

Ice Age Trail Alliance Chippewa Moraine Chapter

Ice Age Trail Dispatch

September 2024

CHAPTER MEETING: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH

The Chippewa Moraine Chapter will hold its September chapter meeting at the Chippewa County Courthouse, Room 5, on Monday, September 16th at 5:30. Room 5 is in the basement at the Courthouse. Enter at the door by the parking lot. Take the elevator to the lower level. Turn right out of the elevator, then turn left at the hallway intersection. Go until you reach the corner. The room is on the right.



TRAIL MAINTENANCE DAY - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Saturday, September 21st, 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 sazfam@aol.com 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. 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 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 September work day.**



PARADE OF COLORS HIKE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

Saturday, October 5th is our Annual Parade of Colors Hike. At this annual hike, we offer shuttles of 2, 4, 5, or 6 miles. Hikers chose the distance that they want to hike. They leave their cars at the Obey Center, and shuttlers take them to their start point. They hike back to the Obey Center where their car is waiting for them. The first Saturday in October brings us fall colors in all their glory. It is a beautiful time to hike this kettle lake filled segment.

We will need at least a dozen volunteers for this event. We need several people to run the registration table. They help people select the hike that they want to do, and fill out the shuttle form. We need 10 drivers to shuttle hikers to their start points. You will be provided a map of the start points. Colored flags mark the different roads and the trail access points you take to shuttle people to their hikes. (Note: If you want to hike the trail, we can shuttle you for a hike at 11:00.)

The shuttling takes place at the David Obey Ice Age Trail Interpretive Center from 9:00-11:00 a.m. Volunteers should be there by 8:30 to get things set up.

If you are willing to shuttle, please mark your calendar now. **Contact Vicki Christianson at chippewamorainechapter@iceagetrail.org to register to volunteer.**

Note: This event coincides with the Trail Crew Project in the Blue Hills (which is a multi-day event.) If you plan to work the Blue Hills project, please consider reserving Saturday morning for the Parade of Colors Hike. It is very important that we have enough shuttlers for our Parade of Colors hike. This is a popular and well attended 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: <https://www.iceagetrail.org/mammoth-hike-challenge/> 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 <https://www.iceagetrail.org/our-work/trail-building-maintenance/ice-age-trail-crew/> 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 September, October:

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: 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 (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 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.

- Sept. 1 First Sunday Hike 1:00 Harwood Meet at Cty E
- 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
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](#).