the entrance. There are no additional amenities at the preserve.

Inscription Rock State Memorial

Location:
East Lakeshore Drive at Addison Avenue

Jurisdiction:
Kelleys Island

Island:
Kelleys Island

County:
Erie

Latitude:
N 41° 35.57′

Longitude:
W 082° 42.41′

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Cultural

Shore Access:
No
Fence

Location Map:

Amenities:

Inscription Rock State Memorial is located on East Lakeshore Drive at Addison Road on the south side of Kelleys Island. The site's centerpiece attraction is a flat-topped limestone boulder that features prehistoric Native American pictograph markings, known as "petroglyphs," etched into its surface. The carvings depict animals and human figures. Archaeologists estimate the inscriptions to be less than 1,000 years old. The markings have been greatly weathered by the elements and are difficult to see. In 1969, the Ohio Historical Society built a protective shelter and viewing platform to preserve the rock. A plaster replica, sketched in the 1850s, is on site. There are no recreational amenities at the memorial.

Hancock-Wood Electric Scenic Overlook

Location:
West Lakeshore Drive (State Route 575), near Cameron Road

Jurisdiction:
Kelleys Island

Island:
Kelleys Island

County:
Erie

Latitude:
N 41° 35.74'

Longitude:
W 082° 43.42'

Waterbody:
Lake Erie

Site Type:
Scenic

Shore Access:
Yes
Path to Shore

Location Map:

Amenities:

The Hancock-Wood Electric Scenic Overlook is located on West Lakeshore Drive (State Route 575), just east of Cameron Road, on the south side of Kelleys Island. It is a one-half acre pocket park with a picnic table, observation deck, binoculars and benches. A sign denoting the access reads, "Welcome to Kelleys Island." The scenic overlook, which faces south toward the Marblehead Peninsula, is owned by the Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative, Inc.