

News Release Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest

06-06 For Immediate Release Contact: Phil Barker, 715-362-1373

Changes in fees for remote developed camping on the Chequamegon-Nicolet NF

National Forest remote developed camping fees and day use parking fees affected by passage of the Recreation Enhancement Act

April 13, 2006- Park Falls and Rhinelander, WI. Beginning April 15, 2006, campers using remote developed campsites where a fee is charged will see a change in the fee payment process. As a result of the Recreation Enhancement Act passed by Congress in 2005, a camping fee has replaced the parking fee at these campsites.

Fees for occupancy of <u>remote</u> developed campsites now are charged on a per vehicle per night basis. The fee is \$3.00 per vehicle per night and is paid within 30 minutes of occupying the campsite. Most of these fees can be paid at a self service fee station on site but in some cases campers will need to drive to a centralized fee station to pay their fee. <u>Remote</u> developed campsites are less developed campsites that occur as one site or are in small clusters (2-3 sites) and allow campers a more primitive camping experience than other National Forest campgrounds.

The Seasonal Parking Permit and the daily parking permit are no longer valid or even necessary for camping at these remote developed campsites.

Developed campground fees have not changed from last year.

The new fee payment process covers camping at the following <u>remote</u> developed campsites on the Chequamegon-Nicolet:

Eagle River area: Bose Lake, McKinley Lake, Harriet Lake, Luna Lake North Shore, Three Johns Lake, Quartz Lake, Indian Camp Lake, Windsor Dam (for more information about these campsites, Contact the Eagle River Ranger Station, 715-479-2827).

Lakewood-Laona area: Bear Paw Lake, Farr Lake, Himley Lake, Ludington Lake, Mountain Lakes, Old 32-McCaslin Brook, Old Graves, Oconto Barrier Free (for more information about these campsites, contact the Lakewood-Laona Ranger Stations at 715-276-6333 or 715-674-4481).

The Recreation Enhancement Act also affects day use sites such as swimming beaches, trailheads, and boat launches where fees are charged. The biggest change for these sites is that the Golden Age Passport (for people 62 plus years) and the Golden Access Passport (for people with disabilities) can be used to access these fee sites without any additional charge. For those under 62, there are three fee options including the Golden Eagle National Passport, the Seasonal Parking Permit, or the daily parking permit.