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On Wisconsin Outdoors



with the

Dick Ellis Experts



Independence Day

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Summer Travel Fun

Sizzling trip ideas from
across Wisconsin



Hunting Tales and Fishing Tips

Cool stories, hot advice
with the experts



Forgotten Wisconsin

A nuclear blast from the past



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Hitting the mark with
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SPOTLIGHT | CAMBRIA AND FRIESLAND



Welcome to Midwest Wisconsin!

Friesland is a rich community with great traditions that continue as the summer season kicks off with a traditional family-oriented 4th of July Celebration. It is filled with great food, live music and a spectacular fireworks display. The Friesland Community Band has played for over a hundred years at this event, and weekly band concerts are held every Tuesday night throughout the summer. In addition to music, delicious homemade pies are available for sale at the concerts making the occasions a treasure of American traditions!

Cambria joins in as Tarrant Park provides live music and community events in mid-July and August. Park Days are sure to be a crowd pleaser as a softball tournament kicks off on Friday night and runs throughout the first weekend in August. Around this tournament, many activities take place. For the younger children there are pony rides, a bouncy house, pool games and lots of fun activities run throughout the weekend. The parade winds down the street on Saturday

morning delighting all! The aroma of delicious food fills the air with chicken BBQ, grilled meats and other delicious treats! Live bands play as the afternoon nears.

Cambria is proud to have The Dump Bar and Grill, voted home of one of the best burgers in the state. It is a state-of-the-art establishment with outdoor dining and live music. This year they are celebrating 50 years of "The Dump" with events and specials throughout July. On August 24, they will host the 20th Annual Dump Run & Music Festival, one of the largest charity events in Wisconsin.

Two other great places to eat in Cambria are Mad Makz, serving great breakfasts and lunches, and Mojos Saloon, with great specials for lunch and dinner. Both establishments are open on the weekends.

We welcome you to come and enjoy our quiet communities and attend our festivals, dine in our establishments, or enjoy a moment in one of our great parks. Welcome to Midwest Wisconsin!

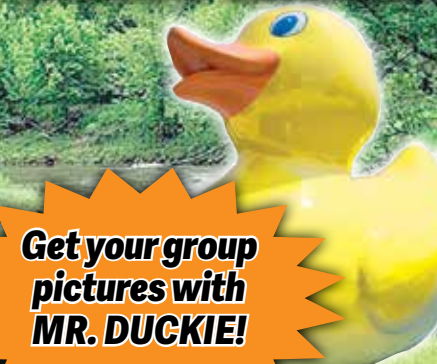


Cambria Friesland Events

- July 4th** Friesland Band Concert and Pie Social, Fireworks at Dusk-Friesland
- July 17th** Cambria Community Night-Live Music, Children's Activities and Concessions
- July** The Dump Bar 50th Celebration-Events all month-Cambria
- July 9-August 20** Tuesday Nights-Friesland Band Concerts and Pie Social
- August 2-4** Park Days-Tarrant Park Cambria, Parade Saturday 10:30 am
- August 14** Cambria Community Night-Live Music, Children's Activities and Concessions
- August 24th** 20th Annual Dump Poker Run and Music Festival-Cambria



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DAVE FINDLIN

Rock Island State Park

Unspoiled beauty and a pinch of history

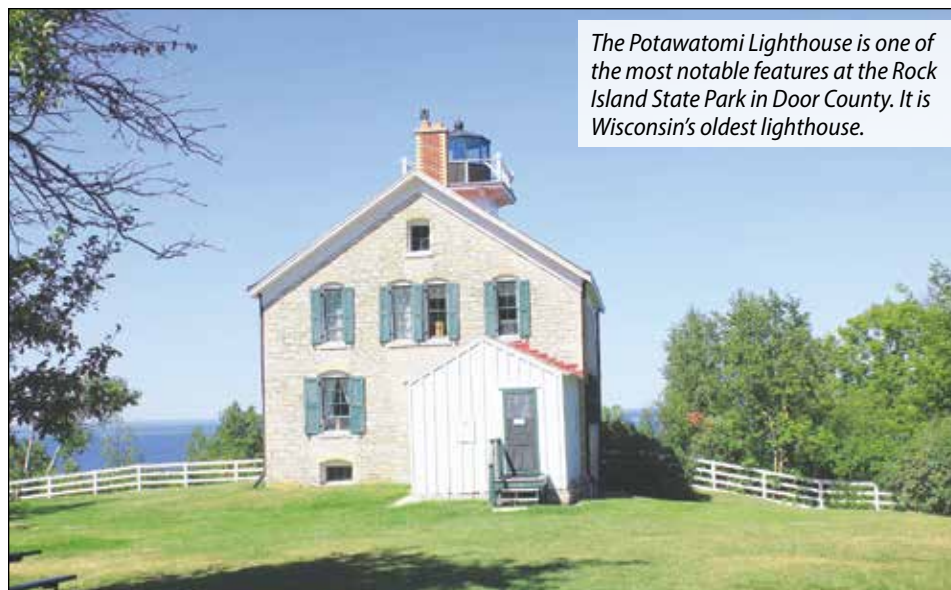
Amid the broader landscape of Wisconsin's state parks, Rock Island is one of the most challenging to reach. But the added steps to arrive at its gates are indeed worth the extra effort for nature lovers interested in a dash of unspoiled beauty and a pinch of history.

The 906-acre Rock Island State Park is situated at the northernmost tip of Door County, one mile northeast of Jackson Harbor on Washington Island. The site officially became a part of Wisconsin's network of state-run parks in the mid-1960s, but has roots stretching back further.

According to historical documents, 17th Century French explorer Rene-Robert Cavalier, Sieur de La Salle first discovered Rock Island in 1679. In subsequent centuries, early Wisconsin settlers made use of the land, constructing a variety of unique, historic features from 1910 - 1964 that are still in place today.

Visitors to Rock Island can receive an up-close view of the Potawatomi Lighthouse, which holds the distinction of being Wisconsin's oldest.

There also is the Icelandic-inspired Viking boathouse. Occasionally the venue holds special events, such as the Midsummer's Music Festival.



The Potawatomi Lighthouse is one of the most notable features at the Rock Island State Park in Door County. It is Wisconsin's oldest lighthouse.

Additionally, the park boasts a historic, scenic and unique water tower. Inventor Chester Thordarson is credited with creating and designing the stone structure.

Vehicles are not allowed on Rock Island, including the state park, meaning visitors have to consider multiple options to reach the site. The Karfi Ferry is the most popular option and is in operation from Memorial Day in late May through Columbus Day in early October.

In addition to the ferry, visitors can use a private boat to reach the island and state park. There is dock and mooring space available for people to store boats once they reach the land.

When the temperatures dip far enough below freezing for a prolonged period of time, snowshoers and snowmobilers can reach the island over the frozen water, so long as conditions are safe.

There are a number of amenities within Rock Island State Park, most notably a 10-mile hiking trail that provides assorted scenic views throughout the green space. Other permissible activities within the park include swimming in an established beach area and fishing.

Camping also is available at the park by way of established rustic, walk-in areas for anyone looking to stay overnight on the island. For explorers, the island also has miles of pristine shoreline to enjoy.

Reaching Rock Island State Park requires additional logistics, but the grounds are ideal for anyone looking for a memorable day trip or an overnight experience under the stars.

With the exception of the camping areas, Rock Island State Park is open year-round from 6 am to 11 pm daily.

DICK MERCIER

That's The Tick-it

Quick removal for ticks that make us sick

I recently picked up a tick warning brochure at a Wisconsin state park. It included information on "what ticks can make me sick in Wisconsin" along with a guide for tick prevention and removal. The brochure's recommended method of removal is to use a fine tipped tweezer and grab the tick close to the skin and then pull upwards away from the skin. The brochure further states "do not twist, yank or burn the tick during removal."

The mouth of the tick is the part that penetrates the skin. It is called the hypostome and sometimes the stinger. I have found that when you pull the tick off, no matter how careful you are, you often break off part of the stinger.

There is a more effective and easier way to remove ticks by simply dabbing or puddling Liquid Dawn dish soap on the tick. Apply a drop to your finger and then transfer it directly to the tick, then repeat the process a second time. If they have been attached only a short time, they will simply back out in minutes. If they have been attached for a longer time, they will try to back out, but may die trying. In that case, they are easy to remove because they have disengaged their bite.

For additional information, see the Wisconsin Department of Health Services Tick Warning guide available at state parks and online.

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SPOTLIGHT | **ALGOMA**

The Outdoors is Yours in Algoma!

The perfect Northeast Wisconsin getaway hub, Algoma sits on the western shore of Lake Michigan at the southern end of the Door Peninsula.

Known as the Great Lakes sportfishing capital, Algoma's world-class charter fishing services are for all experience levels. From a family outing to tournament days, guides will make sure you have a great time on the "big pond!"

Want to be closer to shore? The Ahnapee River and several inland lakes provide an

ideal fishing experience. You can also kayak, stand-up board, canoe, or paddle a swan on the river. Bring your own or rent one here.

Prefer solid ground?

Visit Crescent Beach and Boardwalk. Hunt for beach glass, take a swim, or put your toes in the warm sand. The half-mile boardwalk is a great place to take a relaxing stroll.

Hike, bike, or horseback ride on the Ahnapee State Trail. Once railroad tracks,

the Ahnapee will soon be part of the Ice Age Trail, and part of the National Park System. Go shopping and find everything from antiques to gifts, birdfeeders to books, clothing to camping gear, souvenirs, craft beer, and more.

Experience the arts with a self-guided tour of the 17+ murals and 10+ art galleries/studios! First Friday Art, the first Friday of each month, is an evening of special art events and activities.

Several murals and galleries are part of the Historic Walking tour. Learn about Victorian-style homes, hotels, and shops, then and now. Take a tour of Wisconsin's oldest licensed winery housed in a historic Civil War-era building along the Ahnapee River.

Outdoor dining and drink options include several with views of the lake or river. For lodging, you can stay right in town or opt for a more secluded spot. Two area

campgrounds border the river and the trail!

More outdoors

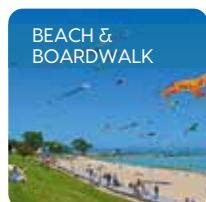
Outdoor music is a summer staple with Algoma Concerts in the Park on Thursday evenings and several venues hosting bands on Saturdays and Sundays. Golfing and birdwatching are other popular outdoor activities everyone can enjoy.

Festivals

Shanty Days is a three-day festival on the second weekend in August with a fishing contest, music, arts and crafts, a parade, fireworks, and more. Soar on the Shore Kite and Beach festival is when Crescent Beach becomes a kite lover's paradise the following weekend.

Come for the day or an extended stay. The outdoors is yours in Friendly Algoma!

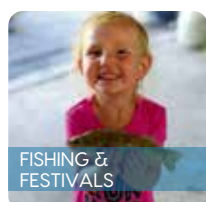
For more information, stop by the Algoma Visitor Center, 1226 Lake St. or visit visitalgomawi.com.



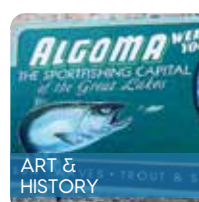
BEACH &
BOARDWALK



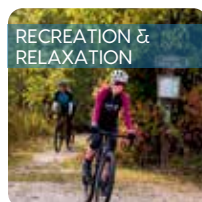
REST &
RESPITE



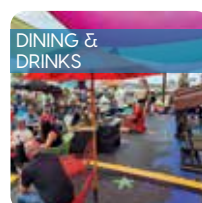
FISHING &
FESTIVALS



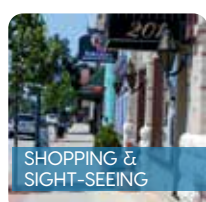
ART &
HISTORY



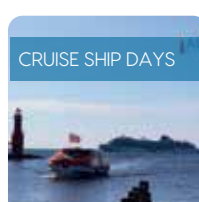
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EXPLORE WISCONSIN

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PUBLISHER | EDITOR:
Dick Ellis
ellis@onwisconsinoutdoors.com

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR:
Stuart Wilke
submissions@onwisconsinoutdoors.com

DESIGN | PRODUCTION:
A. Garrigan
ali@onwisconsinoutdoors.com



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FORGOTTEN WISCONSIN

A (Nuclear) Blast From The Past

Protecting Milwaukee County's heavy industries was a Cold War priority

All the really cool cats who weren't jocks in the 1970s sported shoulder length hair and a US Army field jacket. Of course, there were exceptions. Me for instance. Granted, I had long hair and a field jacket, but I was about as cool as a cucumber. But, unlike the other fashionistas sporting M-51 field jackets, mine came with a pedigree. It was previously the property of a bonafide armed forces deserter who served, if only for a little while, at the Nike Ajax/Hercules nuclear missile site in Waukesha. When he took a powder for God knows where or why, he left his jacket behind (but not the rent payment) in an apartment unit he leased from my grandfather. That's who I got it from during the height of the Cold War.

Although the Cold War was raging, by the time the jacket came my way, the Nike sites were already obsolete and destined for the trash can of history. The nuclear arms race was going full tilt and the shelf life of many atomic weapons and surface-to-air-to-Russkie bombers was pretty brief. No sooner had the Nike bases been built than the Godless Soviet Commies found ways to circumvent American missiles and drop Marxist bombs, including those of the nuclear variety, on their targets. After about two decades of playing catch up with one updated version after another to counter the Reds' efforts at blowing up the world, Uncle Sam threw in the towel and tossed out the bases and their warheads and replaced them with even more mortifying weapons in other locales.

The Cold War, in case you missed it, was no fun. The



During the Cold War, Nike missile sites formed a ring around the Milwaukee area to protect its vital industrial base from Soviet bombers.

United States, Soviet Union and Peoples Republic of China were awash with missiles and nuclear weapons pointed at each other and the Milwaukee area was a prime target of our adversaries. "The Machine Shop of America," as it was known then, could build just about anything made of metal, including heavy machinery and war materials, as they proved

during the World Wars and other armed fracas.

If you wanted to cripple the American defense industry, southeastern Wisconsin, especially Milwaukee and its satellites, West Allis, West Milwaukee, and South Milwaukee, for instance, would be prime targets. Little wonder that Uncle Sam had Nike sites ringing the area to protect the critical industries that called those communities home.

Sometime in the 1970s, ignoring the "No Trespassing" signs, I took a brief tour of the abandoned Waukesha Nike site. I parked near a derelict guard shack and walked up a crumbling asphalt road that eventually led to a dilapidated building of some sort. Unfortunately, I was a big scaredy cat and didn't stay long. My car was in plain view and I anticipated a visit by the police and a ticket for trespassing. My goal during the visit was to find the remnants of the missile silos, but I found no sign of them. Neither did my brother Gregg, several years later, after he and a friend breached the fence surrounding the Nike site only to be soon confronted by an alert police officer who directed them out.

Like the Nike site, my M-51 eventually became a Cold War ruin. I wore it until it was reduced to shreds and eventually disposed of it.

Decades later, I still sometimes wonder what happened to the M-51's original owner who, like the Nike sites, vanished many years ago.

On The Cover

Wisconsin doesn't just pull visitors from across the United States tracking down the promise of a great time, but adventurers and travelers from throughout the world. Three close friends and their husbands recently found great fishing on Lake Michigan out of the Port of Algoma. From left, Michelle Jonker of Dinkwe Safari & Taxidermy in South Africa, Erin Gate of Sunset Cover Resort, Lake of the Woods-Nester Falls, Ontario Canada, and Lisa Haasch of Haasch of Haasch Guide Service, Algoma, Wisconsin enjoyed an awesome angling experience aboard the Grand Illusion 3.

Two Great Lakes means from Ashland on Lake Superior to Kenosha on Lake Michigan, and everywhere in between, you will find tremendous fishing near you. Or, if you're not a Badger, find the trip worth planning for with the help of our tourism partners. Wonderful, Wisconsin. That's your ticket.



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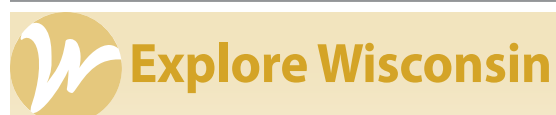
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On the crossroads of US Highway 8 and US Highway 63, Turtle Lake is the natural choice. Whether you'd like to relax in the fresh air and great outdoors or get out to socialize and stay active, we have it all in Turtle Lake!

Our hotels and campgrounds have easy access to the ATV/UTV trails to head out in Barron or Polk County with a great spot to launch your next adventure. We are located snugly in the middle of plenty of lakes for outdoor water recreation. Fishing, kayaking, and relaxing in the fresh air, are all within your reach. You can also enjoy plenty of night life with fun gaming action and live music every weekend at the St. Croix Casino. Turtle Lake is the place to stay while you play!

Throughout the year, Turtle Lake offers a wide variety of events. July 12 - 14 features the Turtle Lake Inter-County Free Fair, with tractor, truck and horse pulls. If you like vintage cars, August 11 is Cars & Crafts in the Park and the place to be! August 17 and 18 is the Moon Lake Threshing Bee, featuring steam driven farm machinery, demonstrations of farming from yesteryear and plenty of events for the whole family. Just south of Turtle Lake on County Highway K.

With opportunities to fish, shop, camp, bike, kayak, gamble, and enjoy our scenic trails and rustic roads, everyone can find something they love in Turtle Lake.



Turtle Lake is the place to stay while you play!



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SPOTLIGHT | **FERRYVILLE**

A Place For All Seasons

If you're looking for some good old-fashioned fun that you can fit into a few days, look no further than "The Mississippi Coast of Wisconsin" – Ferryville. It's just the ticket!

Vacation rentals are very popular and there are many to pick from. Visitferryville.com is your gateway to find links to these glorious options that take you to a "home away from home."

Grandview Motel has suite rooms with kitchenettes so you can cook in, get takeout, dine in or dine out. Grandview welcomes you with a wonderful observation deck, complete with sail canopies, where you can view Mississippi River wildlife. Their vacation home rentals are super options that feature hot tubs and many other amenities that will surprise and reward your stay.

Scenic River Inn is a wonderful, warm home nestled in the village neighborhood. The inn has plenty of room for groups and places to just "chill out." Bring your boat, kayak, canoe, hiking boots, fishing poles – whatever your interest. You'll feel right at home.



Dan Hoover catches the "Big One" in Ferryville. Photo Credit: Dan Hoover.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29



A Place for All Seasons

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July 10th
Chautauqua Summer Series.
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July 27th
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Ferryville Village Hall & Sugar Creek Park

July 27th
River Bluff Daze Hike

August 14th
Chautauqua Summer Series
6:30 pm. Ferryville Village Hall

September 21st
Fall Fest
9 am Sugar Creek Park



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SPOTLIGHT | FORT ATKINSON



Fall in Love With Fort Atkinson

Nestled in the heart of Jefferson County, between the bustling cities of Madison and Milwaukee, Fort Atkinson invites travelers with its charm and diverse array of attractions. Known as a quintessential getaway for outdoor enthusiasts and culture seekers alike, this town boasts a rich tapestry of natural beauty, historical landmarks, and vibrant community events.

Throughout the year, Fort Atkinson comes alive with community events that showcase its spirited atmosphere. The annual 4th of July Glow Run 5k, on July 4th, hosted by FortHealthCare and the Fort Atkinson Chamber of Commerce, illuminates the streets with radiant attire, culminating in a festive glow party. On August 24 the Rhapsody Live Music Festival and Lemonade Day extravaganza will bring together locals and visitors alike for a day filled with music, entrepreneurship, and community spirit.

Lemonade Day not only provides young entrepreneurs with a platform to showcase their talents, but also serves as an educational opportunity. Meanwhile, the Rhapsody Live Free Music Festival offers a diverse lineup of local artists, ensuring entertainment for all ages.



The iconic Fireside Dinner Theatre has entertained audiences for nearly six decades with captivating performances and delicious meals.

For those craving adventure, Fort Atkinson offers a myriad of options to commune with the great outdoors. The Rock River and Bark River present ample opportunities for kayaking, boating, and leisurely riverside exploration.

Meanwhile, the 30 + mile Glacial River Bike Path goes right through the heart of the city, inviting cyclists and pedestrians to soak in the scenic beauty.

Lake Koshkonong, the state's eighth largest lake, attracts visitors southwest of Fort Atkinson. Nearby parks, like Dorothy Carnes Park and Bark River Nature Park, offer serene escapes for outdoor enthusiasts.

For those with a passion for literature, Fort Atkinson proudly claims Lorine Niedecker, a renowned poet, as its own. The town also boasts the iconic Fireside Dinner Theatre, which has entertained audiences for nearly six decades with its captivating performances and delicious meals. Visitors can further explore the town's history and culture at the Hoard Historical Museum or enjoy a stroll along the scenic riverwalk, lined with unique shops and eateries.

With its blend of natural beauty, cultural richness and vibrant community spirit, Fort Atkinson stands as a beacon of Wisconsin hospitality - a destination where memories are made, with experiences cherished for a lifetime. Fort Atkinson offers an unforgettable retreat for travelers seeking to discover the best of Wisconsin's heartland.



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TOM CARPENTER

The Other Extreme

How wildlife beats the heat

When it comes to temperature extremes, frigid winter weather gets all the press. But who worries about how summer heat affects wildlife?

Among mammals and birds, the best way to get rid of excess body heat is through evaporation. This can occur two ways - through sweating or respiration.

We humans have the luxury of sweat glands under our skin, and the resulting evaporation cools us off. Furred mammals, which do not have sweat glands, must use respiration in the form of panting to cool off.

Picture a coyote on the run, tongue lolling out to the breeze. Sure, he's huffing hard from the activity. But that intense level of breathing also dissipates heat as cooler air passes over the hot tongue.

Like mammals, birds don't have sweat glands, because soaked feathers aren't good for flying. So birds pant, too. This behavior is also known as the "gape" because of the beak's position. A meadowlark perched on a fencepost, beak gaping wide open, is a common summer afternoon sight.

Radiating heat away is another method of cooling off. That is why a whitetail's ears have little fur in summer: Large blood

vessels carry warm blood here to cool in the breeze.

Simply evading heat is another way wildlife stays cool. Many species go nocturnal. Coming out of the shade at evening, night and dawn, when the air is cooler, makes more sense than suffering under a hot sun. This also conserves water in the body.

Shade is essential. Wild turkeys will either stay in shady woodlands where the sun doesn't filter in or, if in open country, congregate below even a single tree. Those dark feathers really gather the sun's rays.

When the heat is on, most birds confine their feeding and activity to either end of the day. It is a better and cooler plan than going about their business when the sun is blazing.

Reptiles and amphibians are ectotherms, which means they take on the temperature of their surroundings. These "cold blooded" animals cannot regulate their own heating or cooling, so the only solution on hot days is to absolutely avoid the sun's dangerous rays.

Any burrow, hole, crevice or crack will work for a toad or lizard. It is interesting to note how snakes like basking in the sun on spring's first warm days. But come summer, they're



A whitetail buck sticks to the shade while his only lightly furred summer ears dissipate heat from blood to air.

hiding in shady retreats under rocks, ledges and roots, which are places to avoid putting your hands or feet if you're hiking on a warm summer day.

Winter is often thought of as the dangerous season for wildlife. But summer heat can also kill. Fortunately, wild creatures evolved and adapted. The hardiest survive, and even thrive, through nature's "other" temperature extreme.

They know how to beat the heat.

BILL THORNLEY

Among The Little Ones

New life is something to celebrate

Camera in hand, I often head out into remote areas around dawn. Many mornings are uneventful, but there are also magical mornings when animals are everywhere.

Perhaps no wild baby is more lovingly embraced in Wisconsin than a spotted, wobbly-legged whitetail fawn nervously following her mother.

There is a certain excitement when you see that first alert doe crossing a field or backroad, followed by a tiny fawn. Encounters with fawns become fond memories. Such a moment took place recently.

The chilly morning unfolded in a swirling fog, with gentle beams of the rising sun breaking through. It took me back to a similar morning a couple years ago when I happened upon a dainty albino fawn wandering through a fog-shrouded meadow, white on white. She looked almost surreal, before disappearing into a cedar swamp.

This was an active morning. Two big turkeys strutted across the road in front of me, one a tom puffed out in full fan. There were bunnies bouncing here and there. Coming over a foggy hill, I surprised a big black bear. A loon dutifully sat upon her nest in the cranberry marsh to keep her eggs warm.

As the sun rose, I glanced into a field. A doe was laying



Still wet from birth, a newborn whitetail fawn discovers how to use her new, somewhat wobbly legs, as she dashes across a field after her mother. Photo by Bill Thornley

down. Coming back about 20 minutes later, I saw that she was up and crossing the road, and this time there was something with her. A tiny, apparently just-born fawn tried to keep up. She was still wet, and all legs. She stumbled awkwardly a couple times as she crossed in front of me, finally diving into that "you can't see me" hiding position that fawns resort to when they want to hide.



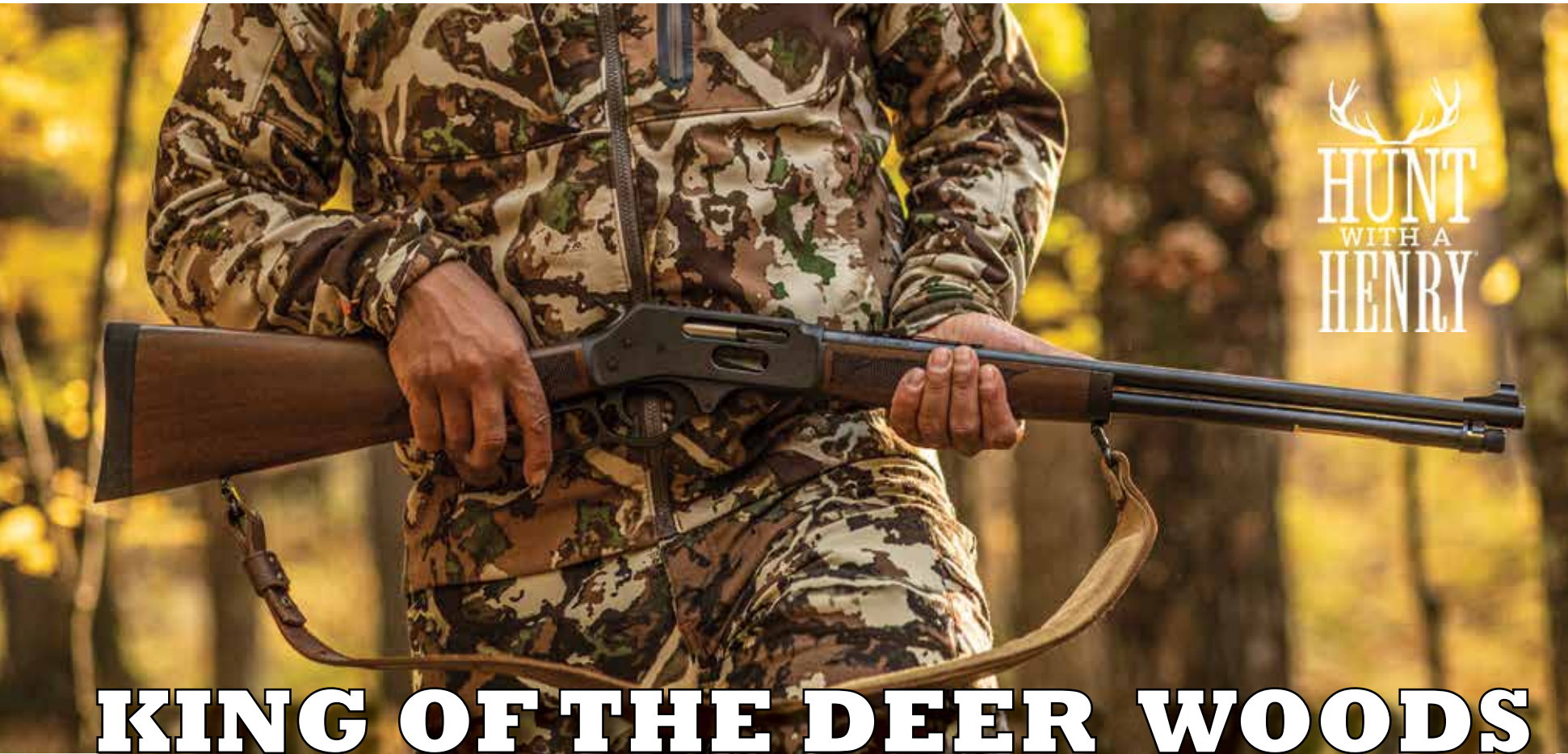
The life of a newborn fawn is not an easy one. It is filled with danger, as the little ones are on the menu for everything from eagles to black bears. One defense they have is simply lying still and hoping their lack of scent at birth helps keep them hidden. Photo by Bill Thornley

It really didn't work, as she was right out in the open. A moment later she rediscovered her legs and bolted, sprinting to catch up to Mom. It was kind of amazing how fast this newborn was able to run. She wasn't much bigger than a house cat, but she sure had a lot of spunk as she tested those new legs.

In coming days I began to see more fawns. It is always enjoyable to be among the little ones, prized jewels guarded by their nervous mothers.

The early life of a fawn is dangerous, with everything from eagles to coyotes to black bears looking for a quick meal. A few

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



There's a new king of the deer woods, and it's called .360 Buckhammer. The straight-walled cartridge delivers improved accuracy and knockdown power at the mid-range distances where lever action rifles excel. Henry Repeating Arms offers the perfect complement to the lever-optimized cartridge in a variety of finishes and configurations to provide you with a dependable and effective combination for your next hunt.

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THORNLEY, FROM PAGE 10

weeks of life and time to strengthen their legs and gain speed makes a big difference in eluding predators.

Fawns grow up quick in the outdoors, and this new crop of youngsters is on their way. As the coming weeks unfold, we will see them get larger and lose their adorable spots. Their mothers gave them life, and now they must live it. She will guide them, but it will not be easy. Nature does not give them many breaks.

Just the sight of fawns bouncing and jumping sideways with joy and chasing each other as they play in a dew-covered field is something to celebrate. I wish them well on the journey through their brand new lives.



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JEFFREY S. JOHNSON

No Place For Normal

Young turkey hunters toss the ordinary, bag the extraordinary

Most hunting stories are pretty predictable and not especially interesting. They go something like this: "I got up early, around 3:00 am. Went to the woods. Set up my decoys and shot my turkey at 6:30 am."

Well, this isn't your normal, boring, same-old, same-old hunting story.

One of my students, Robert Hagensick, is a sophomore at Riverdale High School in Muscoda. To say that he loves hunting and fishing is an understatement. We often share stories and photos, even though he refuses to tell me the whereabouts of his secret spots.

Earlier this spring, Robert started his turkey hunting season, as usual, by getting up at three in the morning. That is where the "usual" ends.

After a brief breakfast, Robert and hunting partner Hoyt Bomkamp RODE THEIR BICYCLES (Yes, bicycles!) with their guns and decoys, through the dark,



Robert Hagensick and the awesome turkey that he bagged during a far from normal hunt.

two miles to their hunting grounds. Once they arrived, it was another two miles by trail to the place where they had built a brush blind only days before.

They were finally able to get all of their

decoys set just before 5:30 am. They called and waited and called and waited. At 5:50 am, they heard their first gobble. Hoyt's calling and the gobbling went back and forth for about 30 minutes when the giant tom finally gobbled his way into the decoys at around 6:30 am. Five minutes later, that giant tom provided the perfect opportunity and Robert was able to fill his tag.

But that isn't the end of the story.

After several minutes of high-fives, Robert and Hoyt, with their guns, decoys AND his turkey, biked two miles out of the hunting grounds to the trail head and then another two miles back to their home.

The "big tom" was no ordinary bird. It weighed in at an awesome 26 pounds, scored an 11-inch beard with 1.25-inch spurs!

Congratulations Robert and Hoyt.

Jeffrey S. Johnson is a Riverdale High School health and physical education teacher.



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BOB SPIERINGS

Bear Baiting 101

Scent lures and selecting the right bait

Wisconsin's 2024 black bear season is now right around the corner and if you haven't already, it's time to get down to business. Mating season is winding down making it the perfect time to get some scent lures blowing in the wind and bait in the ground letting the bears know you got the goods!

Scent lures are your key to drawing bears in, period. If you aren't using scent, your bait site will not be used to its full potential. Rumor has it that bears can smell food 18+ miles away, how true is this who knows? But imagine if you could tell all bears within an 18 mile radius that you have the goods. It seems like a no brainer.

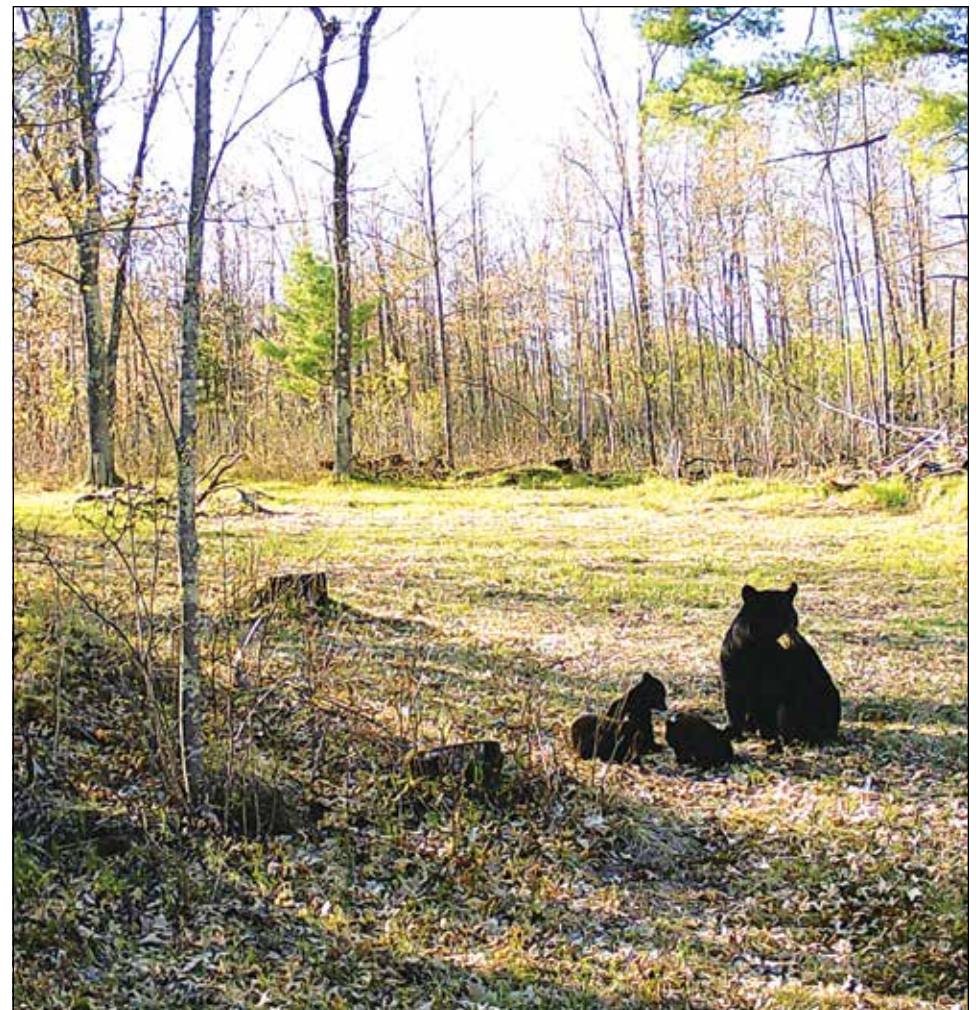
Also, NEVER STOP putting scent lures out! We see it every year. Customers come in and buy one bottle of scent, they place the scent out, have bears come in, and then stop putting scent out. A couple weeks later the bears stop coming in and the customer then calls us asking what to do. Our first question back is "Do you have scent out?"

Scent not only lets the local bears know it's "dinner time" but it will continually bring in new bears that are traveling through the area. And that animal may just end up being the Boone & Crockett bear you meet on opening day. If you want more tips on how to place scent lures, check out our last article or connect with our website and click on the "article" tab.

Besides just placing scent, you obviously need bait. You do not want to reach the end of the rainbow and discover there is no pot of gold waiting for you. While choosing bait is often the best part of baiting, it can also be the trickiest. Our Wisconsin bears are no dumpster divers. They are constantly moving to find the best meals, and with the high number of bait sites they can hit up in a single day, they can afford to be a bit picky.

Over the last several years you have seen Bob's Bear Bait evolve to provide not only totes and barrels of dry bait, but we now offer 40-pound bags and totes of quality product called, "Peanut Butter Bear Mix." This mix

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Mark Roncskevitz used his trail camera to capture a sow and her three cubs enjoying a late spring evening May 20 in northern Wisconsin. Cubs and sows with cubs are off-limits to bear hunters.

has been popular for people who start bear sites mid-summer through hunting season. The mix provides protein from a minimum of 10 different ingredients from candy to nuts, and granola to peanut oil, with the oil giving it a great aroma irresistible to bear. Packaged in a convenient 40-pound bag that makes transportation easy from SUVs to pick-up trucks, you don't need to bust your back wrestling with a 300-pound barrel.

Another great way to easily change up the flavor is by adding a sweet topping. The stickier and stinkier the better. The stickiness helps track the scent through the forest, naturally bringing in more bears to your site. The stickiest acts as another great scent lure.

For more great tips stop in this season and chat with us. Bob's Bear Bait has multiple staff

on hand with more than 20 years of combined experience bear hunting and 12 years in the bear bait business! We carry the largest variety of bear bait in Wisconsin, with multiple locations in Wisconsin and Michigan. We pride ourselves in being your one stop shop for all your baiting needs including scents, bulk bait fruit toppings, dry bait, and the list go on.

However, once the season hits, bait sells out fast! To stay up to date with our latest news and sales, follow us on Facebook and Instagram at Bob's Bear Bait. To see our bait selection or locations, check us out at bobsbearbait.com! If you don't see a product listed, feel free to call us. We always have more products in our shops than what is listed on our site. As always, happy baiting and good luck to all the hunters!

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CAPTAIN DAVID DUWE

Beat The Heat Down Deep

Summer success in deep weeds

As spawning ends and the water gets warm, most fish will head to the depths for safety, food and relief from the heat. If you want to find them, you'll need the right techniques. Here's a few I've learned over the years fishing deep lakes.

Two main factors come into play when targeting deepwater gamefish like walleye and smallmouth bass - weed lines and thermoclines. Walleyes love a deep weed edge in summertime so they can ambush their prey, whether it is a small crappie, perch or other baitfish. I'll target weed line-walleyes by trolling crankbaits at 1.2 to 3 mph, staying right on the edge with the aid of my tiller-handle outboard. Follow your locator and stay on the depth contour and weed edge to maximize success. Vary your speed and stick.

It's also smart to identify the depth of gamefish and baitfish on your locator. Pick a crank bait that gets in front of their noses. For me, color is secondary as bait depth is the key. Fish too shallow or too deep and you'll be out of the strike zone on every pass. Occasionally ticking the weed edge with your bait can trigger strikes, but be careful not to get into them too much or you may be spending a lot of time un-fouling your bait.

In the early morning or evenings, I target steep drop-offs with heavy weed growth. At night, I concentrate on the outside edge of weedy flats. The most productive weed lines are close to deep water, typically those that are

adjacent to the main lake basin.

As summer wanes, I enjoy targeting deepwater smallmouth bass on Geneva Lake, Madison's Lake Mendota or Pine Lake in Waukesha County. Smallies like to school up in the deep reaches of a lake hovering around the thermocline, that thin stretch of water that separates the warm surface water with the colder bottom water. The fun part is when you find the schools. Search for rock and scattered deep weeds, preferably around main-lake deep points. Find the hardest bottom you can using your electronics. When smallies are down deep, I'll try drop-shotting, Carolina rigging or live bait rigging.

With drop-shotting, I use a Tungsten weight below a one-foot leader with a red octopus hook. Tip the hook with a Yum Houdini worm that matches the forage. Watermelon with red flakes is my favorite. Fish straight down and shake your rod tip four to five times before pausing to encourage a strike. On clear lakes like Geneva, go with a lighter line with this slower fishing method. If that doesn't produce, I'll try a Carolina rig with a bait caster rod and reel combo using heavy line with a 10-pound test leader. I'll rig up with a green-pumpkin lizard. Make a long cast and let the rig sink to the bottom before dragging it back to the boat. Work the bait perpendicular to the structure so it glides over the structure.

When the artificials aren't producing, I'll switch to tried-and-true live bait. Slide a half-



Corby with a largemouth from the deep weed line.

ounce walking sinker ahead of a No. 6 circle hook. Keep the sinker 18 to 24 inches ahead of the hook with a swivel or small split-shot. Hook nightcrawlers or small suckers through the head and back troll them vertically over structure.

Deepwater fishing presents some challenges. But the rewards of a beefy walleye or a hog smallmouth bass on the end of your line are a good reason to venture away from the shade of the shore. Deep down, the results can be worthwhile.

For guide parties, call Dave Duwe at 262-728-8063



SPOTLIGHT | HAYWARD LAKES



Fishing Smart When Things Get Hot in Hayward

There are no wrong answers for how to enjoy hot summer months on the lakes and rivers in the Hayward area. Swimming, boating, paddling, or just lounging on the dock all make for a great July or August day. Fishing opportunities are plentiful during this time, but will require anglers to be a little smart about how they do it.

Here are some tips for a great summer fishing trip.

Late summer is sometimes considered the "dog days" for fishing. Many species of fish have moved out into deeper water at this point in the year, and natural prey is abundant, making it harder to find and then get the fish's attention. But don't despair, late summer fishing can be productive, if you know where to look.

Largemouth bass and bluegill remain a great option for anglers of all experience levels during these months. Both species can typically still be found in shallow water near weeds, even though it's the hottest part of the summer. Lakes like Nelson and Spring will provide consistent action and some of the biggest largemouth bass in the area.

Smallmouth and walleye will have slid into deeper areas like rock bars and drop offs at this point in the year. Focus on areas with rock or gravel bottom, especially if those areas are adjacent to deeper weeds. Slip bobbers with circle hooks can be a great option here.

Crappie may be suspended over basins or wandering in large schools



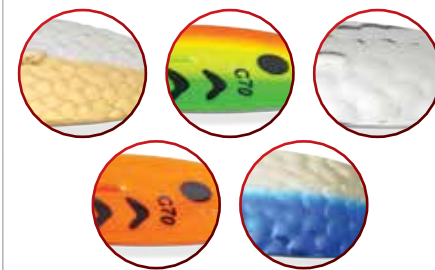
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Summer Strategies

Targeting high current river fish

When it comes to targeting fish on the rivers, spring and fall are typically the best times to find success. For the most part, they are in predictable areas and they are more likely to take your presentation. In the spring, most fish will be staged in pre-spawn, spawning, or post-spawning locations and they are relatively easy to find. In the fall, the same concept applies; the fish are seeking out low current areas due to the water temperature dropping. Despite the dropping temperatures, they still feel the necessity to put on the fall feedbag and they will readily take the bait.

For targeting river fish in the summer, I look for higher current areas and areas with structure. When it's hot and humid and the water temperatures are at an extreme, fish will seek out higher current areas of the river and they will look for areas with shade and cover to escape the sun's heat. The higher

current areas will seem cooler and the fish in these locations are normally in a feeding mood versus fish found in slack water areas. Fish that are holding tight in cover are not typically looking for food, but a proper presentation will get their attention and give you an opportunity to catch them.

For targeting fish in higher current areas, I like to use heavier 1/8 and 1/4 ounce jigs tipped with minnows, crawlers or plastics. I cast them out and work right on the bottom with a jigging and hopping motion. When it comes to targeting fish in cover, I typically use smaller 1/16 and 1/32 ounce jigs tipped with the same type of bait. When working submerged structure, I position the boat above or directly upstream from the structure and carefully vertically jig in and out of the submerged structure trying to avoid getting snagged. The key to getting fish out of the structure is to haul back and rip



that fish out immediately upon feeling the strike. If you don't, he will dart and twist and will for sure get tangled up in the structure.

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From great food and music and everything in between, you can find it in Elkhorn this summer.


 A family of five is shown from the chest up, sitting together and smiling. They are all wearing bright orange and blue life jackets. From left to right: a woman with glasses, a young girl, a young boy, and another young girl. A fifth person, likely a man, is partially visible on the far right. They appear to be on a boat or near water.
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TOM LUBA

Turning Up The Heat

The sizzle of summer bass hotspots

Summer can bring with it days that some may call "too hot." There's no such definition in the angler's handbook, in fact, the hotter the better when fishing action turns up the heat on rivers, near dams and in the shallower cover on lakes in July and August.

River fish have to fight the current, and that is why they are more active. Both largemouth and smallmouth bass inhabit rivers. Smallmouth prefer current with a great smallie spot to seek out being where the current pushes up over a shallow riffle. The deeper water at the base of that push creates a slack area. Anchoring and drifting a leech on a small hook and weight into it

will catch fish. Using crankbaits in shallower riffles can produce. Rocky shore and wood are other good areas for both live bait, or a Blakemore Road Runner and twister tail combo. The flash of the spinner blade on the Road Runner calls fish.

Largemouth will move into current to grab a bite, but move back to slack areas. River largemouth like wood and shallow weeds near shore. Live bait rigs can easily get snagged in the cover. Texas-rigged baits, like a plastic craw or worm with a slip sinker in front, are easier to work through cover. River backwaters are also largemouth territory, with bonus panfish and northern pike.

The current near dams draw smallmouth, but largemouth also frequent dams. Again, think slack water near current. One summer my favorite dam had serious current flow. My usual spots were solid white water and the bass moved downstream where current slowed. They wanted jumbo leeches. Bonus bluegills came on every cast from the same area with a small pieces night crawler

However, don't pass on lake largemouth. Most waters usually have a good amount of shallow weeds away from boat traffic. Reed beds figure in, as do shallows where weeds grow to the surface, then fold over to create cover.

This thick cover, or "slop" as bass anglers know it, is a perfect place for a floating, hollow-bodied frog. Work the weeds, but stop the retrieve over open weed pockets. Bass usually hit when the bait moves again. Although it's a learned discipline when the swirl of a hungry bass brings an adrenalin



Rivers are full of smallmouth bass and they bite well on live bait or artificials in the summer.

rush, try to wait until you feel the fish bite down on a frog before setting the hook.

Lures like the metal Johnson Silver Minnow tipped with a curly twister tail also work. Let the bait sink in open pockets.

The best reeds are bunched. A plastic stick bait rigged Texas-style, like the five-inch Senko, works great here. And a gurgling buzz-bait can also bang edge fish. Go bigger, if needed, in thicker cover, with a Texas-rigged plastic like a Zoom Brush Hog and slip sinker. Just make sure your equipment is strong enough to bring the fish home.

Yep, summer can be hot. But when you find the right locations, the fishing can also sizzle.

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HAYWARD, FROM PAGE 15

over mud flats. Cribbs can also be a good area to locate crappie during late summer months. Musky and pike can also be caught at this time of year. River fishing is often particularly productive for musky.

But these tips come with a couple gentle reminders. Many studies have shown that higher water temperatures can be stressful for fish you plan to release, including musky. Target cooler stretches of summer or cooler parts of the day if you are catch-and-release fishing for musky or other species.

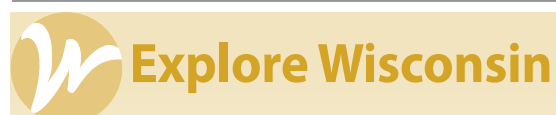
Another consideration is depth since many species of fish slide into deeper water. Fish brought to the surface from deeper water can be harder to successfully release. This is commonly observed at depths of 30 feet or greater. Avoid targeting fish at those depths if you don't plan to harvest them.

Summer can go by fast, so don't miss those

moments to be on the water with family. We hope these tips lead to great fishing and more educated anglers.



Late summer fishing can be productive in Hayward.



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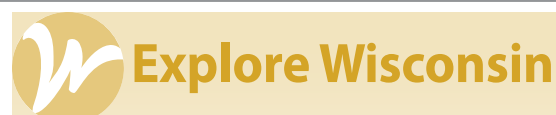
The Elroy-Sparta State Trail is open for all types of recreation. Walking, skiing, fat tire bike riding, biking, of course, and even snowmobiling are some of the various activities that the trail sees.

Throw your line into Perch Lake or the La Crosse River for a little fishing or find a local fish fry at some of our favorite places. Go on your first trout fishing excursion and try to catch a tagged trout between Memorial Day and Labor Day for your chance to win a prize.

As the days grow longer and the sun gets warmer, ride your motorcycle along the winding roads through the driftless hills and valleys all while taking in the sights and sounds of Western Wisconsin. If you are staying in town, jump in your UTV and cruise the streets of Sparta hitting all of our local favorite spots. Hit the many ATV/UTV trails that can be found in and around Sparta and throughout Monroe County.

Visit the Deke Slayton Memorial Space and Bicycle Museum while in town or head over to Memorial Park to find the municipal swimming pool, ball diamonds, tennis courts, hockey arena, playgrounds, and sheltered picnic areas. Fishing, canoeing, and kayaking on Beaver Creek, Perch Lake and the La Crosse River are some local favorite things to do. Find yourself at River Run, our three-star rated municipal course by Golf Digest.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20



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Make no mistake, it's a different world in St. Germain, and with thousands of acres of lakes surrounded by the vast Northwoods, there's plenty of room for everyone. We've got trails galore for hiking and biking and thousands of acres of waterways. It's an outdoor enthusiast's paradise and you can count on a memorable visit - each and every time.

We invite you to meander along pastoral lakes, beside covered creeks, and through lush and verdant balsam fir forests. St. Germain is a hiker's dream. Here you can explore dozens of local trails surrounded by stunning views, and fit for all experience levels. From the Awassa Trail to Fern Ridge and Shannon Lake Trails, there's something for everyone.

St. Germain is home to some of the best bike trails in the Northwoods. Pick your poison: an easy-riding trail for families, an exhilarating collection of single-track mountain bikes trails for thrill seekers, or some tranquil nature trails for nature loving riders. The trails are easy to access for a quick ride, and some lodging properties even have bikes on site for you to borrow. If you're a serious rider, St. Germain is also a great basecamp for a biking getaway – there are some awesome trails near town, and even more trail systems a short drive away.

One of the most tranquil ways to experience St. Germain is to take in the beauty of the area, one paddle stroke at a time. With thousands of acres of lakes, rivers and streams, there's no shortage of waterways to explore. In fact, there are so many lakes, that some of the smallest ones are not even named. Paddleboarding, canoeing, kayaking, tubing, swimming, skiing,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 20



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SPOTLIGHT | ADAMS COUNTY



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Explore the heart of Central Wisconsin in Adams County, where every season brings a new adventure. From outdoor thrills to cultural delights, our welcoming community has it all. Whether you're hiking through vibrant forests in the spring, enjoying water sports on pristine lakes in the summer, marveling at the colorful foliage in the fall, or embracing snowy landscapes in the winter, Adams County promises endless excitement. No matter when you visit, you will discover a treasure trove of activities to make memories that last a lifetime. Come experience the magic of Adams County, where every season is a reason to celebrate.

Come experience the excitement of downtown Adams-Friendship on Friday, August 2 - Saturday, August 3 for Sidewalk Days. Join us for the Chicky's Softball Tournament, where teams battle it out for glory. While you're here, explore our vibrant community with local businesses open for your convenience. Indulge in delicious bites from food trucks, groove to live music, and be amazed by balloon art and face painting. And did we mention the food? It's a feast for all your senses. Don't miss out on the fun - see you downtown!

There is something to enjoy all year round in Adams County. From our golf courses, water sports, and a variety of winter activities, there is something for everyone! Pack your clubs, lace up your hiking boots, or grab a good book - whatever your adventure style, Adams County awaits. Let the beauty of our landscapes and the warmth of our community ignite your spirit for exploration. Whether you're chasing birdies on the green, trekking through scenic trails, or simply unwinding with a captivating read amidst nature's embrace, your next great adventure starts right here in Adams County. Let's make memories that will last a lifetime!

Adams County

There is something all year round in Adams County. From our golf courses, water sports, hiking, biking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, and so much more there is something for everyone to be able to experience Adams County!



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There is a treasure trove of family activities awaiting in Adams County.

SPARTA, FROM PAGE 19

If you are a foodie at heart, Sparta has many shops and eateries that you can sink your teeth into. From ramen and steak to home brewed sodas, fresh sushi plates to being introduced to your new favorite - pulled pork and mac and cheese dish - there is something to delight your every taste buds.

Let Sparta be your next favorite destination location. With so much to do, where do you even start? Call the Sparta Area Chamber of Commerce at 608-269-4123 and let them help you plan your stay.



Sparta is the "Bicycling Capital of America."

ST GERMAINE, FROM PAGE 19

and beyond - a day of play is never far away. You have a lot of options, including small undeveloped lakes, larger recreational waters, wild streams, and the Wisconsin River.

The St. Germain Chamber & Information Bureau can help you plan your next vacation to the St. Germain Area. Area travel guides, brochures and maps can be found at st-germain.com. For an authentic Northwoods experience you're sure to remember, look no further than St. Germain.



Explore Wisconsin

SPOTLIGHT | PRAIRIE DU CHIEN AREA



Your Perfect Adventure Destination

The Prairie du Chien Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Council welcomes you to Prairie du Chien. Prairie du Chien has a rich history dating back to the 17th century, making it one of the oldest European settlements in the Midwest. Visitors can explore historic sites such as Fort Crawford Museum and Villa Louis, a restored Victorian Mansion.

Prairie du Chien is the perfect destination for your next adventure. Besides breathtaking views of the Mississippi River, cruise the winding backroads of Crawford County's rolling hills and picturesque ravines and valleys along Wisconsin's Great River Road. Located along the Mississippi River, the road offers beautiful river views and scenic landscapes. Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy activities such as boating, fishing, and hiking in the area.

Experience the mighty Mississippi River aboard the Maiden Voyage Tours! Maiden Voyage offers Friday, Saturday, and Sunset River Cruises as they share Mississippi River Stories. Each tour is great fun and entertaining for both young and seasoned tourists.

Prairie du Chien hosts various cultural events, including music festivals, art fairs and historical reenactments, providing visitors with opportunities to immerse themselves in local culture.

Join us on July 20 and 21 for the 32nd Annual War of 1812 Battle for Prairie du Chien Living History Encampment. Step onto Wisconsin's only War of 1812 battlefield. Learn about the British attack through military drilling, cannon firing and musket reliability.

Feeling the Blues? The 26th Annual Prairie Dog Blues Fest, July 25-27, will feature international, national, and regional blues bands performing on two stages on St. Feriole Island, a park like setting along the Mississippi River. Camping is available on site of the performances.

Dining out is a real treat with the area's flavorful pubs and eateries, and you can take a little bit of Prairie du Chien home with you from any of the shops in our historic downtown area, which features items made by local artists.

Prairie du Chien provides a blend of history, natural beauty, and cultural experiences, making it a great destination for travelers. For more information, call 800-732-1673 or visit prairieduchien.org.



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www.prairieduchien.org



SPOTLIGHT | KENOSHA



Cheering on Summer Fun in Kenosha

Kenosha is home to many opportunities for sports fans. From a night at the ballpark or racetrack, to nights by the lake, there is no shortage of fun. Add live music and al fresco dining, and you've got a winning game plan.

Nothing says summer like a good, old fashioned baseball game. Historic Simmons Field is home to the Northwoods League collegiate team, the Kenosha Kingfish. Take in a game, enjoy family activities and entertainment, and, of course, grab a hot dog at the concession stand. Watch for ever-popular mascot King Elvis. He loves dancing and posing for photos.

Washington Park Velodrome is another Kenosha historic site. The oldest operating track of its kind, it is one of only 21 such velodromes in the country. Washington Park hosts races several nights a week during the summer months. With just under a quarter-mile loop, the banks on this open-air bowl



bring youth and adults alike to compete. Bring your lawn chairs or a blanket and catch a race. Or, bring your bike and try your hand at a spin around the track – the public is welcome to use the velodrome during non-race times. Big Star Drive-In is conveniently located across the street for delicious summertime eats.

When you head west of the interstate, Kenosha County brings big fun to the table. You can actually feel the thrills at Wilmot Raceway, which is located at the Kenosha County Fairgrounds. This 3/8-mile clay-dirt

track offers a semi-oval course for sprint cars, stock cars, modified vehicles, and more from May through September. Wilmot is also a stop on national tour circuits, so keep your eyes peeled for headliner events.

If you're drawn to the water, the Aquanuts set their stage at Lake Mary. Water shows take place most Wednesdays and Saturdays from June through August. The award-winning waterski team offers free choreographed performances including jumps, turns, and flips. Bring a picnic or enjoy the concessions for a family-friendly night by the water.

That's not all! Outdoor recreation continues with disc and traditional golf, ropes courses, kayaking, and even charter fishing. Outdoor concerts, al fresco dining, and events are happening throughout the season. You'll never hear "I'm bored" around here. Summertime is in full swing in this harbor town. Plan your getaway to Southeastern Wisconsin at VisitKenosha.com.



King Elvis, the ever-popular Kenosha Kingfish mascot. He loves dancing and taking photos with the team's fans.



GOOD, OLD FASHIONED FUN

Some things never get old. Like summer days spent at the ballpark, a trip to the beach, or a perfect ice cream cone. Savor all the fun of the season in Kenosha, WI. Whether you catch a Kenosha Kingfish Baseball game, explore the many beaches along Lake Michigan, or stroll through the charming downtown with an ice cream in-hand, you'll find nostalgia all around. From special events and outdoor concerts, to ropes course parks, charter fishing outings, and dirt track car races, there is no shortage of adventure in Southeastern Wisconsin.



Scan to explore Outdoor Recreation in Kenosha!

VISITKENOSHA.COM





SPOTLIGHT | HURLEY



Something Fabulous For Everyone

What do you think of when it's time to slow down and relax? Perhaps the sound of nothing but birds singing or crickets chirping, beautiful waterfalls, or an inviting, calm lake. These are just some of the things Hurley has to offer. We also have over 200 miles of ATV/UTV trails for those looking for a little more adventure. Dining establishments are located along the trails to keep you nourished and hydrated. The Hurley Chamber of Commerce can help you plan your getaway. We have recommendations for lodging, food, and entertainment.

Don't miss out on our Silver Street Series! This series includes a variety of pop-up events at our new stage on Silver Street in the heart of Hurley. One day, there might be kid's karaoke



Enjoy the sounds of summer and more this summer in Hurley.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29

Your Next Destination.....

Relaxation.....

HURLEY, WI

**LET US HELP PLAN YOUR VACATION!
HURLEY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

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hurleywi.com

hurley@hurleywi.com



JULY 11-14

WeatherTech International
Challenge
with Brian Redman

MAY 17-19

SVRA Vintage
Festival Weekend

MAY 31-JUNE 2

MotoAmerica Superbikes
& Vintage MotoFest

JUNE 6-9

NTT INDYCAR SERIES
XPEL Grand Prix
at Road America

JUNE 21-23

WeatherTech Chicago
Region SCCA
June Sprints

JUNE 28-30

Trans Am Speed Tour

JULY 26-28

GRIDLIFE Music &
Motorsports Festival

AUGUST 1-4

IMSA SportsCar Weekend

AUGUST 16-18

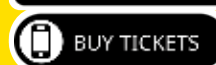
Fanatec GT
World Challenge

SEPTEMBER 13-15

Ariens Art on Wheels
Weekend
featuring VSCDA

OCTOBER 4-6

SCCA National
Championship Runoffs



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SPOTLIGHT | **STOUGHTON**

A Long List to Visit, Any Time of Year

Stoughton is known for its Norwegian heritage and the corresponding Syttende Mai Festival in May. The city holds the largest Syttende Mai Festival in the United States, but there are so many more reasons to visit. For those who are looking for a variety of outdoor activities, Stoughton is a must visit.

Lake Kegonsa State Park is a prime example. Just a short drive north of Stoughton, Lake Kegonsa is known for excellent fishing. The 3200-acre lake has four public boat launches: Lake Kegonsa State Park Boat Access, Williams Point Drive Launch, Amundsons Landing, and Fish Camp Launch Park Boat Ramp. You can fish for musky, panfish, large and smallmouth bass, northern pike, walleye and catfish. The Wisconsin DNR website offers more information on where and when to fish on the lake to secure your best catch.

A variety of watercraft share Lake Kegonsa. Speed boats, pontoons, kayaks,

canoes, sailboats, and paddleboards are common Lake Kegonsa sights. For those who love to paddle, there is a 5.25-mile paddle from Lake Kegonsa into Stoughton's Riverside Park. This calm paddle is a popular one among those interested in taking in the natural wildlife. Common sightings include sandhill cranes, woodpeckers, wild turkeys and many small songbirds. Paddlers can add an additional three miles to their adventure by continuing on to the Dunkirk Dam. There is the chance to run into some whitewater ledges near the 4th Street Bridge.

You can explore the outdoors across many trails within Stoughton or nearby. There are more than six trails classified as easy to moderate to navigate within Stoughton. They range from 0.5 miles to 5.1 miles. Each trail offers unique scenery and activities from walking, running, hiking, and bird watching. Cyclists looking for a weekend of

biking can stay in Stoughton for its access to a variety of trails within a 15-mile radius. Return to Stoughton for an evening on the town at one of the local restaurants.

For a more leisurely outdoor experience, Stoughton boasts several well-maintained parks and green spaces. Stoughton Parks and Recreation offers multiple playgrounds, sports facilities, and open fields perfect for picnics or a game of frisbee throughout town. Rotary Park, with its lush greenery and walking paths, provides a tranquil escape from the bustle of everyday life, ideal



for unwinding or enjoying a book under the shade of towering trees.

In essence, Stoughton provides a diverse range of outdoor activities throughout the year, creating many reasons for residents and visitors alike to immerse themselves in the natural splendor and recreational opportunities. Are you ready to find your reason to visit Stoughton?

VISIT STOUGHTON

so many reasons to stay

Reason #10: Exploring the Trails!

Stoughton is home to many public parks, hiking trails, beaches, and more!

www.VisitStoughton.com

VISIT
Stoughton
WISCONSIN

SPOTLIGHT | **PLATTEVILLE**

As Good as Summer Gets...

Get Hooked in Grant County

Trout fishing in the Driftless Region offers spectacular scenery and fantastic catches. Guide services are available to ensure a successful fishing trip. Check out Fly Fisherman's Lair Guide Service, 608-822-3005 and Gates Driftless Guides, 608-778-7509.

For trout stream locations and classifications, visit <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/Fishing/trout/streammaps>. We highly recommend the Big Green River, Big Spring Creek, Castle Rock Creek and Spring, Crooked Creek, Doc Smith Branch, Klondyke Park, Little Grant River, Legget and Newell Creeks, and the Little Platte River.

Platteville's Southwest Music Festival

Platteville will be the place to be on Saturday, July 20, with lots of activities as they kick off their 27th Annual Hometown Festival Week. This nine-day event traditionally begins with the Southwest Music Festival but has added many other opportunities for people to spend the entire day in our great community. Please see all the details of our busy day below.

Farmer's Market

The Platteville Farmer's Market is held

each Saturday from May to October.

Located in the heart of downtown Platteville, you'll find everything from delicious vegetables and canned preserves to flowers and gift items and just about everything in between. All products are locally grown, harvested, or handmade by local vendors.

Car Cruise in on Main

The Southwest Wisconsin Auto Club hosts their Fourth Annual Cruise In On Main event on Platteville's Main Street on July 20 from 3 pm to 8 pm. All makes and models are welcome and there is no admission or entrance fees. There will be door prizes and a 50/50 raffle. Music will be heard coming from Historic Second Street as the Southwest Music Festival is under way. For more information, see the Southwest Wisconsin Auto Club Facebook Page.

Southwest Music Festival

Gates will open on July 20 at noon with the Adam Bartels Band, beginning at 1:30 pm and playing until 4:30 pm. The Adam Bartels Band is a local band that plays about 100 shows per year in the Midwest. The

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29



Activities to Keep Everyone Entertained

Picture this: July sun warming your skin, a gentle breeze rustling the leaves, and the sound of lapping water whispering sweet nothings. That's the quintessential Oconto County summer. But hey, maybe serenity isn't your jam. Maybe you crave a little (or a lot) of heart-pounding action. Fear not, adventure seeker, Oconto County caters to every summer whim!

Do Absolutely Nothing (Except Maybe Everything)

Imagine this – pontoon boat gliding across a glassy lake, the only ripples caused by your fishing lure. Breathe in the fresh air, feel the sun on your face, and let the worries of the world melt away. Oconto County boasts 1,300 miles of shoreline, offering endless opportunities to unwind. Kayak through hidden coves, cast a line and become one with nature, or simply sprawl out on a pristine

beach with a good book. Relaxation awaits! **Recharge And Reconnect** Feeling burnt out? Oconto County has the cure. Charming cabins nestled amidst whispering pines offer the perfect escape. Curl up with a mug of coffee on a cozy porch swing as the morning mist dances over the lake. Afternoon naps under towering pines? Absolutely! Reconnect with yourself and loved ones in this haven of tranquility.

But Wait, There's More! (For The Thrill Seekers)

Does your ideal vacation involve a healthy dose of adrenaline? Oconto County has you covered! Unleash your inner explorer with exhilarating ATV/UTV adventures. Navigate over 450 miles of designated trails that wind through dense forests, offering breathtaking

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31



Grass Roots Drag Racing 6 Days a Week

Week days 5pm until 10 pm (closed Mondays) Sat. 9am until 10pm | Sun. 9pm until 6pm.
Check out schedules for special event times

2024
CHECK OUT ALL OUR EVENTS AT:
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July

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	2 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	3 FUN RACING + Ladies Night	4 CLOSED on the 4th of July	5 Early Bird 3 rides	6 Night of Fire Jet Spectacular July 6th	7 Holiday FUN RACING for EVERYONE
	9 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	10 FUN RACING + Ladies Night	11 Sticks and Drag Radials	12 Belly Band Day Early for Sticks	13 STREET CAR SHOW & GO OUTLINE	14 IMPORT WARS
	16 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	17 FUN RACING + Ladies Night	18 Sticks and Drag Radials	19 Fun Racing & Bikes MSORS	20 Chitown SHOW & GO	21 FUN RACING for EVERYONE
	23 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	24 FUN RACING + Ladies Night	25 Sticks and Drag Radials	26 Fun Racing & Bikes	27 AMC/AMC MOPAR FEST	28 AMC/AMC MOPAR FEST
	30 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	31 FUN RACING + Ladies Night				

August

	Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	FUN RACING + Ladies Night	1 Sticks and Drag Radials	2 Fun Racing & Bikes MSORS	3 BRACKETS All Classes & Jet Fun Racing	4 BRACKETS All Classes & Jet Fun Racing
	6 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	7 FUN RACING + Ladies Night	8 Sticks and Drag Radials	9 Early Bird 3 rides FUN & BIKES MSORS	10 STREET CAR SHOW & GO OUTLINE	11 LARRY'S FUN FEST
	13 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	14 FUN RACING + Ladies Night	15 Sticks and Drag Radials	16 Fun Racing & Bikes	17 FUN RACING for EVERYONE	18 IMPORT WARS
	20 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	21 FUN RACING + Ladies Night	22 Sticks and Drag Radials	23 Fun Racing & Bikes	24 BRACKETS All Classes & Jet Fun Racing	25 BRACKETS All Classes & Jet Fun Racing
	27 Street Car Tuesday Fun-Racing	28 FUN RACING + Ladies Night	29 Sticks and Drag Radials	30 Early Bird 3 rides FUN & BIKES	31 STREET CAR SHOW & GO OUTLINE	

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GREATLAKESDRAGAWAY.COM

DICK ELLIS

Seeking Wolf Photos

OWO's informal census continues

On Wisconsin Outdoors' informal wolf census continues. Please send your trail cam photos, videos, or hand-held camera shots of wolves in Wisconsin to: wolves@onwisconsinoutdoors.com. List the county where the photos were taken, the date, and verify the number of wolves visible in each photo. Your name will not be published without your permission.

OWO publishers do not believe the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) population estimate that place wolf numbers in Wisconsin at 1007 animals during the winter of 2022/23. We do believe that an unmanaged wolf population in the state directly correlates with a severely declining deer hunting experience. We believe that the decline in our Wisconsin tradition will magnify further as individual wolves and wolf packs continue to expand to create an increasingly out-of-balance predator/prey ratio. Attacks on domestic pets and livestock will continue to increase.

And we believe we are among the majority of Wisconsin deer hunters. After receiving a photo and email from Lincoln County hunter Tom Scharff, we asked for and received permission to publish his comments.

"I have four sons and a nephew who hunt our 130 acres with me," Scharff wrote. "Back 10 to 12 years ago we would each see 10 to 12 deer per day during the gun season and would as a group harvest two to three deer a year. Now, we hardly see a deer at all. In the last three gun seasons, I have not seen a single deer."

During the 2023 season, he said, only one hunter in the group of six saw deer (two does), with no deer harvested. In the past, the Scharff group would take thousands of deer photos per week from six trail cameras set on the property. The number of photos has declined to three to four per week, with



5-9-2024 St Croix County 1 Wolf

5-31-2024 Clark County 5 Wolves
(4 wolves in background)

9-27-2023 Ashland County 7 Wolves

no photos often being taken over several consecutive days.

Scharff said a neighbor who baits bear during the season also has cameras monitoring the bait sites. His photos show numerous photos per week showing wolf packs waiting for the bear to open the stations before chasing the bear off to consume the bait.

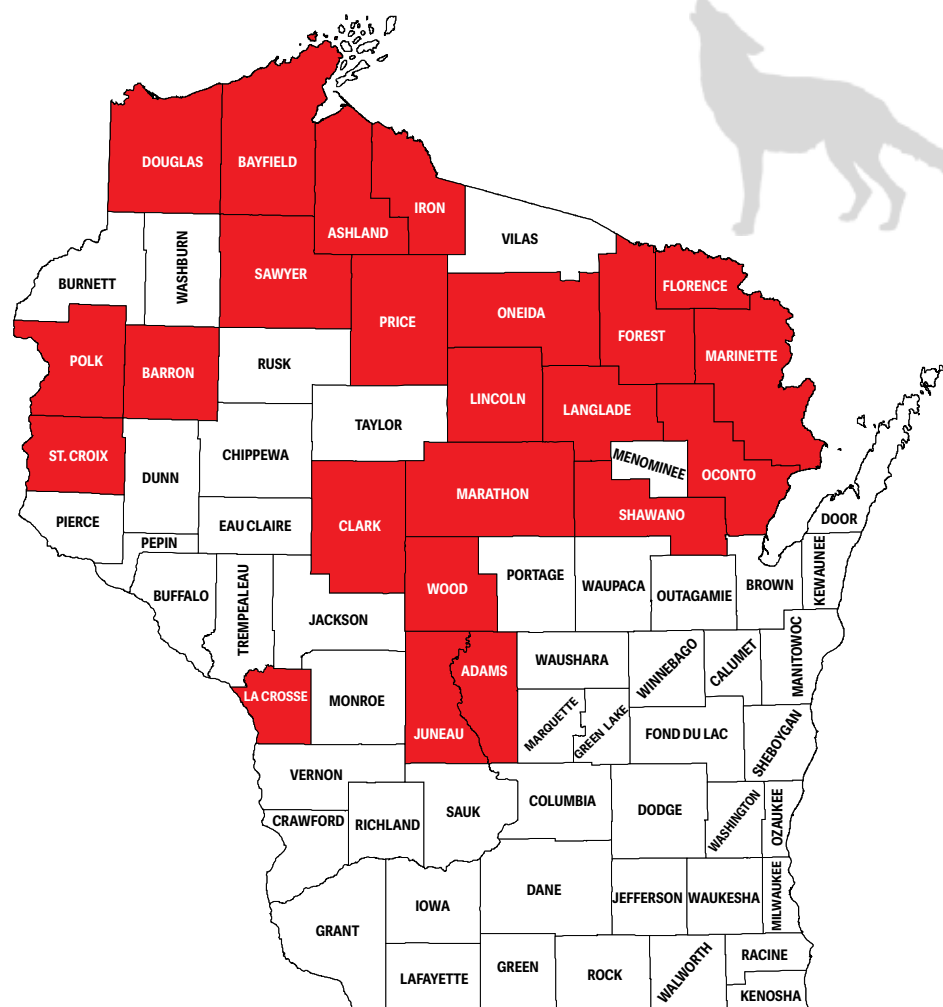
"This is out of control," Scharff continued.



5-24-2024 Lincoln County 1 Wolf



7-8-2023 Lacrosse County 1 Wolf With Fawn



11-13-2023 Sawyer County 1 Wolf



4-10-2024 Lacrosse County 3 Wolves

"I think more sportsmen need to speak out. If everyone spoke out publicly who talks about the wolf problem privately, I believe it would bring a lot of attention to what may be ending our traditional deer hunting as we have known it. After gun hunting for over 50 years, this year may be the first time I don't gun hunt. Having not seen a deer at all the last two years, it seems like a waste of time and certainly hard to get motivated for. I don't necessarily need to shoot a deer, but if I am hunting all day, I would like to at least see some."

By the numbers, since OWO asked for your trail cam photos of wolves we have now published 30 photos from readers since January, 2024. This includes with this issue

an additional seven photos with wolves from four additional counties not previously represented with photos: St. Croix, Lincoln, Lacrosse and Sawyer. Shots published in this issue include photos from Clark and Ashland, counties which were represented with wolf shots in previous issues.

The shots now include a total of 99 wolves scattered over 23 counties. In our ongoing project, red on the adjacent Wisconsin map will represent counties from which we have received wolf photos. We try to err on the side of low numbers. For example, photos came in from Lacrosse County that included shots with 2 wolves and 3 wolves.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

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JOHN ELLIS

Election Integrity in Wisconsin-Part Seven

Focus on ineligible voters and Wisconsin Republicans

The most fundamental election integrity problem in Wisconsin, is the estimated 4 million ineligible voters on the Wisconsin Elections Commissions' (WEC) statewide registration list. They are the source of all unverifiable, illegally cast ballots in Wisconsin, and the reason our elections are unverifiable and by definition, illegitimate.

It's important to understand that because of the millions of ineligible voters, a few dishonest people with access to the WEC's list can deny the will of all Wisconsin voters.

Assembly Speaker Robin Vos (608-237-9163), Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu (608-266-2056), and all of the rank-and-file Republicans who are remaining silent on the issue, are responsible for allowing Wisconsin's unverifiable elections to continue. (Contact your state legislator at legis.wi.gov)

Robin Vos and Devin LeMahieu are the leaders of the Republicans, who control Wisconsin's Assembly and Senate. As the lawmakers of our state, they have the power to immediately legislate the removal of all ineligible voters from the WEC's list. This would make Wisconsin's elections verifiable by removing the source of unverifiable, illegally cast ballots.

But rather than removing ineligible voters



Robin Vos

to make Wisconsin's elections verifiable, the Republicans are leaving our unverifiable elections in place. They are doing this because Donald Trump is a major threat to their power and they do not want him to be elected President. Robin Vos has personally made that clear many times.

By leaving millions of ineligible voters on the WEC's list, the Republicans will be able to falsely claim the November election results are legitimate as thousands of unverifiable, illegal ballots are cast to defeat Trump. Then they will tell all of us to find the illegal ballots that they have the duty, and ability, to prevent right now.

But the Republicans will not be able to get away with this if we focus on ineligible voters, and them.

Here's how the millions of ineligible voters are calculated.



Devin LeMahieu

The WEC hides more than 7.6 million total voters in a little-known website called **Badger Voters (badgervoters.wi.gov)**. But according to the 2020 United States Census there are only 4.6 million adults (people of voting age) living in Wisconsin. The math to calculate ineligible voters is:

$$7.6 - 4.6 = 3.0 \text{ million ineligible voters.}^*$$

The 3 million are all ineligible because they exceed the number of adults living in Wisconsin. Further, because it is not possible for 100% of adults living in Wisconsin to be registered **and** eligible to vote, **3 million is a minimum number**. The actual number of ineligible voters on the WEC's list is significantly higher than 3 million, and **probably closer to 4 million**.

Focus on ineligible voters and Wisconsin Republicans.

All ineligible voters must be removed from the WEC's list for Wisconsin's November election to be verifiable and legitimate. To get them removed, ineligible voters must become the first topic of discussions on election integrity **everywhere**. Between family members and friends, within patriot groups, and on conservative radio.

Conservative radio can help educate people throughout Wisconsin on the primary reason for our state's unverifiable elections, and the Republicans' responsibility for allowing them to continue. There is no issue more important, that they can discuss with their audiences.

By focusing on, and unifying around, the WEC's millions of ineligible voters, we'll be able to force the Republicans to legislate their removal through public pressure. Only after they're removed will Wisconsin's election results be legitimate, because they'll be verifiable.

Please make removing all ineligible voters from the WEC's list your first priority, teach others why they should do the same, and share this article with everyone you can.

*Since **On Wisconsin Outdoors** began reporting on ineligible voters 7 months ago, the total number of voters hidden in the **Badger Voters** website has increased from 7.5 to 7.6 million; an increase of 100,000 voters.

JOHN ELLIS

Don't be Distracted

An estimated 4 million ineligible voters on the Wisconsin Elections Commissions' (WEC) statewide registration list, are the source of all unverifiable, illegally cast ballots in Wisconsin. They are the reason Wisconsin's elections are unverifiable.

But rather than legislating the removal of all ineligible voters from the WEC's list, Republicans have been wasting time, and trying to distract us with **"Redistricting"** and **"Drop Boxes"**.

Redistricting has been a distraction because the Republicans know that even perfectly drawn district maps will be useless as long as our elections remain unverifiable.

Drop Boxes are a distraction because the Republicans know that if they simply legislate the removal of all ineligible voters from the WEC's list, there can be no unverifiable, illegal ballots to put in drop boxes.

Don't be distracted. Stay focused on ineligible voters and Wisconsin Republicans.



WOLF CENSUS, FROM PAGE 26

Because one photo had a collared wolf and one photo apparently did not with the photos taken one minute apart, we believe the pack includes at least 4 or 5 animals. Because our findings are not conclusive however, we use 3 wolves for our informal census.

To date, using the state mark of approximately 1000 wolves, with 30 snapshots taken over 31- percent of Wisconsin's 72 counties, we have in theory captured approximately 9 percent of the DNR's estimated population. The photo contributions represent only a literal snapshot of the vast territory within each of the 23 counties, with the large majority Wisconsin counties not yet contributing a single photo to our informal survey. We're confident they will.

Thank you for sending your trail cam photos of wolves, and for informing friends, local sports shop owners, shooting clubs or other possible sources that OWO is asking for photos that will help verify or challenge state population estimates. Healthy, science-based wildlife management is only possible with accurate numbers of predator and prey serving as the foundation for decisions.

Help us verify truth in numbers. Wherever it leads us.

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DICK ELLIS

Wisconsin Elections Unsafe And Insecure

Gableman details lack of transparency, corruption

On March 1, 2022, former Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Michael Gableman, hired to investigate whether or not the 2020 Wisconsin presidential election was conducted legally and with transparency, delivered a 136-page interim report on his findings to the Wisconsin State Assembly. In a May, 2024 interview with Paul Dragu of The New American summarizing his investigation, Gableman said transparency in government, and the need for it in American elections is imperative. He defined transparent elections as capable of being easily and readily understood by the average person, and also available for citizen inspection.

"We do not have that in Wisconsin," he said. "We did not have it in 2020, we do not have it now."

In his 3.5-hour presentation to the state legislature, Gableman said lawmakers should adopt three budget-neutral (no impact on the budget) changes to eliminate 90-percent of election fraud. Number one, ensure honest, accurate voter rolls. Currently, he said, in a state with 4.5 million eligible voters, Wisconsin maintains more than seven million names on the voter rolls. There is, he said, no valid reason for that.

Number two on his budget-neutral list to minimize the potential for election fraud, he said, would be to make the rolls available to the public at no cost. Currently, the Wisconsin Election Commission (WEC) charges \$12,500 for the voter rolls, an obvious red flag that the WEC invites unverifiable elections when other states charge nothing. Simply stated, verifiable elections mean the will of legally-registered Wisconsin residents casting ballots would be upheld with the majority placing their candidates of choice in office. Each vote would count as the legally registered voter intended it to count.

And three, make the names and addresses of each person who voted in the most recent election publicly available to anyone for comparison of that list with the voter rolls to determine if voters were indeed legitimate. Currently, the WEC will charge \$10,500 for the second list, a cost Gableman labeled "ridiculous and asinine."

Gableman was hired by the State Assembly in 2021 to investigate the 2020 election but fired 14 months later by Assembly Speaker Robin Vos. The speaker, he said, is the only person able to call for an impeachment vote of Meagan

Vos Recall Surpasses Required Signature Threshold

Gableman demands WEC certify petition, schedule recall election

At a media conference June 19th in front of Wisconsin Election Commission offices in Madison, former Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Michael Gableman and attorney Kevin Scott announced that the effort to recall Assembly Speaker Robin Vos had exceeded the necessary signature threshold and asked the WEC to immediately certify the petition and schedule a recall election.

"We stand before you today united in our resolve to uphold the principles of democracy and to ensure that the voices of the people are heard," Gableman said. "The recall petition against Speaker Robin Vos is a testament to the power of the people and their right to hold their elected officials accountable."

"The people of the 63rd Assembly District have spoken, and their voices must be heard and honored. Any further delay is a direct affront to their constitutional rights and a betrayal of the democratic principles we hold dear. Let us not forget that this recall is about preserving the integrity of our elections and democracy and ensuring that our elected

Wolfe, Director of the WEC who refuses to cleanse the voter rolls, and refused to leave the position when her term expired. Vos declined to introduce proceedings to impeach Wolfe despite having received a public letter from the leader of the senate to start the process because the senate had the votes to remove Wolfe from office.

"Meagan Wolfe would say HAVA (Help America Vote Act) says we must have a historical record of everyone who voted," Gableman said, referring to Wisconsin voter rolls. "And my response is the same now as I responded in front of the Wisconsin Legislature; that's fine, but there's nothing about the law that says the historical record has to be confined with the current voter rolls. Put it at the Historical Society. Put it somewhere else. But don't mingle the names of dead people and the names of people we know have moved away on the voter rolls. There's no good explanation for that."

Allowing Wolfe to remain in office makes it probable for the numerous improprieties of 2020 to occur again in 2024. Gableman called



Michael Gableman and attorney Kevin Scott meet the press in front of WEC offices in Madison. Photo by Dick Ellis

officials are accountable to the people they serve. The Wisconsin Election Commission must act now to certify our petition and schedule the recall election without further delay."

Gableman's comments included a direct challenge to inappropriate, after-hours interaction between Vos attorneys and the WEC. Read Gableman's entire statement at www.onwisconsinoutdoors.com. Click on "Outdoor News".

the 2020 election "rigged" and further defined that as an election "not run according to the rules and the law as they had been in place." That, he stressed, "is inarguable."

In addition to the critical need for budget-neutral changes referenced above, Gableman's interview with the New American discusses in detail dark facets of 2020 Wisconsin election fraud including: Zuckerberg funds provided to Wisconsin's five largest democratic-run cities that initiated election fraud, manipulation of computerized voting machines connected to the internet during voting hours, manipulated ballot counts in elderly care facilities, "inarguable" voting fraud of voting by military personnel, and corrupt, inaccurate media coverage of the Gableman investigation.

Gableman said in 30 years of public service he was without exception motivated by a pursuit of the truth and his investigation of the 2020 election was no exception. "I was motivated at all times to do the best I could on behalf of the public good," he said. "I would simply share the truth with the people I was elected to serve."

OWO RECOMMENDED

The Beglinger Blast

The Corrupt Media & Election Fraud

The corrupt media and those who cheat to win have been trying to wave us off of the vulnerabilities in our election system since 2020. Their strategy is twofold. Try to make us look wild-eyed and irrational by calling those who are concerned about election integrity election deniers and conspiracy theorists and disparage election concerns with the repeated refrain that there is no evidence of widespread election fraud. To read the entire 6-23-2024 Beglinger Blast and receive all weekly Blasts connect with: www.BeglingerForWisconsin.com.

Savage Speaks

WISN-Disinformation?

Ever since Robin Vos has been exposed as a tyrant who cannot be trusted to do either the right thing for the people OR keep his word to those he works for, WISN has been providing cover for him. Whether it's condoning Robin Vos using Gestapo tactics to infiltrate Adam Steen's campaign and steal phone calls or ignoring the million dollars of RACC money Vos spent to drag himself over the finish line during his primary while fussing and fussing about a few thousand dollars that Steen got from a Republican County Party, WISN seems to consistently give Vos a pass. To read this and all SavageSpeaks, connect with: <https://savagespeaks.substack.com/>

Media Bias

Beware of media bias in coverage of the DNC and RNC National Conventions (in Milwaukee). Read OWO's full comparison report on 2020 corrupt convention coverage at www.onwisconsinoutdoors.com. Click on "Outdoor News".

Too many in both parties, he said, have lost that same commitment to truth in their personal pursuit of power and wealth, with neither party's leadership looking out for the people. They have, he said, sold out. "My fellow citizens are catching on to that," Gableman said. "Start with the primary and most basic aspect of any election in a free society. If we are a free society and if we are going to remain a free society, then we need to have transparency."

Now, Gableman said, Wisconsin elections could be defined as "the opposite of transparency". To view the entire interview, search "New American Gableman Interview". Read the entire 136-page Gableman Investigative Report on Wisconsin Elections at www.onwisconsinoutdoors.com. Click on "Outdoor News".

FERRYVILLE, FROM PAGE 7

Knutson Vacation Rentals is another magnificent option with bluff views of the Mississippi River Valley, Iowa and Minnesota. They offer plenty of room for groups and individuals. Among the sites you can expect to see are fawns, deer, and an endless variety of birds. You may even spot a bobcat or other rarely-seen member of the wildlife family. Pets, upon approval, are welcome.

Ferryville Events are a summer staple. July 27 is River Bluff Daze, a Farmers Market starting at 9 am. The Tractor Pull is at the Community Center and starts at 10 am and runs to 2 pm. Enjoy the Nature Hike beginning at 8:30 am at Sugar Creek Bluff. Music downtown and free fireworks at dusk from the Mississippi River will cap off the day.

August and September are gorgeous and the fishing is terrific. Remember, "You are always Welcome Here!"

PLATTEVILLE, FROM PAGE 24

night continues at 5 pm with The Boy Band Night, a national touring group out of Chicago that pays homage to the 90's era Boy Bands such as The Backstreet Boys, NSYNC, and New Kids on the Block. Cherry Pie, a classic rock band out of Wisconsin, will close out the show performing from 9 pm to midnight. Their show is BIG, with ultimate lights, fog, theatrics and explosions along with outstanding musicianship, tight-fitting clothes and, of course, plenty of hairspray! Tickets are \$25 at the gate for all this entertainment beginning at noon and going until midnight. Advanced tickets sell for \$20 and can be purchased by calling the Platteville Chamber office or ordering from the website.

To learn more, visit www.platteville.com or call the Platteville Regional Chamber and Wisconsin Welcome Center at 608-348-8888.

HURLEY, FROM PAGE 23

and craft vendors, and another, music in the park! Keep an eye on our website and Facebook for updates. There is something for everyone!

July is the month for Heritage Days throughout Iron County. The Heritage Days Parade and After Party will be held on Saturday, July 27, from 1 to 5 pm. Live music, food, and beverages will be available.

The Iron County Fair runs from August 1 to 4, with Festival Italiano wrapping up the summer events on August 31.

If you would like an Iron County Destination Guide or have any questions, please call us at 715-561-4334 or visit our website at hurleywi.com.

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Presents Firearms Info from Ron Stresing

RON STRESING

Hitting The Mark

Finding those "lost" targets

No one likes to hear the scorekeeper call "lost bird" or worse yet, "lost pair." I recently shot one my best rounds of sporting clays to date. I looked back to see what I had done right. I scored 43 out of 50. That may be an average score for some sporting clays enthusiasts, but I was rather delighted. I noticed several things that contributed in small ways to help me break more targets. Below are a few things that may help you, as well.

Move, mount, shoot. When engaging sporting clays targets, you start with the gun held at the "ready" position, not mounted as you do when shooting trap or skeet. In a safe place with an empty gun, practice a smooth gun mount. Make sure your recoil pad

is not snagging on your shell vest or jacket. Pick a spot on the wall, and practice mounting your gun and aligning the bead. Make sure you have a good cheek weld of your face on the stock. You should be able to do this in one continuous, smooth movement. As you start out, remember the phrase "smooth is fast." Besides the clays range, this will pay off when upland game hunting.

Watch the flight of the targets and figure out where to break them. When shooting report pairs (where the second target is thrown at the sound of the shot at the first target), try to set your feet so adjusting to break the second target requires minimal movement. True pairs (where both targets are thrown at the same time) determine what target to shoot first. Pay

attention to details and anticipate what target will drop faster or disappear into cover. Try to engage the pair with minimal movement. Notice how the targets react to the wind. By observing the flight of the targets, you can figure the angles before pulling the trigger. Remember to blot out targets thrown towards you, and keep swinging. The clay pigeons are not going to outrun your shot pattern, so take that extra fraction of a second to aim. If you miss a target, move on and don't let it bother you.

Guns, chokes, shells. Your upland game shotgun will serve you well, be it a double, pump, or semi-auto action. I've shot sporting clays with all of the above guns and recommend that you use the gun that fits you



best. I like my over/under shotguns, as I can select the barrel to fire the tighter or more open choke as needed. Make sure to use an open choke, I've found light modified to be as close to the perfect sporties choke as possible. Unlike in trapshooting, hard shot that holds tight patterns are not what will work best. Those cheap loads in the 100 round boxes with nice soft shot are just what you want. Good luck!



 **Explore Wisconsin**



SPOTLIGHT | CITY OF MARINETTE

Waterfall Capital of Wisconsin

Make memories that will last a lifetime when you visit Marinette. Filled with adventure, history, culture, and excitement, Marinette is the perfect place to unplug and unwind! Known as the "Waterfall Capital of Wisconsin," Marinette County boasts 15 stunning waterfalls ready for you to explore. Seeking more fun? Dive into the vast network of hiking and biking trails throughout the area. With miles of scenic paths, you'll discover some of the most breathtaking views in the entire state.

For the adrenaline junkies, Marinette County is a paradise with some of the longest and most intense rapids in the Midwest! Experience the thrill of whitewater rafting with a local guide or paddle your way through hundreds of miles of rivers and streams.

Reconnect with history as you explore Marinette County and the City. Did you know that on the same day as the Great Chicago Fire, there was a more devastating fire in Peshtigo? Discover the dramatic story of the Peshtigo Fire at the Peshtigo Fire Museum. This fire, which consumed over 1,800 square miles and took more than 1,800 lives, is a harrowing chapter of our past.

In the City of Marinette, delve into the rich logging history at the Marinette County Logging Museum, where you'll learn how logging barons shaped our region. While you're here, don't miss Menekaunee Harbor, where you can walk the ancestral homelands of the Menominee Indian Nation. Discover their vibrant history, the origin of their beginning, and how the five clans thrived for over 10,000 years.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 31

MARINETTE, FROM PAGE 30

Marinette offers five-star accommodations tailored to your needs. Savor local flavors at Mickey Lu Bar-B-Q, crowned the BEST Burger Joint in Wisconsin by USA Today. If craft beer is your passion, our award-winning brew pub with 24 beers on tap is a must-visit. Each brew is crafted on-site, ensuring a fresh and unique experience.

Whether you're in the County or City of Marinette, your next unforgettable memory awaits! For more information, contact the Marinette Welcome Center at 715-732-4333 or visit our websites at Fish On Marinette or ExploreMarinetteCounty.com.



Marinette County is known as the "Waterfall Capital of Wisconsin," boasting 15 stunning waterfalls ready for you to explore.

OCONTO COUNTY, FROM PAGE 25

glimpses of the county's diverse landscapes. Feel the wind in your hair as you conquer challenging terrain.

Embrace The Water

Oconto County's many lakes and rivers are a playground for water sports enthusiasts. Kayak or canoe through hidden coves, marveling at the untouched beauty. Test your balance on a paddle board or get your heart pumping with a thrilling boat ride. Feeling adventurous? Rent a boat and explore secluded islands, perfect for a picnic adventure.

Beyond The Water

Eleven state parks and forests beckon with endless opportunities for exploration. Hike scenic trails, marvel at cascading waterfalls, or challenge yourself with a demanding mountain bike ride. Oconto County's natural beauty is yours to discover!

Family Fun For All

Whether it's a family fishing trip, building epic sandcastles, or a picnic in a picturesque meadow, Oconto County offers activities to keep everyone entertained. Create lasting memories with your loved ones amidst the beauty of Wisconsin's Northwoods.



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