

Attachment D1

THE CRANBERRY MARSHES OF MANITOWISH WATERS



There are currently five cranberry marshes in Manitowish Waters ranging in size from 63 to 185 acres, totaling about 600 acres. These marshes were started soon after World War II by six families at considerable risk in an area of Wisconsin not yet known for cranberry production; some of these families are currently in their third generation of cranberry growing. These pioneers undertook building what is today a major scenic & economic contributor to Wisconsin's Northwoods.

The Manitowish Waters area was fairly uninhabited at that time, so the cranberry growers banded together to build roads and bridges and to bring the power and telephone line access which everyone uses today to the south end of town. The cranberry marshes today surround the northeast one-third of Little Trout Lake, which is located along the southern edge of the town line. Powell Marsh Wildlife Area and the Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation surround the other two-thirds of this nearly-uninhabited pristine lake. The cranberry marshes benefit from the availability of a water source and the native wetlands and wildlife benefit from a stable wetland environment; thus a huge wetland preserve is maintained and thrives at no additional cost to the tax payer.

Manitowish Waters Cranberry Growers

- Alder Lake Cranberry Company
- Bartling's Manitowish Cranberry Co.
- Folsom Farms, Inc.
- Vilas Cranberry Company
- Rayala Cranberry Company

The cranberry growers of Manitowish Waters are continually looking for ways to improve their growing techniques and cultural practices to insure that future generations can continue to prosper as cranberry growers.

FREE CRANBERRY MARSH TOURS

One tour is offered each Friday morning at 10 a.m.

July 11 - October 10, 2008 ~ Meet at the MW Community Center for a video, juice & sweetened dried cranberry samples, prize drawings & pictorial display (approximately 1/2 hour); then follow a guide in your vehicle to a marsh for an up-close look at the bogs -- blooming, growing or being harvested depending on the time you visit.

***Maps available at MW Chamber ~ 715-543-8488**

****Tour length: Approximately one hour ~ Reservations NOT required ~ All ages and abilities welcome ~ Tour is held rain or shine ~ Minimal walking**