



Woods Island State Park



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3/14/86
Revised 3/07 erp

Woods Island State Park

Season: Memorial Day Weekend – Labor Day

Welcome to one of Lake Champlain's prettiest islands. Woods Island is a nature lover's delight. A trail system connects five remote campsites dispersed around the island's perimeter, and leads you through beautiful and diverse groves of old-growth trees, around wetlands, past old farm fields and pastures, with shimmering lake views all around. You'll hear and see abundant and varied bird life, and find some of the most unique plants in Vermont. Woods Island is only accessible by boat, so it's never crowded.

One of Vermont's three neighboring island parks in Lake Champlain's 'Inland Sea,' 125-acre **Woods Island** is one mile long by a quarter-mile wide. Acquired by the State of Vermont in 1985, the island had supported tenant farming through the 1800's to mid-1900's. Traces of old drainage ditches and the farmhouse cellar hole remain, along with pieces of rusted farm machinery. Former owners had big dreams for the island. A grand plan in early 1900's envisioned a gymnasium, tennis courts, and other camp facilities for "proper" young ladies. A later owner saw the island as a retreat for business executives. The beginning of an airstrip was bulldozed down the island's center; the earthen berms of the cross-island trail are the runway edges. Finally, a subdivision proposal divided the island into a dozen home lots.

For whatever reasons, none of these island development projects were ever realized. The Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation intends to preserve the primitive character of the Island. We ask your cooperation in observing the following guidelines for island use:

Camping Permits are required. Obtain permits before camping on the island, through:

Burton Island State Park
P.O. Box 123
St. Albans, VT 05481
(802) 524-6353 (mid-May-Labor Day)

Camping and Fires – Camp only on designated campsites. Fires are permitted only in established fireplaces on campsites. **Burn only dead and down wood.**

Plants – There are unusual and rare plants growing on Woods Island, including some protected by law. **No plant may be uprooted or cut without written permission from the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation.**

Sanitation and Refuse Removal – There are no toilet facilities. Bury human waste within the top six inches of soil, at least 100-feet from shore, campsites, or watercourse. **Refuse Removal is carry-in/carry-out.** You brought it; please don't leave it here.

Day Use – Day use during daylight hours only, day visitors must depart by sundown. **No day use on campsites.**

Ferry Service and Parking – *No ferry service to Woods Island.* Visitors must make their own arrangements by boat from anywhere on Lake Champlain. There is parking and a boat ramp at **Kill Kare State Park**, 2.5 miles southeast. **(If you plan to camp, remember to register at Burton Island en route from Kill Kare).**

Emergency Assistance – Emergency assistance is available through Burton Island State Park, two miles south of Woods Island. **A daily Ranger Patrol (late afternoon/evening through July/August) runs from Burton Island.**

Enjoy Woods Island State Park!

This document available upon request in large print, braille, and audio cassette.
VT TDD Relay 1-800-253-0191
Printed on recycled paper
02/08-600

Woods Island State Park Map & Guide



Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
Department of
Forests, Parks & Recreation
www.vtstateparks.com
