

Ice Age Trail Dispatch

June 2023



National Trails Day Hike: Saturday, June 3rd

Come and join us on a hike of the Firth Lake Segment for National Trails Day on Saturday, June 3rd. If you haven't hike this segment in the last couple of years, there are a lot of new things to see. Last October, we installed a new 736 foot boardwalk and bridge at Firth Lake to replace our much loved, but wonky, original boardwalk. We have also rebuilt the bridge over the beaver dam near the west end of the segment. Two new DCAs have been installed east of Firth Lake. These are primitive campsites. So come and join us for the National Trails Day Hike and check out everything new on this segment.

Hikers should meet at the CC parking lot. We were planning to hike the whole trail portion of the segment, but the high temperatures this weekend have shortened the hike to 250th to the Firth Lake Parking lot. We will organize shuttles with the hikers who attend the hike. We will leave some of the cars at the Firth Lake Parking Lot, and take the other cars with the hikers to 250th to begin the hike. We'd love to have some chapter members attend the hike and assist with the shuttling. If hikers wish to hike the other portion of trail afterwards, we will shuttle them to one of the 245th trail accesses after the hike.

If you plan to attend this hike, please contact Vicki Christianson at chippewamorainechapter@iceagetrail.org to register. Please let me know if you are willing to help with the shuttling, and how many hikers you can transport.



Our carpenters are hard at work

Our carpenters have been hard at work the past week. Steve, Norm, and Bruce installed 2 wonderful benches on the new boardwalk at Firth Lake. They also did some repair to the boardwalk rails.

The Picnic Lake bridge at Camp Nawakwa has been underwater this spring. We got permission from the Girl Scout Council to temporarily reroute the trail around the north side of Picnic Lake using their existing trails. This week, John and Libby did repairs on the bridge so that hikers can cross the channel safely with dry boots. The detour has been removed. Big thanks to the Girl Scout Council and the Chippewa Valley Trailriders for allowing the temporary detour until we repaired the bridge.



Chapter Work Day - June 17

This month's trail work is a mixed bag. Crews will be sent to various projects throughout our segments. On the list

so far is the building of a new DCA (Dispersed Camping Area) near the west end of the Firth Lake Segment off 245th Ave. Another crew will be working on the culvert that was installed near the west end of the Harwood Lakes segment.

We will be meeting at the Obey Center at 8:00am on June 17th.. We will be dividing the crew into teams assigned to specific sections of the trail. People should wear pants, long sleeved shirts, and sturdy boots. You should also bring work gloves. Be sure to have insect repellent with you. Bring water and a sack lunch.

Contact Jerry Sazama at sazfam@aol.com if you are joining us for the work day. It is important to do this so that he can organize work teams and determine the tools that he needs to pick up from the garage ahead of the meeting time. If you are a new volunteer, please fill out the Volunteer Agreement. Look below for information on filling out the Volunteer Agreement.



Trail Maintenance Work in Taylor County July 17-21

The Ice Age Trail Alliance is holding a special Trail Clean-Up event for the Taylor County segments to help Buzz Meyer get the trails into good shape. This will include mowing, brushing back trail, performing trail repair, and water diversion as needed, and clearing downed trees and branches. There is a need for blazers as well, since many blazed trees are down. Come join the Alliance and the WisCorps crew on this work project.

The meeting place will be at the Eastwood Campground. Volunteers are welcome to join for 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 days. Volunteers are welcome to camp at Mondeaux Flowage during the event. They have campsites reserved at the Eastwood Campground. Everyone is welcome to stay for supper each night, even if you are not staying overnight.

For more information, or to register for this event, contact Lisa Szela at: lisa@iceagetrail.org

Event calendar: <https://www.iceagetrail.org/event/summer-trail-maintenance-in-taylor-county/>

Mobile Skills Crew 2023 Events - Next: Storrs Lake

Have you thought about getting involved with MSC (Mobile Skills Crew) projects? The MSC calendar has been set and there are projects going on all over the state in 2023. Attending an event is a great way to learn about trail building, invasive species removal, and building structures such as boardwalk and bridges. Experience is not a requirement. It's terrific on-the-job training. Information on the events is available on the Ice Age Trail Website. Check it out at: <https://www.iceagetrail.org/our-work/trail-building-maintenance/msc-program/>

June 8-11 Iola Ski Hill Segment (IAT-University: Crew Leader Training)

June 21-25 Storrs Lake

July 12-16 John Muir Park (IAT-University)

Aug. 9-13 Iola Ski Hill & Emmons Creek (Trail Building)

Sept. 6-10 Sturgeon Bay (Trail Building)

Sept, 26-Oct. 1 Rib Lake (Trail Building and Celebration)

Oct. 18-22 Cross Plains



Volunteer Agreement Information

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

To access the new Volunteer Agreement, here is the link: https://www.iceagetrail.org/wp-content/uploads/Packet-Individual-301a-exp-10_2024.pdf Please fill out the fillable form and email it to Daniel.Watson@nps.gov Please note the large box at the bottom of the first page of the new Volunteer Agreement. Dan Watson has provided links and videos for volunteers to look at.

NOTE: Fill in all the required boxes. The fillable boxes are on everything except the signature line. You can type your name and date in the date box next to the signature line. Save the document to your computer and then send it to Dan Watson as an attachment. Or print off your completed document, sign it, and mail it to Dan Watson. Dan's address is on the directions page that comes with the form.

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



Chapter Calendar 2023

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

June 3 National Trails Day Hike - Firth Lake

June 17 Monthly Trail Maintenance Day

June 20 Solstice Hike with Girl Scouts (closed hike)

June 28 Blue Hills Trail Maintenance Day (Individuals can contact Fred Nash at BlueHillsChapter@iceagetrail.org to volunteer)

July 17 Chapter Picnic at Mill Yard Park, Cornell
August 2 Blue Hills Trail Maintenance Day
Aug. 6 First Sunday Hike
Aug. 19 Trail Maintenance Day
Sept. 3 First Sunday Hike
Sept. 16 Trail Maintenance Day
September 21 Blue Hills Trail Maintenance Day
Oct. - All Month: Mammoth Hike Challenge
Oct. 7 Parade of Colors Hike - Chippewa Moraine
Oct. 14 Hike and Meet Monty- Chippewa River
Oct. 21 Trail Maintenance Day
Nov. 20 Annual Chapter Meeting

See you on the trail!

Vicki Christianson
Chippewa Moraine Chapter Coordinator
chippewamorainechapter@iceagetrail.org

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The Ice Age Trail
A Walk Through Time

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

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

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