



The Calumet Heritage Area and National Designation Initiative

The Calumet Heritage Area is a place of nationally significant natural, industrial, labor, and cultural heritage assets that are preserved and interpreted to advance opportunity and enrich the lives of its residents and visitors from across the nation.

The Calumet Heritage Area (CHA) strives to bring people together across the bi-state region to conserve natural and cultural heritage, improve recreational opportunities, promote regional arts, support sustainable economic development, and create heritage-oriented educational programming. The Calumet Heritage Partnership began this effort and is working in partnership with the Calumet Collaborative, a bi-state organization focused on sustainable development, and the Field Museum, to create and manage the CHA. These partners lead the initiative to designate this unique region as a Calumet *National* Heritage Area. They have enlisted the help of numerous local historical societies, environmental organizations, arts organizations, planning agencies, companies, and citizens to make the current heritage area a reality.

Key Activities

Annual Calumet Heritage Conference

Twenty-three years running, the Calumet Heritage Partnership presents the Calumet Heritage Conference each fall. Themes have included Art and Heritage: The Making of the Calumet, Celebrating and Restoring the Calumet's Living Landscape, Placemaking, taking, keeping, sharing, and this year's theme of Calumet Voices, National Stories in a Living Heritage Area.

Calumet Voices/National Stories Exhibition Series

In this collaborative series of unique exhibitions, local museums and history centers present their collections and stories to showcase how rare ecosystems, world-class innovation, and artistic expression have shaped this region. Learn more at <https://www.calumetvoices.fieldmuseum.org/>.

Calumet Heritage Area Website Development

Visit <https://www.calumetheritagearea.org/> for information about the Calumet Heritage Area purpose, projects, and partners.

The Calumet Heritage Partnership is a bi-state non-profit organization dedicated to preserving and protecting the unique heritage of the Calumet region. The Calumet Collaborative and the Field Museum are partners in the Calumet Heritage Partnership. Together, they further the development of the Calumet Heritage Area and lead the creation of a Calumet National Heritage Area.



Calumet Heritage Area Region-Wide Events Calendar

Your one-stop shop for events and programs in the Calumet Heritage Area that are all about the region's nature, industry, and culture. Be sure to post your upcoming events!

<https://www.calumetheritagearea.org/calendar.html>

Social Media

Join heritage conversations across the region on Facebook @calumetheritage and @calumetHA.

Identity and Branding Toolkit for the Calumet Heritage Area

The messaging, aesthetic, and final design of the Calumet Heritage Area brand was shaped by the residents, business owners, municipalities, community organizations, local tourism bureaus, and historical societies from across the region who participated in the branding and identity development process, led by the Calumet Collaborative.

<https://www.calumetheritagearea.org/brand-toolkit.html>

Calumet Heritage Area Management Plan

In partnership with focus area committees of regional experts, the Calumet National Heritage Area (CNHA) Joint Coordinating Committee developed and prioritized a compelling set of actionable projects where the CNHA could best be leveraged to make a difference in the region. These projects, based on priorities identified in the Calumet National Heritage Area Feasibility Study, aimed at strengthening partnerships, forging new ways of working across the region, enriching capacity for community efforts, regional identity and connectivity, and shining a national spotlight on local stories. The resulting Calumet Heritage Area Management Plan is available at

<https://www.calumetheritagearea.org/management-plan.html>

Calumet National Heritage Area Feasibility Study

The revised version of the Calumet National Heritage Area Feasibility Study was submitted to the National Park Service (NPS) in April 2018, and received NPS approval later that year. The revision includes changes made based on suggestions from the NPS, as well as a summary of public comments received on the draft study, a response to the comments, and 79 letters of support. <http://calumetheritage.org/cnhastudy.html>.

Events, Programs, and Tours

The Calumet Heritage Partnership and associated Calumet Outdoors and Calumet Curators groups host the Calumet Outdoors Series, regional photo contests, exhibits, paddling events, and more. For more information visit the Calumet Heritage Partnership at

<http://calumetheritage.org/>, join the Calumet Outdoors group or subscribe to the Calumet Outdoors Series by sending email to calumet@fieldmuseum.org, and stay up to date with the Calumet Heritage Area events calendar <https://www.calumetheritagearea.org/calendar.html>

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