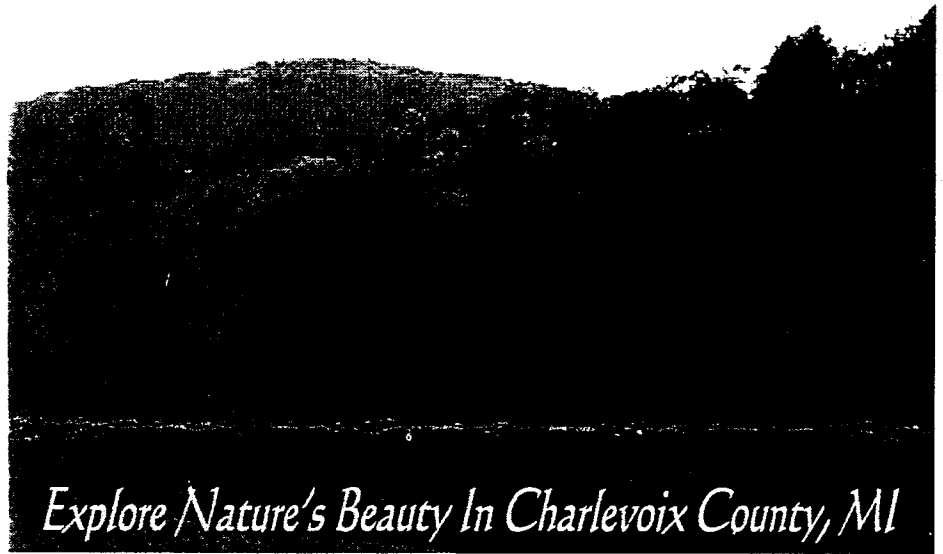


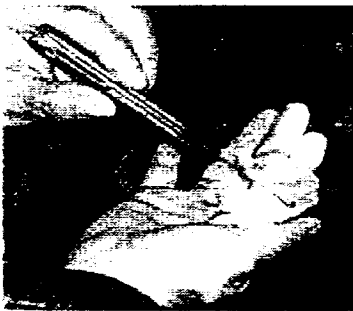
Michigan's Mushroom Mania

The drive to Northern Michigan is beautiful, especially in the Fall when a blanket of fall colors begins to spread across the landscape. In Boyne City in Charlevoix County you can catch the Annual Fall Harvest Festival or enjoy an evening drink and music at the historic Wolverine Dilworth Inn located at 300 Water Street. In the fall there's a cheerful warmth in the air as merchants set out charming decorations along Main Street. While we enjoy the festival and entertainment our thoughts turn to the Fall Mushroom Mania Hunt.



Explore Nature's Beauty In Charlevoix County, MI

Edible or Not?



This is the question on everyone's mind when we meet our host, Joe Breidenstein. Joe is a cheerful gentleman with years of Mushroom hunting experience, and a wonderful cook, as we found out later!

Once we all meet to review a video on Mushrooms, we then head out with our guide Larry, a dear friend of Joe's. Who knew there were so many varieties of mushrooms I thought as the hunt began.

As our search begins we are somewhat disappointed; no one's found any mushrooms. Then my husband draws me back and we see one. Several other mushroom hunters hurry

over to get a glimpse of our catch. We wonder if it's a Paxillus atrotomentosus or Tricholoma vaccinum that's edible, but not a popular choice.

Now if you've never been mushroom hunting, let me tell you, it can be like looking for a needle in a haystack at first. A moment later, they seem to pop up everywhere so you need to watch where you step. After collecting our fill of mushrooms and exploring the forest we return to the lodge for lunch where our guide explains which mushrooms are edible.



Good Friends, Savory Mushrooms, & Wine Tasting

The wonderful part of joining the annual mushroom hunts is the chance to meet new people and share our fungus. It's like a fishing trip, where you share

what you catch, but in this case, there's no bait. As we gather for dinner Joe Breidenstein has a surprise for us, he's invited a local Winery. So not only do we enjoy fabulous food, we also get to sample a wonderful selection of wines.

Thanks to Joe, his family, our guide, Larry, and our new friends for a memorable trip!

*Plan Your Hunt
Mushrooms*

For information on Michigan Mushroom Hunts, which are held in the Spring and Fall, and feature casual, informal outings, filled with fun among old and new friends, plus great food call Joe Breidenstein at (231) 535-2227. Additional nights lodging available at the Springbrook Hills Resort, P.O. Box 219, Walloon Lake, MI 49796.

"Explore America's Backyard where the miles are measured by memorable moments shared with family and friends."