

Ice Age Trail Alliance Chippewa Moraine Chapter

Ice Age Trail Dispatch

March 2024

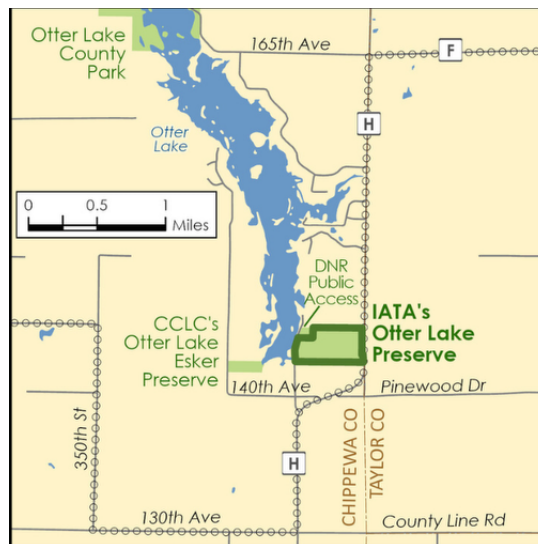
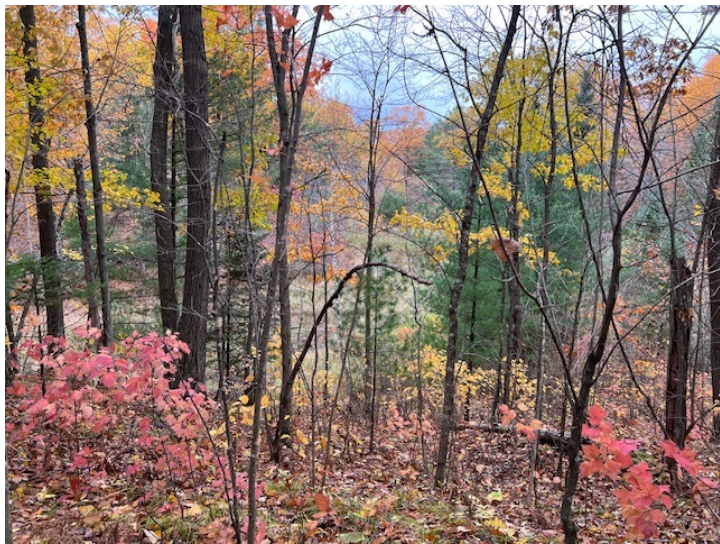
CHAPTER MEETING: MONDAY, MARCH 18, 2024

The Chippewa Moraine Chapter will hold its March chapter meeting at the Chippewa County Courthouse, Room 5, on Monday, March 18th at 5:30. Room 5 is in the basement at the Courthouse. Enter at the door by the parking lot.

Come to the meeting to learn about our upcoming trail projects, hikes, and events for 2024. It's shaping up to be a busy year. We have some exciting changes to share. Please contact Vicki Christianson at chippewamorainechapter@iceagetrail.org if you plan to attend the meeting.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024

The Alliance is holding its annual conference at the Ho-Chunk Hotel and Conference Center in Baraboo. The conference runs from Thursday, April 18th to Sunday, April 21st. Registration is open. Go to <https://www.iceagetrail.org/annual-conference/> to register for the hotel and the conference. The conference offers sessions on a wide variety of topics Thursday thru Saturday. Group hikes are offered each morning. Two sessions of First Aid/CPR are scheduled for Friday at 10:30 and 1:30. These sessions are for sawyers and swampers - new candidates and those sawyers and swampers who need to renew their first aid.



NEW PROPERTY WITHIN THE CORRIDOR

The Alliance has purchased a new piece of property within our eastern corridor. This beautiful undeveloped 76 acre property is now called the Otter Lake Preserve. It contains high relief hummocky glacial topography, including a kettle lake, a marsh, and a stream, as well as several small ice-walled lake

plains. It is a hilly property that will connect 365th Street to County H at the southeast end of Otter Lake. It will take several years to get trail established, and once it is done, it will be a beautiful piece of trail to hike. Thank you to Jared Wildenradt (8 time IAT hiker) for bringing this property to the attention of the Alliance and the Chippewa Moraine Chapter. Please wait until the trail is finished before hiking on this property.



VOLUNTEERS - CHIPPEWA MORAINES CHAPTER TRAILS 2024

In 2024, we will take over maintenance of the trail that lies in the Chippewa Moraine National Scientific Reserve. This includes the entire Chippewa Moraine segment, and the western 1.5 miles of the Harwood segment. This will add 9.5 miles of trail work for the chapter. We have added trail adopters to this section of the trail who will monitor the trail and do minor trail cleanup. In April, we will have a major trail maintenance day to clean up winter damage to the Harwood Lakes and the Chippewa Moraine segments. We will need a full crew to accomplish this. If you are not on our trail crew (with a Volunteer Agreement-see below), consider joining our trail crew this year. There is something special about building and maintaining the trail. You will never look at the trail with the same eyes again after participating in a work project and learning what it takes to keep our trails in top condition.



ICE AGE TRAIL CREW OPPORTUNITIES (FORMERLY MSC)

The calendar is out for IATA trail projects for 2024. Go to https://www.iceagetrail.org/wp-content/uploads/2024-Season-at-a-Glance-Trailbuilding-and-Habitat-Improvement_SAVE-THE-DATE_12-01-23.pdf for information on the upcoming trail events.

There will be a project May 15-19 on the Hemlock Creek Segment. This segment is shared by Barron and Rusk County. They will be replacing deteriorating bridges and boardwalk, refreshing signage, and repairing tread. This would be a great opportunity to participate in an Ice Age Trail Crew project. We hope to help out our neighboring chapters on this project.

NEW Volunteer Agreement Links

As we enter the new year, check out the new links for renewing your Volunteer Agreements. Please use the new links I have posted for the Volunteer Agreement and the email address for sending it in to Dan Watson.

All volunteers need to have a completed Volunteer Agreement for the National Park Service each year in order to participate in our trail improvement days or to volunteer at events. They have a new form on the Alliance Website.

To access the new **Volunteer Agreement**, here is the link: https://www.iceagetrail.org/wp-content/uploads/Packet-Individual-301a-IATR-Staff_508.pdf Please fill out the fillable form and email it to iatr_vip_ice_age_trail@nps.gov

NOTE: Fill in all the required boxes. The fillable boxes are on everything except the signature line. You can type your name and date in the date box next to the signature line. Save the document to your

computer and then send it to NPS as an attachment. Or print off your completed document, sign it, and mail it to the NPS. The address is on the directions page that comes with the form.

When you send in the Volunteer Agreement to NPS, they will sign it and return it to you. Please print a copy for yourself or save it in your files. **Email me at chippewamorainechapter@iceagetrail.org to let me know that you have received your new signed Volunteer Agreement.**



Chapter Calendar 2024

These are our annual events. Watch for information on upcoming events and additions (in red) to this calendar in the monthly newsletters.

March 18 Chapter Meeting

- April TBD Monthly Trail Maintenance- Chippewa Moraine/Harwood Lakes
- April 18-21 Annual Conference - Wisconsin Dells- Ho Chunk
- May 1 Natural Resources Foundation Hike - Chippewa River Segment (Closed hike)
- May 5 First Sunday Hike 1:00 Chippewa River Segment
- May 18 Trail Maintenance Day
- May 20 Chapter Meeting
- June 1 National Trails Day Hike 9:00 Firth Lake
- June 15 Trail Maintenance Day
- June 20 Solstice Hike with Girl Scouts - Nawakwa
- July 15 Chapter Meeting and Picnic - Mill Yard Park
- Aug. 4 First Sunday Hike 1:00 Obey Center
- Aug. 17 Trail Maintenance Day
- Sept. 4 First Sunday Hike 1:00 Harwood
- Sept. 16 Chapter Meeting
- Sept. 21 Trail Maintenance Day
- Oct. 5 Parade of Colors Hike - 9-11 Obey Center

Oct. 19 Trail Maintenance Day
Nov. 18 Chapter Annual Meeting

See you on the trail!

Vicki Christianson
Chippewa Moraine Chapter Coordinator
chippewamorainechapter@iceagetrail.org

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The Ice Age Trail
A Walk Through Time

You've received this message either because you are a member of the Ice Age Trail Alliance, have requested Ice Age Trail information, or have otherwise provided your address to IATA. Also, you've indicated an interest in trail maintenance projects.

If you **no longer** wish to receive email messages from the Chippewa Moraine Chapter-IATA, please [Unsubscribe](#). Alternatively, you can [email](#) or write to 317 Woodside Dr, Cornell WI 54732.

Newsletters and information are also available at the chapter web site: <http://www.iatchippewa.org> You can also go here to [View Online](#).