



Dear Rendezvous Reenactment Community,

Several changes planned for the upcoming year make considerable contributions to preservation of the site. We'd like to thank you for your support of these changes and take the opportunity to communicate to you their importance.

- 1) Abandoning the campsites formerly established in that narrow semicircle near the lakeshore enables restoration measures first planned in 1984. This area was cleared and improved as a temporary road 25 years ago for heavy equipment to access and stabilize the shoreline with large boulders. As things sometimes go, the road was never fully restored and this area currently provides little protection to the shoreline. In coming years as this area has been pulled out of camping rotation you will see that native vegetation will become established. Native vegetation does a very good job at slowing down erosion and stabilizing slopes.
- 2) Please do your part to reduce, reuse and recycle while you are at Rendezvous. Presidential Executive Order requires federal agencies to minimize the generation of waste and pollutants through source reduction. As a result, we are required to recycle 50 percent of our waste by 2015. As we are currently recycling only 45% of our wastes, we need your help to reach our 50% goal. Please recycle all the waste aluminum, glass and plastic you generate at the event. If you can recycle or reuse other waste items at home, consider taking these items back home with you.
- 3) Lake Superior, like many other northern lakes, is a nutrient poor lake. It is very sensitive to the introduction of nutrients. Foreign nutrients washed to the lake during a 1" or better rainfall event often close Lake Superior beaches due to the resultant degradation of water quality. Surprisingly, soaps and detergents, especially those containing phosphates, function just as other nutrients do to degrade water quality. To protect water quality we are no longer allowing the use of soaps or shampoos when bathing in Lake Superior. Please be considerate of the Lake and prevent any introductions of foreign materials into the water.
- 4) Invasive insects and diseases destroy forest resources. Moving firewood is a primary mechanism for pests like emerald ash borer and gypsy moths to spread to other areas. **DO NOT** bring any firewood to Grand Portage. Firewood is provided at Rendezvous, please use it wisely. **DO NOT** take any firewood home.
- 5) In order to minimize impacts to fragile archaeological deposits, disturbing the soils or sediments within the Monument for any reason is prohibited. **DO NOT** dig your own fire pit.