Great Wisconsin Birding & Nature Trail

Lake Michigan Region

GREAT WISCONSIN BIRDING AND NATURE TRAIL

Wing your way through Wild Wisconsin

The *Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail* is your invitation to observe the fascinating and diverse world of wildlife that exists in every corner of the state.

By 2008, the Wisconsin DNR Endangered Resource Program will have developed a series of five highway-based viewing guides, each highlighting unique regional ecosystems of Wisconsin. Each will link a set of waypoints, refuges and wild places that offer the best birding and wildlife watching opportunities.

RICHARD ARMSTRONG

Sandhill Cranes in flight.

This is the third of those five guides; the Lake Michigan Birding and Nature Trail. It covers eleven Wisconsin counties that border Lake Michigan. Opened in 2006, it includes 64 waypoints from the shores of tiny Rock Island State Park in the north to the Chiwaukee Prairie in the south.

In 2007, the Central Sands Prairie Birding and Nature Trail will debut followed by the Southern Savanna Trails in 2008. The first two guides in the series, the Lake Superior Northwoods edition released in 2004 and the Mississippi/Chippewa Rivers edition from 2005, are still available in limited numbers.

Waypoint marker.

Waypoints on each trail will be marked with the program's distinctive Sandhill Crane logo. As you travel, watch for these signs – they are your invitation to the fascinating world of Wisconsin wildlife.

State Natural Areas

STATE NATURAL AREAS

Wisconsin's State Natural Areas (SNAs) protect outstanding examples of native biological communities such as prairies, pine barrens, bogs, and boreal forests. They also preserve significant geological and archaeological features and are often the last refuges in Wisconsin for rare species of animals, plants, fungi, lichens, and a host of other organisms.

Code of Ethics

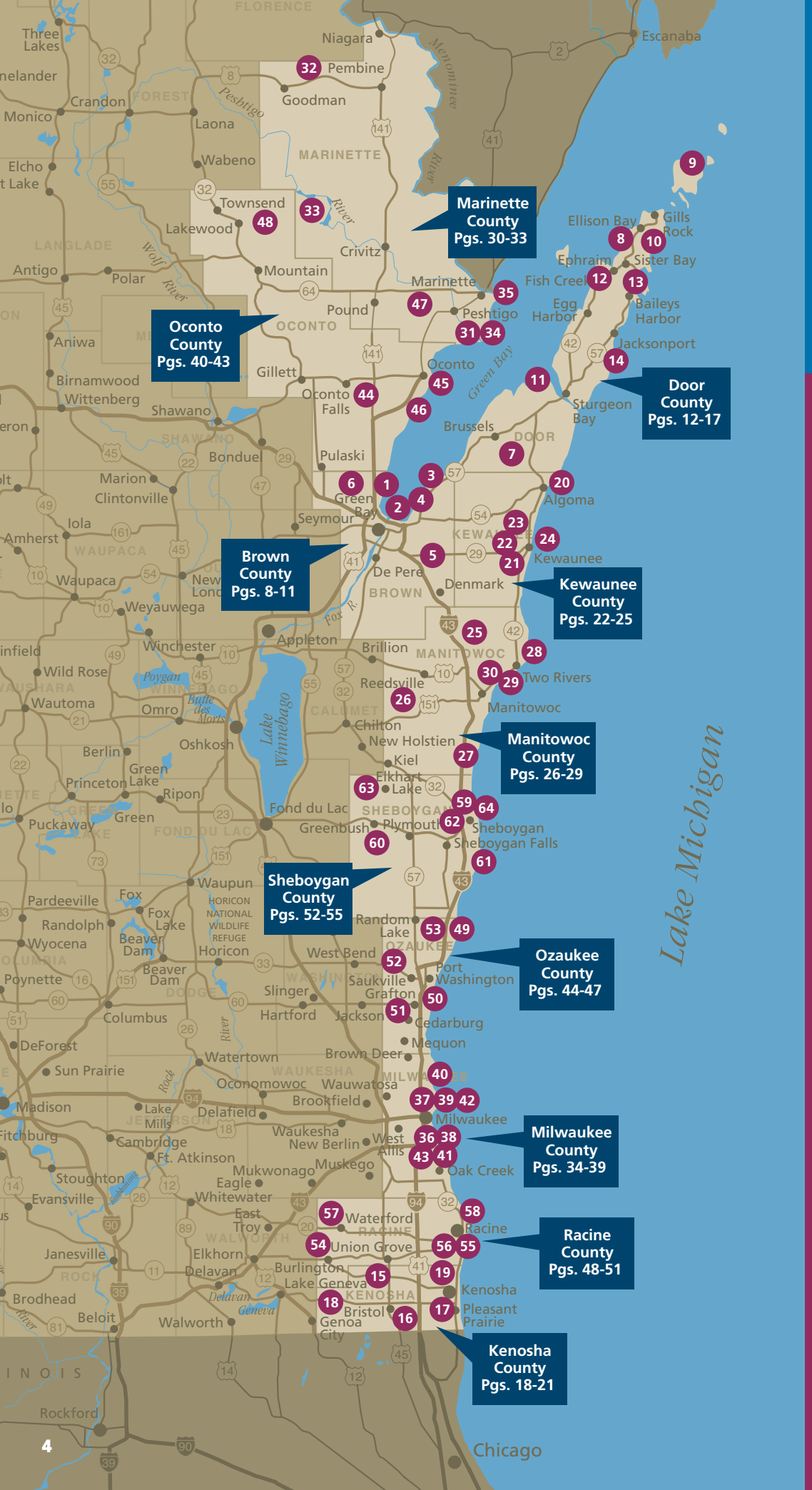
The Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail is your gateway to the natural world of Wisconsin. The Code of Ethics serves to guide you as you seek your favorite waypoint sites across the state.

- Treat birds and other animals with respect, never disturbing or collecting anything in their habitat.
- Trails, roads and paths found at the sites provide good access to the property. Avoid leaving them unless you are in a wilderness area.
- Wisconsin has strict trespass laws. Private property does not have to be posted or fenced in Wisconsin. Ask permission if you want to enter private land. Know where you are – pay attention to posted property boundary signs.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Widow Skimmer.

- Dogs must be leashed on all state lands during the bird-nesting season from April 15 through July 31.
- Lead by example. Leave the property litter-free and in good condition for the next traveler.
- Give nature a voice. Thank the property owner, manager or staff person for the opportunity to enjoy nature at their site.



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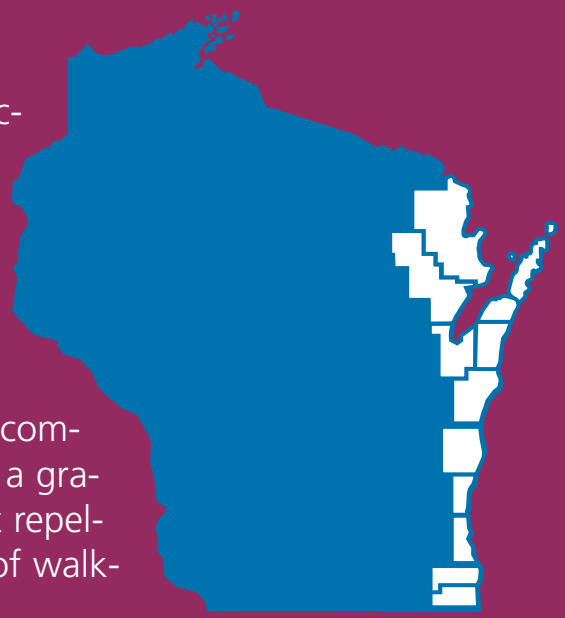
Using the Guide

Information for this guide was gathered locally from Wisconsin DNR and federal Forest Service personnel, from naturalists, birders, and a range of wildlife enthusiasts. Each site was nominated locally and evaluated as part of the regional project.

Site information includes a contact phone number, driving directions, a small locator map, a description of the property, common and rare birds and wildlife, and a Web site if available. Except as noted, admission to these properties is free. Hours are included, even though most properties are open 24/7.

As you would expect, most of these waypoints are remote, wild locations. While every effort has been made to provide accurate driving instructions, we recommend that you bring a county map or gazetteer to help in finding these sites. Other prudent equipment would include a compass, flashlight, water, a granola bar or two, insect repellant, and a good pair of walking/hiking shoes.



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ALAN ORR

Great Blue Heron

Brown County

Brown County frames the south end of the bay of Green Bay. The Fox River transects the county, bisecting the City of Green Bay at the mouth of the river. This is an historic spot, where the first European – Jean Nicolet – stepped ashore in 1634.

Green Bay is perhaps best known as the home of the Green Bay Packers whose legendary past can be celebrated at the **Green Bay Packer Hall of Fame** at Lambeau Field (888/442-7225, www.packers.com). Railroad enthusiasts will want to tour the **National Railroad Museum**, the country's oldest and largest, exhibiting more than 70 pieces of rolling stock including the Dwight D. Eisenhower engine and staff cars (920/437-7623, www.nationalrrmuseum.org).

Downtown the **Neville Public Museum** displays two floors of regional history and art (920/448-4460, www.nevillepublicmuseum.org). Nearby, **Heritage Hill State Park** interprets four eras of regional history from 1672-1905 using twenty-five historic buildings gathered from Brown County (800/721-5150, www.heritagehillgb.org). If you've brought the kids, head to **Bay Beach Amusement Park** where they can enjoy dozens of inexpensive carnival rides and play areas (920/448-3365, www.greenbay.com)

South of town, **Oneida Bingo & Casino** offers blackjack and crap tables, bingo and slots (800/238-4263, www.oneidabingoandcasino.net). Nearby, the **Oneida Nation Museum** displays a large collection of Oneida artifacts (920/869-2768, www.oneidanation.org).

1

Barkhausen Wildlife Preserve & Fort Howard Paper Foundation Wildlife Area

Phone: 920/448-4466
Web: www.co.brown.wi.us/parks
Signature Species: Sandhill Crane, waterfowl, shorebirds, and Wilson's Snipe.
Rare Species: Cerulean Warbler, Snowy Egret, and Saw-whet Owl.
Gazetteer: Page 67, C-D8.
Seasonality: Open all year; Interp. Center open Mon-Fri 9am-4pm, Sat & Sun noon-4pm.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Suamico.

This beautiful, 925-acre county park combines two properties with ponds, marsh, field, forest, nine miles of walking trails, and a waterfowl drive. The Barkhausen Wildlife Preserve features a visitor's center with naturalist programs, a native plant nursery, and a waterfowl management demonstration area. The Fort Howard tract is a great place to see warblers, flycatchers and other forest species. The lowland forest areas are places where Wood Ducks, Northern Waterthrush, Barred Owl and Pileated Woodpeckers nest. More than 200 species of birds have been recorded here, many during spring and fall migrations.

Directions: Located five miles northwest of Green Bay. Take Hwy 41/141 north to exit 173 (Cty. M/Lineville Road), travel east .3 mile to Lakeview Road (Cty. J), then north .4 mile to the Barkhausen entrance.

2

Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary

Phone: 920/391-3675
Web: www.baybeachwildlife.com
Signature species: Black Duck and White-eyed Vireo.
Rare species: Summer Tanager and Ross's Goose.
Gazetteer: Page 68, D1.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Green Bay.

This 700-acre urban wildlife sanctuary established in 1925 is one of the best places to bird watch in Wisconsin. It features diverse forest, field, marsh, and open water habitats. Bridges, boardwalks, a tower and seven miles of nature trails provide year-round access to the property and it's wildlife. Feeders and ponds attract birds in all seasons. The nature center offers bird/wildlife exhibits both inside and out as well as interactive feeding stations. Professional naturalists and volunteers conduct tours, walks, and nature programming.

With 250 species sighted on the property, and more than 70 nesting species, Bay Beach is a destination on any bird watching trip to Green Bay. Buildings, boardwalks, a floating boardwalk, pier bridges and some trails are accessible.

Directions: From I-43 in Green Bay, take exit 187. Turn NE on East Shore Drive to property entrance.

ALAN ORR

American White Pelicans, Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary.

3 Bay Shore County Park

Phone: 920/448-4466
Web: www.co.brown.wi.us/parks
Signature Species: Ducks, flycatchers, shorebirds, and woodpeckers.
Rare species: Caspian Tern, Red Knot, and Scarlet Tanager.
Gazetteer: Page 68, C2.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Green Bay.

Situated along the bluffs of the Niagara Escarpment, this 86-acre park has beautiful views of Lake Michigan. The mixed forest along the escarpment attracts migrating songbirds, while the shoreline attracts shorebirds and waterfowl. Park facilities include a breakwater, boat ramp and dock, picnic areas, campground and hiking trails. If you've brought the kids, there's a terrific nautically themed playground complete with a huge wooden ship.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Scarlet Tanager

Directions: Take Hwy 57 (Sturgeon Bay Road) north of Green Bay about 15 miles to 5637 Sturgeon Bay Road. A large sign marks the property.

4 Cofrin Arboretum – UW Green Bay

Phone: 920/465-2000
Web: www.uwgb.edu
Signature species: American Woodcock, waterfowl, and songbirds.
Rare species: Red Knot and Red-headed Woodpecker.
Gazetteer: Page 68, D1
Seasonality: Open all year
Parking: Parking lots
Nearest food & lodging: In Green Bay

This 270-acre arboretum surrounds the campus and is a very important wildlife corridor on the lake. Because of its habitat diversity, it serves as an oasis for many species of birds and wildlife. Established to restore and preserve natural areas, it is a great place to see native wildlife in native habitat. Six miles of hiking trails take you to all parts of the property.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Catbird

Directions: From I-43 on Green Bay's east side, exit on Hwy 54/57 north. Follow the UWGB campus signs to the exit for University Avenue and follow that one mile to the arboretum.

5 Lily Lake County Park

Phone: 920/448-4466
Web: www.co.brown.wi.us/parks
Signature Species: Common Loon, Sandhill Crane, Water Pipit, and Willow Flycatcher.
Rare Species: Willet, Marbeled Godwit, Ruff, and Gry Falcon.
Gazetteer: Page 56 A1-2.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Green Bay.

At 150-acres, Lily Lake Park is small but beautiful. The 40-acre lake is a favorite fishing destination for electric motor boats only, making for a quiet birding spot. The park offers a sheltered picnic area and an accessible fishing pier. The forest has showy wildflower displays in the spring. There's also a nice tamarack bog and rolling hills to explore. Look in flooded fields around the park in spring for migrating shorebirds.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Willow Flycatcher

Directions: Located 11 miles east of Green Bay. Take Hwy 41 to Bellevue, and turn left on Lily Lake Road to the park entrance.

6 Reforestation Camp

Phone: 920/434-7841
Web: www.co.brown.wi.us/parks
Signature species: Pileated Woodpecker, Common Raven, and Red-shouldered Hawk.
Rare species: Blue-winged Warbler and Black-backed Woodpecker.
Gazetteer: Page 67, C8.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Green Bay.
Fee: Charge for ski trails & zoo admission.

This 1,560-acre reserve is a great place to see warblers, tanagers, nuthatches and cuckoos. It is the best place in the county to see northern species like the Common Raven and Winter Wren. An extensive trail system takes you to all corners of the property. The lowland forest at the south end of the reserve contrasts with the pine plantations and mixed hardwood forests of the northern part of the property. Picnicking and fishing around the Camp's many small ponds are popular summer activities. The Camp's trails are also a magnet for X-C skiers in winter. The N.E.W. Zoo is a 43-acre zoological park with animals from around the world.

Directions: Take Hwy 41/141 north of Green Bay about 6 miles to Suamico and the Sunset Beach Road/Cty B exit. Turn west on Cty B two miles to Cty IR. Turn north on Cty IR and follow signs to the Camp.

Door County

With more state parks (five), lighthouses (ten), and miles of shoreline (250) than any other county in the country, this 75-mile-long peninsula combines pristine scenery with acclaimed performing arts, renowned galleries and shops, and pampering accommodations.

The county is equally famous for its cuisine. The Door County fish boil is legendary; whitefish fresh from Lake Michigan, potatoes and onions boiled to a fiery climax. Look for it throughout the peninsula.

In Sturgeon Bay, the county seat, tour the **Door County Maritime Museum** whose 20,000 square feet of exhibit space celebrates the county's nautical past including its shipbuilding industry and its many lighthouses (920/743-5958, www.dcmm.org). Downtown the **Miller Art Museum** celebrates Wisconsin artists, staging seven changing exhibits each year (920/746-0707, www.doorcountyarts.com).

In Fish Creek, **Peninsula Players Theatre** is America's oldest resident professional summer theater (920/868-3287, www.peninsulaplayers.com). Since 1935 more than 500 plays have been performed in their beautiful "theater in a garden." For a different sort of performance, try a double-feature at the **Skyway Drive-In Theater**, one of two left in the state (920/854-9938).

At the tip of the Door County "thumb" is Gills Rock, home of the **Washington Island Ferry Line** offering daily carferry and passenger service to Washington Island (800/223-3094, www.wisferry.com). The island's ancestry is predominantly Finnish. Local history along with Indian artifacts is displayed in an original log cabin at **Jacobsen's Museum** (920/847-2213.)

RJ & LINDA MILLER

Cana Island Lighthouse.

7

Ahnapee State Trail

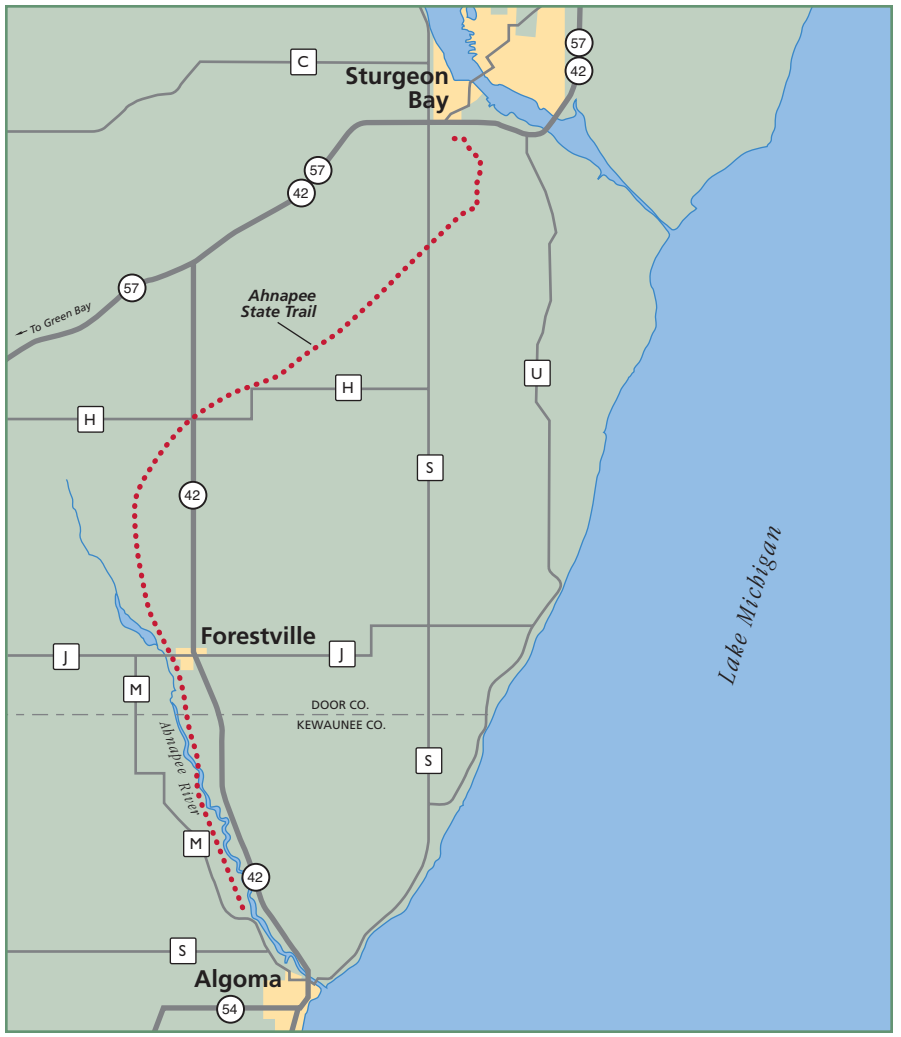
Phone: 920/746-9959
Web: map.co.door.wi.us/parks
Signature Species: White-throated Sparrow, Orchard Oriole, and American Goldfinch.
Gazetteer: Page 69, B6.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Provided.
Nearest Food and Lodging: In Algoma and Sturgeon Bay.
Fee: Trail fees apply

The Ahnapee State Trail is a 30-mile former railroad bed from Sturgeon Bay south to Algoma and Casco in Kewaunee County. The trail follows the meanders of the Ahnapee River along farm fields, meadows, marshes, bogs and grasslands. It's a quiet walk or bike ride through some beautiful habitat that attracts many interesting and colorful birds, as well as deer, fox and other native wildlife. Summer butterflies are abundant. The Ahnapee is a multi-use trail that welcomes hikers, bikers and horseback riders in summer, and X-C skiers and snowmobilers in winter. Remember, those on foot always have the right of way.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Orchard Oriole

Directions: From Hwy 42-57 south of the ship canal in Sturgeon Bay turn south on Neenah Ave, then east on Leeward to the Ahnapee trailhead and parking area.

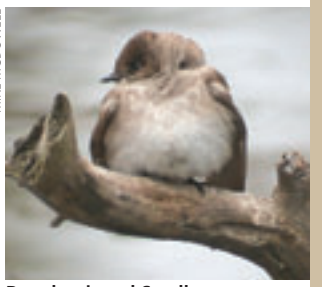


8 Ellison Bluff County Park & State Natural Area

Phone: 920/743-4456
Web: www.doorcounty.com
Signature species: Wood Thrush and Scarlet Tanager.
Rare species: Yellow-throated Vireo, and Pileated Woodpecker.
Gazetteer: Page 81, BC8.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Ellison Bay.

This 174-acre park offers one of the most beautiful bluff-top views in the county. A wooden observation deck and walkway provides a safe but spectacular bird's eye view of the lake from atop the 100-foot limestone bluffs and is an excellent place to view spectacular sunsets. An enclosed catwalk extends out over the bluff where you can observe Rough-winged Swallows hunting for insects. Also, watch for American Redstarts, Great-crested Flycatchers and Broad-winged Hawks.

MIKE MCDOWELL



Rough-winged Swallow

Directions: From Ellison Bay, travel south one mile on Hwy 42 to Porcupine Bay Road. Turn west and follow signs to the park.

9 Jackson Harbor Town Park & State Natural Area

Phone: 920/847-2522
Web: www.washingtonisland.com or www.wisferry.com
Signature species: Ovenbird, Black-throated Green Warbler, and Common Raven.
Rare Species: Merlin, Common Merganser, and Common Goldeneye.
Gazetteer: Page 81, A7.
Seasonality: Open all year – weather dependent ferry from mainland.

Washington Island off the tip of Door County's thumb has fewer than 700 fulltime residents and is about 22-square miles in size. The slow paced lifestyle on the island lends itself easily to bird watching. On arrival, pick up a free copy of A Guide to the Birds of Washington Island. Of the many island parks, the 75-acre Jackson Harbor Town Park is a good place to begin your birding adventure. It's a nice mix of low sandy beach and dunes that grades to low ridges and swales, and then to conifer and mixed hardwood forest. This combination of habitat harbors a nice diversity of birds.

Directions: To reach Washington Island, take the Washington Island Ferry from Northport on the tip of the Door County thumb. The Jackson Harbor Town Park is located in the northwest corner of the island.

10 Newport State Park

Phone: 920/854-2500
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks
Signature Species: Black-throated Green Warbler, American Redstart, and Ovenbird.
Rare Species: Black-throated Blue Warbler and Great Black-backed Gull.
Gazetteer: Page 81, B8.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Provided.
Nearest Food & Lodging: In Ellison Bay.
Fees: State Park fees apply.

This 2,373-acre state park is Wisconsin's only designated wilderness park. The park's evergreen and hardwood forests, meadows and wetlands are framed on one side by 11 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline. With just 16 backpack campsites, 38 miles of trails for hiking, and 16 miles of biking trails, Newport is a welcome respite from the bustle of Door County. Backpack camping is also available in winter, as are 26 miles of cross-county ski trails. The park has an excellent nature center and interpretive programs to foster birding and wildlife viewing.

MIKE MCDOWELL

American Redstart

Directions: From Ellison Bay, follow Hwy 42 east 2 miles to Cty NP (Newport Dr.) 3 miles to the park entrance.

11 Potawatomi State Park

Phone: 920/746-2890
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks
Signature species: Bald Eagle, Osprey, Scarlet Tanager, and Common Goldeneye.
Gazetteer: Page 69, B6.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Provided.
Nearest food & lodging: In Sturgeon Bay.
Fee: State Park fees apply.

Straddling the shoreline bluffs along the bay, Potawatomi State Park offers two miles of Lake Michigan shoreline dotted with granite boulders. The rocky bluffs and shorelines and deep, lush forests provide habitat for numerous species of native flora and fauna. Bird watchers and nature enthusiasts will find 9 miles of hiking trails that access this 1,225-acre property. Bicycles can be rented from the park, or bring your kayak for an enjoyable day on the waters of Lake Michigan. A 75-foot observation tower delivers spectacular views – all the way to Chambers Island, some 20 miles to the northeast. People with disabilities can rent a cabin in the park. There are 123 family campsites as well.

Directions: From Hwy 57-42 south of Sturgeon Bay, turn north on Cty PD 2.5 miles to the park entrance.

12 The Ridges Sanctuary & State Natural Area

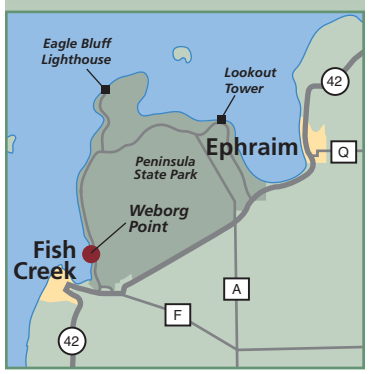
Phone: 920/839-2802
Web: www.ridgesanctuary.org
Signature species: White-throated Sparrow, Pine Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird and Northern Waterthrush.
Rare Species: Canada Warbler, Golden-crowned Kinglet, and Northern Parula Warbler.
Gazetteer: Page 81, D7.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Provided
Nearest food & lodging: In Baileys Harbor
Fees: $3 adults, children free.

The Ridges Sanctuary is a pristine natural area of exceptional quality. Founded in 1937, it's the oldest nature preserve in Wisconsin. This 1,440-acre property provides a glimpse of what much of Door County looked like prior to European settlement. Five miles of hiking trails take you over rustic bridges through some of the 30 sandy ridges formed by wind and Lake Michigan wave action over the past 1,400 years. Wet swales and boreal forest draw songbirds to the area. Unusual plants, including 25 species of orchids and the rare dwarf lake iris, are found on the property. Buy a new field guide at the nature store or join a staff naturalist on a tour of this beautiful property.

Directions: From Hwy 57 on the north side of Baileys Harbor, turn east on Cty Q. The Ridges is the first driveway on the right.

13 Peninsula Park State Park & Weborg Point

Phone: 920/868-3258
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks
Signature Species: Warblers, Sora Rail, Swamp Sparrow, and Pileated Woodpecker.
Gazetteer: Page 81, C6.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Provided.
Nearest food & lodging: In Fish Creek & Ephraim.
Fee: State Park fees apply.



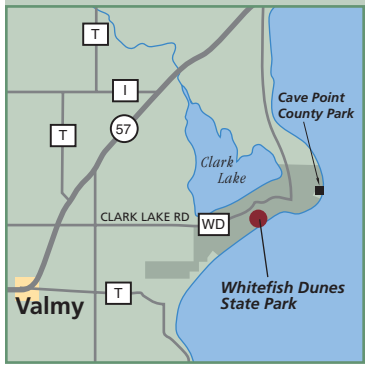
Weborg Point and Peninsula Park Beech Forest SNA are two exceptional sites within the 3,776-acre boundary of Peninsula State Park. Weborg Point is a mixture of sedge meadow, conifer forest and open water facing Strawberry Channel. It provides habitat for all types of water birds including herons and egrets, gulls, shorebirds, and Marsh Wrens. The Beech Forest SNA straddles the Niagara escarpment. Dry forest dominates the edge of the escarpment, while mesic forest of American beech, sugar maple and hemlock are found on the uplands overlooking Green Bay.

Peninsula State Park also contains 9 miles of bike trails, 20 miles of hiking trails, 472 campsites, an observation tower, summer theater, an 18-hole golf course, and historic Eagle Buff Lighthouse.

Directions: Park entrances are located on Hwy 42 at Fish Creek and Ephraim.

14 Whitefish Dunes State Park, State Natural Area & Cave Point County Park

Phone: 920/823-2400
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks
Signature Species: Common Goldeneye and Bufflehead Duck.
Rare Species: Snowy Owl, Bonaparte's Gull, and Caspian Tern.
Gazetteer: Page 69, A7.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Jacksonport & Valmy.
Fees: State Park fees apply.



This 865-acre day-use state park preserves the largest and most significant Great Lakes dunescape in Wisconsin. The lakeshore is spectacular here; a boardwalk takes you through the active and stabilized dunes. The park also offers a nature center, three archaeological sites and interpretive programs for the public. To the north, Cave Point County Park features picturesque limestone sea caves. Diverse habitats and a Great Lakes locale make birding on these properties ideal. You can find waterfowl of all kinds, Rough-winged Swallows, and Blue-gray Gnatcatchers.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Bonaparte's Gull

Directions: From Sturgeon Bay, take Hwy 57 north to Valmy. One mile past Valmy turn east on Clark Lake Road 3 miles to the park entrance.

TOURISM PHOTO FILE

Cave Point County Park.

Kenosha County

Located in the far southeastern corner of Wisconsin, Kenosha County is the home of one of the state's ten **Wisconsin Welcome Centers.** Located on I-94 at exit 347, the Center is a great place to stop for free maps, travel brochures and advice.

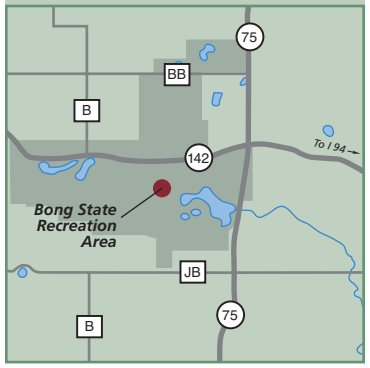
The county seat is the City of Kenosha with many recreational and cultural pursuits. Sample the historic character of this 156-year-old community aboard the **Kenosha Transit Electric Streetcar** (262/653-4287, www.kenoshacvb.com). The authentic streetcars travel a 2-mile loop through the city's four historic districts, the new lakefront park and marina. The new **Kenosha Public Museum** houses the famous Schaefer and Hebior Mammoth exhibit (262/653-4140, www.kenoshapublicmuseum.org). The **Kenosha History Center** displays local history including the manufacture of Nash and Rambler automobiles in Kenosha and tours of the restored **Southport Light Station** (262/654-5770, www.kenoshahistorycenter.org).

Kids of all ages will love a tour of the **Jelly Belly Center** in nearby Pleasant Prairie (866/868-7522, www.jellybelly.com). Enjoy a ride down Candy Alley in the Jelly Belly Train and complimentary beans. Shoppers will be tempted by the many bargains at **Prime Outlets at Pleasant Prairie** (262/857-2101, www.primeoutlets.com) and at **The Original Outlet Mall** in nearby Bristol (262/857-7961, www.originaloutletmall.com). Bristol is also the home of the **Bristol Renaissance Faire** held early-July thru Labor Day (847-395-7773, www.renfair.com).

15

Bong State Recreation Area

Phone: 262/878-5600
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks
Signature species: Bobolink, Greater Yellowleg, Eastern Bluebird, and Sandhill Crane.
Rare species: Upland Sandpiper and Black Tern.
Gazetteer: Page 31, C4.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Sturtevant & Burlington.
Fee: State Park fees apply.



A large area of flat grasslands is the dominant feature of this property. The 4,515-acre park also contains ponds, a lake, marshes, woodlands, prairie and old fields. In the spring, migrating waterfowl include Tundra Swans and White Pelicans. Bald Eagles migrate through the property along with many species of hawks. In the summer, Savanna, Henslow's and Grasshopper Sparrows nest here along with terns, Yellow-headed Blackbirds, rails and herons. The fall migration brings many avian species. In the winter, it's a great place for Short-eared and Snowy Owls, Snow Buntings and Northern Harriers. There's a visitor center, gift shop and a viewing platform for birders.

Directions: Located on Hwy 142 nine miles east of I-94 in Kenosha County.

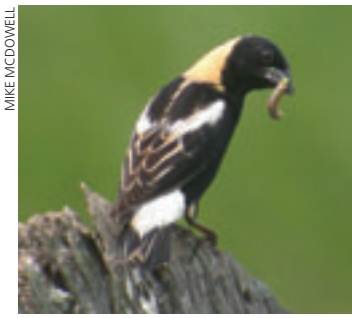
16

Bristol Woods County Park & Pringle Nature Center

Phone: 262/857-8008
Web: www.co.kenosha.wi.us
Signature species: Indigo Bunting, Song Sparrow, and Blue Jay.
Rare Species: Field Sparrow and Bobolink.
Gazetteer: Page 31, D5.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Bristol.

Bristol Woods County Park is a natural area park with woods and hiking trails. It is also the home of the Pringle Nature Center that offers wildlife exhibits, monthly bird walks, and some nature programming. The Hoy Audubon Society of Racine operates the center in conjunction with the county. The park is a good place for a picnic and a few hours of good birding. While enjoying the woods, you might find Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, White-breasted Nuthatches, and Brown Creepers.

MIKE MCDOWELL



Bobolink

Directions: From I-94 southwest of Kenosha, exit west on Cty Q two miles to Cty MB, then north .05 mile to the park entrance on left.

RICHARD ARMSTRONG

Sandhill Cranes

17 Chiwaukee Prairie State Natural Area

Phone: 262/884-2300
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/er/sna
Signature species: Eastern Meadowlark, Bobolink, and American Woodcock.
Rare species: Upland Sandpiper and King Rail.
Gazetteer: Page 31, D7.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Kenosha.

The 482-acre Chiwaukee Prairie is one of the largest prairies in the state and the most intact coastal wetland in southeastern Wisconsin. More than 400 species of plants thrive on this Lake Michigan coastal property, making it one of the most diverse properties in the State Natural Areas program. Rare animals are found here including Blanding's turtle and Franklin's ground squirrel. More than 75 species of grassland and wetland birds have been observed on the property, including Red-headed Woodpecker, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, and orioles.

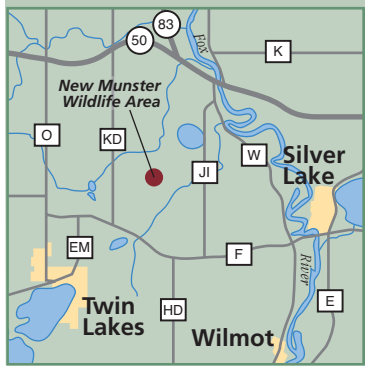
Directions: Lying south of Kenosha and east of Hwy 32, Chiwaukee consists of two parts separated by 116th Street. The northern part between 116th and 85th Street is fragmented by roads and scattered homes. State Natural Area signs mark the boundaries. The parking area for the southern part of the property is on 119th Street, near 2nd Ave. (See Web site for access details.)

ERIC HOWE

Chiwaukee Prairie State Natural Area.

18 New Munster State Wildlife Area

Phone: 262/884-2300
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife
Signature species: Grasshopper Sparrow, Bobolink, and Great Blue Heron.
Rare species: Upland Sandpiper and Northern Harrier.
Gazetteer: Page 30, D4.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: Lake Geneva, Bristol or Paddock Lake.



Nearly 2,000 acres of mixed habitat makes this property a great place to explore for wildlife. Marshes, bogs, creeks, ponds and a flowage draw a wide variety of waterfowl during spring and fall migrations. In the fall and winter, Great Horned, Long-eared and Short-eared Owls are found here. The forests and conifer plantings are great places to find winter finches, Golden-crowned Kinglets, Brown Creepers, and nuthatches. Also found during migrations are warblers, wrens, sparrows and Yellow-breasted Chats. You can enjoy watching coyotes and deer at dusk.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Grasshopper Sparrow

Directions: Located 1.5 miles northeast of Twin Lakes on Cty KD.

19 Petrified Springs County Park & Hawthorne Hollow Arboretum

Phone: 262/857-1869
Web: www.co.kenosha.wi.us
Signature species: Saw-whet Owl and Screech Owl.
Rare species: Northern Mockingbird, Summer Tanager, and Worm-eating Warbler.
Gazetteer: Page 31, C7.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Kenosha.

These properties are best for birds during the spring and fall migrations when the large trees provide perfect habitat for migrants. Pikes Creek meanders through the properties. The mix of field, conifer plantings and hardwoods is a great draw to warblers, vireos, sparrows and hawks. In the winter, Rough-legged Hawks, Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks, and Snowy Owls can be seen on the property. The woods at Petrified Springs is a mix of older maple and basswood trees. It holds nesting thrushes and Pileated Woodpeckers.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Summer Tanager

Directions: Located at the intersection of Cty A and Hwy 31 northeast of Kenosha.

Kewaunee County

Kewaunee County is steeped in maritime tradition. The Lake Michigan port cities of Kewaunee and Algoma are both accented by breakwater piers and impressive lighthouses. Both are home ports to large sportfishing fleets; charter a boat for some of the finest lake trout and salmon fishing on the Great Lakes.

Algoma is a trailhead on the **Ahnapee State Trail**, a 30-mile multi-use railbed trail between Casco and Sturgeon Bay (920/746-9959, www.wiparks.net). A stroll through the city's downtown along the south shore of the Ahnapee River is highlighted by the **von Stiehl Winery** (800/955-5208, www.vonstiehl.com). Von Stiehl bottles thirty varietals, including several made from locally grown cherries. Tour the winery and enjoy their Bohemian tasting salon.

Eleven miles south, Kewaunee's **Marquette Historic District** includes forty homes and businesses on the National Register of Historic Places. The **Kewaunee County Historical Museum and Old Jail** is located in the courthouse (920/388-7176). In the harbor, the nautically inclined can tour **The Tugboat Ludington**, a 115-foot WWII sea-going tug that served in the D-Day invasion (920/388-5000, www.kewaunee.org).

West of town, along the Kewaunee River, the county's **Winter Park** is a great place for mountain biking in the summer and skiing in the winter (800/666-8214). Nearby, the Wisconsin DNR operates the **Besadny Anadromous Fish Facility** (920/388-1025). From mid-September through October, trout and salmon run up the river to spawn. Special "fish ladders" and observation windows at the facility allow you to watch the fish fight their way upstream.

20 Algoma Harbor

Phone: 920/487-5203
Web: www.algoma.org
Signature Species: Green and Blue-wing Teal, and Pied-billed Grebe.
Rare Species: Red-throated Loon, Scoters, and Bonaparte's Gull.
Gazetteer: Page 69, C5.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Algoma.

Algoma's commercial and sportfishing fleets have long harbored in the mouth of the Ahnapee River. The boat traffic along the lakefront is picturesque, as is a stroll along the city's breakwater. The red steel lighthouse on the north breakwater pier is a Great Lakes icon. The harbor area is usually a clatter of gulls, particularly when the fishing tugs return with a catch of whitefish or chubs. Grebes and teal can also be seen on the wing above the harbor. Walk the sandy beaches south of town for more avian adventures.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Forster's Tern

Directions: Hwy 42 in downtown Algoma.

21 Besadny Anadromous Fish Facility

Phone: 414/388-1025
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/water
Signature species: Steelhead and brown trout, Coho and Chinook salmon.
Gazetteer: Page 56, A4.
Seasonality: Site open daily, dawn to dusk. March - December, public viewing window at all times.
Nearest food & lodging: In Kewaunee.

Although this DNR facility concentrates on fish, not birds, it is a fascinating watchable wildlife opportunity. From the facility's accessible deck and paved walkway, visitors can watch as trout and salmon swimming up the Kewaunee River to spawn are diverted by a barrier and fish ladder into large holding ponds. An underwater window frames this watery spectacle. Rainbow trout spawning runs are best April through August. Brown trout run in late September through November, and salmon runs are best from October through November. During peak runs, hundreds of large fish splash and jump as they fight their way up the ladder.

Fish spawning (egg-taking) plays a vital role in maintaining the Great Lakes sport fishery for coho and Chinook salmon, steelhead and brown trout. Because the streams get too warm for the young trout or salmon to survive, the DNR spawns the adults, hatches the eggs, and rears them at state fish hatcheries.

Directions: 3884 Ransom Moore Lane. From Kewaunee travel west on Cty C 1.5 miles to Cty F 0.5 mile to Ransom Moore Lane. The facility entrance is on your right.

RJ & LINDA MILLER

Algoma Lighthouse.

22 Bruemmer County Park

Phone: 920/338-7133
Web: www.kewauneeco.org
Signature species: Green Heron, Belted Kingfisher, and Eastern Kingbird.
Rare species: Warbling Vireo, Bohemian Waxwing, and Northern Shrike.
Gazetteer: Page 56, A4.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Kewaunee.

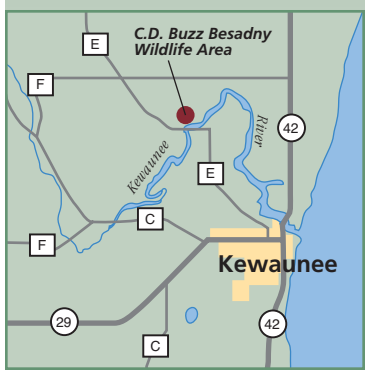
This county park is home to Winter Wrens and Pileated Woodpeckers. It is a mix of habitat including grasslands, scrub forest, and hardwood forest. The Kewaunee River meanders within the park, providing habitat for many species of river-loving birds. A trail system accesses the park's varied terrain. The park is a peaceful refuge that can produce a large number of avian species, especially during spring and fall migrations. A drive along the western side of the property leads to the Buzz Besadny Anadromous Fish Facility. Hiking trails can be found near the hatchery parking lot to access the Kewaunee River.

MIKE MCDOWELL
Green Heron

Directions: From Hwy 42 in Kewaunee, take Hwy 29 to Co. F west, following County Park signs to the property.

23 C.D. Buzz Besadny State Wildlife Area

Phone: 920/683-4926
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife
Signature species: Vesper and Field Sparrow, Alder Flycatcher, and Black-billed Cuckoo.
Rare Species: Varied Thrush, Townsend's Solitaire, and Bohemian Waxwing.
Gazetteer: Page 56, A4.
Seasonality: Open year-round.
Parking: Provided.
Nearest food & lodging: In Kewaunee



This 2,276-acre wildlife area is easy to find and use. Numerous upland and lowland shrub and old-field species of birds can be found here. Emergent marsh areas in the lower reaches of the Kewaunee River are good for waterfowl, bitterns, and herons. A mixed forest known as Lipsky's Swamp holds a variety of more northern species such as Winter Wren, White-throated Sparrow, and Nashville and Mourning warblers. Little Scarboro Creek on the northern end of the property has shrubby areas and old-field grasslands that attract Alder Flycatchers and Clay-colored Sparrows. It is especially rich during spring and fall migrations, but is a great place to visit in the winter when the birding can be very rewarding.

Directions: Property can be reached by following Cty A east from Luxemburg, or Cty E west from Kewaunee.

24 Kewaunee Harbor & Marsh Walk

Phone: 920/388-5000
Web: www.cityofkewaunee.org
Signature species: American Woodcock and Common Snipe.
Rare species: Great and Lesser Black-backed, Glaucous, Iceland and Thayer's gulls.
Gazetteer: Page 56, A4.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Kewaunee.

This compelling walkway combines a beautiful Lake Michigan harbor, the Kewaunee River, wetlands and river marshes. This spot is one of the county's best birding sites, but is often overlooked. The harbor is especially avian-rich during the fall, winter and spring when the migration is in play, and where there is open water in the winter. The walkway covers 2,430 feet, of which 980 feet are a wooden boardwalk that takes you through the heart of the Kewaunee River Marsh. There is a wooden deck with benches where you can relax and enjoy this beautiful site.

Directions: Located just north of Kewaunee on Hwy 42 – as you cross the bridge over the Kewaunee River, look for Kewaunee Landing and the Kewaunee Marsh Walk sign west of Hwy 42.

ALAN ORR
Ring-billed Gull

Manitowoc County

Founded in the 1830s, both Two Rivers and Manitowoc have a storied maritime past. Both began as commercial fishing and shipbuilding centers. Both today boast large and active sportfishing charter fleets.

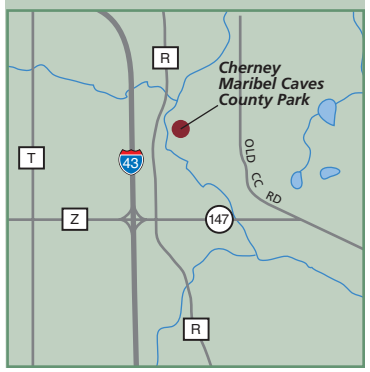
Two Rivers takes pride in being the birthplace of the ice cream sundae – invented here in 1881. For a taste of that frozen confection, stop downtown at the **Historic Washington House** – part museum, part visitors' center, and part old-fashioned soda fountain (920/793-2490). The City's commercial fishing heritage is enshrined at the **Historic Rogers Street Fishing Village Museum** that features an 1886 lighthouse and a shipwreck exhibit (920/793-5905, www.rogersstreet.com). North of the city, **Point Beach State Forest** preserves five miles of lakeshore beaches with 127 campsites and 12 miles of hiking trails (920/794-7490, www.wiparks.net).

Manitowoc is home to the **Wisconsin Maritime Museum**, the largest maritime museum on the Great Lakes (866/724-2356, www.wisconsinmaritime.org). The museum displays everything from wooden sailing ships to a WWII submarine, the USS Cobia. Downtown, the **Rahr-West Art Museum** displays works from its 2,000+ collection of American art, including Georgia O'Keefe, Andy Warhol and Mary Cassatt (920/683-4501, www.rahrwestartmuseum.org.) For something truly unique, tour **Natural Ovens Bakery**, a commercial baker of breads, muffins, bagels and more (800/558-3535, www.naturalovens.com).

25

Cherney Maribel Caves County Park & State Natural Area

Phone: 920/683-4185
Web: www.manitowoccounty.com
Signature species: Songbirds, wildflowers and ferns.
Rare species: Winter Wren, Eastern Phoebe, Pileated Woodpecker, and walking fern.
Gazetteer: Page 56, B2.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Maribel, Denmark, Mishicot, and Manitowoc



This 75-acre park on the West Twin River has a rugged cliff line running parallel to the river. The bluffs contain caves and openings in the rock layers where interesting plants can be found. The remainder of the property consists of rolling hills, wooded uplands and lowlands. The park is known for its significant geological features that were formed by the glaciers. While exploring this park, keep an eye out for Rough-winged Swallows, Red-eyed and Warbling Vireos, and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Eastern Bluebird

Directions: From Manitowoc, take I-43 north about 12 miles to Hwy 147, then east about .25 mile to Cty R, and north on R approximately 1 mile; driveway to the east.

26

Collins Marsh State Wildlife Area

Phone: 920/772-4258
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife
Signature species: Wetland species and raptors.
Rare species: Yellow-headed Blackbird, Black and Forester's Terns, Osprey, and Bald Eagles.
Gazetteer: Page 56, D1.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Nearest food & lodging: In Collins, Reedsville & Manitowoc

Lying in the western part of the county, Collins Marsh is 4,214 acres of forest, cattail marsh and shrub-carr. These habitats combine to attract a wide variety of birds including Whimbrels, American Avocets, Tundra Swans, Veery, Wood Thrushs, and Prothonotary Warblers. Climb the viewing tower for a bird's-eye view of this property, or rent a canoe (available from Collins Marsh) and explore on your own.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Prothonotary Warbler

Directions: From I-43 just west of Manitowoc exit at Cty JJ and travel 15 miles west to the property located at 20021 Hwy JJ.

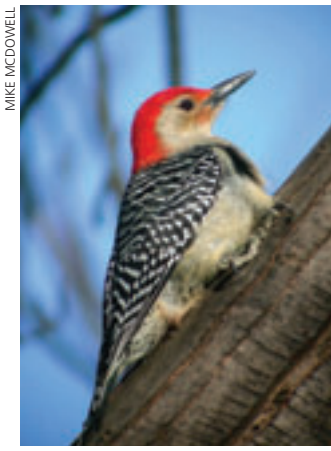
27

Fischer Creek Conservation Area

Phone: 920/683-4185
Web: www.manitowoccounty.com/recreation/fischer.asp
Signature species: Waterfowl, songbirds, and hawks.
Rare species: Red-throated loon and Long-tailed Duck.
Gazetteer: Page 47, A7.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot
Nearest food & lodging: In Cleveland & Manitowoc

This 160-acre site is a new addition to the Manitowoc County Park System. The property lies on both sides of Fischer Creek and is a mix of habitats including old field, lowland forest and shrub-carr. The property runs parallel to Lake Michigan. In spring and fall, thousands of migrating waterfowl can be seen from the bluffs above the lake. There is a system of hiking trails that take you into the interior of the property where you can enjoy Scarlet Tanagers, Red-bellied Woodpeckers, and Broad-winged Hawks.

MIKE MCDOWELL



Red-bellied Woodpecker

Directions: Located 9 miles south of Manitowoc on Cty LS, one mile north of Cleveland.

28

Point Beach State Forest

Phone: 920/794-7480
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks
Signature Species: Songbirds, gulls, terns and waterfowl.
Rare species: Pine and Hooded Warbler, and Acadian Flycatcher.
Gazetteer: Page 56, C4.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Two Rivers.
Fees: State Park fees apply.

Point Beach State Forest is 2,900 acres of upland and lowland mixed forest, sedge meadow, sand dunes and beach along Lake Michigan. There are ancient beach ridges and swales to explore on the forest's six miles of trail. This working forest is teeming with birds that find shelter here from the brisk winds off the lake. Worm-eating Warblers, Yellow-breasted Chats, and Blackburnian Warblers hunt insects in the treetops, while great rafts of waterfowl drift along the lake. The Rawley Point lighthouse is the tallest (113-feet) octagonal skeletal light tower, and the only one of its kind on the Great Lakes.

MIKE MCDOWELL
Acadian Flycatcher

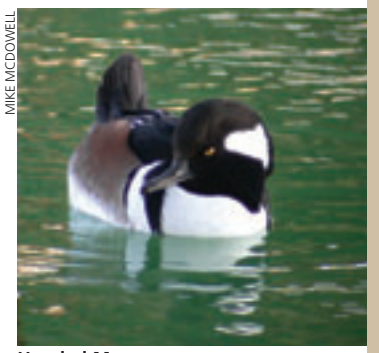
Directions: Located 4 miles north of Two Rivers on Cty O (9400 Cty O).

29

Two Rivers Harbor & Neshota Park

Phone: 920/683-4530
Web: www.ci.two-rivers.wi.us
Signature species: Waterfowl and shorebirds.
Rare Species: Greater Black-backed, Glaucous, Iceland, and Thayers Gulls.
Gazetteer: Page 56, C4.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Two Rivers.

This harbor setting is a great place to look for unusual gulls, diving ducks and more. Using the Mariners and Rawley's Point hiking and biking trails, you can travel to both Woodland Dunes Nature Center and Point Beach State Forest from here. Long-tailed ducks, mergansers, and several other duck species are common in the harbor. In winter, boat traffic keeps the harbor from freezing over providing sanctuary for many unusual species of gulls.


MIKE MCDOWELL
Hooded Merganser

Directions: The harbor is in downtown Two Rivers. Neshota Park is just north of the harbor on Zlatnik Drive between 17th and 22nd Streets along the lake.

30

Woodland Dunes Nature Center & State Natural Area

Phone: 920/793-4007
Web: www.woodlanddunes.com
Signature species: Songbirds, raptors, waterfowl, and shorebirds.
Rare species: Osprey, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Mourning Warbler.
Gazetteer: Page 56, C4.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Nearest food & lodging: In Two Rivers and Manitowoc.

Woodland Dunes is one of the premier birding areas in the county. Located between Manitowoc and Two Rivers, this 1,200-acre reserve offers boardwalks, observation areas and 6 miles of hiking trails to explore its woodlands, meadows and marshes. Common avian residents include ten species of sparrows, Ruffed Grouse, Acadian Flycatcher, and White-eyed Vireo.

The State Natural Area highlights the ancient ridges and swales that are found near the lakeshore. Many ridges are timbered with aspen, white birch, beech and hemlock trees. The tremendous variety of plant species found here attract many species of birds, especially warblers and thrushes.

Directions: Located 7 miles east of I-43 on Hwy 310, toward Two Rivers. (Address is 3000 Hawthorne Ave, which is Hwy 310.)

PRINCELY NESADURAI
Point Beach State Forest.

Marinette County

Marinette County bills itself as the "Waterfall Capital of Wisconsin." Only a small corner of the county fronts on the Bay of Green Bay; the balance of the county sweeps north and west across 1,500 square miles of woods and water. Criss-crossed with miles of wild rivers and streams, the county is blessed with nine waterfalls and excellent whitewater rafting and canoeing.

Marinette, the county seat, is the home of the **Marinette County Historical Museum** (715/732-0831). Located on Stephenson Island in the Menominee River, the museum's excellent exhibits detail the region's lumbering and maritime history. Stop at the **Wisconsin Welcome Center** in Marinette for local and statewide travel information (715/732-4333, www.travelwisconsin.com, open seasonally).

Seven miles to the southwest, visit the **Peshtigo Fire Museum** (715/582-3244, www.peshtigochamber.com). In 1871 a firestorm destroyed the town killing 1,200. When the town was rebuilt, the survivors preserved this grim history in the museum.

Follow the Peshtigo River northwest through the county about 40 miles to the **High Falls** and **Caldron Falls Flowages**. Along the south shore of the flowage is Wisconsin's newest state park, the 2,600-acre **Governor Tommy G. Thompson Centennial State Park** (715/757-3979, dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks). The park includes about 6.5 miles of undeveloped shoreline on the flowage, as well as several cold, clear trout streams. Local whitewater rafting outfitters include **Kosir's Rapid Rafts** (715/757-3431, www.kosirs.com) and **Thornton's Whitewater Rafting** (715/757-3311, www.thorntonsresort.com).

31 Bloch Oxbow State Natural Area

Phone: 715/582-5000
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/er/sna
Signature Species: Bald Eagle, Great Blue Heron, Bank Swallow, and Red-shouldered Hawk.
Rare Species: Caspian and Forester's Terns.
Gazetteer: Page 80, D2.
Seasonality: Accessible year-around.
Parking: Provided.
Nearest food & lodging: In Peshtigo & Marinette

This 614-acre State Natural Area (SNA) is one of the best examples of northern dry-mesic forest remaining in Wisconsin. Large red and white pines tower over a canopy of red oak and red maple. A floodplain forest of silver maple with green ash, elm, bitternut hickory, and cottonwood this far north is an unusual habitat. Old farm fields are being restored to native prairie. The Peshtigo River flows through the area attracting many species of waterfowl and wading birds. The woodlands support warblers, Scarlet Tanagers, Great-crested Flycatchers, and Baltimore Orioles.

Directions: From the intersection of Hwy 41 and Cty B in Peshtigo, go south 1.3 miles on Cty B to Cty BB 2.8 miles to a parking area east of the road. The best pines are east of BB.

32 Dunbar Barrens State Natural Area

Phone: 715/856-9160
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/er/sna
Signature Species: Eastern Bluebird and Eastern Towhee.
Rare Species: Upland Sandpipers and Merlin.
Gazetteer: Page 91, C7.
Seasonality: Not accessible during winter and spring breakup.
Parking: Parking throughout property.
Nearest food & lodging: In Goodman & Dunbar

Dunbar Barrens is a 1,330-acre pine barrens located on gently rolling glacial outwash. The area is predominantly open with scattered shrubs and trees, grasses and sedges. Logging, grazing and periodic fires have combined with frost pockets to maintain an open vista, quite uncommon in the wooded north. Because this area is so open and dominated by grasslands, it's a great place to see Vesper, Field, and Clay-colored Sparrows, as well as Eastern Kingbirds, Bobolinks, Eastern Meadowlarks and Upland Sandpipers. As you hike the area, enjoy the exotic smell of blueberries and sweet ferns that grow everywhere.

Directions: From the intersection of Hwy 8 and Cty U west of Dunbar, go west 2.1 miles on Hwy 8, then north on an unimproved access road 1.3 miles, then west 0.4 mile to the southeast corner of the site.

ALAN ORR

Great Egret

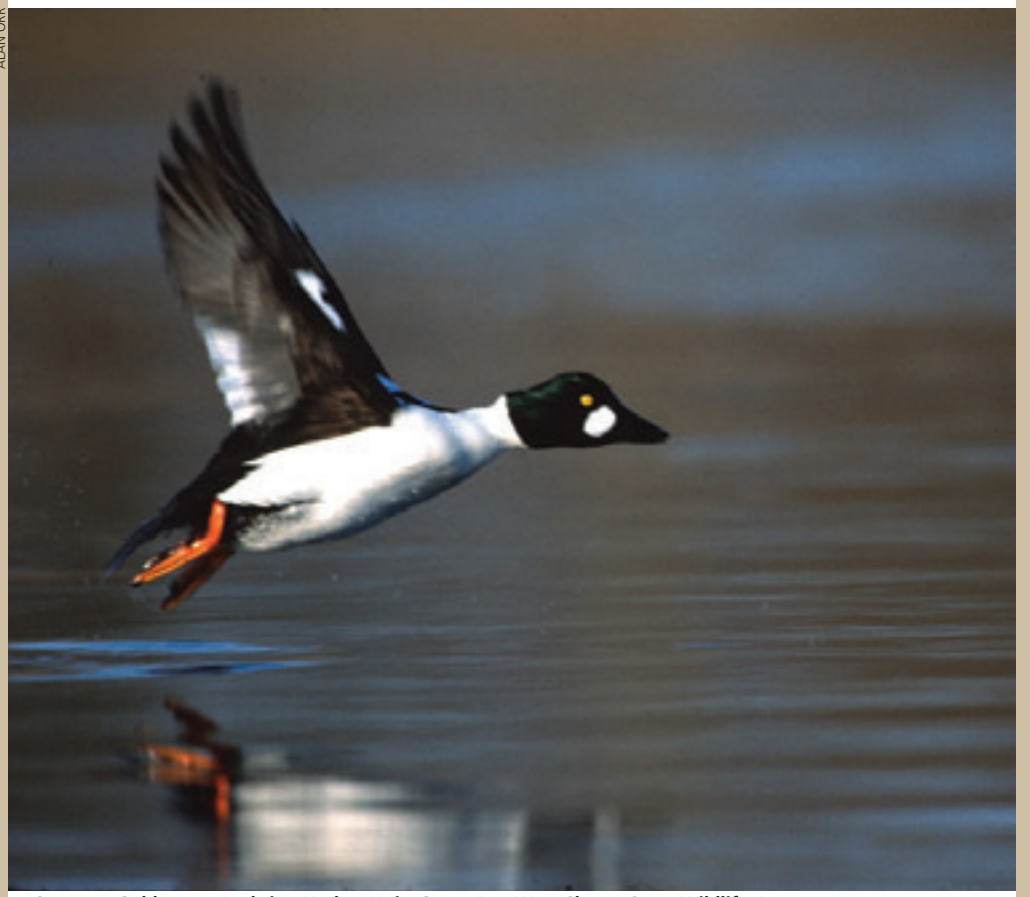
33 Governor Thompson State Park

Phone: 715/757-3979
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks
Signature Species: Bald Eagle, Scarlet Tanager, and Common Nighthawk.
Rare Species: Osprey.
Gazetteer: Page 79, B6.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Provided.
Nearest food & lodging: In Crivitz.
Fee: State Park fees apply.

Opened in 2005, this extensively forested, 2,187-acre state park includes 2 small lakes and numerous trout streams and seeps. About 6.5 miles of Caldron Falls Flowage pristine shoreline are within the park. A mix of upland and wetland forest provides diverse habitat that host a variety of birds. A restored pine barrens – a plant community once common in Wisconsin but now rare – might provide you with a Northern Harrier for your birding check list. This property is an excellent place to see Broad-winged Hawks and Red-shouldered Hawks, as well as Ruffed Grouse, Red-headed Woodpeckers, and Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers.

Directions: Located about 15 miles northwest of Crivitz via Cty A to Cty X to the High Falls Reservoir bridge. Cross the bridge, then north on Parkway Rd., west on Ranch Rd., and north on Paust Ln. to the park.

ALAN ORR



Common Goldeneye, Peshtigo Harbor Unit, Green Bay West Shores State Wildlife Area.

34 Peshtigo Harbor Unit - Green Bay West Shore State Wildlife Area

Phone: 715/582-5000
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife
Signature Species: Waterfowl, terns, rails, bitterns, harriers and sparrows.
Rare Species: Red-shouldered Hawk, Osprey, Yellow Rail, Forester's and Common Terns.
Gazetteer: Page 68, A3.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Provided.
Nearest food & lodging: In Peshtigo and Marinette.

Four miles of frontage on Green Bay draws large concentrations of migrating waterfowl and shorebirds to this State Wildlife Area. The Peshtigo River flows through bottomland forest with many oxbows. A braided river channel winds through coastal marshes at the mouth of the river. While much of the area is low-lying with a high water table, sand ridges are found throughout the property. Second-growth oak, aspen, red maple, and pine combine with large areas of black ash. Native and restored grass fields and extensive sedge meadows provide open habitats. Interpretive trails allow visitors to experience the area. Canoes and kayaks can be used.

Directions: Located 5 miles southeast of Peshtigo. South of the Peshtigo River, take Hale Rd. to Harbor Rd. to the area. North of the river take Cty B to Cty BB.

35 Seagull Bar State Natural Area

Phone: 715/582-5000
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/er/sna
Signature species: Shorebirds.
Rare Species: Piping plover, White Pelican; and Caspian, Common and Forester's Terns.
Gazetteer: Page 80, D4.
Seasonality: All year but parts are closed during nesting season.
Parking: Provided
Nearest food & lodging: In Marinette.

Seagull Bar is a sand spit and marsh complex on Green Bay. The sand spit shelters a lagoon and large area of shallow water with emergent vegetation. This area is the only dune complex with a system of sand ridges and wetlands on Green Bay. The area is a prominent bird migration stopping point on Green Bay. During some spring and fall migrations, shorebirds by the thousands gather there to rest and feed. The lagoon is attractive to all species of waterfowl.

Directions: Via Leonard Street in the southeastern corner of the city of Marinette, drive to Red Arrow Park on the shore of Green Bay. Walk southeast into the natural area. The park's boat launch affords water access.

Milwaukee County

Milwaukee County is Wisconsin's most urban; the metro area includes a dozen suburban communities from Brown Deer and Bayside on the north to Oak Creek and Franklin on the south. It's a busy place, filled with plenty of interesting attractions.

Art lovers have four wonderful venues to choose from: the spectacular **Milwaukee Art Museum** (414/224-3200, www.mam.org), the **Charles Allis Art Museum** (414/278-8295, www.cavtmuseums.org), the **Haggerty Museum of Art** on the campus of Marquette University (414/288-1669, www.marquette.edu/haggerty), and the **Villa Terrace Decorative Arts Museum** (414/271-3656, www.cavtmuseums.org).

For fun on the lakeshore, visit **Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin** (414/765-9966, www.pierwisconsin.org). This fabulous new 120,000 square foot facility, opened late in 2006, offers interactive exhibits, a Lakefront Amphitheater, and 360-degree views of Lake Michigan and the city, and gives **Wisconsin's S/V Denis Sullivan** a home.

Tours of the **Harley-Davidson factory** in Wauwatosa (877/883-1450, www.harley-davidson.com) are a must, as are the **Miller Brewing Company** (800/944-5483, www.millerbrewing.com), the **Milwaukee County Zoo** (414/771-5500, www.milwaukeezoo.org), the **Milwaukee Public Museum** (414/278-2700, www.mpm.edu), and the **Mitchell Park Conservatory Domes** (414/649-8126, www.countyparks.com). And if you're feeling lucky, visit **Potawatomi Bingo & Casino** (800/729-7244, www.paysbig.com).

DON ABRAMS

Milwaukee skyline from Juneau Park.

Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin

Phone: 414-765-9966
Web: www.discoveryworld.org
Signature Species: Waterfowl, gulls and shorebirds
Rare Species: American Avocet, Franklin's and Lesser Black-backed Gulls
Gazetteer: Page 39, D6
Seasonality: Open all year
Nearest food & lodging: In Milwaukee
Fee: Fees apply

Opened in 2006, this impressive facility offers visitors spectacular views of the lake and 120,000 square feet of interactive exhibits, aquariums, and Wisconsin's flagship, the schooner S/V Denis Sullivan is docked just outside. There are theaters, a gift shop, and great food.

Access this learning center by bicycle, boat, vehicle or via the Lakeside Promenade. Learn about the great lakes and their effects on the history and culture of the area. Listen to lectures on your favorite natural history topics or sign up for a summer sailing adventure on Lake Michigan and improve your bird list!

Directions: Located at 500 N. Harbor Drive at the lake front. Exit I-794 at Lincoln Memorial Drive and follow signs to lakefront.

Havenwoods State Forest

Phone: 414/527-0232
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks
Signature species: Sedge Wren, Field Sparrow, and Common Yellowthroat.
Rare species: Long-eared Owl and White-eyed Vireo.
Gazetteer: Page 39, C6.
Seasonality: Open all year; Nature Center open Mon- Fri 8am-4pm with some weekend programming.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Milwaukee.

The property was once farmed but now serves as an outdoor classroom and a place for the urban dweller to enjoy diverse property where wildlife thrives. Purchased in the early 1900s, it served a variety of uses, but in 1979, the DNR began restoration of the lands. Today, 6 miles of trails take you through grasslands, forests, and wetlands. An arboretum and Environmental Awareness Center serve the public with opportunities to learn more about forests and other habitats. Bobolinks, Sandhill Cranes, and Wild Turkeys are some of the birds that enjoy this piece of country in an urban setting.

Directions: From I-43, exit at Silver Spring Drive, then west to North Sherman Blvd (N43rd St.) to Douglas Avenue. Turn west on Douglas 1 block to entrance.

38 Lakeshore State Park

Phone: 414-263-8570
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks
Signature species: Waterfowl, shorebirds, and gulls
Rare species: Long-tailed Duck, Piping Plover, and Purple Sandpiper
Gazetteer: Page 39, D6
Seasonality: Open all year
Nearest food & lodging: Milwaukee
Fee: State Park fees apply

This new state park opened in the fall of 2006. It is a 17-acre island off the shoreline of Lake Michigan in the heart of Milwaukee. A bridge at each end of the island will provide visitors with easy access to the island, or one may dock their boat and visit the park. Good birding will be found here as you enjoy the wide variety of species that will cruise past the island.

A visitor center will be added along with a river walk and harbor entrance with a lakeside multi-use trail and good fishing access to the lake. The park will connect the Hank Aaron State Trail, and the Oak Leaf Trail, a system of paved trails and parkways traversing about 100 miles through Milwaukee County.

Directions: Entrance to park is south of Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin. Lakeshore State Park office is located in Discovery World at Pier Wisconsin.

39 Milwaukee Lake Shore Parks

Phone: 414/962-1680 or 414/275-6100
Web: www.lakeparkfriends.org
Signature species: 4-season birding with a list of impressive species.
Rare species: Ross's Goose, King Eider, Purple Sandpiper, Red Phalarope, Thayer's Gull, Black-legged Kittiwake, Snowy Owl, and Carolina Wren.
Gazetteer: Page 39, D6.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest Food & lodging: In Milwaukee.

Designed by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmstead, Lake Park is on the National Register of Historic Places. The last known remaining Indian mound in Milwaukee is found here. North Point Lighthouse (1888) is currently being restored. These county parks are a 400-acre mix of shoreline, ravines, woodlands and meadows that offer safe harbor to the many birds that use the Lake Michigan flyway.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Thayer's Gull

Directions: These lakefront parks extend along Lincoln Memorial Drive from 800 to 3200 north.

40 Schlitz Audubon Nature Center & Doctor's Park

Phone: 414/228-0314 or 414/257-6100
Web: www.sanc.org
Signature species: Large concentrations of ducks in winter; spring and fall migration route for warblers.
Rare species: Barrow's Goldeneye, Red Phalarope, Purple Sandpiper, and Northern Mockingbird.
Gazetteer: Page 39, 6C.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Brown Deer & Milwaukee.
Fees: Free to National Audubon Members, non-member fee.

The Schlitz Audubon Nature Center is a privately funded, nonprofit nature preserve dedicated to environmental education and land stewardship. Doctor's Park is the adjacent county-owned property. Together they offer 234 acres of land along Lake Michigan, and a bird species list of 252. Schlitz is the former "Nine Mile Farm." Owned by the Uihlein family, it was nine miles from the Schlitz Brewery. The lake draws big numbers of waterfowl that you can see from the bluff-tops. The property offers an observation tower and 6 miles of hiking trails. Doctor's Park has lakeshore, maple-beech woods, and bluffs that shelter Red-throated Loons, Caspian Terns and Long-tailed ducks.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Northern Mockingbird

Directions: Exit I-43 at Brown Deer Road. Travel east one mile to entrance at 1111 E. Brown Deer Road.

DON ABRAMS

Schlitz Audubon Nature Center, Milwaukee.

41 Southern Milwaukee County Parks & The Oak Creek Parkway

Phone: 414/257-6100
Web: www.countyparks.com
Signature species: Waterfowl, gulls, songbirds, and Bank Swallow colony.
Rare species: Worm-eating and Connecticut Warbler, Little Blue Heron, Whimbrel, and American Avocet.
Gazetteer: Page 31, A7.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Milwaukee.

All these parks are located along the shore of Lake Michigan, offering excellent habitat for migrating birds. Steep banks along the lake concentrate migrants along the bluff tops. Grant Park's pond, pines trees and open fields attract sparrows of all kinds and Long-eared Owls. Sheridan Park has bluffs to explore and large colonies of Bank Swallows. Along Warnimont Park's bike path and trails you might spot a Yellow-breasted Chat, Northern Mockingbird, Field Sparrow, and Bobolink. The Oak Creek Parkway's quiet roads and beautiful trees attract many species of birds.

Directions: South Shore: Exit 794 at Oklahoma Avenue, then east to Superior Street, north to Nock Street, and right .75 miles to the marina. Sheridan: Exit 794 at Oklahoma Avenue, then east to Lake Drive, south to 4800, and turn left into the park. Warnimont: south on Lake Drive to 5400, left into park. Grant & Parkway: south on Lake Drive to Park Avenue, turn left on Park Avenue through Grant Park to Hawthorne.

TOURISM PHOTO FILE

Canada Geese

42 Urban Ecology Center & Milwaukee River Parks

Phone: 414/964-8505 (UEC), 414/257-6100 (Co. Parks)
Web: www.UrbanEcologyCenter.org or www.countyparks.com
Signature species: Black-throated Blue Warbler, Green Heron, and Spotted Sandpiper.
Rare species: Tufted Titmouse, Harris's Sparrow, and White-eyed Vireo.
Gazetteer: Page 39, D6.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.

These properties are all located along the Milwaukee River. Riverside Park has beautiful open grown oak trees and an open understory. Estabrook and Kletzsch Parks offer woods, ponds and grasslands. The spring wildflowers are lovely, and there are many species of warblers, flycatchers and hawks. Trails access all areas of the parks; many follow the river where you can see Great Blue Herons and Belted Kingfishers. Orioles, Gray Catbirds, and thrushes also nest in these urban settings.

Directions: EUC: Exit I-43 on Locust Street, then east 1.5 miles to Oakland Avenue, south 2 blocks on Oakland to Park, and right to the entrance. Estabrook: exit I-43 at Capitol Drive, then east 1.25 miles to Estabrook Pkwy, and north to the park. Kletzsch: Exit I-43 at Good Hope Road, then west one mile to Milwaukee River Pkwy, then south a half-mile to the park entrance.

43 Whitnall Park & Wehr Nature Center

Phone: 414/425-7303 (Whitnall), 414/425-8550 (Wehr)
Web: www.countyparks.com or www.friendsofwehr.org
Signature species: Waterfowl and woodpeckers.
Rare species: White-fronted Goose, Western Grebe, Purple Gallinule, and Townsend's Solitare.
Gazetteer: Page 31, A6.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Fees: Some fees apply at Wehr.

The largest park in Milwaukee County, Whitnall contains the 220-acre Wehr Nature Center as well as the Boerner Botanical Gardens. Diverse habitat and park amenities offer wonderful birding opportunities and outdoor fun. Trails traverse a glacial moraine covered by forests of maple, hickory and 150-year-old oak trees. Boardwalks, a viewing platform and a visitor center are popular places. There's even a golf course. The Wehr Nature Center offers spring bird walks and an environmental program. In 2003, the Boerner Botanical Gardens opened a new education and visitor center to compliment their rose, herb and rock gardens.

Directions: Exit I-43 at Layton Avenue, then west to Loomis Road, south to Grange Avenue, west to South 92nd Street, south to College Avenue, and west on College Avenue to the park entrance.

Oconto County

Oconto County offers more than 1,000 square miles of recreational opportunities from Green Bay on the east to the Nicolet National Forest on the west. With four mountain bike trail systems, 350 miles of coldwater trout streams, and 50 miles of X-C ski trails, the county is ripe for adventure.

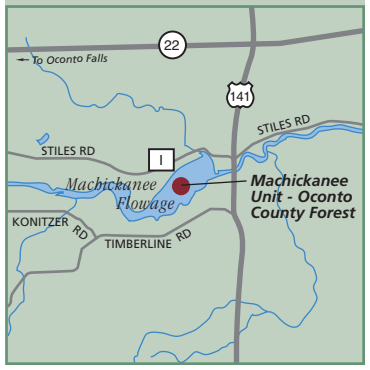
Oconto, on the lakeshore, is the county seat. It is also the site of **Copper Culture State Park**, a small day-use park that preserves an Indian burial ground from the Copper Culture about 6,000 years ago, the oldest cemetery site in Wisconsin (920/746-5112, dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks). Near the entrance to the park, the **Copper Culture Museum** offers a small, but intriguing exhibit of copper culture artifacts (920/834-6254).

Nearby, the **Beyer Historic Home**, built in 1868, has been completely restored and furnished in 1890's well-to-do Victorian fashion (920/834-6206, www.ocontocountyhistsoc.org). The Museum Annex contains Copper Culture artifacts, old Main Street Oconto store exhibits, carriages and old electric cars.

In the northwestern corner of the county near Lakewood, the **Holt & Balcolm Logging Camp** is the oldest logging camp in North America, built on this site in 1880 (715/276-7769). Restored and operated by the McCauslin Lions Club, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Nearby, the Wisconsin DNR operates the **Lakewood Rearing Station** that produces tens of thousands of rainbow and brown trout fingerlings annually (715/276-6066).

Machickanee Unit – Oconto County Forest

Phone: 920/834-6827
Web: www.ci.ocontofalls.wi.us/
Signature Species: Red-shouldered Hawk, Blackburnian Warbler, and Ruby-crown Kinglet.
Rare Species: Yellow-throated Warbler, Swainson's Thrush, and Hooded Warbler.
Gazetteer: Page 67, B8.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Oconto Falls.



The Machickanee Forest is a 3,100-acre unit of the Oconto County Forest. Located just east of Oconto, the forest is bisected by a 2,200-acre bulge in the Oconto River called the Machickanee Flowage. The forest is a site for birders and hikers, while the flowage is popular with anglers, particularly in winter. There are miles of hiking trails that access the property. Bring a canoe or kayak to see the herons, bitterns and numerous species of waterfowl along the river and flowage. In the forests, see Veerys, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Golden-winged Warblers, and Scarlet Tanagers.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Yellow-throated Warbler

Directions: North of the river, drive east on Cty I (Stiles Rd); south of the river use Konitzer Rd and Timberline Rd.

Oconto Harbor, Oconto Marsh & Rush Point – Green Bay West Shores State Wildlife Area

Phone: 715/582-5000
Web: dnr.wi.gov
Signature species: White Pelican, Common and Caspian Terns.
Rare species: Snowy Owl, Long-tailed Duck, Red-throated Loon, and Scoters.
Gazetteer: Page 68, A2.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Oconto.

Together, these properties total more than 800 acres of wet marsh, flowage and cattail-sedge lowland marsh. At the Oconto Harbor, the Oconto River meets Lake Michigan. Walk or drive the 1,500 foot-long breakwater looking for interesting birds. Traveling further north to Oconto Marsh and Rush Point the habitat changes from shallow bay to wetlands. This area is rich in birdlife; waterfowl are abundant and include Redheads, Wood Ducks, and Ring-neck Ducks. Uncommon birds here include Acadian Flycatchers and Cerulean Warblers.

Directions: From downtown Oconto, follow Cty Y east. Turn right onto Harbor Road and follow .25 miles to the breakwater. Follow Cty Y north to reach the Oconto Marsh and Rush Point properties.

ALAN ORR

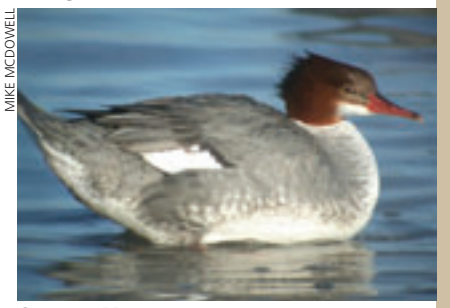
Oconto Marsh.

46 Pensaukee Unit – Green Bay West Shores State Wildlife Area

Phone: 715/582-5000
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife
Signature species: Common Merganser, Common Goldeneye, and American Bittern.
Rare species: Snowy Egret, Yellow Rail, and Peregrine Falcon.
Gazetteer: Page 68, B1.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Pensaukee & Oconto.

This 308-acre unit of the Green Bay West Shores State Wildlife Area is high quality Lake Michigan marshland. Road access takes you directly through the property north-to-south. There are great views of the marsh with the lake beyond.

MIKE MCDOWELL



Common Merganser

Look for Sedge and Marsh Wrens, herons, bitterns and rails as you drive slowly through the marsh. This is a popular place to launch a canoe or kayak for a bird's-eye-view of the wetland. The Pensaukee River flows from numerous springs and meets Lake Michigan just north of the property.

Directions: Located 1 mile south of Pensaukee on Cty S.

ALAN ORR

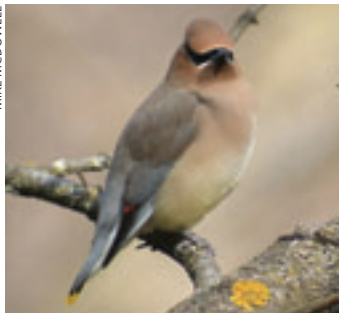
Bald Eagle, Pensaukee Unit – Green Bay West Shores State Wildlife Area.

47 Peshtigo Brook State Wildlife Area

Phone: 715/582-5000
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife
Signature species: Ruffed Grouse, Barred Owl, and Common Nighthawk.
Rare species: Merlin, Loggerhead Shrike and Warbling Vireo.
Gazetteer: Page 79, D6.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Suring.

This 2,200-acre property supports a good population of grassland/shrub birds. The bulk of the area is lowland swamp and forested ridges. The Peshtigo Brook drains the 10,000-acre Brazeau Swamp and meanders through the eastern part of the property. There are hiking trails that access the western part of the property making it possible to explore the interior. Look for the White-eyed Vireo, Cedar Waxwing, Black-throated Blue Warbler, and Brewer's Blackbird.

MIKE MCDOWELL



Cedar Waxwing

Directions: From Hwy 141 north of Pound, travel west 10 miles on Hwy 64 to the property which is south of the highway.

48 Snow Falls Creek State Natural Area

Phone: 715/582-5000
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/er/sna
Signature species: Blackburnian Warbler, Least Flycatcher, and Red-shouldered Hawk.
Rare Species: Merlin, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, and Yellow-throated Warbler.
Gazetteer: Page 79, B5.
Seasonality: Open year around, weather permitting.
Parking: Park at site.
Nearest food & lodging: In Lakewood.

Snow Falls Creek is a boulder-strewn trout stream originating in Sullivan Springs and Hickey Springs to the north, and joining the North Branch of the Oconto River south of this 350-acre State Natural Area. It is located within the Nicolet National Forest. The stream is bordered by white cedar, balsam fir and black ash, while tall white pines dominate the forest. Ravines and uplands west of the creek support hemlock, beech, sugar maple and basswood. This beautiful property holds warblers of all species, Wood and Hermit Thrushes, and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks.

Directions: From Lakewood, drive east and north 3 miles on Cty F, then east 0.3 mile on Smyth Road, then south 2.3 miles on Sullivan Springs Road (FR 2330), then drive or walk southwest 1.4 miles on FR 2944 to the Snow Falls Creek crossing. Follow the creek south into the site.

Ozaukee County

Ozaukee County is a pleasant transition from suburban Milwaukee in the south to the open farmlands of the north. If you like biking, the **Interurban Bike Trail** is a great way to see the county; thirty miles of paved trail connecting every major city in the county (800/403-9898, www.interurbantrail.us).

With its Art Deco-style lighthouse and picturesque harbor, Port Washington is a perfect place to launch a day of sportfishing on Lake Michigan. The county courthouse, with its gold-plated dome, is an architectural gem. The **Port Washington Lightstation Museum**, in a restored 1869 lighthouse, displays the city's maritime and pioneer history (262/284-7240, www.portwashingtonhistoricalsociety.org).

Twelve miles to the north, **Harrington Beach State Park** offers a mile-long sandy beach on Lake Michigan popular with swimmers on hot, summer days (262/285-3015, dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks).

In south-central Ozaukee County, historic Cedarburg with its 150-year-old limestone buildings, antique shops, and covered bridge is a step back in time. Shop dozens of specialty stores at **Cedar Creek Settlement** (866/626-7005, www.cedarcreeksettlement.com) and taste the vintage at **Cedar Creek Winery** (800/827-8020, www.cedarcreekwinery.com). The **Cedarburg Cultural Center** offers a series of changing art exhibits (262/375-3676, www.cedarburgculturalcenter.org)

In nearby Grafton, the kids will love **The Family Farm** with its petting zoo of barnyard animals from two-pound chickens to 2,000-pound Belgian draft horses (262/377-6161, www.familyfarm.net).

49

Harrington Beach State Park

Phone: 262/285-3015
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks
Signature Species: Clay-colored Sparrow, White-eyed vireo, and Yellow-breasted Chat.
Rare Species: Red-throated Loon, Surf Scoter, and Harlequin Duck.
Gazetteer: Page 39, A7.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Lake Church & Belgium.
Fees: State Park fees apply.

This 637-acre park has one mile of Lake Michigan frontage and boasts a bird list of 256 species, making it one of the best places to bird watch in the state. Spring and fall migrations bring spectacular concentrations of waterfowl offshore. In the spring, nearly every species of warbler adorns the trees in the hardwood forests and white cedar lowland swamp. In the fall, hawk migrations are spectacular as they move south along the safety of the shoreline. The open fields, shrub carr and wetlands are great places to explore. Hiking trails access the entire property. The park offers a visitor center, boardwalks, geocaching for those who come in search of adventure, or a refreshing swim in Quarry Lake.

Directions: At Belgium, exit I-43 on Cty D, then east 1.5 miles to the park entrance.

50

Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve & Ulao Waterfowl Production Area

Phone: 262/284-8270
Web: www.co.ozaukee.wi.us
Signature Species: Fall hawk migration, loons, and Clay-colored Sparrows.
Rare Species: Yellow-breasted Chat, LeConte's Sparrow, and Canada Warbler.
Gazetteer: Page 39, B6.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Port Washington & Grafton.

The Lion's Den Gorge Nature Preserve is a high-quality, diverse, coastal ecosystem. The 79-acre county property lies along an undeveloped Lake Michigan shoreline. The northern part of the property holds a deep coastal ravine called the Lion's Den Gorge. Dominated by white cedar and mixed hardwoods, it's a place where one might find Northern Mockingbirds, Prothonotary Warblers and Orchard Orioles. Upland areas along the bluff are a mixture of grasslands, wet meadows, wetlands and bluff areas. The 100-foot bluff top provides majestic views of Lake Michigan and is a great vantage during spring and fall hawk migrations. The Ulao WPA is a 44-acre site to the north where you could find scoters, loons and most species of ducks.

Directions: At I-43, exit for Grafton (Hwy 60), turn east on Ulao Road for 1.5 miles, turn north on Lake Shore Road and east on High Bluff Road to entrance sign.

DON ABRAMS

Riveredge Nature Center, Newburg.

51 Ozaukee Interurban Trail

Phone: 262/284-8257 or 262/238-8257
Web: www.interurbantrail.us
Signature species: Waterfowl, songbirds, gulls, and hawks.
Rare Species: Sixteen species of gull have been seen in Port Washington Harbor.
Gazetteer: Pages 39, A6-7, B6, C6 and Page 47, D7.
Seasonality: Open all year
Parking: Parking lots
Nearest food & lodging: In the communities along the trail.

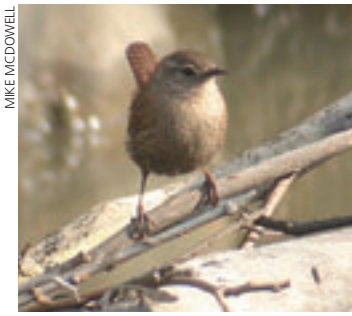
This 30-mile system of paved trails connects you to cities, parks, historic sites, restaurants and shops along the way. The Trail runs adjacent or very close to the Port Washington harbor, crosses the Milwaukee River at an Ozaukee Washington Land Trust easement, Highland Woods in Mequon at Cedarburg Road, USFWS property at the northern county line, and Trinity Creek Wildlife Area in Mequon near County Line Road. Birds found along the trail are a reflection of the habitat that it passes, so be prepared to add songbirds, raptors, waterfowl, shorebirds and warblers to your list. Hike, bike, cross-country ski, or in-line skate to see your favorite species.

Directions: Access the trail in Mequon/Thiensville, Cedarburg, Grafton, Port Washington or Belgium.

52 Riveredge Nature Center

Phone: 800/287-8098
Web: www.riveredge.us
Signature species: Songbirds, waterfowl, shorebirds and raptors.
Rare species: Cerulean Warbler, Acadian Flycatcher, Winter Wren, and Northern Harrier.
Gazetteer: Page 39, A5.
Seasonality: Open all year – center hours found on website.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Saukville & West Bend.
Fee: Non-member trail fees apply.

This exceptional nature center straddles 1.5 miles of the Milwaukee River. More than 10 miles of hiking trails access a variety of woodlands, established prairies, meadows, and wetlands. Scarlet Tanager, Yellow-throated Vireo, Rough-legged Hawk and Saw-whet owls use the property. With a bird checklist of 186 species, 600 plant species, boardwalks, a viewing platform and beautiful visitor center, this property is a bird watcher's paradise. Environmental education is a key mission along with land and water conservation.


MIKE MCDOWELL
Winter Wren

Directions: From Hwy 33 at Newburg follow Cty Y (Hawthorne Dr) northeast along the Milwaukee River about 1 mile to entrance.

53 Schwengel Waterfowl Production Area

Phone: 608/742-7100
Web: www.fws.gov
Signature Species: Short-eared and Snowy Owl, Bobolink, Dickcissel, Sedge and Marsh Wren.
Rare Species: Henslow's Sparrow and Yellow-headed Blackbird.
Gazetteer: Page 47, D6.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Cedar Grove & Belgium.

This 284-acre property is the best grassland habitat in the county. The complex of 18 ponds and restored wetlands and grasslands draws in a wide variety of birds. The shallow marshes provide habitat for Virginia and Sora Rails, and are visited by Great Blue Herons. Northern Harriers cruise the grasslands in search of small mammals. Hiking, nature study and photography buffs will enjoy the area. In the winter bring your cross-county skis.

MIKE MCDOWELL
Henslow's Sparrow

Directions: Exit I-43 at Belgium, west on Cty D to stop sign, then north on Cty LL 2 miles, west on Jay Road 3 miles to the intersection with Six Mile Rd. Sign on southwest corner of Jay Road and Six Mile Road.

Racine County

Located on Lake Michigan between the Chicago and Milwaukee metro areas, Racine County is a delightful blend of rural heartland and lakefront city.

The City of Racine owes much to the S.C. Johnson family and to famed Wisconsin architect Frank Lloyd Wright. The Johnsons built their Johnson Wax empire in Racine, while Frank Lloyd Wright built the company's **Administrative Building**, a marvel of innovative structure and style for the past seventy years (262/260-2154, www.visitracine.org).

Downtown, the **Racine Art Museum (RAM)**, opened in 2003, features one of North America's most significant collections of contemporary crafts (262/638-8300, www.ramart.org). Along the lakefront, the city's **Wind Point Lighthouse**, built in 1880, is the tallest and oldest still in service on the Great Lakes. While not open for tours, the graceful white spire is an unparalleled photo opportunity. Also on the lakeshore, the **Racine Zoological Gardens** is a little gem; more than 300 animals, a petting zoo, and free admission (262/636-9189, www.racinezoo.org). The kids will love it.

In western Racine County, a trio of family attractions is also perfect for kids. In Waterford, both the **Bear Den Petting Zoo & Farm** (262/895-6430, www.beardenzoo.com) and **Green Meadows Farm** (262/534-2891, www.greenmeadowsfarmwi.com) offer farm animals, petting zoos and pony rides. In nearby Burlington, amaze the kids with gyroscope and yo-yo tricks at the **Spinning Top Exploratory Museum** (262/763-3946, www.topmuseum.org).

Honey Creek State Wildlife Area

Phone: 262/884-2300
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife
Signature species: Ring-neck Pheasant and Sandhill Crane.
Rare species: Great Egret and King Rail.
Gazetteer: Page 30, C3.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Burlington.

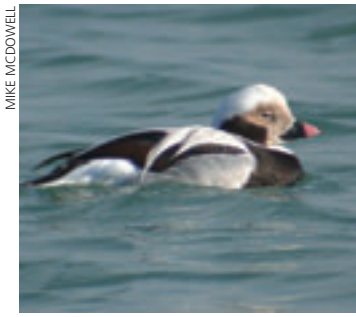
Honey Creek Wildlife Area's 1,083 acres sit in three separate parcels in the Fox River watershed between Waterford and Burlington. It's a great place to bring your canoe or kayak for an enjoyable day on Long Lake. Hiking trails take you to the heart of the properties that are a matrix of marsh, uplands, grassy field, forests and lowland brush. This mix of habitat provides opportunities to see flycatchers, terns, Great-blue Herons, American Bitterns, and Sandhill Cranes.

Directions: Located 2 miles north of Burlington on Maple Road, or 1 mile southwest of Rochester on Hwy W, or 3 miles west of Rochester on Hwy FF or Oak Knoll Road.

Racine Harbor Park & Lakefront

Phone: 262/681-9714
Web: www.racineco.com
Signature species: Gulls, terns and shorebirds
Rare species: Surf Scoter, Long-tailed Duck, and King Eider
Gazetteer: Page 31, C7
Seasonality: Open all year
Parking: Parking lots
Nearest food & lodging: In Racine

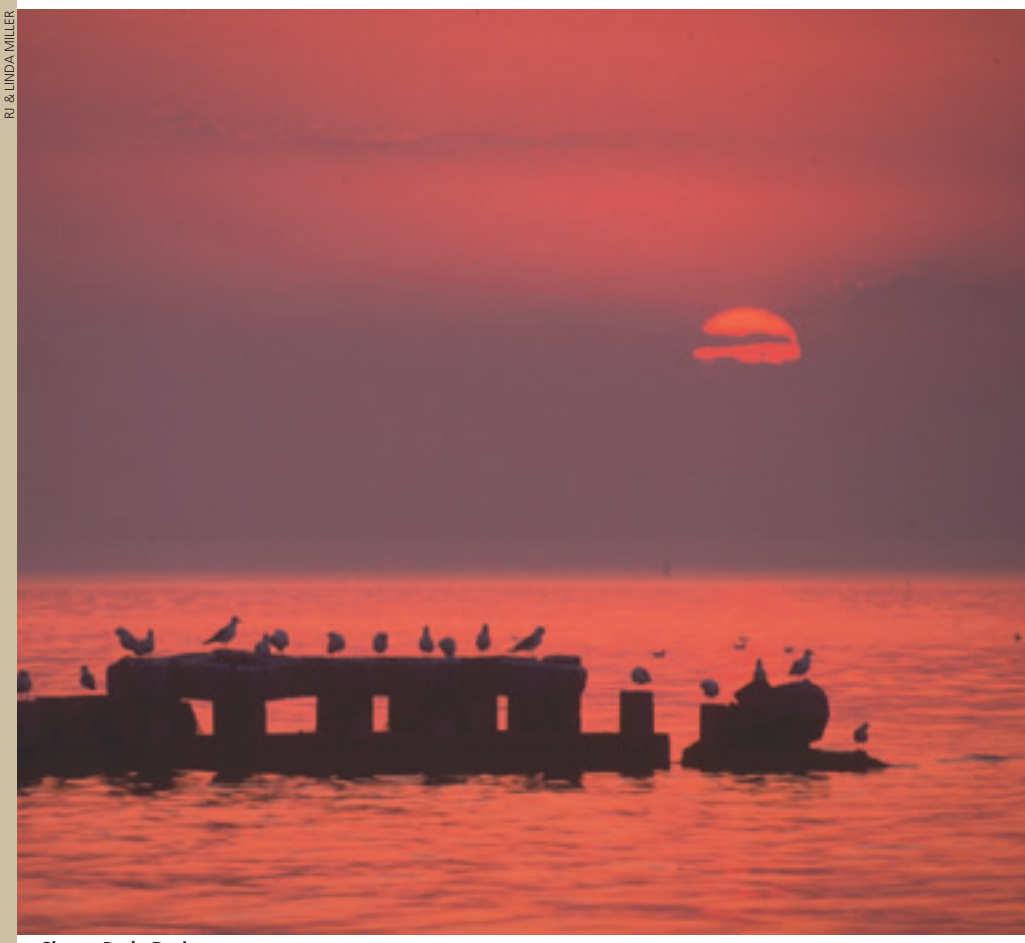
This 16-acre lakefront park includes an overlook structure with an elevated deck that provides a great view of the water. The spring and fall migrations are the best times to bird here, but Snowy Owls have been seen in winter and large numbers of gulls and terns can be seen all summer. The woods along the southern lakefront hold Carolina Wrens and Red-shouldered Hawks. Traveling the roads north and south of this city park will take you to different habitats that attract a nice variety of birds.



MIKE MCDOWELL

Long-tailed Duck

Directions: Begin at 16th Street and South Main Street, following Main Street north and south along the harbor and lakefront area.

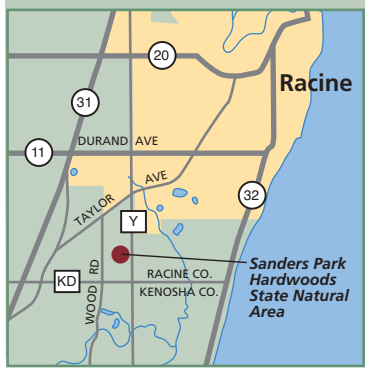


RJ & LINDA MILLER

Shoop Park, Racine.

56 Sanders Park Hardwoods State Natural Area

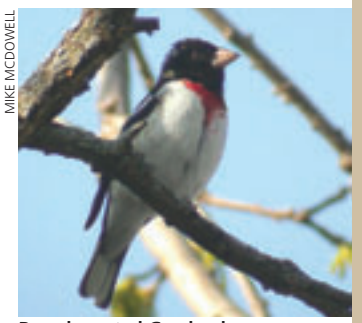
Phone: 920/892-8756
Web: dnr..wi.gov/org/land/er/sna
Signature species: Eastern Wood Pewee and Great-crested Flycatcher.
Rare species: Red-headed Woodpecker and Mourning Warbler.
Gazetteer: Page 31,C7.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Racine.



This State Natural Area is located within Sanders County Park and is part of an ancient terrace of Lake Michigan. Hiking trails access the dry forest of basswood, white oak, black walnut and white ash. Blooming orchids and ferns follow the rich wildflower display in the spring. Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Wood Thrush, and Scarlet Tanager are found here along with a good variety of woodpeckers that hammer the dead elm trees in the low areas.

Directions: From the intersection of Hwys 31 & 11 in southwest Racine, go south 2.1 miles on Hwy 31, then east 1 mile on Cty KR, then north 0.5 mile on Woods Road to the park entrance.

MIKE MCDOWELL



Rose-breasted Grosbeak

57 Tichigan State Wildife Area

Phone: 262/884-2300
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife
Signature species: Waterfowl, American Woodcock, and Sandhill Crane.
Rare species: Northern Mockingbird and Snowy Owl.
Gazetteer: Page 30, B4.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Waterford.

This 1,521-acre wildlife area is comprised of river, marsh, farmland and forest. It includes the northwestern shores of Tichigan Lake. Unusual wildlife includes Blanding's turtles. Bird life includes Great Egrets, Least Bitterns, and terns. A large impounded area is flooded for wildlife in the fall, making it a great place to see Green and Blue-wing Teal, Wood ducks and mergansers. In the spring, the drawdown of the water leaves exposed mudflats that are used by many species of shorebirds, including Wilson's Phalaropes and White-rumped Sandpipers.

Directions: From Waterford, take Hwy 20/83 west 0.5 mile to Buena Park Road, then north 1.5 miles to Ranke Rd, then west 1 mile to the property. Other access points are also available.

58 Wind Point Lighthouse, Wind Point & Shoop Park

Phone: 262/681-9714
Web: www.racineco.com
Signature species: Varied Thrush, Orchard Oriole, and Great-crested Flycatcher.
Rare Species: Red-necked Grebe, American Avocet, and Bell's Vireo.
Gazetteer: Page 31, B7
Seasonality: Open all year
Parking: Parking lot
Nearest food & lodging: In Racine

This rocky point north of the city juts into Lake Michigan. It's an excellent place to observe many unusual birds at virtually any time of the year. During storms, the Point's ravines and wooded areas shelter warblers, sparrows, thrushes and many other songbirds. Red-throated Loons, Whimbrels and Greater Black-backed, Sabine's and Franklin's Gulls feed along the lakeshore. You can also enjoy the view from the historic lighthouse, and be sure to drive the road around the park for interesting wildlife.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Ring-billed Gull

Directions: North of the city, travel Cty G (Four Mile Road) east until road turns sharply right and becomes Lighthouse Drive which takes you to the lighthouse and Shoop Park.

DON ABRAMS

Wind Point Lighthouse.

Sheboygan County

With the lakeshore on its east and the sprawling, 30,000-acre Kettle Moraine State Forest on its west, Sheboygan County has lots to offer.

Sheboygan's beautiful lakefront beaches are flanked by a new marina and the new **Blue Harbor Resort** featuring a 40,000 square foot indoor water-park (866/701-2583, www.blueharborresort.com). Kids will also love the **Above & Beyond Children's Museum** (920/458-4263, www.abkids.org) and the 2.5 miles of sandy beach at **Kohler-Andrae State Park** (920/451-4080, dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks). The **John Michael Kohler Arts Center** offers eleven galleries of contemporary art (920/458-6144, www.jmkac.org).

Nearby Kohler is known for golf and toilets. Kohler is the home of **The American Club** whose facilities include a pair of world-class golf courses, **Blackwolf Run** and **Whistling Straits**, host of the 2004 PGA Championship (800/344-2838, www.destinationkohler.com). The city is also the home of the **Kohler Company**, the world's largest manufacturer of bathroom fixtures (920/457-3699, www.kohlerco.com). If you wondered how toilets are made, tours are offered.

Western Sheboygan County is blessed with the glacial terrain of the Northern Unit of the **Kettle Moraine State Forest** (262/626-2116, dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks). Enjoy hiking, biking, swimming and spectacular scenery. Just north of the forest in Greenbush, tour the 1850's **Wade House** stagecoach inn and the **Wesley Jung Carriage Museum** (866/944-7483, www.wisconsinhistory.org).

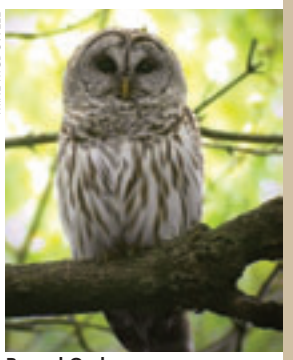
59

Evergreen Park

Phone: 920/459-3440
Web: www.ci.sheboygan.wi.us
Signature species: Screech, Barred, and Great-horned Owls.
Rare species: Hooded Warbler, Veery, and Yellow-bellied Woodpecker.
Gazetteer: Page 47, B7.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Sheboygan.

Evergreen Park is one of three county parks in this area, making for a diverse combination of habitats that draw in many species of birds. It is located just east of Lake Michigan and attracts large numbers of songbirds during migration. The park contains mostly evergreens, but the Pigeon River cuts through the park offering grassy banks with some shrubbery that attracts flycatchers, White-crowned, Clay-colored and Harris sparrows, and wading birds. In the hardwood areas, look for warblers of all types. Evergreen is contiguous with Maywood Park, and Quarry Park is located across the street.

MIKE MCDOWELL



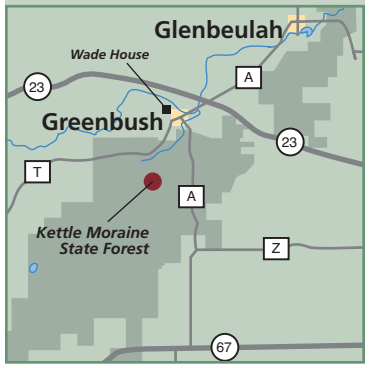
Barred Owl

Directions: From I-43, take Exit #128 (Hwy 42) south for 1 mile to Mueller Road to Evergreen Park.

60

Kettle Moraine State Forest Northern Unit & Kettle Moraine Red Oaks State Natural Area

Phone: 920/892-8756 or 262/626-2116
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks
Signature species: Eastern Wood Pewee, and Ovenbird.
Rare species: Acadian flycatcher, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Cerulean Warbler.
Gazetteer: Page 47, B5.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking area.
Nearest food & lodging: In Greenbush.
Historic Site: Old Wade House, Greenbush.



This 316-acre SNA lies within the 29,000- acre Northern Unit of the Kettle Moraine State Forest. It is mature dry-mesic forest of basswood, sugar maple, white ash, white oak and black cherry. Red oak dominates the canopy while the ground layer has many species of plants and shrubs, from orchids to ferns. This diversity is very attractive to rare birds such as the Acadian Flycatcher, Red-shouldered Hawk, and Cerulean Warbler. Owls, warblers, and Scarlet Tanagers are also found here. The State Forest is rolling, wooded hills dotted with lakes. It offers much to the nature lover, including nature programs.

MIKE MCDOWELL

Ovenbird

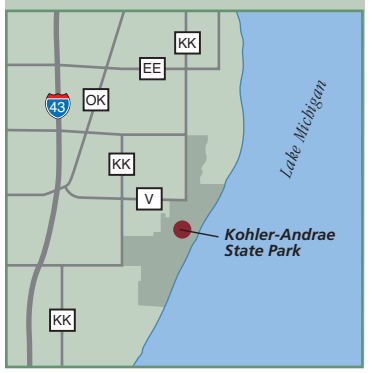
Directions: From Greenbush, go south 1 mile on Cty A to a pull-off on the east side of the road. The Ice Age Trail traverses the site. Access is also possible from the east along Ridge Road, 1.4 miles north of Cty Z.

JOHN NIENHUIS

Kohler-Andrae State Park, Sheboygan.

61 Kohler Andrae State Park & Kohler Park Dunes State Natural Area

Phone: 920/451-4080
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks
Signature species: Vireos, waterfowl, and thrushes.
Rare species: Surf Scoters and Willets.
Gazetteer: Page 47, C7.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Sheboygan.
Fee: State Park fees apply



This beautiful park with its 2.5 miles of sandy beach along Lake Michigan is a scenic gem. The Kohler Park Dunes State Natural Area preserves some of the best parts of the beach area. There, the dunes, both stabilized and active, are mixed with wetlands and dry-mesic white pine forest. The park has a nature center, and a cordwalk to access the sand dunes. Rushes and sedges along the dunes draw shorebirds like Whimbrels. In the woods, vireos, thrushes, finches, sparrows and warblers are seen. Look for hawks overhead and scan the lake for numerous species of waterfowl during spring and fall migrations.

MIKE MCDOWELL
Hermit Thrush

Directions: From I-43, exit at Cty V east 1.5 miles to the park entrance.

62 Maywood – Ellwood H. May Environmental Park

Phone: 920459-3906
Web: www.gomaywood.org
Signature Species: American Woodcock and Red-tailed Hawk.
Rare species: Sharp-shinned Hawk and Hooded Warbler.
Gazetteer: Page 47, B7.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Sheboygan.

This park shares a common border with Evergreen Park. Habitats vary over the 120-acre site from restored prairie to old-field, hardwood forest, ponds, mixed woods and the Pigeon River. Well-marked trails provide access to all parts of the property. It has boardwalks and bridges, a visitor's center, gift shop and a viewing platform. Public programs are offered year round. Spring and fall migrations of warblers are as good here as anywhere along the Lake Michigan coast. Look for interesting sparrows in the fields and listen for American Woodcocks in the spring.

Directions: From I-43, take exit #128 (Hwy 42) southeast 1.1 miles and turn right on Mueller Road. Park entrance is on the left.

63 Sheboygan Marsh State Wildlife Area & Sheboygan County Park

Phone: 920/892-8756
Web: dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife
Signature species: Red-tailed Hawk, Sora Rail, and Yellow-headed Blackbird.
Rare species: Broad-wing Hawk, Least Bittern, and American Egret.
Gazetteer: Page 47, B5.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lots.
Nearest food & lodging: In Elkhart Lake.

This mix of state and county land is a vast wetland and marsh complex of lowland hardwoods, swamp and deep marsh with stands of cedar and tamarack. You'll want to rent a canoe or kayak at the park lodge and explore this property from the water. Part of the property is a closed refuge, offering sanctuary to birds and animals, and is strictly off-limits to visitors. From Sandhill Cranes and bitterns in the wetlands, to Upland Sandpipers in the uplands, the diversity of birds will inspire you to return in all seasons of the year.

MIKE MCDOWELL
Least Bittern

Directions: From Elkhart Lake, follow Cty J northeast 2 miles to the Marsh Park Lodge entrance.

64 North Point Park

Phone: 920/459-3440
Web: www.city.sheboygan.wi.us
Signature Species: Shorebirds and gulls.
Rare Species: King and Common Eider, Sabine's Gull, and Purple Sandpiper.
Gazetteer: Page 47, C7.
Seasonality: Open all year.
Parking: Parking lot.
Nearest food & lodging: In Sheboygan.

This city park is located north of the Sheboygan Yacht Club on a rocky peninsula that juts out into Lake Michigan. From the overlook, you can see an exceptional array of birds, especially during spring and fall migrations. Birds you may see include Horned and Eared Grebes, Long-tailed and Harlequin Ducks, eiders as well as Glaucous, Laughing and Little Gulls, and Black-bellied and American Golden Plovers. Snowy Owls are seen here in early winter along with Purple Sandpipers.

MIKE MCDOWELL
Purple Sandpiper

Directions: From I-43 exit Hwy 23 east into Sheboygan. Follow Kohler Memorial Drive (Hwy 23) to Broughton Drive. Then north on Broughton Drive to North Point Park and Overlook.

More Sources of Tourism Information

County Contacts

These contacts, in each of the eleven counties in the Lake Michigan region, are ready to help you plan your outdoor adventure. They can suggest accommodations and restaurants, as well as attractions and other historical, cultural and environmental opportunities.

Door County Chamber of Commerce
920/743-4456, 800/527-3529
www.doorcounty.com

Kenosha Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
262/654-7307, 800/654-7309
www.kenoshacvb.com

Kewaunee Chamber of Commerce
920/388-4822, 800/666-8214
www.kewaunee.org

Manitowoc Area Visitor & Convention Bureau
920/683-4388, 800/627-4896
www.manitowoc.info

Marinette/Menominee Area Chamber of Commerce
715/735-6681, 800/236-6681
www.marinettechamber.com

Oconto County Tourism
920/834-6969, 888/626-6862
www.ocontocounty.org

Ozaukee County Tourism Council
262/284-9288, 800/403-9898
www.ozaukeetourism.com

Packer Country VCB (Green Bay)
920/494-9507, 888/867-3342
www.packercountry.com

Racine County Convention & Visitors Bureau
262/884-6400, 800/272-2463
www.racine.org

Sheboygan County Convention & Visitors Bureau
920/457-9495
www.sheboygan.org

VISIT Milwaukee
414/273-7222, 800/554-1448
www.milwaukee.org

Wisconsin Welcome Centers

Two Wisconsin Welcome Centers are located along Lake Michigan travel corridors. Operated by the Wisconsin Department of Tourism, they can help you plan a local birding foray, or a two-week statewide vacation. You'll find Welcome Centers in:

Kenosha
(From I-94, exit 347 at Lakeview Parkway)
262/857-7164, 800/432-8747
www.travelwisconsin.com

Marinette
(Downtown on Bridge St., just south of the Hwy. 41 bridge)
715/732-4333, 800/432-8747
www.travelwisconsin.com

More Birding Resources

National Audubon Society
800/542-2748
www.audubon.org/states/wi

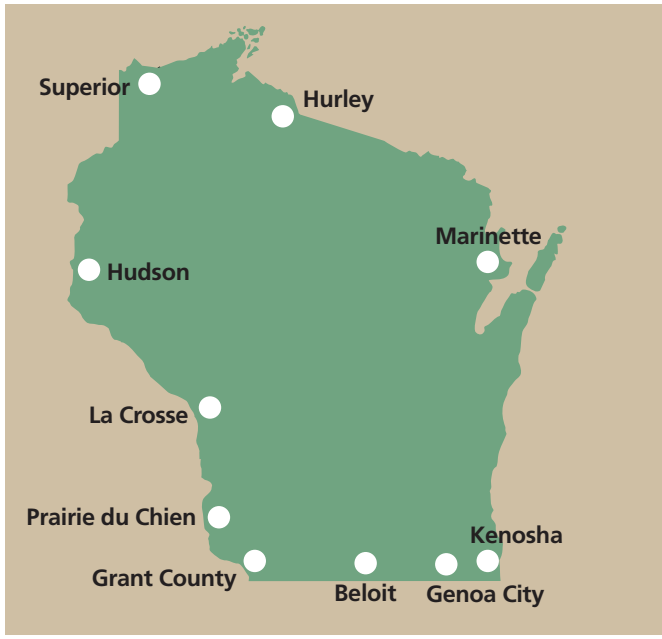
Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge
608/539-2311
http://midwest.fws.gov/trempealeau

US Fish & Wildlife Service
Upper Mississippi National Fish & Wildlife Refuge
www.fws.gov/midwest/uppermississippiriver

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
608/266-2621
www.dnr.wi.gov

Wisconsin Welcome Centers

The Wisconsin Department of Tourism operates ten Wisconsin Welcome Centers (WWC) at major highway entrances to the state. They're great places to stop for maps, travel information, trip planning, brochures and publications, vacation ideas, or just a friendly smile and directions to the nearest restaurant.



Centers distribute free publications that detail Wisconsin accommodations, attractions, events, golfing, camping, biking, birding, state parks, and historic attractions. You can also order these free publications on-line at **www.travelwisconsin.com**, or call toll-free **800/432-8747**.

Top Ten Things Birders might want to bring on their next Wisconsin foray

10. Your clubs – Wisconsin has more than 400 golf courses available for public play. Can you say "Tee time?"

9. Your Creel – To put the trout in you're gonna catch on any of Wisconsin's 2,444 cold water streams.

8. Your Camping Gear – You'll need it at any of the 5,535 campsites in Wisconsin's 60 state parks and forests.

7. Your Swimming Suit – There's a million acres of water in Wisconsin. If that's not enough, you may stay at a hotel with a pool. And if you've brought the kids/grandkids… can you say "Waterpark?"

6. Your canoe – The better to be silent on any of Wisconsin's 15,000 lakes.

5. Your Bike – More than 1,000 miles of surfaced bike trails throughout Wisconsin.

4. Your Antiquing Guide – Whoa, better bring the credit card too.

3. Your Camera – It's gonna be gorgeous out there.

2. Your Appetite – For a cuppa Joe, a slice of pie and a little ala mode at a home-cookin' café.

1. Your Gazetteer and Compass – Two things John Muir never forgot.

BAY BEACH
WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

The Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary is a 700-acre urban wildlife refuge with something for everyone!

- The Sanctuary is open to the public year-round with no admission fee.
- The Sanctuary's Nature Center features interactive, hands-on educational exhibits And the Stop-N-Gander Gift Shop.
- Visitors can experience miles of hiking and walking trails with excellent wildlife viewing opportunities.
- Call or visit the Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary for information on programs and events or to join the Friends of the Wildlife Sanctuary.

Bay Beach Wildlife Sanctuary
1660 East Shore Drive - Green Bay, WI 54302
920-391-3671 - www.baybeachwildlife.com

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Every time you use this card, a percentage of the proceeds will go to support conservation programs, including the Whooping Crane Reintroduction Project and the Endangered Resources Fund. Proceeds will also go to protect key habitats for Wisconsin's wildlife, its parks and natural areas.

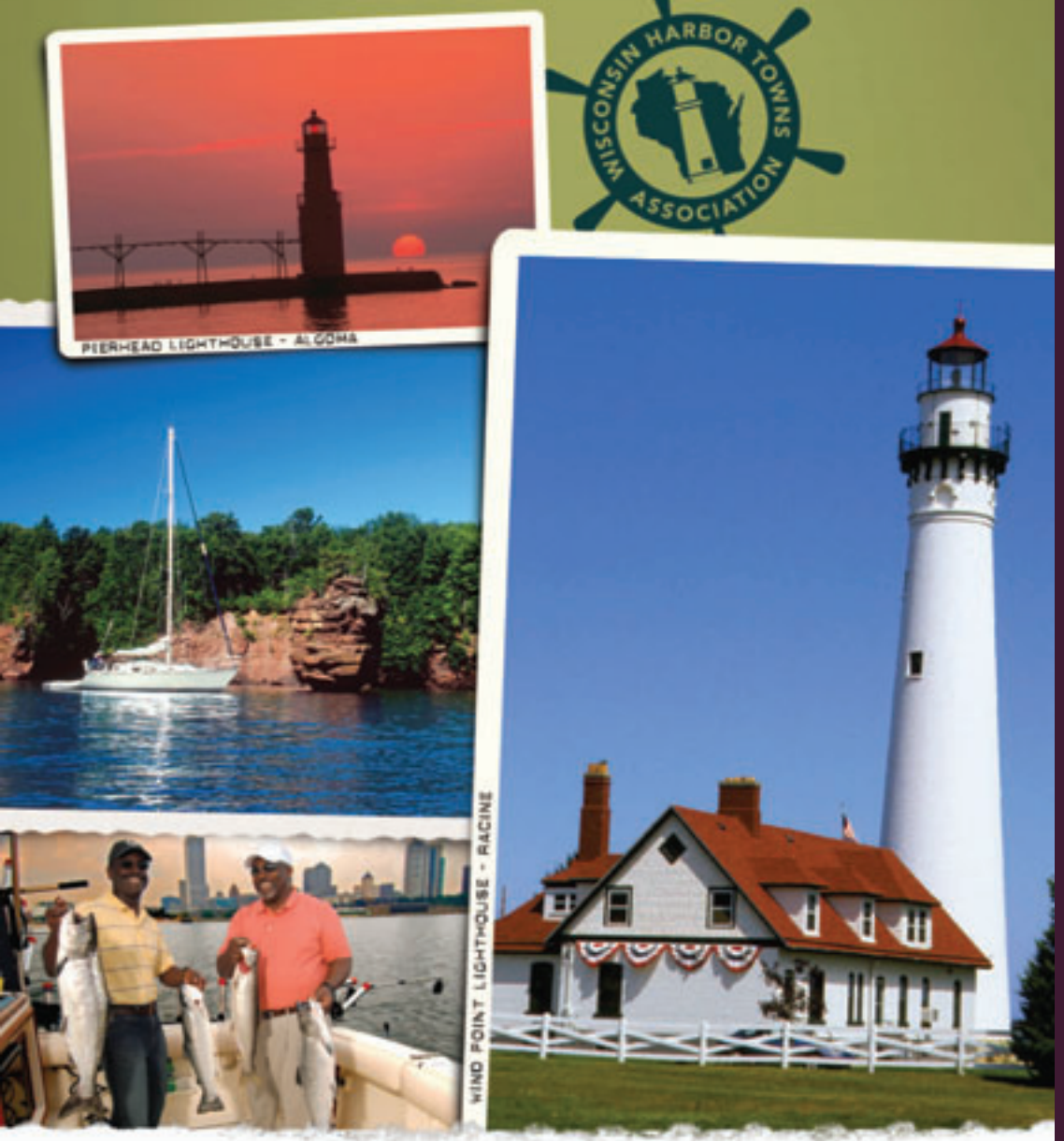
Go to www.nrfwis.org or call 1-800-853-5576, ext. 8330 to sign up for a Natural Resources Foundation Visa Platinum Credit Card today!

The Natural Resources Foundation is a non-profit organization that has been working since 1986 to promote the knowledge, enjoyment and stewardship of Wisconsin's natural resources. Visit www.nrfwis.org to learn more.

U.S. Bank National Association, ND, is creditor and issuer of the Natural Resources Foundation Visa Platinum Credit Card. © 2004 U.S. Bank

Around here, even birdwatchers leave their nests.

Spread your wings and discover even more than our great birds.



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Give to the Endangered Resources Fund

American Marten, a State Endangered Species
Photo by Erwin and Peggy Bauer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Saving the Best for You

Donate on your Wisconsin Income Tax Form, buy an Endangered Resources License Plate, or send a check to: Endangered Resources Fund, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707
dnr.wi.gov/org/land/er

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