

Wisconsin traveler: outdoor traveler's companion. [Supplement, Vol. 16, No. 1] [February 1992]

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UNEXPURGATED!!

UNABRIDGED!

IN ITS ENTIRETY!!!
(the whole banana, friends!)







Outdoor traveler's COMPANION



Seeds for Thought

BEING AS COMPLETE A GUIDE TO **2** SEASONS
OF THE GREAT  OUTDOORS
AS **8** SLIM PAGES WILL ALLOW!

PRESENTED IN SHADES OF BLACK AND WHITE
TO STIMULATE IMAGINATIONS AND SAVE
S UNDER ASSAULT FROM A WINTER'S
WORTH OF  GAMES!

GUARANTEED TO PROVIDE INSTRUCTION,
 INSPIRATION — AND
A MODICUM OF  INDIGESTION TO THOSE
UNABLE TO FOLLOW A RECIPE!



**KEEP THIS MANUAL
ON YOUR PERSON
AT ALL TIMES**

Just plain volks

There's nothing wrong with winter. Honest. Lots of people love winter. They absolutely adore 20-below temperatures and 36-inch snowdrifts. Truly.

Ask these congenital liars and they will babble on about the lovely sound slush makes when it slaps up against your boots, or how there's nothing more bracing than ice fishing without a shanty when the wind-chill factor hits three digits. Listen to it all while the icicles forming on the noses of these arctic Pinocchio grow longer with each passing January day.

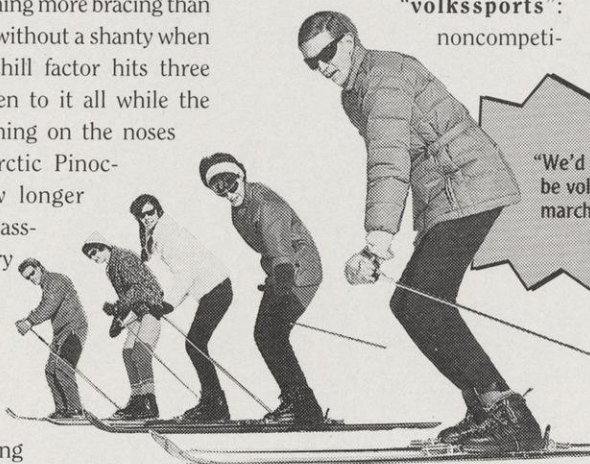
Then there are those for whom winter is nothing more than a dreary bus stop on the way to summer. The bus, having left in fall, is a long time coming. And when that rusting, lumbering hulk finally skids up to the stop — in February, or thereabouts — these winter-weary souls reach into their pockets and discover they don't have the exact fare. "Sorry, folks," snorts the driver, "another bus will be here soon...in April!" The bus pulls away, and there the unfortunates stay, left to endure winter for another couple weeks, waiting stoically for the spring express.

This guide is for members of the latter group. With any luck, it will swoop you out of the winter doldrums and prompt you to begin planning your spring and summer Wisconsin adventures. In other words, it's a seed catalog for warm-weather travelers.

Read it on the bus...if you can get a seat.

Long before there were triathletes, marathoners and rollerbladers, there were volks: Average, everyday folks who enjoyed exercise because it made them feel good, not because they sought tests of speed and endurance.

Volks especially liked exercising in the company of other volks. And so were born the "volkssports": noncompeti-



"We'd rather be volks-marching!"

tive hiking, biking, swimming and skiing events designed to appeal to people of all ages. Several volkssporting events already have been held in Wisconsin and more are sure to follow.

A typical route for a 10-kilometer volksmarch, for instance, might skirt a scenic riverbank or trace a historic trail. There's no rush to the finish line: Participants have all day to complete the course, which allows plenty of time to chat with other volks, do a bit of birdwatching, read the historical markers, or even change a diaper.



Volkssports are great activities for the entire family. All participants receive a patch or medallion for finishing the march.

"In a volksmarch, everyone's a winner," says Jim Buchholz, park manager at **Kohler-Andrae State Parks** near Sheboygan. The Friends of Kohler-Andrae hosted a successful march at the parks last July; the group is planning an event for late spring or early summer this year.

There couldn't be a better way to spend a warm, breezy day than traversing the dunes of Lake Michigan in the company of family and new friends. After the march, visit

the Riverfront Boardwalk in downtown Sheboygan, where you can stroll to restaurants and shops.

For the date, time and other information on the 1992

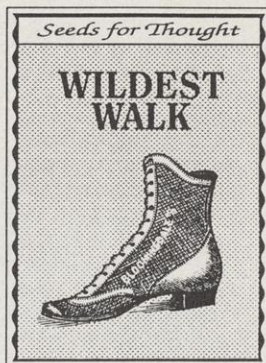
Kohler-Andrae Volksmarch, call 414/452-3457. To find out more about volkssports in general, write the American Volkssport Association, 1001 Pat Booker Rd., Suite 203, Universal City, TX 78148.



Counting on you

Tired of the bestseller-on-the-beach vacation routine? Then make plans to join the sharp-eyed and -eared volunteers who fan out through Wisconsin's wetlands, prairies and woodlands each year to count critters. With so much ground to cover, keeping tabs on fluctuating animal populations is tough. Wildlife biologists and researchers appreciate having volunteer observers help with the task.

"To get a picture of the increase or decrease of a species, we need to collect a lot of data for a



The 60-mile segment of the North Country National Scenic Trail, from Mellen in Ashland County to Drummond in Bayfield County. Winding through the Chequamegon National Forest, the eastern half of the trail skirts rock outcroppings and offers scenic vistas; the western part takes hikers through wetlands and uplands. When complete (Wisconsin will be adding another 90 miles and other states have segments to finish), this National Scenic Trail will connect the Appalachian Trail in Vermont with the Lewis and Clark Trail in North Dakota — 3,200 miles in all. 715/274-5123.



good many years," says Bob Hay, a herpetologist with the DNR Bureau of Endangered Resources. "The more people we have out in the field, the more information we get."

Hay orchestrates DNR's triannual **Frog & Toad Survey**. Volunteers stake out wetlands, listening carefully for different male frog and toad calls. "We start in April, when the water temperature hits 50 degrees," says Hay. "Next, we go out in mid-May, when the water's about 60 degrees. Our last count for the year is held in mid-

The outdoor classroom

Have an interest in nature photography, tree identification, cave exploration, bird communication, night walks, animal tracking or wildflower gardening? What about wild food gathering or wilderness camping skills?

All across the state, nature centers, wildlife areas, university outreach programs and conservation groups offer courses or field trips to enhance your knowledge of the natural world. Plan to make learning a part of your Wisconsin outdoor adventure! Write for the spring/summer edition of *Environment '92*, a month-by-month calendar of statewide adult environmental education opportunities. The address: Environmental Resources Center, School of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin - Cooperative Extension Service, 1450 Linden Dr., Madison WI 53706.



June, or when the water temperature reaches 70 degrees. Different species become more active as the water warms."

Bob also asks survey volunteers to rank their sites with a "call index" of one to three. "On a 'one' site, you'll only hear a few separate, easily distinguished calls," Hay says. "But on a 'three' so many are calling it's like a roar!"

If you've never heard frogs roar, it's high time you expanded your aural horizons. Call Bob Hay at 608/267-0849 for details.

More critter counts:

Fourth of July Butterfly Count: Fireworks may dazzle, but you'll be thrilled by the subtle colors and delicate shapes of Wisconsin butterflies. "There's a hotbed of interest in butterflies in the Midwest," says Ann Swengel, national co-editor for the Xerces Society, an organization dedicated to the conservation of invertebrates. Each year since 1975, the society has organized a butterfly and skipper count on or around July 4th. For a 24-hour period — mostly the daylight hours, says Ann — each volunteer works a 15-mile diameter "count circle," making note of the number of butterflies he or she sees. Write Ann Swengel at 909 Birch St., Baraboo, WI 53913 for information. **Sandhill Crane Count:** Witness the

spring return of these spectacular birds early on the morning of April 11th. Crane count volunteers settle into their viewing sites at marshes and other wetlands before sunrise, then watch and

listen for two hours, counting birds by sight and by call. Counters gather later at central sites to compare notes and feast on doughnuts. The International Crane Foundation in Baraboo, where cranes from around the world are studied and raised, sponsors the event. The foundation is open for tours. 608/356-9543.



What you see is what you get

Good **binoculars** help bring nature into focus. Dave Crehore, avid birdwatcher and public information officer in DNR's Lake Michigan District, offers these tips for selecting a pair:

1. Choose *center-focus* glasses with a porro-prism or roof prism. Avoid "field glasses" with individual focusing for each eye and "auto focus" binoculars.

2. **Magnification:** Look for magnification between 7 and 10 power. Before buying 10-power binocs, make sure you can hold them steadily enough to take advantage of the extra magnification. You might be better off with a lighter, 8-power pair.

3. **Brightness:** All binoculars are identified with two numbers: 7x35, for instance. The 7x indicates the magnification; the larger number is the diameter of the front lenses. If you divide the di-

ameter by the power $35/7 = 5$, you get the "exit pupil," in this case, 5. The higher the exit pupil, the more light comes through the binoculars. The exit pupil of birding glasses shouldn't go below 4.

4. **Close focus:** To be useful for birding, binoculars must be able to focus on objects as close as 15-18 feet.

5. **Field of view:** The field of view is the diameter of the area the binoculars "see" at a given distance. It's expressed either as feet at 1,000 yards or as degrees of angle. Birding binoculars should have a minimum field of view of 6.5 degrees, or about 341 feet at 1,000 yards. Extreme "wide angle" binocs with fields of 10 or 11 degrees are undesirable.

Happy viewing!



Brady's, rising 520 steep feet above the Mississippi River in Perrot State Park near Trempealeau. Follow the hiking trail through several ecosystems to the dry prairie atop the bluff, where you'll see northern dropseed, big and little bluestem grass, fleabane daisies and other prairie plants thriving in a State Natural Area. 608/534-6409.

BEST PLACE FOR A FLOATING PICNIC



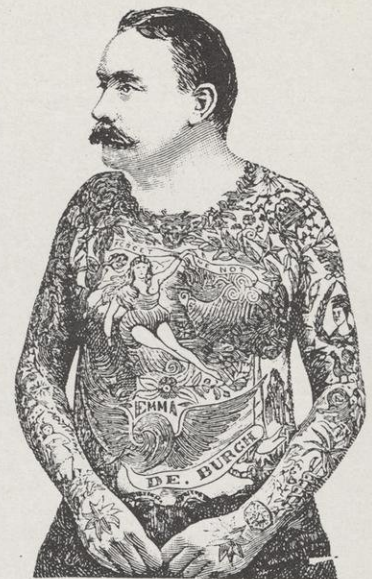
The 92.3-mile Lower Wisconsin State Riverway. Between the dam at Prairie du Sac in Sauk County to its confluence with the Mississippi River at Wyalusing State Park south of Prairie du Chien in Grant County, the easygoing Wisconsin River is a quiet wonderland of islands, sandbars, bottomlands and bluffs. Paddlers can stop in small river towns to pick up lunch fixings, then float on downstream with a sandwich in one hand and binoculars in the other. Please note: No glass containers of any kind are allowed on the riverway, and you must carry a waterproof container large enough to hold all your trash — a strong plastic bag or an ice cooler will work well. Thanks for packing out and recycling what you bring in. 608/935-3368.



Light meals

It's easy to pack a picnic or prepare a camp supper without leaving a mountain of waste behind:

- Keep your camp or picnic food in reusable plastic containers. Remove and recycle as much food packaging as possible *before* you leave for camp. Avoid glass containers, which can break or shatter.
- Use reusable cups, plates and flatware in your cook kit.
- Carry two trash sacks. Keep recyclable items, like aluminum cans, in one; use the other for disposable waste. Place all litter in the proper receptacles.



Fair enough

Set aside a day in your summer travels for a stop at the **1992 Wisconsin State Fair**, August 6 through August 16 at State Fair Park in West Allis, just south of Milwaukee. After a spin on the Ferris wheel, a look at the prize-winning boars and a sampling (or two or three) of those justifiably famous cream puffs, you'll want to tour the Department of Natural Resources' exhibit — a cool, green island of leafy trees complete with a flowing trout stream. Learn about fisheries management, forestry and Wisconsin's endangered plants and animals. Pick up tips on composting and recycling. Meet outdoor celeb Smokey Bear and his Wisconsin recycling pals, Ollie Oil, Rhonda Range and Battery Bob. Visiting the DNR exhibit is a great way to round out your day at the fair!



Romance blooms on a river backwater!



A temperate climate

Average temperatures for the Badger State's balmy season:

	May	June	July	August
North	54	63	67	65
South	57	67	72	70
East	54	64	69	68
West	58	67	71	69



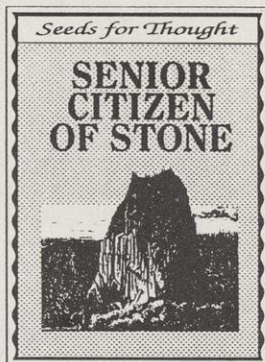
*The Season
for Travel
is Close at Hand*

Sunday in the parks

Join in the old tradition of Sunday visitin' on **Sunday, June 7th**, when all 45 of Wisconsin's State Parks host the annual **State Parks Open House**. Forget about paying an entrance fee — this day is on the house, so to speak. Take a hike, ride a bike, watch a bird, walk a beach...come visit Wisconsin's State Parks and find out just how sociable nature can be. By the way, June 7th is also Free Fishing Day, when you can wet a line in any Wisconsin water without paying a dime.

1992 State Park Fees

Resident annual	\$15.00
Resident daily	4.00
Senior citizen annual	6.50
Senior citizen daily	2.00
Non-resident annual	24.00
Non-resident daily	6.00



The quartzite that forms Rib Mountain, the narrow, 650-foot long ridge skirting the city of Wausau in Marathon County. Geologists say the tough metamorphic rock giving "the Rib" its backbone has been around at least a billion years; it's one of the oldest rock formations on the planet. As you walk upon this bulwark of prehistory at Rib Mountain State Park, think of all the people, animals and who-knows-what-all that trod the ancient stone before you. Don't stub a toe. 715/359-4522.

Ripe for the picking

Come late June or early July, when the tongue begins to tingle and the fingers start to itch, don't bother calling a doctor. Let *Traveler* make the diagnosis: You are suffering from an advanced case of WBDS — wild berry deprivation syndrome.

There's only one cure: Start picking! Wild juneberries, blueberries, strawberries, raspberries and blackberries...these sweet, tangy, juicy treats await your tastebuds in state and national forest thickets. All it takes is a little effort on a nice, sunny day. Here are a few picking tips:

— Call **DNR's Outdoor Report**, 608/266-2277, to find out when and where wild berries are ripe around the state.

— Wear long pants and a long-sleeved shirt to protect your skin from berries with thorns.

— Tie a small bucket or container to your belt to leave both hands free.



— Pick only ripe berries. Underripe berries taste *awful* and will give you a stomachache.

— Get permission to pick on private land.

— Child labor laws do not apply to recreational berry picking, so keep those young hands busy!

Should there be any wild berries left over from your picking expedition (people suffering from WBDS tend to eat them all right on the spot), try this recipe. It's suitable for home or camp cooking.

Wild Griddlejacks

1 c. cornmeal
1 tsp. salt
1-2 tbsp. maple syrup or sugar
1 c. boiling water
1 egg
1/2 c. milk
2 tbsp. melted butter or oil
1/2 c. flour
2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 c. wild berries
shortening or oil for cooking

Mix cornmeal, salt, syrup or sugar with boiling water; cover and let stand 10 minutes. Beat together egg, milk and butter or oil; mix gently with cornmeal. Combine flour and baking powder; add to batter with a few swift strokes. (Batter will be lumpy.) Fold in berries. Lightly grease a griddle or skillet; place over moderate heat. Add enough batter to make a 5-inch round pancake. Cook each pancake until light brown on one side, then flip and brown the other side. Serve with butter, maple syrup, jam...and more wild berries!

Just ask

If you've got questions about outdoor recreation in a particular region of the state, contact DNR district office staff at the following numbers:

Northwest 715/635-2101
North Central 715/362-7616
Western 715/839-3700
Lake Michigan 414/497-4040
Southeast 414/562-9500
Southern 608/275-3266

DNR staff: Ready to serve you!



"I'll see your two pine cones...and raise you an acorn!"

With reservations...

you'll always have a cozy campsite waiting at a Wisconsin state park or forest. Reservations for the 1992 season (May 1 through the last weekend in October) will be accepted by mail or in person at the park where you'd like to stay. For an application, call DNR Parks and Recreation at 608/266-2181 or 266-2621.

People with disabilities will enjoy spending a few nights in a rustic, barrier-free cabin with modern bathroom fixtures that's recently been constructed at Mirror Lake State Park. For an application, call 608/254-2333 or write Mirror Lake, Rt. 1, Box 283, Baraboo WI 53913.



Skipper's checklist

In a few short weeks you'll be shoving off for Sturgeon Bay, Minocqua, Fond du Lac and other exotic Wisconsin ports-of-call. Now, while the ice floes are in their death throes, take some time to check over your watercraft and inventory your boating equipment.

Hull: Examine for gashes and scratches; sand down, patch or caulk if necessary. All hulls, whether metal, fiberglass or wood, benefit from a wash with a mild, nonabrasive detergent and water. A clean hull reduces friction, which helps save gas or, if you're rowing, those upper body muscles.

Propeller: A nicked or bent propeller slows down the boat and may damage the engine. Have it repaired!

Engine: After your boat's had a long winter's nap, it's a good idea to have the engine tuned. Change the oil; check the spark plugs, points and fuel filter; test the battery and recharge if it's low, and make sure the terminal con-



Setting sail for Wisconsin!

nections are clean and free of corrosion. Check hoses and belts for resiliency; replace if cracked or brittle.

Overall: Clean dirt and sand from ropes, lines and sails; repair or replace any that are frayed or worn. Test the horn and lights. Tighten down any loose nuts or bolts.

Equipment:

— Replace cracked paddles and oars.

— Look over your PFDs (personal flotation devices). Have you got one for each person who'll be on your boat? Are they the right size? (Kids grow fast!) PFDs should be in good condition, with no rips or tears.

— Clean the anchor and check the anchor line for wear.

— Check the fire extinguisher; have it recharged or replace it if necessary.

— Assemble an emergency repair kit with wrenches, screwdriv-

ers, a hammer, a vise-grips, distress flag and spare parts to keep on board.

— Assemble or purchase a first-aid kit with bandages, anti-septic, aspirin, sunblock and other items to keep on board.

— Finally, examine your stock of lake maps and charts. You might want to add a few more to your collection.

Be a better boater! Sign up for one of the many boater education classes held around the state by the Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Coast Guard and the U.S. Power Squadron. Wardens at DNR district and area offices will be happy to give you the dates and times of the class nearest you. Check your phone book under "State Government" for the number.



Ye Old Salt's advice for Great Lakes sailors

Red in the morning the sailor's warning;

Red at night the sailor's delight.

When you see a mackerel sky,
'Twill not be many hours dry.

When the seagulls inland fly
Know ye that a storm is nigh.

On Wisconsin's Great Lakes shores

lighthouses number 34.

Each will brightly light your way

through summer squalls and
through Green Bay

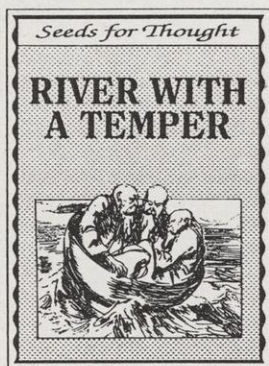
around the Apostles and through
the Door

from Kenosha to Superior!

So when waves roll on stormy nights,

just ask: "Hey, Wisconsin —
have you got a light?"

For Lake Superior marine weather forecasts, tune a high-frequency radio to KIG64, 162.55 MHz; for Lake Michigan, tune to WXM91, 162.50 MHz.



The Wolf, whose boulder-studded banks conceal Class I to Class IV rapids. Thrill-seeking whitewater canoeers and rafters love to challenge this wicked northeastern Wisconsin river. Trout anglers are especially fond of the stretch between Lily and Langlade in Langlade County.



ANGLER'S NIRVANA



The Chippewa Flowage, in Sawyer County. Folks who like to fish think they've died and gone on their Great Reward when plying the "Big Chip." Fourteen miles long, nine miles wide with approximately 120 islands in 17,000 acres of water, the flowage was formed in 1921, when the Chippewa River was dammed at Winter, Wis. Eleven natural lakes and thousands of acres of logged-over lowlands were engulfed by the backed-up river, creating spectacular fish habitat; the irregular, spidery shoreline offers countless sheltered coves and bays. The beauty of the Big Chip is in its variety: You can fish it like a big body of water, a small lake, or as a section of a river or stream. Paradise! 715/634-2688.

Everybody loves Free Fishing Day!



A cool stream, a warm rock...ahhhh!

1992 Fishing License Fees

Resident	\$12.00
Resident husband & wife ...	20.00
Senior citizen	5.00
Nonresident	28.00
Nonresident family	48.00
Nonresident 15-day	18.00
Nonresident 4-day	13.00
Nonresident 15-day family ..	28.00
Two-day Great Lakes	8.00
Trout stamp.	7.25
Great Lakes trout/salmon stamp	7.25

When to fish?

The *Old Farmer's 1992 Almanac* says the best time to fish is:

- the hour after sunup, and the hours just before and after sundown
 - when the breeze is from the west
 - when the barometer is steady or on the rise
 - when the moon is between new and full: May 2-16; May 31-June 14; June 30-July 14; July 29-August 13
 - on **Sunday, June 7th**, when it's **Free Fishing Day** in Wisconsin!
- On Free Fishing Day, you won't need to purchase a fishing license

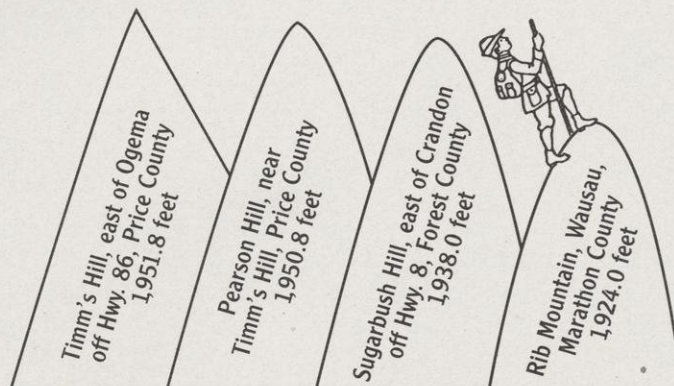
to ply the lakes, rivers, streams and border waters of the state. It's a good day to introduce a youngster to fishing and acquaint yourself with a relaxing sport.

Hands-on instruction sessions, equipment demonstrations and fishing clinics will be held around the state by DNR fish managers and local conservation groups. Call 608/266-2272 for locations, then grab a rod and join the fun!

P.S. June 7th is also the day of Wisconsin's State Parks Open House. No entrance fees or parks sticker required at all State Parks!

Withering heights

The Rockies they ain't — but one of Wisconsin's high points will surely add vertical variety to your journey:





Swiss Family Robinson found on Sheboygan beach!

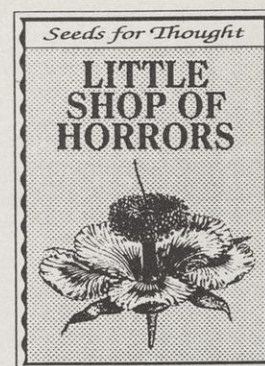
Goin' downtown?

It's likely a number of Wisconsin cities will appear on your warm-weather vacation docket, either as stopovers or as final destinations. And with good reason! Museums, music, restaurants, his-

toric architecture and festivals await urban explorers. But don't overlook the natural delights Wisconsin cities have to offer: Quiet parks, lively beaches, nature preserves, easy boating access and

more. This very brief listing will give you an idea of what's available, but it is by no means complete. You'll want to contact the local visitor's bureau for details.

CITY	TELEPHONE #	MAJOR LAKE OR RIVER	NATURAL RETREAT
Appleton	414/734-3358	Fox River	Pierce Park, Alicia Park, Bubolz Nature Center
Beloit	608/365-4838	Rock River	Big Hill Park
Eau Claire	1-800/344-FUNN	Chippewa River	Carson Park, Mt. Simon Park
Fond du Lac	414/923-3010	Lake Winnebago	Lakeside Park
Green Bay	1-800/236-EXPO	Green Bay	Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary
Janesville	608/752-7459	Rock River	Palmer Park, Memorial Park Arboretum
Kenosha	1-800/645-7309	Lake Michigan	Alford Park, Hawthorn Hollow Nature Sanctuary and Arboretum
La Crosse	608/785-9593	Mississippi River	Riverside Park, Hixon Forest Nature Center
Madison	608/256-8348	The Four Lakes: Mendota, Monona, Kegonsa, Waubesa	University of Wisconsin Arboretum
Milwaukee	414/257-4856	Lake Michigan, Milwaukee River	Grant Park, Havenwoods Environmental Awareness Center, Hawthorn Glen Outdoor Education Center, Schlitz Audubon Center, Wehr Nature Center (Franklin)
Oshkosh	414/236-5250	Lake Winnebago	Menominee Park
Racine	1-800/272-2463	Lake Michigan	Zoological Park, YWCA River Bend Nature Center
Sheboygan	414/457-9495	Lake Michigan	North Point Park, Ellwood H. May Environmental Park, Sanderling Nature Center (Kohler-Andrae State Park)
Stevens Point	1-800/236-4636	Wisconsin River	Schmeckle Reserve, Jordan Park Nature Center
Superior	1-800/942-5313	Lake Superior	Billings Park, Pattison State Park
Wausau	1-800/236-WSAU	Wisconsin River	Rib Mountain State Park, Wausau School Forest, Twin Oaks Environment Center (Schofield)



Spruce Lake Bog, in the Northern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest, Fond du Lac County. Pitcher plants, sundews, bladderworts and other carnivorous herbage thrive in the bog surrounding a kettle lake formed by glaciers. Follow the boardwalk to get a good look at these bloodthirsty plants, but please — don't wear sandals and don't point! The bog, the glacial lake and the nearby tamarack and black spruce forest have been designated a National Natural Landmark as well as a State Natural Area. 414/626-2116.



Need more information?

Outdoor recreation 608/266-2277
State highway maps,
travel brochures 1-800-432-TRIP
Road conditions 1-800-ROADWIS

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