

Programs



Enjoy free drop-in programs such as Story Hour, Wee Stroll and naturalist-led hikes. Participate in field trips and workshops such as birding, kayaking, traditional skills, snowshoeing and more. School programs and Nature Day

Camp provide children with opportunities for interaction with the natural world.

Nature Preschool



Nature Preschool offers 3- and 4-year old children a high quality learning environment that meets their developmental needs while initiating them into a life-long, meaningful relationship with the natural world.

Classes take place in the LEED Gold certified Margaret Ann (Ranny) Riecker Nature Preschool Center and the Alden B. Dow-designed Nature Study Building.



Annual Events



- **Maple Syrup Day** (March)
- **Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour** (April)
- **Native Plant Sale** (May)
- **Discover the Homestead Farm** (June-Aug)
- **Nature Fest and Fall Harvest Festival** (held alternating years each fall)
- **Nature at Night** (Oct)
- **Nature Art Show & Sale** (Dec)

About CNC

400 S Badour Rd
Midland, MI 48640



 **chippewa**
naturecenter
Midland, MI



Trail Map and Visitor Guide

19+ miles of trails • Open year-round,
dawn-to-dark daily
Free and open to the public

Visitor Center • Free admission
8-5 Mon-Sat • 12-5 Sun & select holidays

Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas, New Year's Eve & New Year's Day

Mission: To connect all people with nature through educational, recreational and cultural experiences.

Vision: Inspiring people to be stewards of the natural world.


MDOT# 80160027

Become a member and save!
Support CNC and receive discounts
on programs, store purchases
and special events!

www.chippewanaturecenter.org

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PURE MICHIGAN®



Venture Out!

Visitor Center

Located near the confluence of the Pine and Chippewa rivers, Visitor Center features include:



Ecosystem Gallery with hands-on exhibits and a live reptile and amphibian exhibit



River Overlook with spectacular views of the Pine River



Wildlife Viewing Area to observe animals through one-way glass

Nature Discovery Area with nature-themed activities, books and games

Bur Oak Theater with short interpretive videos

Naturalist Station where a naturalist is available to answer questions in person, by phone or online

Nature Center Store offering nature-themed books, toys, gifts, eco-friendly items and more

Homestead

Slow your pace at the 1870s Homestead Farm! From Memorial Day to Labor Day, buildings are open free of charge every Sunday afternoon, with staff and volunteers on hand to lead hands-on activities.



- One-room Log Schoolhouse
- Log cabin
- Timber frame barn
- Farm animals
- Heirloom gardens

Visit the Sugarhouse weekends in March to see a maple sap boiling demonstration.

www.chippewanaturecenter.org



Trails

Open every day from dawn-to-dark, enjoy 19+ miles of trails on foot, snowshoes or cross-country skis through 1,200 acres of diverse ecosystems while observing the plants and animals that call this area home.

- **Arboretum Trail** – Learn about Michigan-native trees and shrubs in The Howard L. Garrett Arboretum.
- **Arbury Trail** – A 0.4 mile paved accessible loop traversing four ecosystems with a river overlook.
- **River Trail** – A 3 mile loop along the rivers, through the woods, Oxbow and over old river beds.
- **Homestead Trail** – Walk this 0.6 mile trail through the 1870s Homestead Farm, then hike along upland fields and woodlands to reach the Oxbow.
- **Wetlands Trail** – Drive or walk 0.5 miles to this 1.7 mile loop with docks, an observation tower and a boardwalk.
- **River Point Trails** – Drive 1.5 miles to reach 2 miles of trails through woodlands by the Chippewa River.
- **Ridge Trail** – Drive .8 miles to this .8 mile loop along a sand beach ridge of an ancient lake.
- **Chippewa Trail** – This 3.5 mile paved accessible pathway connects CNC with downtown Midland at the Tridge and includes interpretive stops. *This is the only trail where bikes and inline skates are allowed.

	Visitor Center	
	Nature Preschool (Closed to Public)	
	Resource Building (Restrooms and drinking water)	
	Nature Study Building (Closed to public)	
	Observation Tower	
	Overlook Deck	
	Parking (Gates open at 8 am.)	
	Restrooms	
	Outhouse (Some Seasonal)	
	Canoe/Kayak Launch	
	Nature Center Neighbors	

	River Trail [†]	3.0 miles
	River Point Trail	1.5 miles
	Wetlands Trail	1.7 miles
	Ridge Trail	0.8 mile
	Sugar Bush Trail	1.0 mile
	Homestead Trail [†]	0.6 mile
	Arboretum Trail	0.4 mile
	Arbury Trail	0.4 mile
	Field Trail	0.4 mile
	Other Trails	5.7 miles
	Chippewa Trail [†]	3.5 miles

[†]Groomed for cross-country skiing



Wetlands Observation Tower
The lower level of this 33' tall observation tower is universally accessible, with a ramp leading to a 21' x 24' viewing platform. Visitors can access the upper level by stairs.



In addition to the canoe/kayak launch on Homestead Road, visitors are invited to use a universally accessible canoe/kayak launch located on Chippewa River Rd, 1/4 mile west of M30. The launch is open dawn-to-dark May 1-Oct 15.



If you come in contact with poison ivy, flush affected areas with soapy water as soon as possible.

