



Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center

Where inspiration comes naturally.

Nestled on the northern shore of Higgins Lake, the Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center is available for nonprofit, government and education-based organizations, as well as private businesses with an outdoor- or green-themed agenda. It is owned and operated by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

Innovative planning assistance

Professional staff is available to help plan your entire event, from lodging accommodations, conference details and meals to recreational and leisure activities.

Lodging

Combine the fun of summer camp with the facilities of a premier conference center. There is lodging available for up to 135 participants (double occupancy) in lodges.

Food and beverage

Be prepared to indulge in a culinary experience. The rotating menu offers a variety of choices with special seasonal menus offered throughout the year.

Housekeeping

Daily housekeeping is offered in all rooms. To help in conserving Michigan's natural resources and to promote the "green" mission of the center, bed linens are changed by request during the guest's stay. Guests are asked to help in our conservation efforts by reusing towels throughout their stay.

Audiovisual equipment

A wide range of standard and high-tech audio visual equipment is available. On-site technical staff can provide assistance upon request.

Accessibility

The Resource Building, Lake Superior Lodge, Lake Huron Lodge, Straits Lodge, Erie Lodge and Harry H. Whiteley Conservation Education Building offer barrier-free access. The beach is accessible via a beautiful boardwalk through a small, pristine cedar wetland.



The RAM Center offers unique lodging in six rustic lodges with room for up to 135 guests (double occupancy).

Straits Lodge

Renovated in 2017, the Straits Lodge sleeps up to 40 people. Each guest room has two single beds, dresser, clothing rack, sink and a shared bathroom. Four of the guest rooms meet ADA requirements. Shared lounge with coffee bar, flat-screen TV, microwave and mini refrigerator. An additional meeting space is available that holds up to 60 people.

Lake Ontario

The first lodge built on the RAM Center grounds, the Lake Ontario Lodge has newly renovated guest rooms and sleeps up to 12 people in 6 rooms. Each guest room has two single beds. Two community-style bathrooms (toilet stalls, shower stalls, sinks and mirrors). The shared lounge has a cut-stone fireplace, coffee bar, flat-screen TV, microwave and mini refrigerator.

Lake Michigan

The Lake Michigan Lodge sleeps up to 18 people in 9 rooms. Each guest room has two single beds. Two community-style bathrooms (toilet stalls, shower stalls, sinks and mirrors). Shared lounge with coffee bar, flat-screen TV, microwave and mini refrigerator.

Lake Superior

The renovated Lake Superior Lodge sleeps up to 32 people in 16 rooms. Each guest room has two full-size beds. Two community-style bathrooms (toilet stalls, shower stalls, sinks and mirrors). Shared lounge with coffee bar, flat-screen TV, microwave and mini refrigerator.

Lake Erie and Lake Huron

The Lake Erie Lodge and Lake Huron Lodge sleeps up to 16 people in 8 rooms. Each guest room has two single beds. A community-style bathrooms (toilet stalls, shower stalls, sinks and mirrors). Shared lounge with coffee bar, flat-screen TV, microwave and mini refrigerator.



The RAM Center offers dining service in a relaxed, rustic setting. Menus are seasonal and changed daily so guests can indulge in a unique culinary experience. Special requests and dietary needs can be accommodated by request.

Breakfast

Served buffet-style at 7:15 a.m. Breakfast includes oatmeal, assorted breakfast breads, fresh fruit, hot breakfast items, coffee/tea, milk and juice.

Lunch and dinner

Meals are served buffet- or family-style. Lunch is served at noon, and dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. A variety of light, hearty and healthy meals are offered and include fresh homemade breads and desserts. Meals are served with water and iced tea. During warm months, meals may be served at the beach.

Snacks

A variety of morning and afternoon snacks, evening hors d' oeuvres and beverages are available.

Special dining arrangements

Arrangements for special menus and alternate meal times can be made with the RAM Center manager.





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Meeting Rooms



The Ralph A. MacMullan Conference Center offers a variety of meeting rooms that accommodate groups ranging in size from 6 to 250 guests. Contact 989-821-6200 for more information on rates, availability and services.

| Room Name | Dimensions | Rounds | Classroom | Theater | "U" Shape | Board Room |
|------------------------------------|------------|--------|-----------|---------|-----------|------------|
| AuSable Room (Education Building) | 64' x 41' | 168 | 120 | 250 | 35 | 45 |
| Main Branch (Education Building) | 41' x 30' | 80 | 60 | 112 | 30 | 40 |
| North Branch (Education Building) | 20' x 15' | | 30 | 56 | 20 | 24 |
| South Branch (Education Building) | 20' x 15' | | 30 | 56 | 20 | 24 |
| Manistee Room (Education Building) | 43' x 30' | | 78 | 130 | 35 | 42 |
| Straits | 25' x 30' | | 30 | 60 | 15 | 15 |
| Lounge Resource Building | 24' x 47' | | 30 | 60 | 15 | 15 |
| Higgins Room (Education Building) | 14' x 8' | | | | | 8 |
| Lake Erie | 16' x 24' | | | | | 16 |
| Lake Huron | 16' x 23' | | | | | 16 |
| Lake Ontario | 15' x 20' | | | | | 12 |
| Lake Superior | 15' x 20' | | | | | 16 |
| Lake Michigan | 14' x 14' | | | | | 6 |



Free wireless internet is available on-site.

A basic audio-visual package is included in your conference fees and includes the following:

- LCD projector and screen or TV in the meeting room
- Hand-held microphone with podium, power strip and extension cord

A-La-Carte options for additional audio visual set-up

Projection equipment

- LCD projector - \$100
- Screen - \$45

Audiovisual accessories

- AV cart - \$10
- Laser pointer - \$10
- White board (includes easel) - \$35
- Flip chart pad and markers - \$20
- Tripod easel - \$5
- Extension cord - \$3
- Power strip - \$3

Phone equipment

- Audio Telco unit (conference phone) - \$85
- Wireless unit that can hook up to a smart phone
- Two speakers

Sound equipment

- Table top lectern - \$5
- Podium - \$15
- Wired handheld microphone - \$25
- Wireless handheld or lavalier microphone - \$50

Office support service

- Photocopies - \$0.15 each
- Transparencies - \$0.50 each
- Name tags - \$0.10 each

If there is something you need that is not on the list, just ask and we will do our best to get it for you.



There are opportunities for a number of recreational and social activities available at the RAM Center and within the surrounding communities.

Private beach

The RAM Center's private beach, located on one of Michigan's most beautiful lakes, can be used for campfires, kayaking and much more.

Hiking

Enjoy 8 miles of beautiful wooded trails that are available for hiking, mountain biking and running.

Canoe and kayak

The center provides four canoes, six kayaks, life vests and paddles for a small fee. Canoe and kayak trips can also be arranged with one of the local canoe liveries on the Au Sable River.

Winter sports

Take advantage of Michigan's winters with ice fishing, sledding, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and downhill skiing. Guests have access to miles and miles of groomed cross-country ski trails located across the main road from the facility. Snowshoes are available for rent at the center.

Outdoor fires

Enjoy an evening campfire on the water or on our brick patio for a small additional fee.

Golf

There are several public golf courses within a 10-mile radius.

Indoor activities

A pool table and ping-pong table are available in the lower level of the Conservation Education Building. Playing cards and a variety of board games are available near a cozy fire as well.

Outdoor activities

There are many other opportunities outdoors, such as sand volleyball, basketball, horseshoes, corn hole, and outdoor Jenga. There is also open field space available for a variety of sports.