

**VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (cont'd.)**

- I am a new member.
- This is a renewal of my membership.
- This is a gift for the following person.
(name & address please) _____

Please send my VTA newsletter via:

- Reminder to upload when available from website:
My email: _____
- Mail it to my home.
- Please consider me a member-at-large or a
- member of the closest Club to my home or
- member of the _____ Club.

I would like to help with:

- trail development trail maintenance
- newsletter, photography guidebook, maps
- organization-executive hike leading
- landowner liaison, records publicity
- special events Not at this time
- Please contact me for information on what's needed and I'll decide at that time.

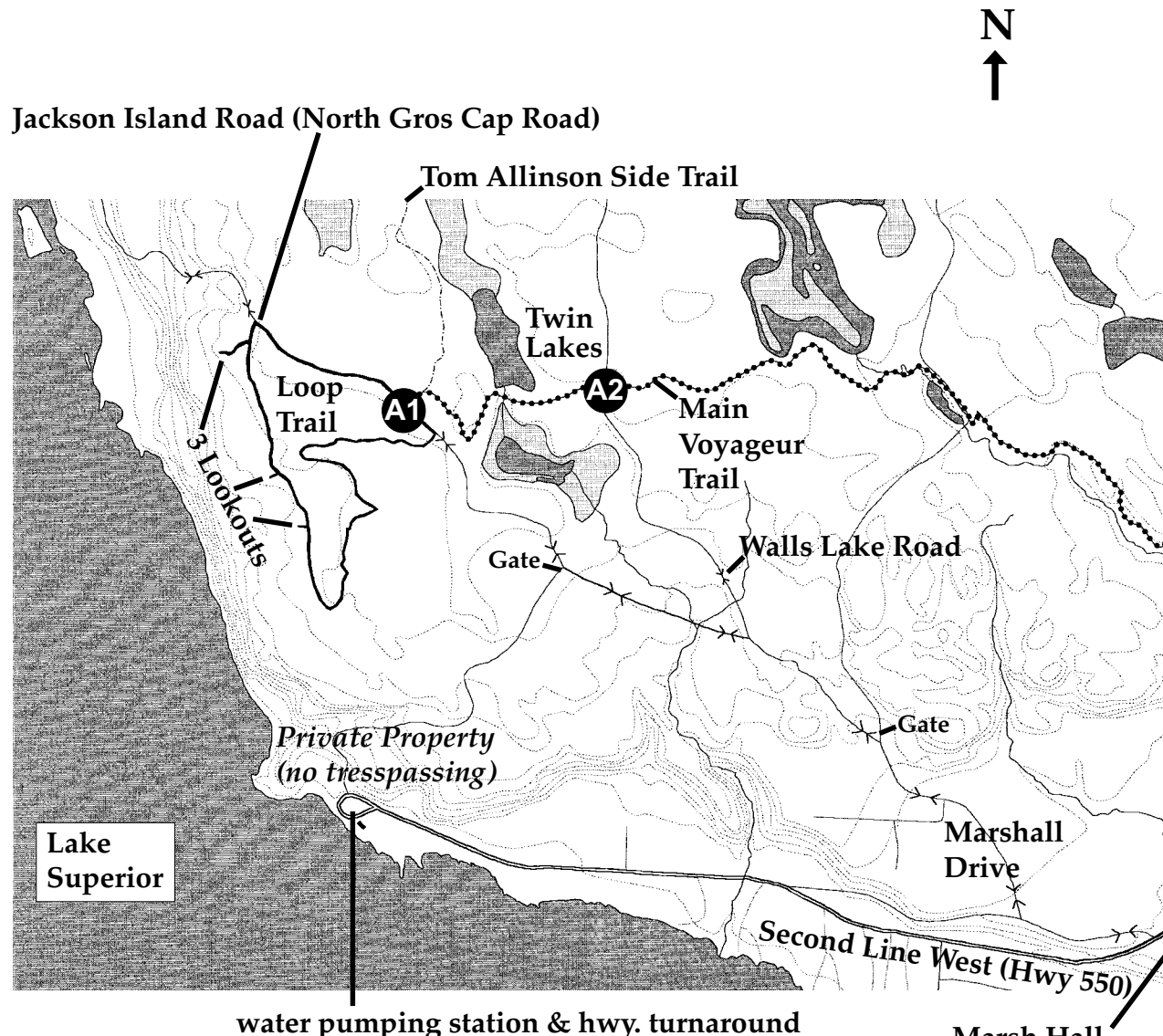
DECLARATION:

I understand that the Voyageur Trail is a wilderness trail and some remote or little-used sections may be in poor condition due to fallen trees or regrowth of vegetation. I understand that I hike it at my own risk. I have read and will abide by the Trail Users' Code (on cover).

(signature) _____

Please make cheques payable and mail to:
Voyageur Trail Association
PO Box 20040, 150 Churchill Blvd.
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 6W3

Clip, fill out (both sides) and mail



LEGEND:

- Main Trail (White Blazes)
- Side Lookout Trail (Blue Blazes)
- Loop Trail (Yellow Blazes)
- Tom Allinson Side Trail (Blue Blazes)

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The **Voyageur Trail Guidebook** is available for sale at the following Sault Ste. Marie businesses: *ACR Gift Store; Airways General Store; Algoma's Water Tower Inn Gift Shop; Bush Plane Museum; Joe's Sports & Surplus; Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority; Stamp 'N Win Postal Outlet (Churchill Plaza); The Trading Post.*

The Voyageur Trail Gros Cap Loop

(Prince Township)

This brochure is distributed free-of-charge compliments of the Voyageur Trail Association.

Visit the Voyageur Hiking Trail on the web at:
www.voyageurtrail.ca
e-mail to: info@voyageurtrail.ca

The Saulteaux (Sault Ste. Marie) Voyageur Trail Club holds over 30 outings a year. Come, join us!
Call 942-1891 or 779-3409 for more information.

Trail Users' Code:

- 1) Hike only along marked routes. Do not take shortcuts.
- 2) Do not climb fences.
- 3) Respect the privacy of people living along the trail.
- 4) Leave the trail cleaner than you found it —carry out all litter.
- 5) Light cooking fires at official campsites only and drench fires after use. *Better still, carry a lightweight stove.*
- 6) Leave flowers and plants for others to enjoy.
- 7) Do not damage trees or strip off bark.
- 8) Keep dogs under control (*leash if necessary*) and follow your club's guidelines concerning dogs.
- 9) Protect and do not disturb wildlife.
- 10) Leave only your thanks and take nothing but photographs.

BE A LOW IMPACT HIKER!

GROS CAP LOOP TRAIL DESCRIPTION

This trail was completed in 1998, re-routed in 2001 and is approximately 3 kilometres long.

This is a pleasant trail which follows several old and newer logging roads.

The trail offers wide views over Whitefish Bay at the blue-blazed lookouts. There are wet sections on the trail so be sure to have proper protective footwear.

A section of this trail is on private land, so it's always a good idea to carry your VTA membership card when hiking it.

References in the text, like [A1], refer to access points contained in the **Voyageur Trail Guidebook**, which can be purchased through the Association, if you are a member. If you are not a member, the Guidebook may be purchased at several locations listed elsewhere in this brochure.

Access [A1]: Access from Marshall Drive:

When heading west on Hwy 550 towards Gros Cap, from Sault Ste. Marie, turn right at Marshall Drive (Note pavement ends at .4km). Turn left (2.3km) on to Jackson Island Road (VTA Hiker sign is posted.) Continue down Jackson Island Road being careful not to turn at any gated drives, as they are private. Keep left at green VTA sign. At approximately 2.6k make a right hand turn where another green VTA sign is posted. Continue along, passing a relay tower on your left (3km.) At 3.3k you will see blazes from the loop trail section that follows a

portion of Jackson Island Road. At 3.45km you will see blazes from the Main Trail (white) and Tom Allinson Side Trail (blue) on the right. *(As a note of interest, if one was to hike the Tom Allinson Side Trail, one would encounter the Prince Township Wind Farm Project towers.)* This wide open area is the 'parking lot.' Please be aware of how you park your vehicle, as not to interfere with logging trucks, or residents of the nearby area.

Directions from parking area, clockwise around the Gros Cap Loop Trail (3k):

Leaving the parking area, head S,SE down Jackson Island Road (also known as Marshall Drive or North Gros Cap Road) for approx. 100metres. Yellow double blazes will be easily located, indicating the hiker to proceed right, into the bush.

Upon entering, the hiker will notice a recently logged mixed forest. Continue down the path (in a westerly direction) crossing through a lush area of ferns, moss and lichens. At .4k the trail will come upon a very marshy area complete with water loving plants like cedars. The hiker will then come to a rocky outcropping where one would notice Saskatoon and blueberry bushes. There are two outcroppings to pass between .5 and .6k, whereupon the hiker will arrive at an elevated esker (old cobble beach.) On the other side of the Esker, (.7k) the hiker will notice that the trail has been logged fairly recently. Blazes become sparse, so be careful not to wander off the trail.

At 1k make a right turn following a skidder track. The hiker will continue along here and pass by some large boulders until he/she makes another sharp right turn onto a

well-traveled trail. One may notice if he/she looked back a "private property" and "keep out" sign. Please abide by the owner's request.

Follow the wide trail through another cobble beach. At 1.3k, the trail will intersect the first side trail (blue blazes). This trail will come to a lookout approximately 50m down the path. During leaf season, the lake is difficult to see, but there is usually a nice breeze.

Once returned to the main trail, the hiker will continue north/west through some lush vegetation, and one more esker. Climb up a small hill and the second lookout will be located (1.6k). This is a large lookout, but still the view is made difficult by a tree canopy. The hiker will reach the third and final lookout at 2k. This side trail has the best view, and is a good place to stop for a break. (Blueberries are excellent picking in season here.)

Following the yellow blazes once again, the hiking trail junctions with Jackson Island Road (2.3k). Turn right (east) and follow this road (slightly uphill) for .6k back to the parking area.

With this, the Gros Cap Loop Trail is completed.

Parts of this trail are made possible courtesy of the Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority.

REMEMBER:
The Voyageur Trail is a wilderness trail and some remote or little-used sections may be in poor condition due to fallen trees or regrowth of vegetation.

Members of the Voyageur Trail Association receive:

- the Voyageur Trail News, a top-quality newsletter containing information of use and interest to members, including regular notification of trail changes delivered to your home three times a year;
- a membership card to be carried at all times on the trail;
- free advertisements in the Voyageur Trail News to sell used trail equipment;
- a discount on the purchase of the Voyageur Trail Guidebook;
- the knowledge that you are aiding in the development and maintenance of an 1100 kilometre-long (when complete) volunteer hiking trail through some of Ontario's most spectacular scenery.

VOYAGEUR TRAIL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM 03/2008

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (home) _____ (work) _____

E-mail: _____

YEARLY MEMBERSHIP FEES: *(Cdn. funds)*
(prices subject to change without notice)

Individual \$25..... = ____

Family / Group \$30..... = ____

Student \$10 = ____

Guidebook (*member*) \$25*(limit of 2)..... = ____

Guidebook (*non-member*) \$35*..... = ____

*PLUS shipping to MAIL guidebook(s).... = \$ 8

VTA Crest \$3 = ____

Donation (*tax receipt will be sent*) = ____

(Charitable Reg. #119261923RR0001)

For NTS topographic maps, call Steve 946-2484.

Memoirs in Sault Ste. Marie has our VTA logo which can be embroidered on their mdse.

Please turn over

TOTAL _____

Clip, fill out (both sides) and mail