



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



dnr.wi.gov



Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler

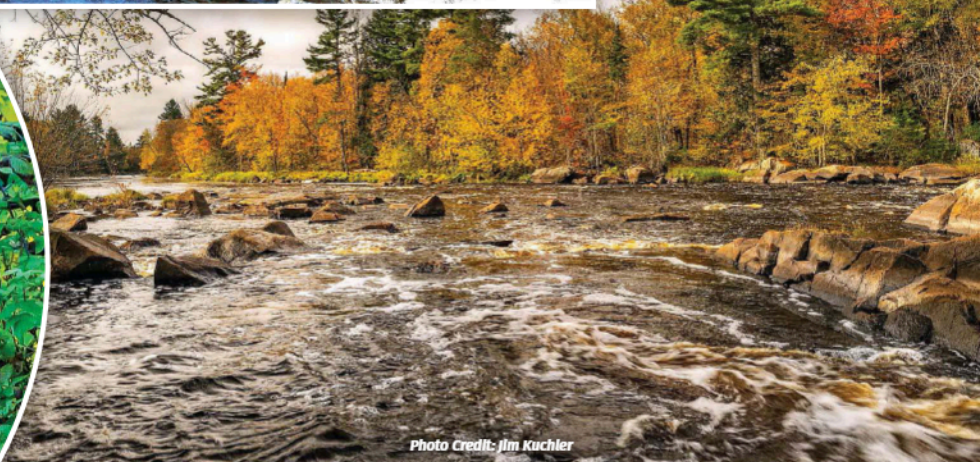


Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler

PADDLE THE FLAMBEAU RIVER

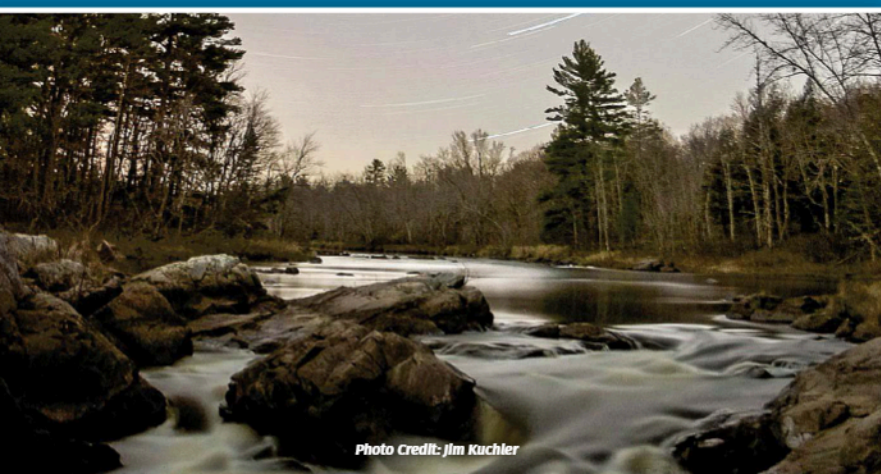


Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

DNR PUB-PR-358 2025

Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table Of Contents	1
Rapids Ratings	1
The Story Of The Mighty Flambeau River	2
Paddling The Flambeau River	2
Wildlife Viewing	3
Camping Along The River	3
Riverside Camping	4
Backpack Camping Permits	4
Other Attractions In Price & Rusk Counties	5

North Fork

Turtle Dam To Park Falls	6
Park Falls To Nine Mile Creek	7
Nine Mile Creek To County Highway W	8
County Highway W To Hervas Camp Landing	9
Hervas Camp Landing To Big Falls Dam	10
Big Falls Dam To Ladysmith	11
Ladysmith To Thornapple Dam	12
Thornapple Dam To The Chippewa River	13

South Fork

Round Lake To Cedar Rapids	14
Cedar Rapids To Fifield	15
Fifield To County Highway F	16
County Highway F To County Highway W	17
County Highway W To Hervas Camp Landing	18-19

Appendix

Other Forest Information	20
Canoe & Kayak Rental & Guide Services	21
Forest Property Map	22

RAPIDS RATINGS

Below are the rapids ratings used in this guide. Remember, rivers are a force of nature and constantly changing — what is easy water today might become hazardous as water levels fluctuate. **Approach any whitewater with caution.**

Class I

Obstacles easily spotted and avoided. Some fast water with small waves. Novices should have few problems with these rapids.

Class II

Moderate rapids with faster currents and multiple channels. There are also more rapids or longer stretches of rapids.

Class III

Difficult rapids. Solid whitewater paddling skills necessary. Irregular waves, frequent obstructions, fast current and a difficult to recognize course.

Class IV

Extremely difficult rapids requiring very strong paddling skills. Must have the ability to quickly maneuver around obstructions and hazards. Strong currents unavoidable.

Class V

Extreme danger — for experts only. Large rocks, holes, waves and violent current.

THE STORY OF THE MIGHTY FLAMBEAU RIVER

Down through the Northwoods and through history, the Flambeau River flows for 150 miles to its confluence with the Chippewa.

For centuries untold, Native Americans hunted, fished and journeyed down the Flambeau River's winding waters. In the 17th and 18th centuries, the river became a highway to fur traders carrying pelts out of the forests of the North. And in the 19th and 20th centuries, the Flambeau River was one of the great Wisconsin rivers that helped build the nation by carrying white pine logs downstream to the mills of America.

Today, the Flambeau River is a piece of history, a riverway that flows down through the millennia — a shining example of Northwoods beauty. To paddle the Flambeau River is to journey down one of the great waterways of North America and to experience your place in the history of the Northwoods. This is paradise — this is the Flambeau River!



No person may possess glass bottles within the Flambeau River State Forest boundary at Little Falls/Slough Gundy scenic area or within a watercraft launched or removed from designated launching sites on the Flambeau River.

PADDLING THE FLAMBEAU RIVER

Price and Rusk counties are home to the majority of the river's course. As the Flambeau River passes through these counties, the river shows an amazing array of moods — from whitewater rapids to slow, gentle curves and pools. There is a stretch for every paddler — young and old, and beginner to expert. This is the best paddle in all of northern Wisconsin.

Flambeau River Fun Facts

- Forestland covers 92,000 acres along two branches of the Flambeau River.
- There are 75 miles of whitewater canoeing with rustic camping at 35 sites along the river.
- Two improved campgrounds offer 60 sites.
- You can fish, hike, mountain bike, enjoy birding and ride 38 miles of signed ATV trails.
- Explore 22 miles of cross-country ski trails — 14 miles groomed; 8 miles ungroomed.

Photo Credit: John Haack

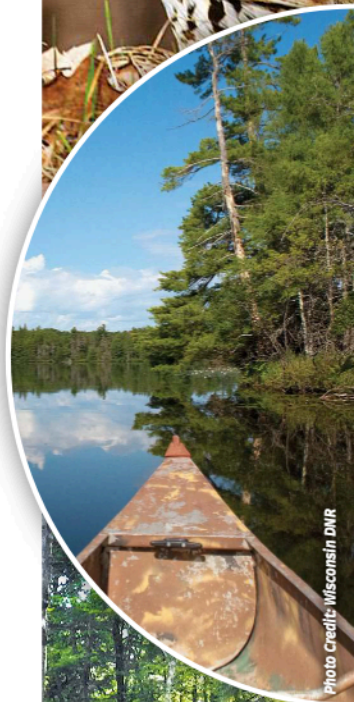


Photo Credit: iStock.com/rpbirdman



WILDLIFE VIEWING

While paddling the Flambeau River, be on the lookout for some of the animals that call the river and its banks home. If you paddle quietly and stay observant, you'll have a good chance of seeing a variety of animals. The most commonly seen animals are white-tailed deer — particularly early and late in the day, when they come to drink from the river. Also common to the area is the ruffed grouse. Even if you don't see these chicken-sized woodland birds, you'll hear the amazing drumming sound the males make.

Another bird you'll probably come across is the bald eagle. Open water and abundant habitat make the Flambeau River home to a large population of bald eagles. Many paddlers have had the experience of following an eagle for hours as they paddled down the Flambeau.

If you are really lucky, you might see or hear some of the Flambeau River's most elusive residents, such as the timber wolf. The chances of seeing these shy animals are quite slim, but you may find tracks and other wolf signs on the shore.

Vehicle Admission Sticker

A vehicle admission sticker is only required on motor vehicles at Connors Lake Picnic Area, Connors Lake Campground and Lake of the Pines Campground. No vehicle sticker is required in other parts of Flambeau River State Forest.

CAMPING ALONG THE RIVER

The Flambeau River State Forest offers numerous options for camping along the river. There are 14 designated river campsites that are scattered along the 30 plus miles of river that stretch along the State Forest. These campsites offer picnic tables, firepit rings and a vault toilet. These sites are boat-in only, so it is sure to be an experience of peace and solitude. The majority of these sites offer multiple areas to pitch a tent so if you are paddling with a larger group, most of the sites will be more than accommodating. If you are looking for specific information on the river campsites or just information on the Flambeau River State Forest, visit dnr.wi.gov. There are local businesses that offer both guided and shuttle services for those looking to have some assistance while enjoying the Flambeau River.

Please Follow These Regulations During Your Visit:

- **Carry In/Carry Out:** Take your trash and recyclables home.
- **Campfires:** Be sure your campfire is completely extinguished before leaving.
- **Firewood:** Dead or downed wood can be used for firewood; **do not cut live trees or brush.**

RIVERSIDE CAMPING

Canoe campsites, rustic and improved, have been provided at strategic locations along the Flambeau River. There are many canoe camp areas on the river that are only available to river travelers. Shuttle service is recommended. On heavy-use weekends and holidays, it is suggested that you plan short day trips on the river and camp at the larger public campgrounds: Hines Park, Smith Lake County Park, Connors Lake Campground, Lake of the Pines Campground and Smith Rapids Campground or at privately owned facilities. **All river camping is on a first-come, first-served basis.** There are lodging facilities located in nearby towns that take reservations.

Reservations

Camping reservations are required if camping off-river at designated campgrounds, and can be made the same day of your arrival or up to 11 months in advance of your planned date of occupancy. **Campers must make a reservation before setting up on any site.** Reservations can be made online at dnr.wi.gov or by calling **888-947-2757**.

All river campsites are available on a first-come, first served basis. These sites are free and are non-reservable.

BACKPACK CAMPING PERMITS

Special camping permits are required for backpack camping at Flambeau River State Forest and must be displayed on the dash of your vehicle while camping. Obtain your free permits from Flambeau River State Forest Headquarters:

- Pick up permits at **Flambeau River State Forest Headquarters** (adjacent to County Road W; north side of the Flambeau River)
- Call **715-332-5271**
- Send a request by mail to:
Flambeau River State Forest
W1613 County Road W
Winter, WI 54896

Camping Rates

Campsite rates for Wisconsin State Park System properties vary and are based on any of the following: residency, electricity and amenities, location, campsite type, day of the week and season.

Additional Campsite Location Restrictions

- No camping within 1/4 mile of the Flambeau River or on Bass or Swamp Lakes.
- No backpack camping at established campgrounds, picnic areas or developed river sites – these sites are reserved for watercraft floating the river.

Photo Credit: JLB Design, LLC

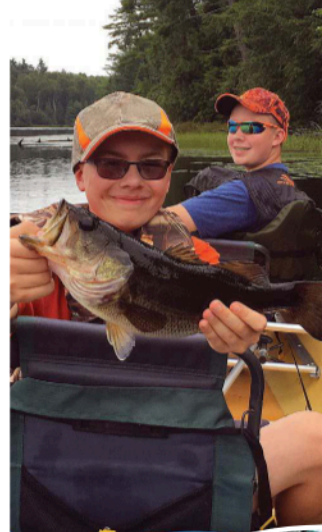


Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler

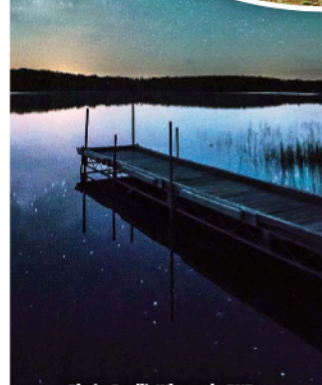


Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

OTHER ATTRACTIONS IN PRICE & RUSK COUNTIES

Chippewa River

Another excellent paddling opportunity found in Rusk County is the Chippewa River. Dividing Rusk County in half from north to south, the Chippewa takes a meandering route through beautiful and often remote lands, eventually meeting up with the Flambeau River at the south end of the county. Much wider and slower moving than the Flambeau, the Chippewa has some very relaxing paddling. The Chippewa also boasts some excellent fishing. Don't miss the Chippewa — it's well worth a paddler's attention.

Lodging, Dining & Shopping

Price and Rusk counties have a small number of motels, resorts, bed & breakfasts and campgrounds available to the paddler. You'll find many dining options at the excellent cafés, supper clubs and restaurants throughout both counties. The small communities of Price and Rusk counties also have numerous shops and retail establishments to help make your trip fun and convenient. The Northwoods is famous for catering to vacationers and outdoor enthusiasts. You'll find hospitality in Price and Rusk counties to be exceptional.

Rusk County/Ladysmith Visitor Center & Railroads

The Rusk County Visitor Center is located in a reproduction of a 1903 Soo Line train depot. It's a great place to start your paddling adventure in Rusk County. In addition to information on the Flambeau River and surrounding area, you can learn about the logging and railroad history of Rusk County. The town of Ladysmith has a fantastic collection of train cars throughout town.

Timm's Hill

Timm's Hill, located in southern Price County, is the highest geographical point in Wisconsin. The Timm's Hill County Park and National Scenic Trail are a great place to hike, bike and sightsee. There is an observation tower in the park that provides spectacular views of the surrounding area — especially during autumn with the changing colors of the landscape. Amenities include a playground, picnic shelter, potable water and toilets.

Wisconsin Concrete Park

Consider seeing one of America's most unique displays of folk art — don't miss the larger-than-life creations of artist Fred Smith. In 1950 at age 65, Smith (a native of Price County) began construction in the park located one mile south of Phillips on Highway 13. Smith was a lumberjack, tavern owner, farmer and dance hall musician who created more than 200 figures depicting his vision of the local culture and world.



Photo Credit: Rusk County Tourism

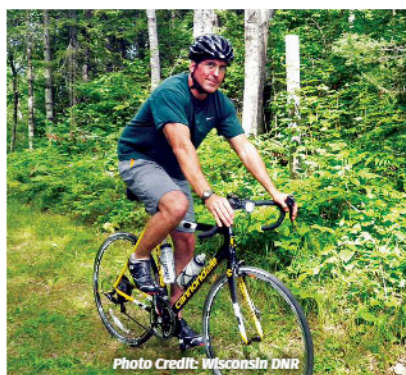


Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



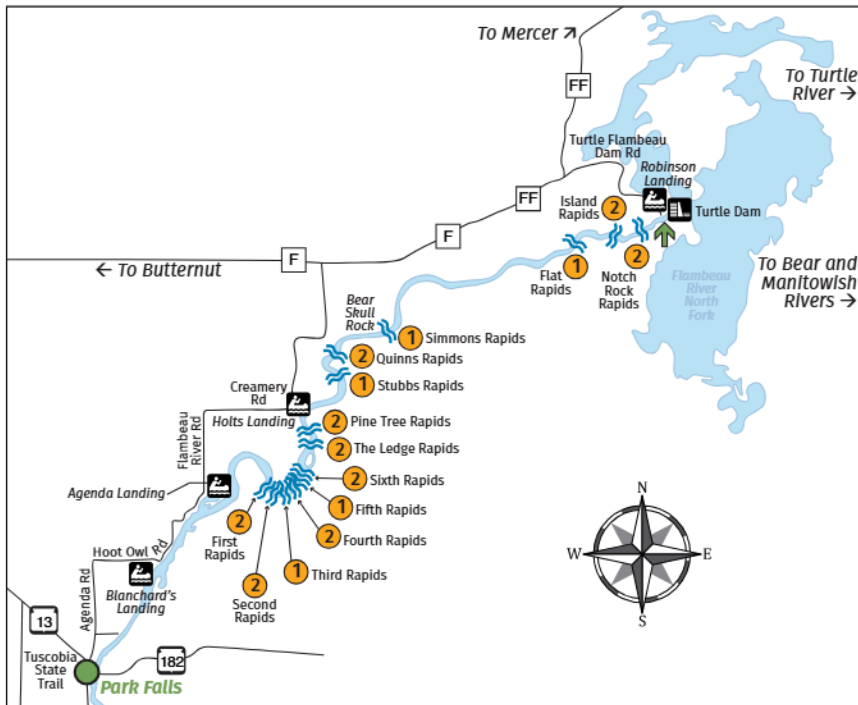
Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

TURTLE DAM TO PARK FALLS 18 MILES, 8 HOURS*

A Good Mix Of Challenging Whitewater & Wild Scenery

Launch below Turtle Flambeau Dam for an 18-mile voyage that immediately begins with some excitement. The first mile of the trip is through fast rapids, leading to the very challenging, narrow and potentially dangerous Notch Rock Rapids. It is important to stay in the middle along this stretch to avoid contact with the steep rock walls. About 400 yards below Notch Rock Rapids is Island Rapids. Stay to the left of the island — the right side is quite dangerous!

Next, you will paddle through Flat Rapids and three miles later pass Bear Skull Rock. For the next three miles, the river will pick up speed and you will find several rapids, including Quinns' Rapids. The next two miles hold many smaller rapids that are easy to navigate. As you pass First Rapids, the river will begin to take on a slower character. This continues for the next five miles to the town of Park Falls. There is a portage of about 400 yards through Park Falls where the river runs through the paper mill's dam. You can take out at Agenda Landing, north of Park Falls, or at Hines Park and Campground on the left bank in Park Falls.



* NOTE: Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|---------|
| Rapids rating | County highway | Canoe rental | Rapids |
| Warning | State highway | Forest road | Dam |
| Potable water | Put in/take out | Camping | Landing |



Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

PARK FALLS TO NINE MILE CREEK

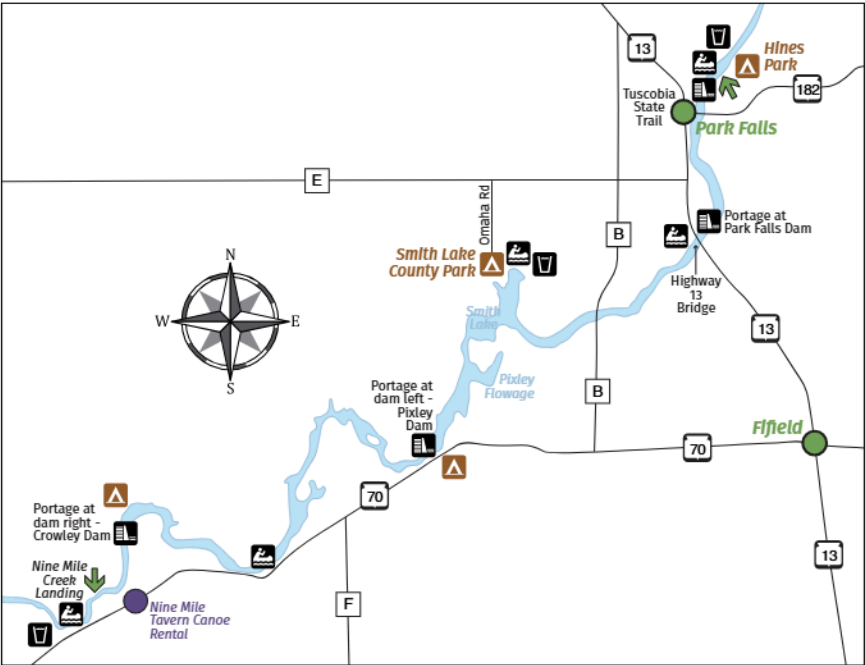
12 MILES, 6 HOURS*

A Very Relaxing Journey Over Calm Water

Below Park Falls the Flambeau River grows deeper and widens into a flowage. It is a relaxing paddle with excellent fishing along the way. Begin your paddle at the Highway 13 bridge and enjoy the easy paddle through Smith Lake, past Smith Lake County Park & Campground and then continue to paddle through Pixley Flowage. Flowage for several miles down to Pixley Dam. Portage around Pixley Dam along the left shore. There is a rustic campground with two campsites available near the dam for paddlers. Less than six miles downstream from Pixley Dam you will find Crowley Dam which has a rustic campground. The paddle to the take out at Nine Mile Creek is only a couple of miles through beautiful wooded country.



Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler



* NOTE: Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.

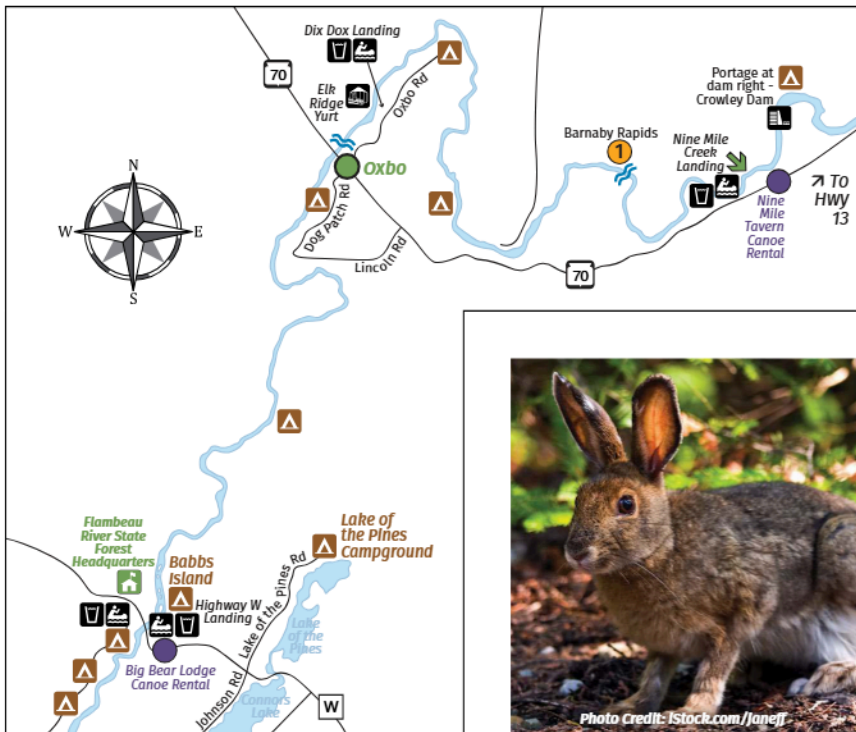
- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| ① Rapids rating | AA County highway | ● Canoe rental | ≈ Rapids |
| ⚠ Warning | 00 State highway | 000 Forest road | 🏠 Dam |
| 🚰 Potable water | 👇 Put in/take out | ⛶ Camping | 🚰 Landing |

Photo Credit: iStock.com/iculizard

NINE MILE CREEK TO COUNTY HIGHWAY W 22 MILES, 12 HOURS*

Some Easy Paddling With A Taste Of Whitewater — Great For A Paddling Beginner

This section is the start of the portion of the Flambeau River that flows through Flambeau River State Forest. Miles of forest land stretch out on either side of the river with a feeling of being deep in the wilderness. The only major whitewater of this stretch is Barnaby Rapids, but is not a particularly difficult piece of whitewater. Every few miles you will find a campsite along the river. In all, the 90,000-acre Flambeau River State Forest has 14 canoe camp areas on the river which are available to river travelers only. There are two to three campsites at each area complete with a picnic table, fire ring and vault toilet. As the river begins to widen out and curve, you are in the area known as the “Oxbo.” Downstream from the Oxbo you will find that the river becomes swifter, but there are no difficult rapids for the rest of this leg of the journey. Take out at County Highway W. There are two campgrounds a short drive east of the take out — Lake of the Pines Campground off Highway W and Connors Lake Campground off Highway M.



* NOTE: Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| ① Rapids rating | AA County highway | ● Canoe rental | ≈ Rapids |
| ⬮ Warning | 00 State highway | 000 Forest road | ⬮ Dam |
| ⬮ Potable water | ⬇ Put in/take out | ⬮ Camping | ⬮ Landing |



Photo Credit: iStock.com/janeff



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

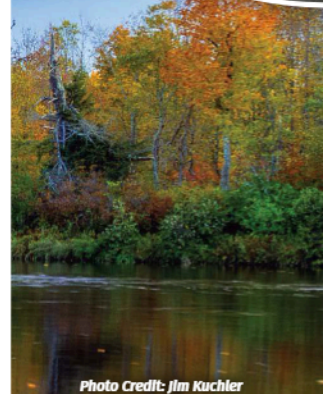


Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler

Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



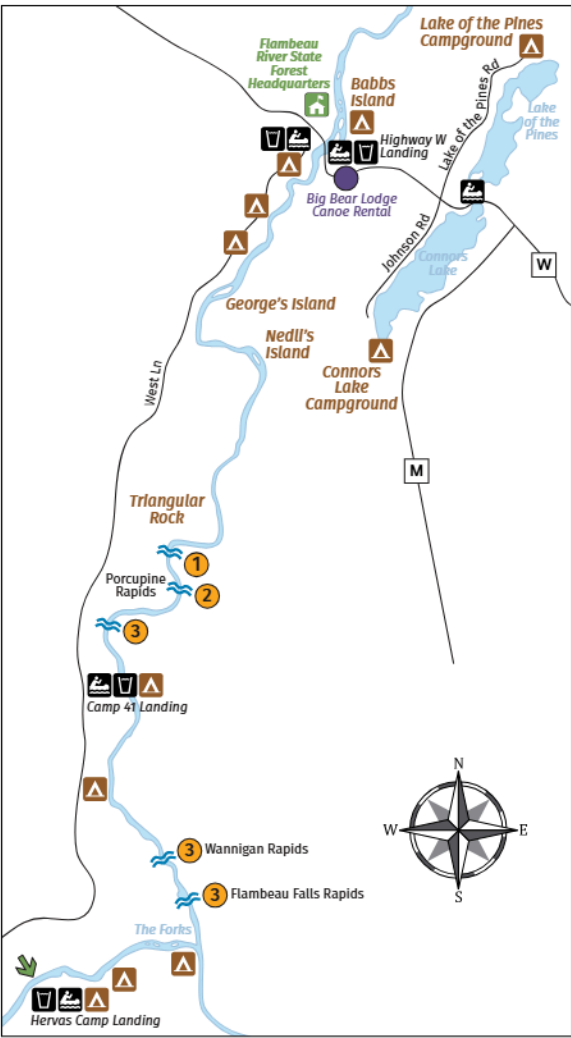
Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

COUNTY HIGHWAY W TO HERVAS CAMP LANDING
15 MILES, 8 HOURS*

A Mix Of Challenging Whitewater & Peaceful Stretches

In this section of the river, you are in the heart of Flambeau River State Forest. Launch at the Highway W bridge. About five miles into the trip, you will encounter Porcupine Rapids. These rapids are difficult and have three main drops. **Proceed through this section of the river carefully – there's a good deal of current at this point.** After 1.5 miles of paddling through Porcupine Rapids, the river slows and widens for a couple of miles before coming to the very difficult Wannigan Rapids – paddle carefully through these tough rapids.

Another 800 yards or so below the second pitch of Wannigan Rapids is Flambeau Falls – a large drop with big rapids. Consider portaging on the right bank. Downriver from the falls is easy whitewater until you get to The Forks where the North and South Fork of the Flambeau River finally meet. Take some time to savor the feeling of this magical place on the river. There is a camping area on the left bank and another just one mile downstream on the same bank. Expect a quiet paddle all the way down to the take out at Hervas Camp Landing (two miles downstream).



* NOTE: Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.

① Rapids rating	AA County highway	● Canoe rental	≈ Rapids
⬮ Warning	00 State highway	000 Forest road	⬮ Dam
⚪ Potable water	⬇ Put in/take out	⬮ Camping	⬮ Landing

HERVAS CAMP LANDING TO BIG FALLS DAM 10 MILES, 5 HOURS*

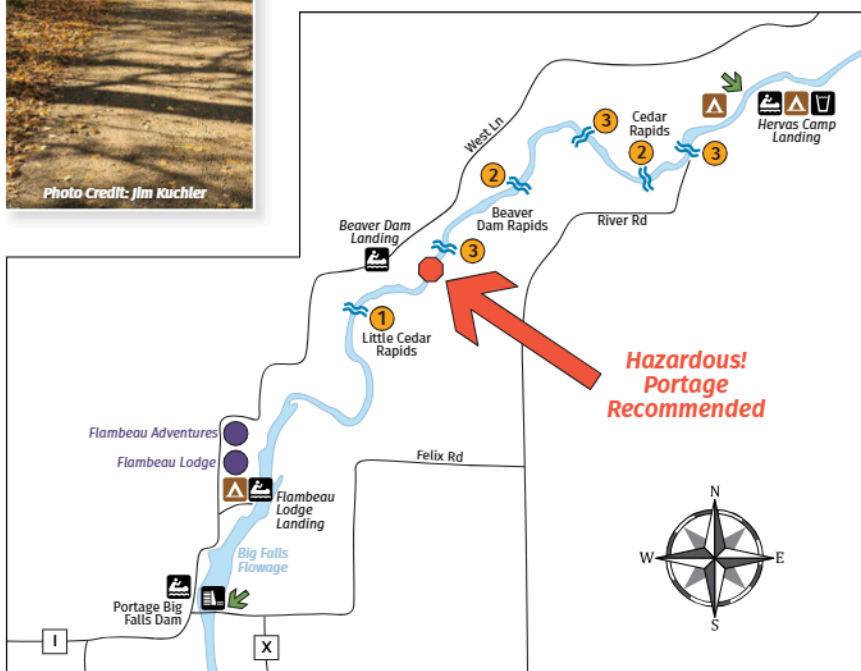
*A Very Challenging Stretch Of River With Lots Of
Whitewater & Some Big Drops*

At Hervas Camp Landing put it, you will find a rustic camping area. From there it is a calm one-mile paddle down to the first of four pitches of Cedar Rapids, a really awesome set of rapids that is challenging, but navigable. About a mile below the last pitch of Cedar Rapids is Beaver Dam Rapids.

This is a very dangerous drop and should be portaged on the left bank. Below Beaver Dam Rapids is a small rapids known as Pine Island Rapids — they are small and should be quite easy. From Pine Island Rapids to Big Falls Flowage is about two miles of swift current and rapids. Another paddle of about three miles will take you to Flambeau Adventures and Flambeau Lodge. It is about another mile of paddling before reaching Big Falls Dam, where you can portage on the left bank over the dike. You will find a rustic campsite here. Paddlers can also take out at either end of the dam.



Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler



* NOTE: Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| ① Rapids rating | AA County highway | ● Canoe rental | ≈ Rapids |
| ● Warning | 00 State highway | 000 Forest road | ⛴ Dam |
| ⛴ Potable water | ↓ Put in/take out | ⛴ Camping | ⛴ Landing |



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

Photo Credit: iStock.com/brentawp

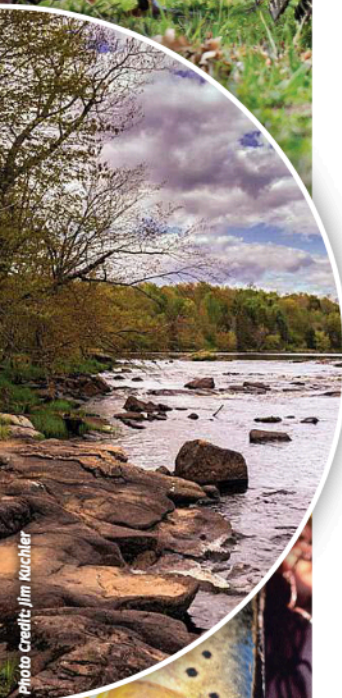


Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

BIG FALLS DAM TO LADYSMITH
12 MILES, 7 HOURS*

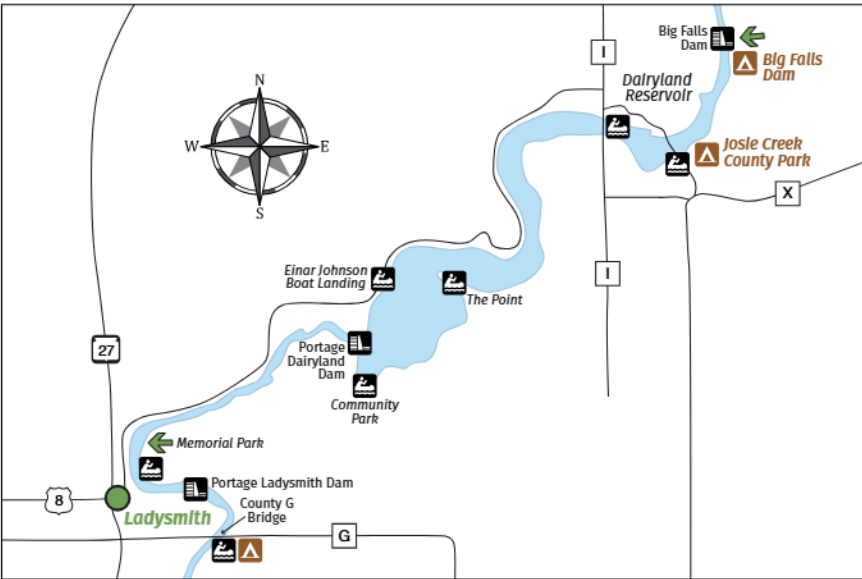
*An Easy & Relaxing Paddle With Excellent
Scenery & Great Fishing*

For this scenic, flat-water float, launch at Big Falls Dam. Fishing is excellent in all of the lakes along this route and the scenery is fabulous. Josie Creek Park, two miles downstream from Big Falls Dam, has camping available complete with electricity and vault toilets. You will pass underneath the Highway I bridge about one mile later. The banks of the river are steep and the scenery is spectacular.

There is a park to the left of Dairyland Dam that has a good landing. You will need to portage around the hydroelectric dam. There is a short stretch of fast water running downstream from the dam, but the current soon slows as you enter the calm waters of Ladysmith Flowage. Passing through Ladysmith you will see many homes and buildings along the river. Memorial Park is a good place to put in and take out.



Photo Credit: Ryan Brady



*** NOTE:** Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|---------|
| Rapids rating | County highway | Canoe rental | Rapids |
| Warning | State highway | Forest road | Dam |
| Potable water | Put in/take out | Camping | Landing |

LADYSMITH TO THORNAPPLE DAM 11 MILES, 5 HOURS*

Easy Paddling — Another Great Beginner Stretch

From Memorial Park in Ladysmith, it is about one mile to Ladysmith Dam. The portage around the dam is on the left bank. The first couple of miles you will pass through the charming community of Ladysmith. But as signs of civilization taper off, the scenery becomes wilder. Imagine the river 100 years ago when it was literally choked with logs coming down from upstream. About two-thirds of the way into your paddle is Whiteford

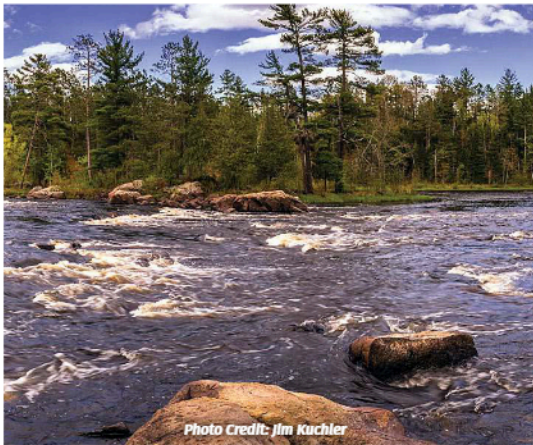
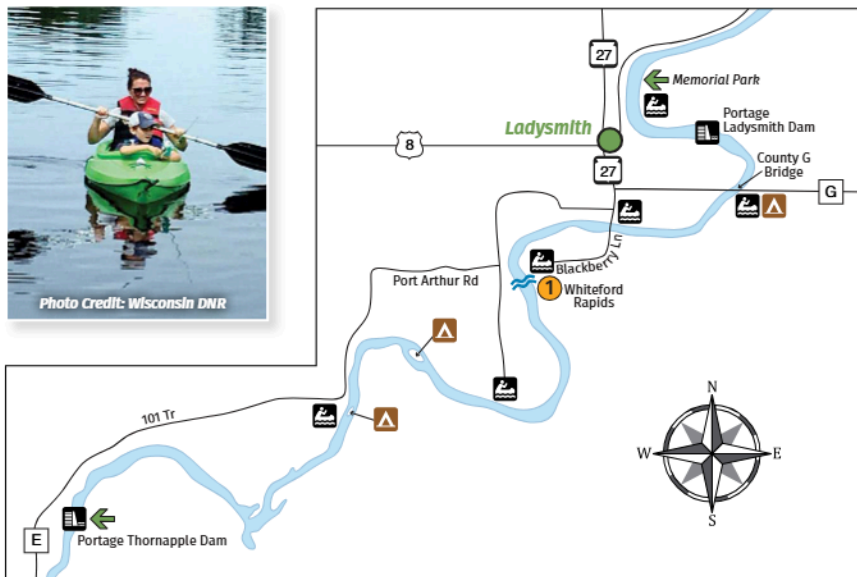


Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler

Rapids. This is one of the few stretches of fast water on this leg of the trip. Below this, the current slacks again all the way to the flat water of the Thornapple Flowage. The next calm water continues for the next five miles to Thornapple Dam. The take out is located on the bank to the left of the dam.



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



* NOTE: Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|---------|
| Rapids rating | County highway | Canoe rental | Rapids |
| Warning | State highway | Forest road | Dam |
| Potable water | Put in/take out | Camping | Landing |



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler

Photo Credit: John Haack



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

THORNAPPLE DAM TO THE CHIPPEWA RIVER

8.5 MILES, 3 HOURS*

A Quick & Exciting Trip For The Beginner

This is the final stretch of the Flambeau River before it merges with the mighty Chippewa River. It is a quick trip from the put in at Thornapple Dam down to the take out at Flaters Resort near the confluence of the two rivers. The first three-and-one-half miles of the trip are on fairly calm water with only one small rapids about one mile downstream of the put in. Just upstream of Pine Island, there is a set of rapids. It is best to take the left channel around the island. The next five miles of the trip are very enjoyable with the occasional stretches of low-hazard whitewater. Take out at Flaters Resort at the forks.

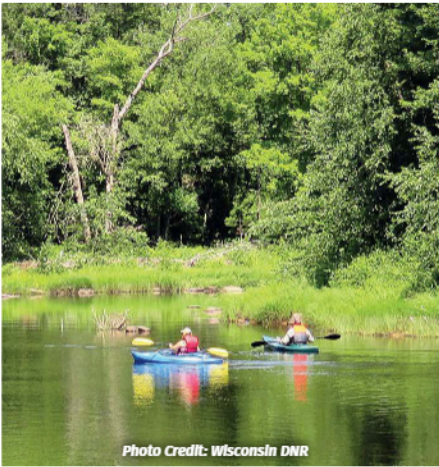
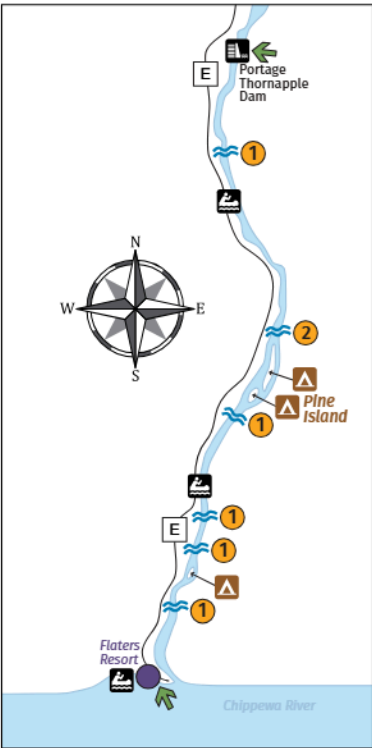


Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler

* NOTE: Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.

① Rapids rating

AA County highway

● Canoe rental

≈ Rapids

⬮ Warning

00 State highway

000 Forest road

⬮ Dam

⬮ Potable water

⬇ Put in/take out

⬮ Camping

⬮ Landing

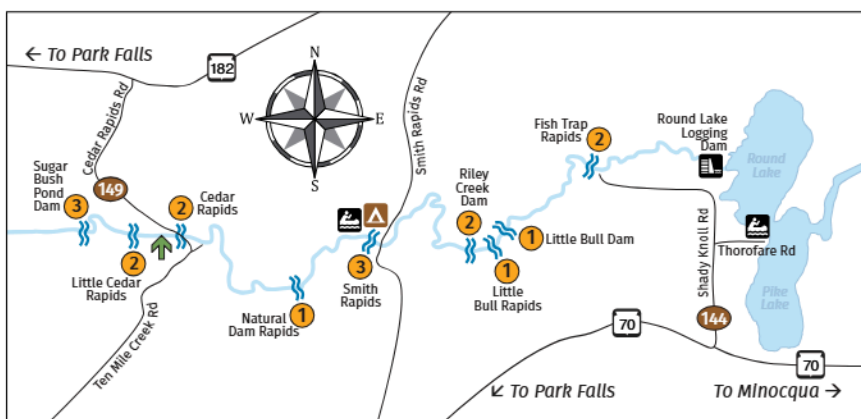
ROUND LAKE TO CEDAR RAPIDS 12 MILES, 7 HOURS*

A Mix Of Quiet Water & Small Rapids

The South Fork of the Flambeau River begins in northeast Price County in some of the wildest and most beautiful country imaginable. The river and this trip begin at Round Lake — a large lake famous for its great fishing. Launch at the landing between Pike Lake and Round Lake, and paddle to the west shore where the Flambeau River flows out of the lake. You will need to portage around Round Lake Logging Dam.

Round Lake Logging Dam was carefully and accurately reconstructed during the 1800s, and is well worth your time to spend a few minutes viewing it. The river below the dam has the most beautiful woodland scenery in all of the Northwoods. About two miles below the dam the river passes under the Forest Road 144 bridge. Fish Trap Rapids is just downstream of the bridge and provides the first significant whitewater of the trip. Two miles later is the site of old Little Bull Dam followed by Riley Creek Dam. A safe passage over these small rock roller dams is easy if you make sure you stick to the deeper, fast-moving water that flows over or around the dams.

Another two miles of paddling takes you to a beautiful wooden bridge — Smith Rapids Covered Bridge. Visitors come from miles to see the bridge and you might want to take a few minutes to enjoy it, too. If you choose to stop here, there is a nice campground. But if you continue with your journey, there is a fun stretch of challenging whitewater just below the bridge. One mile downstream is a narrowing of the river known as Natural Dam. Natural Dam should be run down the center. Cedar Rapids is a two-mile paddle downstream from Natural Dam. The take out is at the Forest Road 149 bridge.



* NOTE: Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| ① Rapids rating | AA County highway | ● Canoe rental | ≈ Rapids |
| ⬮ Warning | 00 State highway | 000 Forest road | ⬮ Dam |
| ⬮ Potable water | ⬇ Put in/take out | ⬮ Camping | ⬮ Landing |

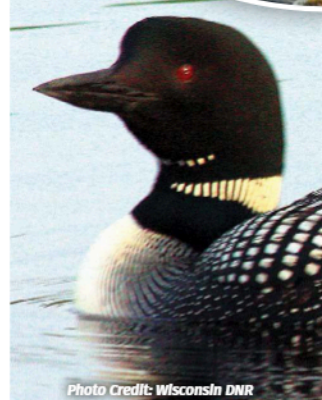
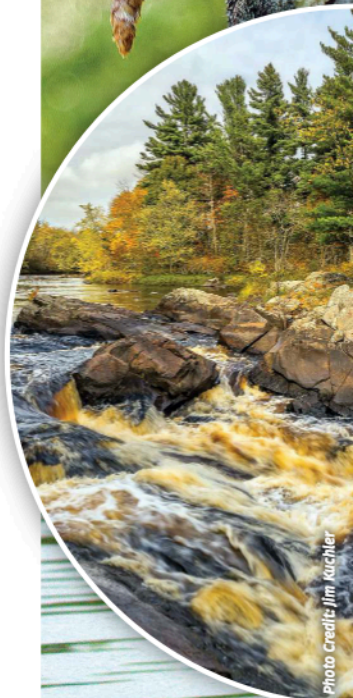


Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

CEDAR RAPIDS TO FIFIELD 19 MILES, 9 HOURS*

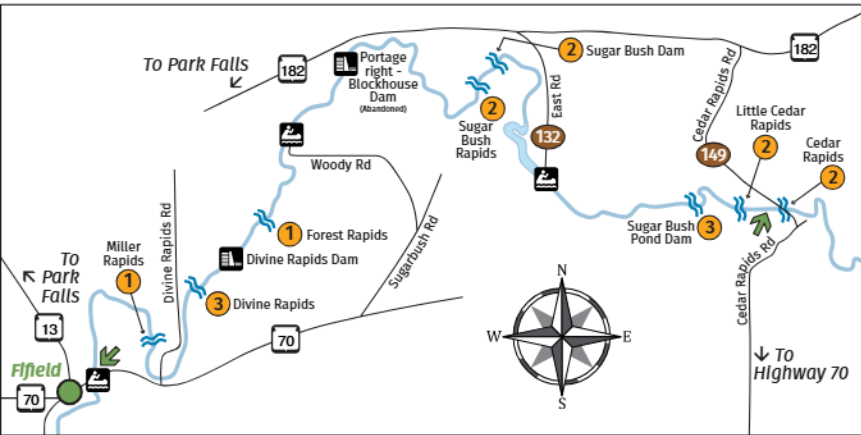
A Long, Wild Leg Of The Flambeau River Journey Punctuated With Several Rapids

For this leg of the Flambeau River journey, launch at the Forest Road 149 bridge. One mile downstream from the bridge is Sugar Bush Dam. Paddle through the center chute of water. Four miles of calm water awaits you below the dam until you come upon Sugar Bush Rapids. Again, the best way to get through these rapids is paddling through the center. Below the rapids, the water calms again for two more miles.

It is advised that you also portage Divine Rapids Rock Dam another two miles downstream. Just below the dam, you will find Divine Rapids. Stay to the center until the last section of the rapids where you will want to stay to the leftmost channel. Next is Miller Rapids — an easy set of rapids. Three miles below, this last set of rapids is in the town of Fifield where you can take out below the Highway 70 bridge.



Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler



* NOTE: Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| ① Rapids rating | AA County highway | ● Canoe rental | ≈ Rapids |
| ⚠ Warning | 00 State highway | 000 Forest road | 🏠 Dam |
| 🚰 Potable water | 👇 Put in/take out | ⛺ Camping | 🚤 Landing |

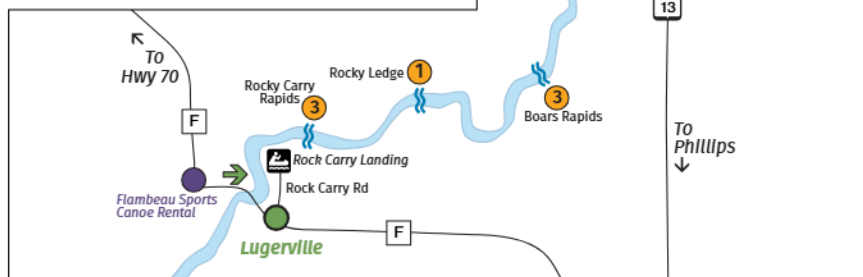
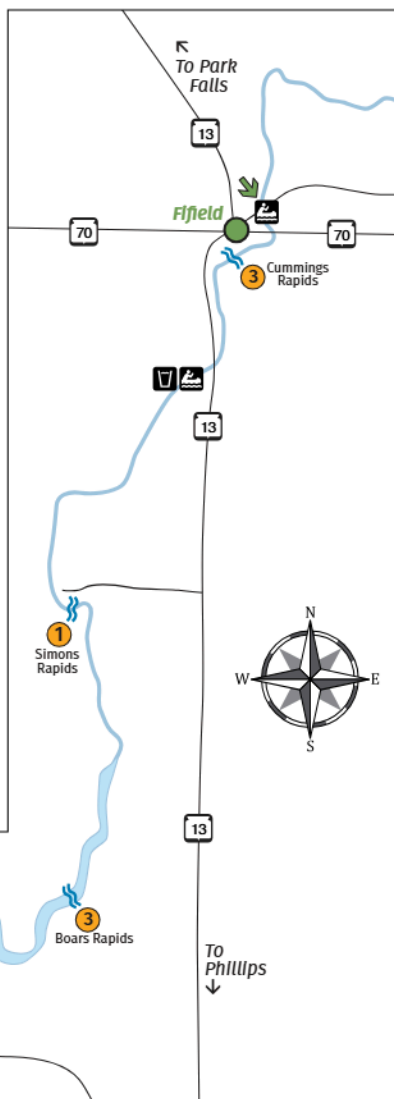
Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

FIFIELD TO COUNTY HIGHWAY F 12 MILES, 5 HOURS*

*The First Half Of This Paddle Has A Meandering Character —
The Second Half Has Some Challenging Whitewater*

Put in at the Highway 70 bridge in Fifield. Two miles downstream from Fifield you will pass the Highway 13 bridge — another place that makes a great put in. The river is calm for the next three miles until you reach the relatively easy Simons Rapids. Just two-and-one-half miles later is Boars Rapids — a more challenging set of rapids.

About one mile downstream of Boars Rapids is the exciting Rock Ledge Rapids. Rocky Carry, a very challenging set of rapids, is another mile downstream — paddle carefully. Take out at the County Highway F bridge about one mile downriver.



* NOTE: Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|---------|
| Rapids rating | County highway | Canoe rental | Rapids |
| Warning | State highway | Forest road | Dam |
| Potable water | Put in/take out | Camping | Landing |

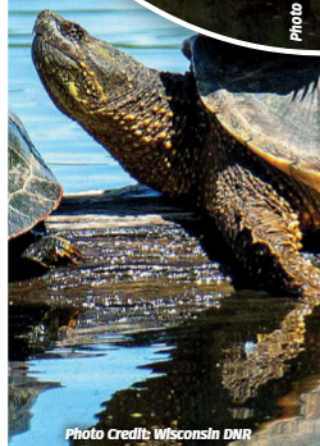


Photo Credit: Joseph Elchers



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



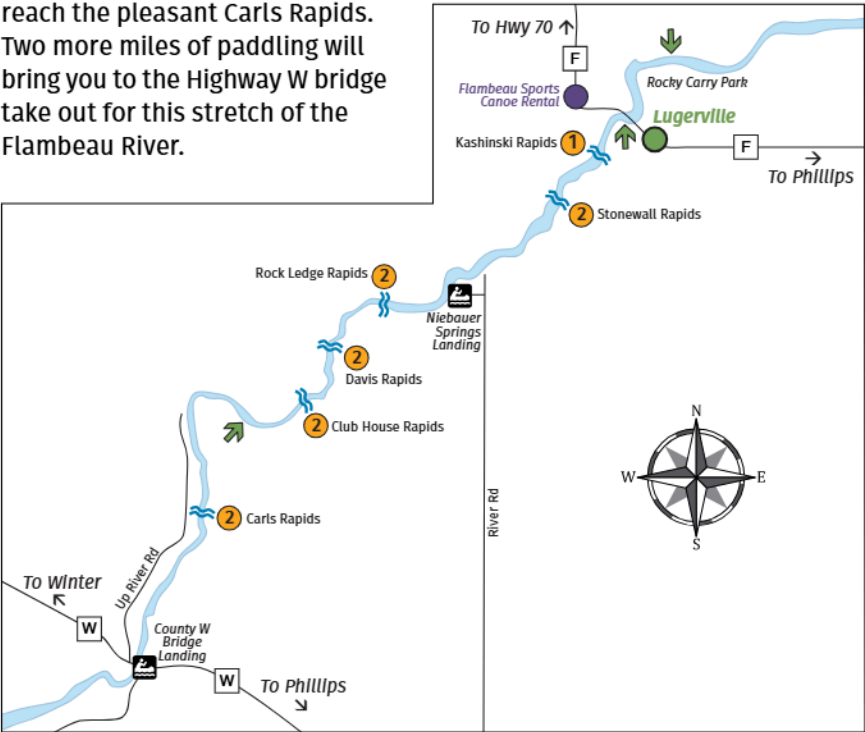
Photo Credit: Timothy Hansel
Nature Photography

COUNTY HIGHWAY F TO COUNTY HIGHWAY W
10 MILES, 4 HOURS*

A Quick, Exciting Leg Of The Flambeau River

Begin this exciting paddle at the County Highway F bridge. One mile downstream is an easy bit of whitewater. Another mile of paddling will bring you to Stonewall and Little Stonewall Rapids – a visually stunning section of river. Two miles of easy paddling will take you to Rock Ledge Rapids which can be difficult.

One mile later you will reach Davis Rapids – a challenging section of whitewater. After the first pitch, stay to the right to avoid rocks and small islands. You will then come to easier Club House Rapids only 400 yards later. Within two miles, you will reach the pleasant Carls Rapids. Two more miles of paddling will bring you to the Highway W bridge take out for this stretch of the Flambeau River.



* NOTE: Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.



Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler

Rapids rating	County highway	Canoe rental	Rapids
Warning	State highway	Forest road	Dam
Potable water	Put in/take out	Camping	Landing

COUNTY HIGHWAY W TO HERVAS CAMP LANDING 15 MILES, 7 HOURS*

A Very Challenging Stretch Of The River With Some Ferocious Whitewater

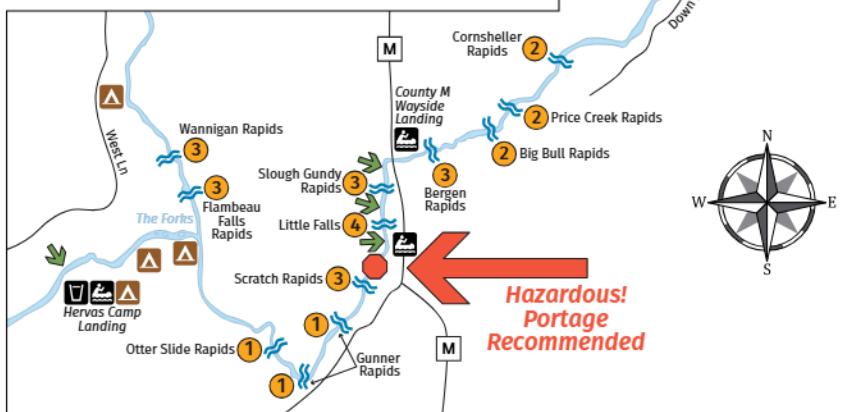
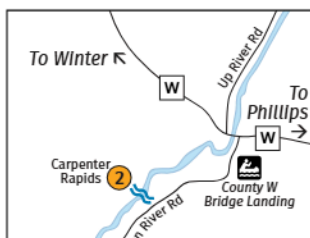
This extremely challenging leg of the journey begins at the public launch area at Highway W. Paddle one-and-one-half miles to the first easy stretch of rapids — Carpenter Rapids. Cornsheller Rapids is two miles downriver — scout this really challenging section before attempting it. In less than three-quarters of a mile below Cornsheller Rapids is the challenging Price Creek Rapids. In only 800 yards, the extremely dangerous Bull Rapids

follows. Again, stop and plan your approach to this section of water before attempting it or portage around it. Just downstream is Prison Camp Rapids and then the Highway M bridge.

Sound like a lot of whitewater? It really is, but some of the toughest water is yet to come.



Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler



* NOTE: Times subject to change based on water levels, weather, experience level, fishing, etc.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------|---------|
| Rapids rating | County highway | Canoe rental | Rapids |
| Warning | State highway | Forest road | Dam |
| Potable water | Put in/take out | Camping | Landing |

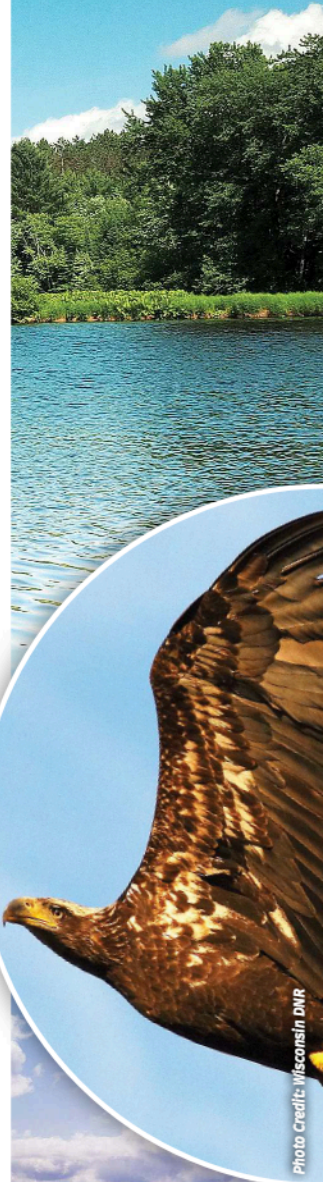


Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler

Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

(County Highway W To Hervas Camp Landing Continued)

Only 800 yards below the Highway M bridge is some of the most extraordinarily beautiful and challenging water on the whole Flambeau River. Slough Gundy is famous for its rock formations as well as its dangerous rapids. As with all hazardous rapids, it is best to stop and plan your route or portage.

The next set of rapids, Little Falls, is so hazardous that it should not be paddled — use the well-worn portage around this rapids. Save your energy for Scratch Rapids, located just 400 yards downstream, and Gunners Rapids less than one mile downriver. Otter Slide Rapids comes up another mile later. Two miles of easy paddling through breathtaking country will take you to where the North and South Forks of the Flambeau River finally come together. There is a campground here another 800 yards downstream. Enjoy the scenery during the last two miles of paddling from the forks before you get to Hervas Landing.

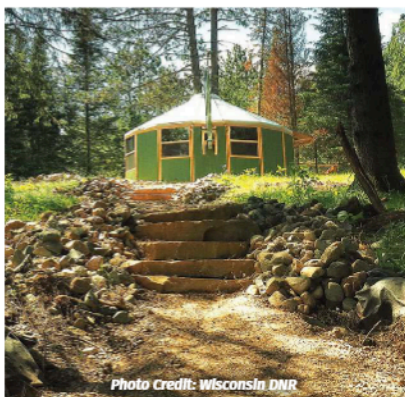


Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

OTHER FOREST INFORMATION



Elk Ridge Yurt

The Flambeau River State Forest has an ADA-accessible yurt (by river or vehicle) providing a unique camping opportunity. The primary use of the yurt is for hunters and is reservable only from May 1 through Dec. 1. Amenities include four bunk beds with mattresses (one accessible bunk), a futon, table and chairs, wood burning stove, fire ring, lantern pole, bear-proof food storage box, game pole for hunters and an enclosed vault toilet. There is nearby access to walking trails and a carry-in canoe/kayak launch.

The yurt is located near the town of Oxbo (Sawyer County). From County Highway 70, turn northeast on Oxbo Drive and then left on Feleen Road which dead-ends at the yurt parking lot. The yurt is about 300 feet from the parking lot. Drive-to site access is available for people with disabilities with prior approval from the property manager. The yurt can also be accessed directly from the river just upstream from Dix Dox Landing.

Ticks & Lyme Disease

Ticks are common across Wisconsin and may be found in the forest. Lyme disease is an illness that can be spread to humans from the bite of a tick. You can protect yourself against Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases using these tips:

- Stay in the middle of trails.
- Apply insect repellent on exposed skin and over clothes.
- Wear light-colored clothes to spot ticks more easily.
- Do a full-body tick check after outdoors activities.

Be Safe

- Plan a tentative route and let someone know your plan before you hike.
- Wear brightly colored clothing during any open hunting season.
- Be aware that cell phones generally DO NOT work in remote areas of the forest.



For more information on canoeing and kayaking the Flambeau River, as well as additional maps, driving directions, specials and promotions and visitor information, visit dnr.wi.gov.

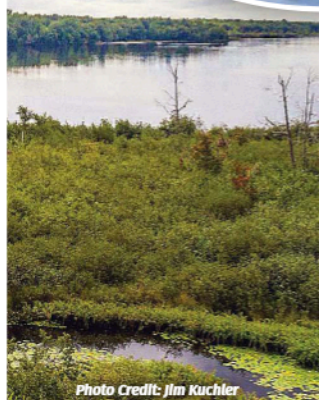


Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR



Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

CANOE & KAYAK RENTAL & GUIDE SERVICES

Price County

BIG BEAR LODGE

W1614 County Road W, Winter,
WI 54896 • 715-332-5510

bigbearrecreationalrentals.com

(North Fork of the Flambeau River)

Offers rental and shuttle services to canoe and kayak the North and South Forks and beyond.

THE CRAZY LOON

124 North Lake Avenue, Phillips,
WI 54555 • 715-339-6254

thecrazyloon.com

(Highway 13; downtown Phillips)

Offers canoe and kayak rentals for use on Phillips area lakes. Canoes, kayaks and accessories for sale

FLAMBEAU SPORTS

N11151 County Road F, Phillips, WI
54555 • 715-339-2012 • 715-492-7763

flambeausports.com

(South Fork of the Flambeau River)

Offers rental, shuttle and guide service to canoe and kayak the North and South Forks and beyond.

OXBO RESORT

6275N Oxbo Drive, Oxbo, WI 54552
715-762-4786 • 352-817-3735

theoxboresort@gmail.com

(North Fork of the Flambeau River;
Highway 70)

Offers canoe, kayak and cabin rentals as well as shuttle services.

NINE MILE TAVERN/CANOE AND KAYAK RENTALS

W10590 State Road 70, Park Falls,
WI 54552 • 715-762-3174

ninemiletavern.com

(North Fork of the Flambeau River)

Offers rental and shuttle services to canoe and kayak the North Fork.

Rusk County

FLAMBEAU ADVENTURES, LLC

N7788 Flambeau Road, Ladysmith,
WI 54848 • 715-532-7733

flambeauadventures.com

(Big Falls Flowage; 3 miles below
Beaver Dam Rapids)

Offers rental, shuttle and guide service to canoe and kayak the North and South Forks down to where the Flambeau River meets the Chippewa River, and also for Chippewa River trips.

FLAMBEAU RIVER LODGE & CAMPGROUND

N7870 Flambeau Road, Ladysmith,
WI 54848 • 715-532-5392

flambeauriverlodge.com

(Big Falls Flowage; about 1.5 miles
above the Falls Dam)

Offers rental, shuttle and guide service to canoe and kayak the North and South Forks.

FLATERS RESORT

N270 County Road E, Holcombe,
WI 54754 • 715-595-4771

flatersresort.net


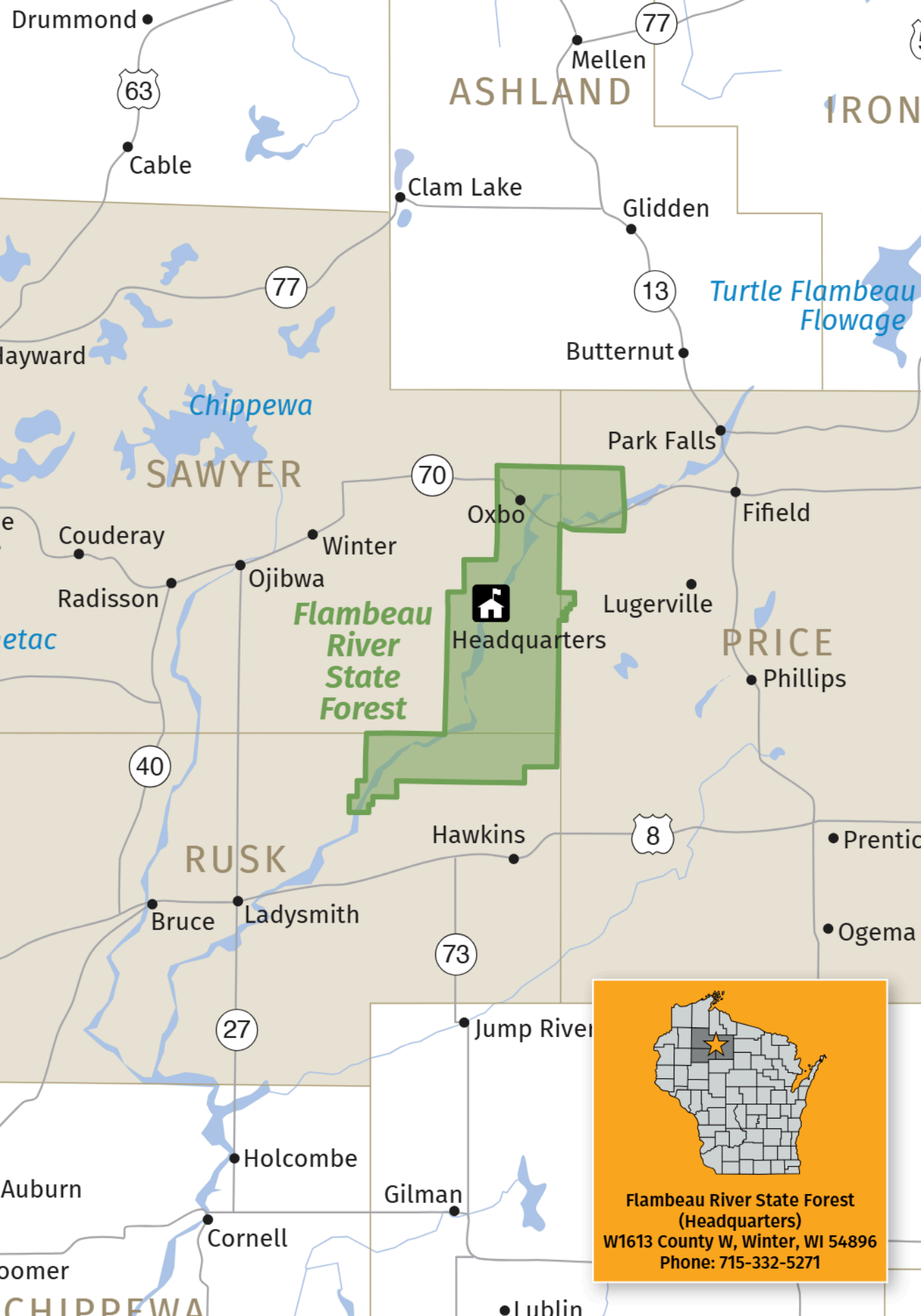
(Flambeau River where it meets
the Chippewa River and enters
Lake Holcombe)

Offers rental and shuttle services to canoe the Flambeau River from Ladysmith Bridge to Lake Holcombe, and also for Chippewa River trips.

WILD EARTH ECO TOURS

W12755 County Highway D, New
Auburn, WI 54757 • 715-868-1275

wildearthecotours.weebly.com



Flambeau River State Forest
(Headquarters)
W1613 County W, Winter, WI 54896
Phone: 715-332-5271

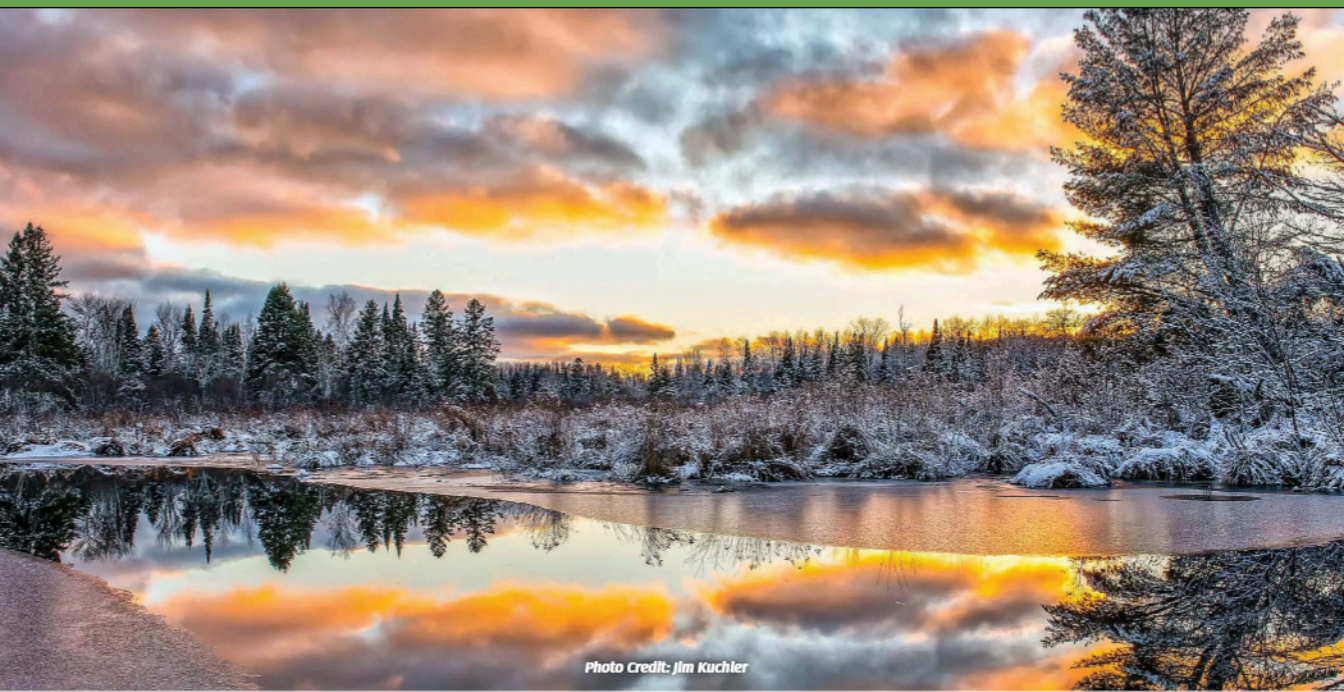


Photo Credit: Jim Kuchler

Local Emergency Contact Information
Forest Fires Dial 911 • Price County Sheriff: 715-339-3011 • Dial 911
Sawyer County Sheriff: 715-634-4858 • Rusk County Sheriff: 715-532-2200



dnr.wi.gov

Flambeau River State Forest Headquarters
W1613 County W, Winter, WI 54896



COME BACK SOON!

And be sure to visit Wisconsin's other northern state forests

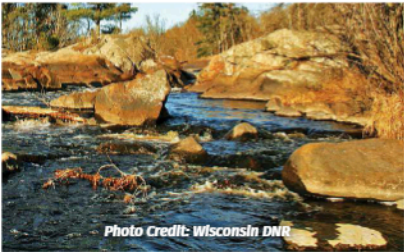


Photo Credit: Wisconsin DNR

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|--------------|
| 1 Governor Knowles State Forest..... | 715-463-2898 | 5 Governor Earl Peshtigo River State Forest | 715-757-3965 |
| 2 Brule River State Forest | 715-372-5678 | 6 Black River State Forest | 715-284-4103 |
| 3 Flambeau River State Forest | 715-332-5271 | 7 Coulee Experimental State Forest | 608-785-9007 |
| 4 Northern Highland-American Legion State Forest..... | 715-542-3923 | | |

FOR EMERGENCIES, DIAL 911

DNR Call Center: (toll-free 7 a.m.-10 p.m.) 888-936-7463 • Report Violations To DNR Tip Line: 800-847-9367

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunity in its employment, programs, services and functions under an Affirmative Action Plan. If you have any questions, please write to Chief, Public Civil Rights, Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240. This publication is available in alternative format (large print, braille, etc.) upon request. Please call 608-264-6036 for more information. Note: If you need technical assistance or more information, call the Accessibility Coordinator at 608-267-7490 / TTY Access via relay - 711.



DNR PUB-PR-358 2025