Ice Age Trail Alliance Chippewa Moraine Chapter

Ice Age Trail Dispatch

August 2024



A THANK YOU FOR A THANK YOU

Sue Crisp, Friends of Lake Wissota State Park, and Nathan Fries, Lake Wissota State Park Manager, attended our July Picnic and Meeting at the Mill Yard Park in July. They spoke at the meeting about the wonderful new bridge built by our chapter. This project was designed and led by Bruce France and Norm Card. They were assisted in the build by a team of volunteers from our chapter. Sue and Nathan thanked the chapter for the excellent work and they presented the chapter with a donation of \$1000 for our work. Thank you to Sue and Nathan, along with the Friends of Lake Wissota and the Wissota State Park for their generous donation to the chapter.

If you would like to check out this new boardwalk, take the park road all the way to the south end just past the beach and boat landing. It is located on the Beaver Meadow Nature Trail



FIRST SUNDAY HIKE: SUNDAY, AUGUST 4

Join JoAnn for a lovely hike on the Chippewa Moraine Segment. Hikers will meet at the Obey Center at 1:00pm. They will be hiking out to 267th and then back for a total of 3.8 miles. Enjoy the kettle lakes, including North Shattuck Lake and its partner - North of North Shattuck Lake (Best lake name ever). You will get to hike an Ice-Walled Lake Plain and check out the DCA which is located on Landmark Conservancy land. Feel free to come plenty early so that you can stop in at the Obey Center before the hike. Check out its glacial and historical displays, watch a video, and hold a snake! The Obey Center is open from 9am -3pm.

To RSVP for this hike: Contact JoAnn Parks at <u>mapper jo@yahoo.com</u> by Saturday.



TRAIL MAINTENANCE DAY - SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

Saturday, August 17, we will have a trail maintenance day. We hope to see you there. Jerry has a lot of jobs on his trail wish list, so the more the merrier. **If you are planning to attend the work day, please email Jerry Sazama at** <u>sazfam@aol.com</u> **to register.** The crew will be meeting at 8:00 am at the Obey Center. It is important that you register for the event because we need a head count to organize our groups and to determine the number and kinds of tools that we need to bring. Ticks are out there. Mosquitos abound, so a head net is highly recommended. Wear long pants and long sleeves. Wear sturdy boots and socks long enough to tuck your pants into. Wear gloves and a hat with a brim to shade your eyes from the bright summer sun. Bring plenty of water and a snack or two.

NOTE: If you are not already 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. **Thank you and welcome to our new trail crew members. Hope to see you at our August work day.**



FIRST SUNDAY HIKE: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st

Come and join us on a hike on the Harwood Lakes Segment on Sunday, September 1st. We will be meeting at the County E Trailhead near Camp Nawakwa at 1:00pm. We are planning to either shuttle to Plummer Lake Road to hike the entire 6 mile segment, or to Deerfly Trail to hike half (3 miles). The group will decide the distance. There is also an option to add in a loop up to the top of Mt. Baldy which is on private land near Picnic Lake. Mt. Baldy is the 2nd highest point in Chippewa County. At the top, you can see for 20 miles in all directions, and even all the way to the Blue Hills. This hike will include our serpentine boardwalk, a giant erratic, new growth in the clear cut of 2020, and a trip around Picnic Lake over our wonky but stable bridge. Plus Mt Baldy! Hope to see you there. Bring plenty of water and a snack. Wear sturdy shoes or hiking boots.

Contact Vicki Christianson at <u>chippewamorainechapter@iceagetrail.org</u> to register for this event.



MAMMOTH HIKE CHALLENGE 2024: REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

The Annual Mammoth Hike Challenge (2024) is coming up in October. This event runs for the whole month of October. Hikers are challenged to hike 44 miles in the month of October and visit 3 trail communities. That is going to be even easier for those of us that live north of Hwy 29. Back in 2020 when the Challenge first started, there were only 13 Trail Communities, and only 2 of them (Cornell & St. Croix Falls) were up north. We had to drive a long, long way to hit the other trail communities. This year, there are 24 Trail Communities, and the new ones are all up north: Besides Cornell and St. Croix Falls, we now have Wausau Area, Hatley, Algoma, Rice Lake, Weyerhauser, Rib Lake, Merrill, and Antigo.

Check out the page on the Ice Age Trail Alliance website to read all about this event and to register: Trail Community Itineraries will be posted. There are lots of ways to earn Bonus Miles by attending events, or by working as a team. (Families can pool their miles together, so a family of 4 would only need to hike 11 miles each!

Go to: <u>https://www.iceagetrail.org/mammoth-hike-challenge/</u> to check out all the details. If you register for the Challenge and complete your goal of 44 miles and 3 Trail Communities, you will earn the 2024 Challenge patch above, and receive a Certificate.



ICE AGE TRAIL CREW OPPORTUNITIES (FORMERLY MSC)

The calendar is out for IATA trail projects for 2024. Go to <u>https://www.iceagetrail.org/our-work/trail-building-</u><u>maintenance/ice-age-trail-crew/</u> for information on the upcoming trail events.

(picture above: carrying the massive stringers to the job location. 18 volunteers using Feldmans were able to transport the stringers on the narrow single tread trail.)

Upcoming Events for August, September, October:

Aug. 14-18 Plover River Segment Sept. 11-15 Greenbush Oct. 2-6 North Blue Hills (Saturday the 5th is our Parade of Colors hike in the morning. We will need shuttlers for our event. Please keep this in mind when registering to work up in the Blue Hills. Consider shuttling at our event in the morning on Saturday.)

NEW Volunteer Agreement Links

As of August 1, fifty six of our chapter volunteers have renewed their volunteer agreements or signed up for the first time. Thank you very much for keeping up to date with your agreement. We could not achieve as much to maintain our beautiful trail segments without your help. If you have not renewed yet, please check your 2023 agreement to see when you are due to renew. You need to renew 1 year minus one day from the date the NPS signed and dated your agreement.

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: <u>https://www.iceagetrail.org/wp-</u> <u>content/uploads/Packet-Individual-301a-IATR-Staff_508.pdf</u> Please fill out the fillable form and email it to <u>iatr_vip_ice_age_trail@nps.gov</u> (Do not copy and paste the email address. You need to type it in. Otherwise it may bounce back to you.)

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 email 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** <u>chippewamorainechapter@iceagetrail.org</u> **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.

- Aug. 4 First Sunday Hike 1:00 Obey Center
- Aug. 17 Trail Maintenance Day
- Sept. 1 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. 13 Hike & Meet Monty Chippewa River Segment/Cornell Visitor Center (date changed so we could get Monty
- Oct. 19 Trail Maintenance Day
- Nov. 18 Chapter Annual Meeting

See you on the trail!

Vicki Christianson Chippewa Moraine Chapter Coordinator <u>chippewamorainechapter@iceagetrail.org</u>

--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 <u>Unsubscribe</u>. Alternatively, you can <u>email</u> or write to 317 Woodside Dr, Cornell WI 54732.

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