

FOREST

— COUNTY, WI —

Take a breath.

VISITORS GUIDE
2023



**FOREST
COUNTY
RECREATION
MAP**
Included

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HILES LAONA MOLE LAKE NELMA NEWALD PICKEREL POPPLE RIVER STONE LAKE WABENO

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**THE RIGHT CLIMATE FOR YOUR BUSINESS...
NATURALLY**



Forest County Courthouse

The original frame house used as the Forest County Courthouse was deemed inadequate and a building committee was formed. This committee was surrounded in controversy and was soon replaced by a new one. (A painting of the original frame house can be seen today on the inside of the courthouse dome.) This new committee was said to be very involved in the project, watching it quite closely every step of the way. During the construction, which began in 1909, a building located just off Lake Avenue on Madison Street served as a temporary courthouse and jail.

The committee hired a man from Rhinelander

Take a breath.

LEAVE THE WORLD
BEHIND... PREPARE
TO BE SWEEPED AWAY.

Experience a few moments of well-deserved serenity through the wonder of countless stars in a nighttime sky, the warmth and comfort of a campfire, the mysterious call of a loon, or the promise held in the morning sun as it rises over the pines.

Explore the wild side with a trek through a forest teeming with life, a scenic canoe ride down the river, the joy of catching your limit, the roar of many horses as trucks thunder into Turn One, or the exhilarating feel of hitting the jackpot.

Embark on an adventure of your own making. Whether you crave relaxation, adventure, excitement, culture or history, Forest County can make your experience one to remember.

-Winda Collins



Courthouse Deer Park

Located in downtown Crandon, the Forest County Courthouse square has attracted visitors to its grounds for well over 125 years. Platted in 1885, the Courthouse Square features the Veteran Memorial Park, dedicated in 1922 to honor the county veterans of the Great War, the Veteran Memorial Building dedicated in 1995 to honor the service and sacrifice of county veterans, and the Courthouse Deer Park built in 1940 by the Crandon Junior Chamber of Commerce as a local attraction to house white-tailed deer, a bear cub, and several raccoons. Today, thousands of visitors continue to make the deer pen and the historic Courthouse Square a "must see" when visiting Forest County.

-Michelle Gobert

as overseer of the project, and the agreement was that he got paid only if the project came in on budget and on time. It was said there were some difficulties with the architect, and that there were many, many committee meetings. Minutes from one of these meetings referred to the redoing of the southeast wall due to substandard workmanship. There were squabbles over the expensive marble flooring, and one over the cost of the half window on the second floor of the north side, which cost \$3.95 at that time. Some rooms still have the wide-wooden blinds, which were ordered from Matt Ross' furniture store. Ross was married to Grace Shaw, daughter of Samuel Shaw, the founding father of the City of Crandon. The building was finally completed and was dedicated in 1911. Some people in the county did

not even know of the new building until it was completed, and many scoffed at the \$55,000 cost.

The current first floor was the basement and the second floor was the entrance to the courthouse. There was a series of circular stairways to get to the basement floor, which served as the vault at the time. The vault area was later opened up and converted to much-needed office space.

Construction of the jail began in 1910, and the south addition, Annex 1, was built in 1966. The north addition, Annex 2, was built in 1978. The new jail was constructed in 1997.



WWW.CO.FOREST.WI.GOV

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Photo courtesy of
Pilch & Barnet

About Us

FOREST COUNTY A CAPSULE OF HISTORY



ARGONNE COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER HIGH SCHOOL BAND
Photo courtesy of Crandon Area Historical Society

Before the Civil War, Forest County was primarily inhabited by the Chippewa and other Native Americans and was visited by traveling fur traders and trappers, most of whom were of French descent or mixed French and Indian heritage. During the 1860s, the federal government started construction of what is known as the Military Road. This road connected Green Bay and Fort Wilkins at Copper Harbor on the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula. Previously, rivers had served as the highways to this section of northeastern Wisconsin.

Military Road made travel through Forest County easier, but marketing of its principal resource, hardwood timber, had to wait for improved markets and rail service to transport the lumber. Unlike the pine that was logged elsewhere, the heavier hardwood logs would not float in the rivers to sawmills downstate.

The Soo Line Railroad bisected Forest County in 1887

and provided rail service to areas adjacent to Argonne, Cavour, and Armstrong Creek, but it was still not profitable to move logs by horse-drawn sleigh for any distance to a railhead. Eventually, the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, lured by land holdings given to them by the government, pushed rail service into the county. It created a north-south line on the eastern side of the county in the 1890s with a spur into Crandon just after the turn of the century. Sawmills sprang up like mushrooms after a rainfall and lumber was shipped to build America's cities. By the 1930s, the timber supply waned and the Great Depression shut down most of the big mills. It was then that residents of what came to be called the "cutover lands" realized the value of the many lakes and miles of streams located in Forest County. The tourist trade joined logging and saw milling as part of the economic mainstay of the North, and it remains so today.

PROFILE

Size: 1,014.1 square miles

- Public lands – 59%
- Private lands – 84% forested, 5% agricultural usage
- 824 lakes, sixth highest number of lakes in the state

Population (2020 Census): 9,179

Median Age: 44.1 years

Top 10 Employers After Largest Economic Sector:

- Forest County Potawatomi Community, 500-999 employees
- School District of Crandon, 100-249 employees
- County of Forest, 100-249 employees
- Sokaogon Gaming Enterprises Corp., 100-249 employees
- WD Flooring, 100-249 employees
- Hometown Trolley, 50-99 employees
- J. Schaefer Ent., 50-99 employees
- School District of Wabeno Area, 50-99 employees
- USDA Forest Service, 50-99 employees
- Bay at Nu-Roc Health and Rehabilitation Center, 50-99 employees

Total Number of Homes (2010 Census): 8,970

- Percent for seasonal, recreational or occasional use: 53%
- Median value owner-occupied housing, (2005-2009 ACS est.) \$120,619.00

Largest Economic Sectors: •

Forestry, tourism, government and Native American enterprises

Educational Facilities:

Enrollment as of 2017 school year

- K-12 (public)
 - Crandon School District, approx. 890
 - Goodman-Armstrong Creek School District, approx. 141
 - Laona School District, approx. 231
 - Wabeno School District, approx. 465
- Nicolet Area Technical College, Rhinelander
- University of Wisconsin – Extension Office, Courthouse, Crandon

Medical Facilities:

- Ascension at Crandon, Crandon
- Chiropractic & Rehabilitation Center, Crandon
- Connor Human Restoration, Crandon
- Forest County Potawatomi Health & Wellness Center, Crandon
- Health In Motion, Crandon
- Mole Lake Clinic, Mole Lake

Dental Facilities:

- Forest County Potawatomi Health & Wellness Center, Crandon
- Klockow Dental Clinic, Wabeno

Nursing Homes:

- Bay at Nu-Roc Health and Rehabilitation Center, Laona

Community Facilities:

- Post Offices – Argonne, Crandon, Laona, Wabeno, Armstrong Creek
- Newspaper – The *Forest Republican*, weekly, and *Potawatomi Traveling Times*, twice monthly
- Shopper – The *Pioneer Express*, weekly
- Public Libraries – Crandon, Laona, Wabeno
- Airport – 2 miles south of Crandon, 3,500-ft. year-round lighted runway and 25 miles west of Crandon, Rhinelander Airport



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For tourism and additional event information, please click or call:



VISITFORESTCOUNTY.COM

Forest County Chamber of Commerce

116 S. Lake Ave., Crandon, WI 54520

Toll-Free: (800) 334-3387 or (715) 478-3450

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Wabeno Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 105, Wabeno, WI 54566 | (715) 473-2311

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POTAWATOMI TRAVELING TIMES

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FOR SALE



2023 EVENTS

Amidst the widespread disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, please be sure to check that all listed annual events are scheduled to continue by checking the organization's website, Facebook page, or contacting the Forest County Chamber of Commerce at (715) 478-3450 or visitforestcounty.com.

JANUARY

- 7 Laona Lions Club Predator Hunt, Senolihn's Bar, Laona
- 18 Crandon Lions Winterfest, Community Building, Crandon
- 21 Farm to Table: Intermediate Canning Class, FCP Bodwewadmi Ktëgan, Laona, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- 28 Laona Rescue Squad Frosty Bear (Bike Race), Jars Bar & Grill, Laona
- 28 Snowmobile to Beat Cancer - 6th Annual SPANKY Ride: Poker Draw, Fireworks, Raffles, Live Music Pelican Lake, 11 a.m.

FEBRUARY

- 4 Hiles Fishoree, Hiles Town Hall, Pine Lake, 10 a.m.
- 11 American Legion Fish-O-Ree, Trump Lake Pavilion, all day
- 18 Laona Beautifying Committee Winter Fun Day, Community Building, Laona, 10 a.m.
- 25 Laona Fire Department Fishoree, Silver Lake Beach, Laona

MARCH

- 9-12 Rebels Spring Musical, Wabeno High School, Wabeno
- 11 Forest County Chamber Outfitters Show, TBA
- 25 American Legion Gunless Poultry Shoot Raffle, Rusty's Bowl, Wabeno
- 25-26 FCP Winter's End Powwow, Potawatomi Community Center, Crandon

APRIL

- 8 Crandon Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt, Courthouse Lawn, Crandon, 12 p.m.
- 8 Laona Beautifying Committee Easter Egg Hunt, Town Hall, Laona, 12 p.m.
- 21-23 Wabeno Area Players: Steel Magnolias, Wabeno High School, Wabeno, 4/21 - 22 @ 7 p.m., 4/23 @ 2 p.m.

MAY

- TBD 3rd Annual Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women Walk, Crandon Courthouse Square
- 6 Laona Rescue Squad Bear 100 (Bike Race), Jars Bar & Grill, Laona
- 7-13 Prevention Week Activities, Community Coalition of Forest County, Location TBD
- 20-21 Town-Wide Rummage Sale, Laona
- 20 Wabeno Area Players: Huisman Honors Recital, Wabeno High School, Wabeno, 7 p.m.
- 28 Laona Lions Club Trap Shoot, Padus Nicolet Gun Club, Wabeno



FOREST COUNTY FESTIVAL
Kyle Lewis



KENTUCKY DAYS

- 28 Annual Corn Hole Tournament Fundraiser, Northwoods Inn, Pickerel, 3 p.m.
- 29 Memorial Day Service, Hiles Town Hall, Hiles, dinner after service

JUNE

- 7 Crandon Water Ski Show Opening Night, Water's Edge Lodge, Crandon, 6:30 p.m.
- 9 Laona Beautifying Committee Rock The Block, Centennial Park, Laona, 7 - 12 p.m.
- 10 Laona Quarterback Club Annual Golf Outing, Nicolet Golf Course, Laona, all day
- 10 American Legion Rib Fest Challenge, Pavilion behind Legion Post, Wabeno, 11 a.m.
- 10 Wisconsin Dual Sport Ride, Wabeno Firefighters' Park

- 10-11 Forest County Potawatomi Veteran's Powwow, Powwow Grounds, Carter
- 23-25 Forest County Potawatomi Brush Run Off-Road Races, Crandon International Raceway, Crandon, all weekend
- 24 Wabeno Area Players: A Day at the Old School House, Wabeno Park, Wabeno, 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.
- 24 Mega Meat Raffle, Wabeno Firefighters' Park
- 30 Forest County Festival, Crandon International Raceway, Crandon, 4 - 10 p.m.

JULY

- 1 Laona Fourth of July Celebration, Hwy. 8 and Silver Lake Beach, Laona, all day
- 1 American Legion Ride for Veterans, Jeep Mud Run, Paul Bunyon Ski Hill, Lakewood, all day



- 1-2 **Forest County Festival**, Crandon International Raceway, Crandon, 7/1: 12 - 10 p.m., 7/2: 12 - 5 p.m.
- 3 **Celebrate America: Def Leppard Tribute Band & Fireworks**, Northwoods Inn, Pickerel
- 8 **Shank Open Melinda Otto Memorial Golf Tournament**, Nicolet Country Club, Laona, 8 a.m.
- 8 **Steam Up Days**, Wabeno, all day
- 11-13 **Maryweather Circus**, Wabeno Firefighters' Park, Wabeno
- 15 **Crandon Lions Club Summerfest**, City Beach, Crandon, 10 a.m.
- 15 **Hiles Fire Dept. Annual Trapshoot**, Hiles Fire Dept. Trap Range, 10 a.m.
- 20 **Laona Beautifying Committee Rock The Block**, Silver Lake Beach, Laona, 7 - 12 p.m.
- 21 **Wabeno Chamber Lemonade Day**, Wabeno, Firefighters' Park,
- 21-23 **Wisconsin Mycological Society Annual Foray**, Little Pine Motel, Hiles
- 22 **Live Band TBA**, Northwoods Inn, Pickerel
- 22 **Wabeno Art and Music (WAM) Fest** Wabeno, Downtown, all day

- 29 **Forest County Chamber Kentuck Day Festival**, Courthouse Square and Downtown, Crandon, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- 30 **Forest County Chamber Kentuck Klassic Car Show**, Weber-Hill Funeral Home, Crandon

AUGUST

- 4 **Wabeno Fire Department Street Dance**, Downtown - Firehouse, Wabeno
- 4 **Laona Beautifying Committee Rock The Block**, Centennial Park, Laona, 7 - 12 p.m.
- 4 **Friends of Wabeno Family Fun Night**, Wabeno
- 4 **Laona Lions Club Laona Super Reunion**, Laona, all weekend
- 5 **Laona Rescue Squad Souper Run**, Silver Lake Beach, Laona, 7 a.m. - 11 p.m.
- 5 **Laona Lions Club Community Soup**, Silver Lake Beach, Laona
- 5 **AC/DC Tribute Band**, Northwoods Inn, Pickerel
- 12 **Laona VFW Corn Boil**, Silver Lake Beach, Laona
- 12 **Argonne Days**, Argonne, all day
- 18-20 **Wabeno Area Players: Lumberjacks and Weddingbells**, Wabeno Firefighters' Park, Wabeno, 18 - 19 @ 7 p.m., 20 @ 2 p.m.

- 19-20 **37th Annual Footstock National Endurance Barefoot Ski Championship**, Peshtigo Lake, Crandon
- 25-27 **Forest County Potawatomi Meno Keno Ma Gê Wen Powwow**, Powwow Grounds, Carter
- 8/31-9/3 **54th Polaris World Championship Off-Road Races**, Crandon International Raceway, Crandon, all weekend

SEPTEMBER

- 1 **54th Polaris World Championship Off-Road Races**, Celebration/Parade, Downtown Crandon, 12 p.m.
- 8/31-9/3 **54th Polaris World Championship Off-Road Races**, Crandon International Raceway, Crandon, all weekend
- 8-10 **Forest County Fair**, Forest County Fairgrounds, Crandon
- 23 **Art in the Square**, Courthouse Square, Crandon, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- 23 **Wisconsin Dual Sport Ride**, Wabeno Firefighters' Park
- TBA **Wabeno Fire Department Demolition Derby**, Wabeno

OCTOBER

- 6 **Laona Rescue Squad Hibernator (Bike Race)**, Jars Bar & Grill, Laona
- 6-8 **Wabeno Area Players: Four Old Broads**, Wabeno High School, Wabeno, 6-7 @ 7 p.m., 8 @ 2 p.m.
- 8 **October Wellness Walk**, Rat River Recreational Trail, Blackwell

- 14 **Hiles Service Club Harvest / Potluck Dinner**, Hiles Town Hall, Hiles, 5 p.m.
- 14-15, 21-22 **Fall Fun at the Farm**, FCP Bodwêwadmî Ktêgan, Laona
- 21 **Trailside Hideaway Campground Hobo Ride**, Trailside Hideaway Campground, Laona
- 28 **Halloween at the Farm**, FCP Bodwêwadmî Ktêgan, Laona
- 14 **Hiles Service Club Harvest Dinner**, Hiles Service Club, Hiles

NOVEMBER

- 27 **Laona Beautifying Committee Tree Lighting Ceremony**, Town Hall, Laona, 5 p.m.

DECEMBER

- 1 **Christmas on Mainstreet**, Crandon
- 3 **Laona Beautifying Committee - The Great Quilt Auction**, Facebook
- 31 **Forest County Potawatomi New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow**, Potawatomi Community Center, Crandon, 5 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.



FACEBOOK PHOTO CONTEST WINNER

SANDI RAKOW - "MORNING FOG"



Cover
Photo
Credit
Alyssa Gruett



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FARMERS MARKET

Photo courtesy of Pilch & Barnet

Jameson's Whiskey Darlin' parking lot,
June - October, Wednesdays, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

See page 19

THINGS TO SEE & DO

Aquaponics - How can fish grow lettuce? Come see the state-of-the-art facility at FCP Bodwéwadmī Ktēgan (Potawatomi Farm) to learn how. We offer tours and discussions on sustainable farming. Purchase a head of lettuce and taste the difference for yourself! Call (715) 478-4545 for more information and like us at www.facebook.com/fcpotawatomi. See page 37



ATV TRAILS - Ongoing development of several miles of routes and trails.
See page 26-27

Auto Tours - Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest auto tours through Forest, Oneida, and Vilas counties, including the Heritage Drive National Forest Scenic Byway and Nicolet Wolf River Scenic Byway.
See page 28

Bald Eagle Sightings - Take a walk or drive through miles of back roads with an eye-to-the-sky, looking for that familiar white head. Pine Lake in Hiles, Mole Lake south of Crandon on Hwy. 55, and Peshtigo and Clear Lakes are favorite spots for these majestic birds.

Beaches/Picnic Areas - Located throughout the county, including Crandon Municipal Beach (north end of Lake Metonga), and Silver Lake Beach (one mile west of Laona).

Biking - Many biking enthusiasts choose Forest County for their autumn biking. County highways offer beautiful color viewing while biking. See page 20

Camping - Several Forest Service campgrounds, county, and privately-owned campgrounds are available throughout the county. See page 16

Canoe/Kayaking - Most area lakes. Rentals available. See page 29

Chief Willard Ackley Memorial - Located on Hwy. 55 in Mole Lake

Colorama - Autumn has a special name here: Colorama. It's a special time in Wisconsin's north, from Sept. 15 - Oct. 15. It's a time to reflect on the peace of the forest, lakes and rivers, when nature paints Forest County in a myriad of hues.

Courthouse Square, Crandon

Enjoy viewing 40 different species of trees from all over the state. It features a park with a deer pen, the historic Forest County Courthouse, and the Veteran's Memorial

Crandon International Off-Road

Raceway - Home of the Brush Run and the World Championship Off-Road Races®.
See pages 12-13

Crandon Water Shows - Summer water ski shows on Lake Lucerne, June through August, by the Crandon Water Ski Club.
See page 11

Cross-Country Skiing - See page 21

Deer Pen - Crandon Courthouse Square

Dinesen House - This restored 140-year-old log cabin was a stopping point along the Military Road connecting Fort Howard near Green Bay to Fort Wilkens in Copper



FISHING Jennifer Nery

Some of the best fishing in the area is available county-wide, with an endless choice of lakes and streams. A wheelchair-accessible pier is located on East Lakeview Street on Lake Metonga, Crandon. *See page 30-31*

THINGS TO SEE & DO

Harbor, Mich., for mail carriers. It is located on Hwy. 55 in Mole Lake.

Elvoy Spring Pond - Natural brook trout fishing is available from a wheelchair - accessible pier located west of Alvin off of FS 2193.

Forest County Humane Society Escape Room - Open by appointment. Call (715) 367-2412 for more information and to schedule your group.

WABENO BARRIER-FREE BOARDWALK AND TRAIL

Photo courtesy of Pilch & Barnet

The Wabeno Barrier-free Boardwalk and Nature Trail allows visitors to walk a mile and a half loop along the North Branch of the Oconto River and Range Line Creek through the parks in downtown Wabeno. *See page 41*

Forest County Veterans Memorial -

A beautiful tribute to area veterans. Located in the Courthouse Square, Crandon.

Forest County Veterans Memorial Park Campground -

Located 4 miles south of Crandon on Lake Metonga. It offers camping sites, boat landing, fishing pier, picnic areas, volleyball courts, and swimming area.

Fountain of Youth Memorial - A beautiful stone gazebo with a water fountain inside and a garden surrounding it, all in memory of the young lives that were lost in 2007.

Located at the corner of Hazeldell Avenue and Washington Street in Crandon.

General MacArthur White Pine -

The MacArthur Pine is over 400 years old with a circumference of 17 ft., 6 in., height of 140 ft., and crown spread of 48 ft. It is located in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest near Newald.

Geocaching - High-tech treasure hunt played around the world by adventurers equipped with a GPS. Retrieve coordinates of sites from www.geocaching.com and search for hidden "caches" around Forest County.

Golfing - Two public courses: Nicolet Country Club, Hwy. 8 west of Laona, and Maplewood Golf Course, located in Pickerel on Hwy. 55. Driving range also available at Crandon International Off-Road Raceway on Hwy. 8 West of Crandon.

Heritage Hunt Club - Pheasant hunting, sporting clay course, lodging, barn rental. 5480 Connor Farm Rd., Laona, (715) 889-9893. *See page 14*

Hiking Trails - *See pages 22-24*

Historic Courthouse Tour and Downtown Walking Tour -

Two self-guided tours through the historic Forest County Courthouse and around historic downtown Crandon. Information and tour brochures available at the Forest County Chamber of Commerce.

Ice Skating - Free, warming shed, lighted rink until 11 p.m., weather permitting. Located alongside Crandon City Hall: 601 W. Washington St., Crandon.

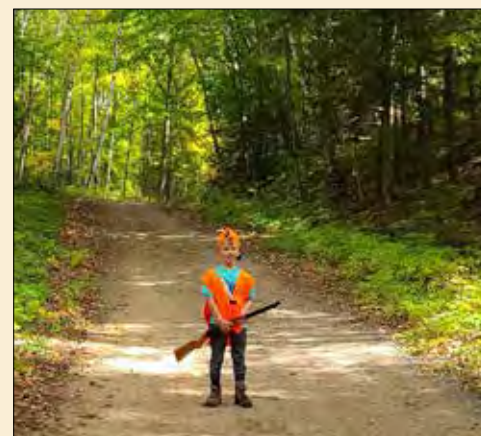
Lions Club, Crandon - Coffee every Wednesday, 8 a.m., The Legion Hall.

Logging Museum - Nostalgic copy of 1938 logging camp located in Wabeno.

Lumberjack Steam Train & Camp 5

Museum - Departs from the Laona Depot and transports people to the Camp 5 Museum Complex. Seasonal: June - August. 5068 US Hwy. 8, Laona, (715) 674-3414. *See page 10*

Mecikalski Stovewood Building - Restoration of an unusual turn-of-the-century stovewood general store. This building houses a piece of history from an early era. Travel south on Hwy. 55 out of Crandon. Turn right on County Road B and continue west to get to Jennings.



HUNTING Jill Karpinen

Great hunting opportunities abound throughout the county and Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest: white-tailed deer, black bear, wild turkey, ruffed grouse, coyote and duck just to name a few. Seasons listed at www.dnr.state.wi.us/. Hunting trail maps available at the County Forestry office, (715) 478-3475.

Mole Lake Historical Marker - Sioux and Chippewa (Ojibwe) battled over control of the wild rice beds in 1806. They are now the last remaining ancient wild rice beds in the state of Wisconsin. Historic markers note the site on Hwy. 55.

Mole Lake Casino - Welcome to Las-Vegas-style gambling in the beautiful northwoods. The gaming fun and excitement starts with video poker, slot machines and blackjack tables. Open 7 days a week. Located on Hwy. 55, Mole Lake.

Mountain Biking - *See page 20*

Museums - *See page 10*

Mushroom Hunting - Wisconsin Mycological Society holds its annual foray in late July in Hiles, the Mushroom Capital of Wisconsin, and 325 different varieties of mushrooms have been identified in the Hiles area. *See page 38*

Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Ranger Station - Located on Hwy. 8 West of Laona.

Outdoor Rifle/Archery Range - Aaron "Chunk" Smith Archery Complex just east of Crandon, off of Hwy. 8.

Playgrounds - Several are located throughout Forest County including: Cardinal Park on East Madison Street, Crandon, Municipal Beach at the north end of Lake Metonga, Centennial Park on Beech Street in Laona, Palmer Park on West Washington, Crandon, Town Park in Hiles, Wabeno playground behind the logging museum on Hwy. 32.

Potawatomi Carter Casino Hotel - Over 12,000 square feet of exciting gaming including video poker, slots, blackjack, craps, roulette, three-card poker and Let It Ride, as well as bingo. It offers a full-service lounge and two restaurants. Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Located on Hwy. 32 in Carter, Wis. *See back cover*

Potawatomi Community Center - This two-level, 110,000-sq-ft. facility features an aquatic center with hot tub and water slide, a gymnasium with three full-length basketball courts, and a 70-yard turf field house with walking track. Rent a party room, the golf simulator, or batting cage. Equipment provided for use in the building. Climb the rock wall, grab some lunch, or just meet new people. Located in Crandon.



PHOENIX STEAM HAULER,
Wabeno. Photo courtesy of Pilch & Barnett
See page 41

Powwows - The Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa and the Forest County Potawatomi communities host powwows. *See pages 4-5*

Quartz Outcropping - Quartz Hill Hiking Trail, off Hwy. 32 at Forest County line, near Carter.

Red Bridge Scenic Picnic Area, Armstrong Creek - Overlooking Armstrong Creek, originally built in the late 1800s.

Rustic Roads - 7.5 miles of natural scenic road. The officially-designated "Rustic Road" is west of Alvin in northern Forest County. *See page 28*

Self-Guided Nature Trails - Available throughout the county. Bird watching, hiking, and walking routes are listed. *See page 25*

Senior Snoop Shop - Handicrafts consigned and manned by dedicated seniors. Open Memorial Day through Labor Day, Courthouse Square.

Single Track Bike Trail - Ongoing development just east of Crandon. *See page 20.*

Sledding - Mission Hill on East Glen Street in Crandon, or any other sled-worthy hill.

Snowmobile Trails - Over 400 miles of trails. *See page 20*

Snowshoeing - All of the great hiking trails in Forest County can be well-utilized in the winter by snowshoe. *See pages 21-24*

Sugar Bush Hill - Fourth highest point in Wisconsin at 1,950 feet, five miles east of Crandon on Hwy. 8.

Tennis - Cardinal Park, on East Madison

Street, Crandon, offers two courts and Wabeno has two courts available downtown.

Trap Shooting - Range open to families and individuals at the Crandon International Off-Road Raceway grounds on Hwy. 8 West of Crandon. Free admission.

Video Archery - An indoor complex on East Pioneer Street in Crandon.

Walking Trails - *See pages 22-24*

White Water Rafting - Wolf River off Hwy. 55, and the Peshtigo River 20 minutes south of Wabeno.

World's Largest Soup Kettle - Located on Beech Street, Laona.



WATERSKIING - There are
over 150 lakes to have fun on!
Sarah Bradley

MUSEUMS

of FOREST COUNTY



Brian Oelhafen

LUMBERJACK STEAM TRAIN & CAMP 5 MUSEUM

Departs from the Laona Depot and transports visitors to the Camp 5 Museum Complex. The Lumberjack Steam Train and Museum are open five days a week: Tue - Sat; closed Sun and Mon. The 2023 season is June - August, with additional special events scheduled in the fall including the popular Cowboy Re-enactment in July and September. Located at 5068 US Hwy. 8, Laona, WI. For train departure times, call (715) 674-3414 or visit www.lumberjacksteamtrain.com.



FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI CULTURAL CENTER, LIBRARY & MUSEUM
Hours of operation: Monday - Thursday 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Friday and Saturday by appointment only. Contact info: (800) 960-5479 ext. 7478 or www.FCPotawatomi.com/culture-and-history.



FOREST COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Located in the "Old Carter House" at 105 W. Jackson St. in Crandon. Maintained and operated by the Forest County Historical & Genealogical Society. Hours of operation are during the summer months and vary. Free admission. Contact info: (715) 902-1620 or www.forestcountyhistory.org.



HILES MUSEUM

The Hiles Museum is located in the Hiles Town Hall and Community Building. Maintained and operated by Hiles Service Club. Open Mondays, 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. Call Julie Brink, President (715) 649-3759 or Marilyn Pfeifer (715) 649-3381.



WABENO LOGGING MUSEUM

The Wabeno Logging Museum and Old Wabeno School House in downtown Wabeno are operated by the Wabeno Park Board. Free admission. Call for hours of operation: Larry Rummel at (715) 850-1861.

Crandon



Water Shows

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Weekly Shows

June 7 - August 16, 2023

The Crandon Water Shows has been a family favorite in Forest County for the past 60 years! The team provides FREE weekly shows on Lake Lucerne during the summer. Bring your entire family and be amazed by the jazz lines, doubles acts, barefooting acts, and human pyramids!

June- Wednesdays

July- Monday & Wednesday's

August- Wednesday's

All shows start at 6:30 pm

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August 19 - 20, 2023

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11

MOTOR SPORTS

Photos courtesy of Jason Zindroski

It's hard to imagine back in 1970 that anyone from the community of Crandon, Wis., could fathom someday celebrating 54 years of hosting the world's biggest and best off-road racing events. Today, Crandon International Raceway's once unimaginable history has grown to record heights, bolstered by the dynamic growth of the sport and thanks to the dreams, hard work and dedication of countless local volunteers.

Indeed, in 2023 Crandon's holy ground of off-road racing is poised to enjoy its biggest season ever.

The notion of off-road racing in Wisconsin's Northwoods has humble beginnings traced back to local members of the Crandon Jaycees inspired by seeing

television coverage of the 1968 NORRA Mexican 1000. The original Brush Run 101 track was a 25-mile course held primarily on wooded trails around Crandon. Competitors completed the loop four times making the full race length almost 101 miles in just about anything with a motor. Only the strong would survive that original course, which was utilized during the early years of the Brush Run races. As the needs for the race changed, Crandon officials made the decision to move the growing events to a new location in 1984, building the permanent facility now known as Crandon International Raceway.

The sport and the facility have greatly evolved since those early years. Today specially built 900-horsepower Pro 4 trucks scream through the 1.75-mile

Crandon course, along with a wide variety of AMSOIL Championship Off-Road series and Ultra4 series classes. Carved into the landscape of what was once a local dairy farm, Crandon Raceway has become the world's premier venue that encompasses almost 400 acres of land, accommodates nearly 60,000 fans with more than 2,100 permanent camp sites, a pit area for hundreds of competitors, permanent grandstands, a music stage and much more.

In 2023, Crandon fans will enjoy two big weekends of racing, including June's 30th annual Forest County Potawatomi Brush Run event (June 23 - 25) and Labor Day weekend's



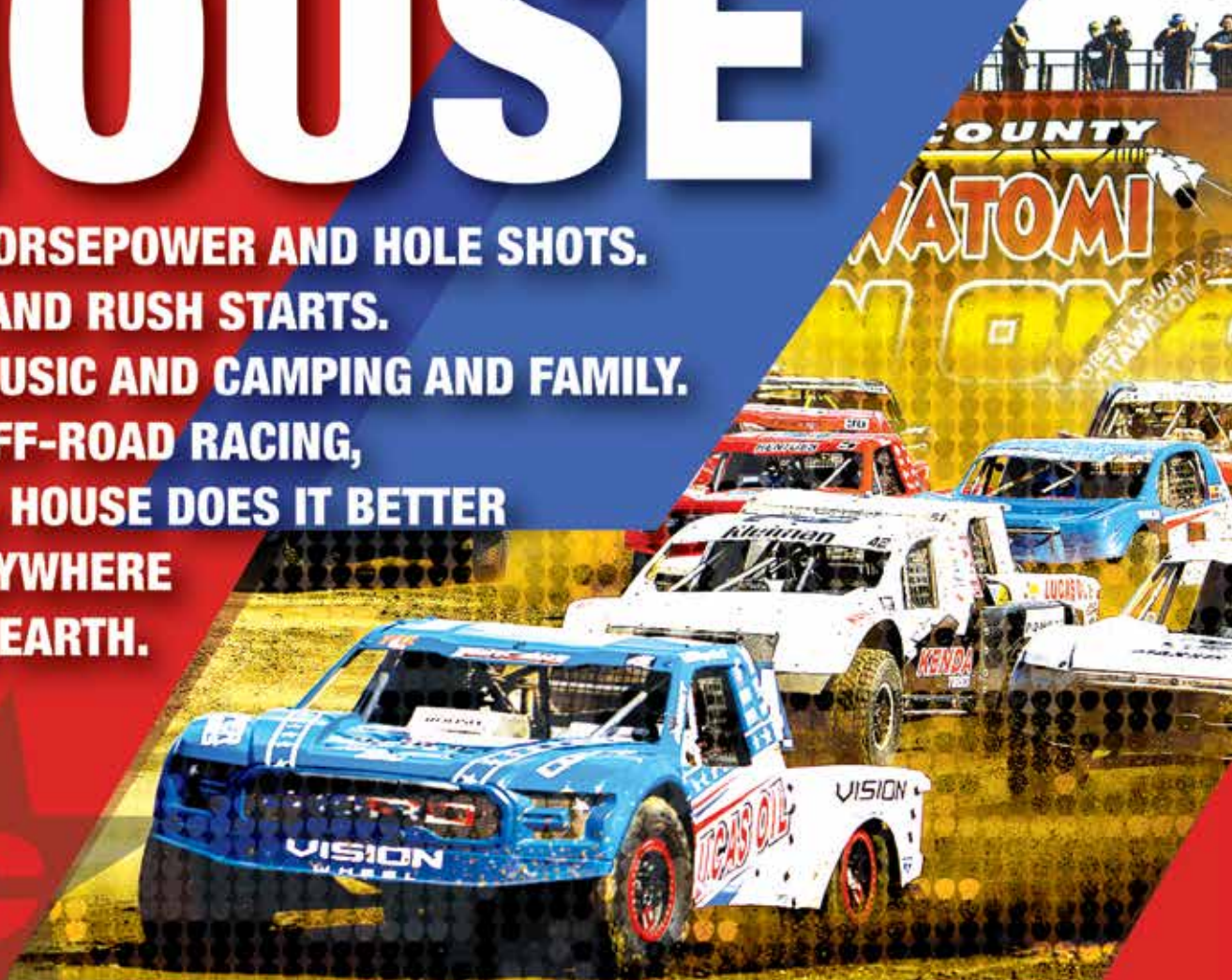
POLARIS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP OFF-ROAD RACES' CELEBRATION/PARADE

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For more information, please visit crandonoffroad.com.

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2023 EVENTS:

30TH ANNIVERSARY FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI BRUSH RUN RACES

JUNE 23 – 25, 2023

6TH ANNUAL FCP FOREST COUNTY FESTIVAL

JUNE 30 – JULY 2, 2023

54TH ANNIVERSARY POLARIS CRANDON WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RACES

AUGUST 31 – SEPTEMBER 3, 2023

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	MAP #	SPACES	ELECTRIC	TOILETS	PICNIC AREA	BOAT LANDING	BOAT MOTOR PERMIT	ATV	PHONE
COUNTY									
Veteran's Memorial Park	1	66	•	Flush	•	•	All		(715) 478-3475
NATIONAL FOREST									
Bear Lake	2	27		Vault	•	•	Electric		(715) 674-4481
Franklin Lake	3	77		Vault	•	•	All		(715) 479-2827
Kentuck Lake	4	31		Vault		•	All		(715) 479-2827
Laura Lake	5	41		Vault		•	Electric		(715) 674-4481
Ludington Lake	6	6		Vault		•	All		(715) 674-4481
Luna-White Deer Lake	7	37		Vault	•	•	Electric		(715) 479-2827
Pine Lake	8	12		Vault	•	•	All		(715) 674-4481
Richardson Lake	9	26		Vault		•	All		(715) 674-4481
Stevens Lake	10	6		Vault		•	All		(715) 528-4464
PRIVATELY OWNED									
Crandon Off-Road Raceway	11	1900	•	Flush				•	(715) 478-2222
Hiles Pine Lake Campground	12	79	•	Flush	•	•	All		(715) 649-3319
Hollywood Hill and Crandon Saloon Event Center		47	•	Flush	•			•	(715) 212-3308
Sokaogon Chippewa	13	20		Vault	•	•	All		(715) 478-7500
Trailside Hideaway	14	40	•	Flush	•			•	(715) 889-0380



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PUBLIC SNOWMOBILE TRAILS

Enjoy snowmobiling in Forest County with over 405 miles of groomed, state-funded trails winding through the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. All trails link to both casinos and all hospitality businesses in Forest County, providing many pit stops along the trail for food, lodging, and refreshments.

100 MILE SNOW SAFARI

TRAIL: The 100 Mile Snow Safari has approximately 150 miles of marked and groomed trails through the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest linking all the localities of Forest County. Maps, food, etc., are available at pit stops throughout the system.

THE BLACK BEAR

SPORTSMEN'S CLUB: The Black Bear Sportsmen's Club has over 40 miles of groomed trails, linking the Crandon area north and west to trails in Oneida County.

LUMBERJACK MEMORIAL TRAILS:

The Lumberjack Memorial Trails located in central and southern Forest County have 100-plus miles of snowmobile trails which are groomed and maintained 100 percent by volunteers. These trails link to the 100 miler as well as to the trails in the Lakewood and Pickerel areas.



The Association of Wisconsin Snowmobile Clubs announced Forest County as one of three Wisconsin Communities as a "Snowmobile Friendly Community." The others were Mountain and Waupaca County. Our county achieved snowmobile-friendly status by working with our local snowmobile club(s) to complete a 21-page application describing how our community and local clubs



advocate for safe and responsible snowmobiling in their area. Congratulations!

TOMBSTONE-PICKEREL

TRAILS: The Tombstone-Pickerel Trails include over 20 miles of groomed trails in southwestern Forest County, with numerous pit stops and resorts, as well as provide a link to the Langlade County trail system.

THREE LAKES TRAILS:

The Three Lakes trail system has over 80 miles of groomed trails in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, linking Forest and Oneida counties in the western half of the county.

MOUNTAIN BIKING TRAILS

CHEQUAMEGON-NICOLET NATIONAL FOREST

ANVIL TRAIL: This trail is located 8.5 miles east of Eagle River on Hwy. 70. There are 12 miles of groomed loop options. In addition to designated trails, all logging roads and undesignated/unmarked trails

within the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest are open to mountain bikes unless otherwise posted. Information may be obtained at the local Forest Service office located in Laona, (715) 674-4481.

ED'S LAKE TRAIL: This trail is located on County Hwy. W between Wabeno and Crandon. There are 6 miles of trails in upland hardwoods.

NICOLET NORTH TRAIL:

This trail is located 10.5 miles east of Eagle River to FR 2460, then south on 2460 for 2 miles to the trailhead. There are 13 miles of trails with several loop opportunities. The Nicolet North Trail connects with the Anvil Trail.


FOREST COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

OTTER SPRINGS TRAIL:


The newly-formed Forest County Area Singletrack Association (FCASA) has developed 2 miles of single-track hiking and biking trails which intertwine with the other 10 miles of previously-developed trail. This club has been very busy constructing trails and working hard continuing to develop more! The single-track trails are groomed for winter fat tire biking and snowshoeing as well.

Snowshoeing on these trails is beneficial to the maintenance of the "track".

CHEQUAMEGON-NICOLET
NATIONAL FOREST

 **ED'S LAKE TRAIL:** This trail is located on County Hwy. W between Wabeno and Crandon. The trail is groomed. There is a 2.3-mile loop trail suitable for beginners, with the intermediate trail offering a 2.7-mile loop as well as a 3.5-mile loop.

FOREST COUNTY
FORESTRY DEPARTMENT

 **HEMLOCK LAKE
SKI TRAIL:** This trail is located 1 mile east and 4 miles south of Crandon off County Hwy. W on Hemlock Lake Road. This is a 2-mile loop trail with parking area. Trail is groomed for classic skiing only. See map (right).



HIKING TRAILS



HIDDEN LAKES TRAIL:

Looking for adventure? Put on your hiking boots and try the Hidden Lakes Trail. It is a long-distance trail providing the chance for an overnight campout by small remote lakes on two developed campgrounds. Along the way there are several small lakes with scenic vistas and a remarkable stand of old hemlock trees. Pick up a trail map at the Eagle River Ranger Station or at the trailhead before starting this trail. Look for white diamond-shaped reassurance markers on trees which designate the Hidden Lakes Trail. Call (715) 479-2827 for more information. **Directions:** You may access this trail from the Franklin Nature Trail. Park in the nature trail parking lot and follow the Franklin Nature Trail about 1/2 mile to the Hidden Lakes trailhead. If you take the entire 13-mile loop, the trail ends at Franklin Lake boat ramp. To return to the parking lot, walk east down the main campground road to the Nature Trail parking lot.



FRANKLIN LAKE TRAIL:

The popular Franklin Nature Trail is an excellent way to get a sampling of nature in the northwoods. The self-guiding brochure provided at the trailhead will guide you



through northern hardwood, pine, and hemlock forests where some trees are over 400 years old. You can stop off to wade in Butternut Lake or contemplate a beautiful lake vista from a bench under huge hemlock trees. The boardwalk across the bog offers a chance to see many varieties of bog plants up close. If you visit in the spring, bring along your field guide to identify the numerous wildflowers in bloom. A short loop at the beginning of this trail is accessible to persons using wheelchairs. Call (715) 479-2827 for more information. **Directions:** From Eagle River, take State Hwy. 70 east for 8 miles to Military Road. (FR 2178). Turn right and go south 3 miles to Butternut Lake Road. (FR 2181). Turn left and go east 5 miles to the Franklin Lake Campground. Parking for the trail is on the right after you enter the campground. Ten vehicle spaces and 2 bus spaces are available.



NICOLET NORTH TRAIL: This is a favorite trail for cross-country skiers, hikers, and mountain bike enthusiasts. Fifteen miles of trail are groomed and tracked in winter for skiing (traditional-style as well as ski-skating style). The Nicolet North Trail is connected to the Anvil National Recreation Trail. In addition, part of the Hidden Lakes Trail follows some of this trail. A map is available at the trailhead. Call (715) 479-2827 for more information.

Directions: From Eagle River, take State Hwy. 70 east for 11 miles to Fornier Road (FR 2460). Turn right and go south about 3 miles to the parking lot on the right, which accommodates 5 vehicles.



LUNA-WHITE DEER TRAIL:

Hike along the shorelines of both Luna and White Deer Lakes on this tranquil trail adjacent to Luna-White Deer Campground. Bring your binoculars and camera because you'll likely catch sight of loons on one of these lakes. Both of the crystal clear, undeveloped lakes present a setting hikers can enjoy at dawn on a foggy morning or on a crisp and sunny fall afternoon. Call (715) 479-2827 for more information. **Directions:** From Eagle River, take State Hwy. 70 east for 15 miles to Divide Rd.



Mary Belland



(FR 2176). Turn right and go south 6 miles to Luna-White Deer Campground sign. Turn right into the campground. Hikers can park either at the White Deer Lake swimming area with parking available for 7 vehicles, or the boat ramp on Luna Lake, with space available for 10 vehicles.



SEVENMILE LAKE TRAIL:

This enjoyable loop trail begins in the Sevenmile Lake Campground and winds around a bog and along a ridge providing a vista of two lakes. Sections of boardwalk will keep your feet dry when traveling through the wet areas. Many unique plants grow in the bog mat. You may see sundew, pitcher plant, and several species of orchids. The small lakes contain minnows and bullheads. Call (715) 479-2827 for more information. **Directions:** From Eagle River, take State Hwy. 70 east for 8 miles to Military Road. (FR 2178). Turn right and go south 4 miles to Knapp Road. (FR 2179). Turn left and go east 4 miles to Haymeadow Road. (FR 2435). Turn right and go south 1 mile to Sevenmile Lake Campground. Turn right at campground sign. Trailhead is located next to campsite #20 in the campground, with parking for 1 vehicle. Additional parking is available at the boat ramp.



BAILEY LAKE EQUESTRIAN TRAIL:

Enjoy this trail with a slow hike through a tall, red pine forest over what was once a logging road and railroad grade at the turn of the century. Early loggers used a combination of horse drawn sleds and train to haul timber from the woods. Once the snow falls, parts of this trail are used as a snowmobile route. Call (715) 479-2827 for more information. **Directions:** From Hiles take State Hwy. 32 north 9 miles to Military Road. (FR 2178). Turn right and go north 2 miles to Sheltered Valley Road. (FR 2182). Turn right and go east 2 miles to (FR 3861B). Turn left into parking area where there is space for approximately 10 vehicles with horse trailers.



GIANT PINE TRAIL:

This 2-mile loop features one of the best examples of mature hemlock hardwoods with a white pine super-canopy in northeastern Wisconsin. Located in the Headwaters Wilderness Area, hemlock, sugar maple, yellow birch, and basswood dominate the forest with taller white pines up to 3 feet in diameter adding a super-canopy stratum. The property and surrounding area is owned by the Forest Service and was designated a State Natural Area in 1974. Horseback riding and wheeled vehicles, including bicycles, are prohibited as this trail is in a Wilderness Area. Call (715) 479-2827 for more information. **Directions:** From



SCOTT AND SHELP LAKE TRAILS:

Scott and Shelp Lakes are two scenic spring-fed wilderness lakes with remnant stands of pine and hemlock. On the north side of Scott Lake Road (FR 2183) there is a boardwalk over a floating bog to Shelp Lake. A 1/3-mile trail to Scott Lake is located on the south side of Scott Lake Road (FR 2183). Scott and Shelp Lakes are owned by the U.S. Forest Service and were designated a State Natural Area in 1974.

Directions: From Hiles, take Hwy. 32 north 2 miles to Experimental Road (FR 2184) Turn right and go north 3 miles to Scott Lake Road (FR 2183). Turn left and go west 2.5 miles to a small parking area on the right (north) side of the road.



LAURA LAKE HIKING TRAIL:

Located adjacent to the Laura Lake Campground, this trail circles Laura Lake and passes through a forest of northern hardwoods, hemlocks, and balsams. A bench is located along the shoreline at the halfway point. A short walk to the north leads to a small bog lake that you may want to explore. Look for the white diamond-shaped reassurance markers that designate this trail. Call (715) 674-4481 for more information.

Directions: Follow Hwy. 8 north and east from Laona 14 miles. Turn left on FR 2163 and drive 5 miles north to Laura Lake Campground. The trailhead is located between the swim area and the boat ramp. Parking is available for 2 vehicles at the trailhead with additional parking for 5 vehicles at the boat ramp.

HIKING TRAILS CONT'D.



OTTER SPRINGS TRAIL:

Three loops totaling 8 miles provides hiking opportunities for all ages. Make your way through the northern hardwoods and keep your eyes open for wildlife. Hike to the far back loop and see Bug Lake from the hill top. There is also a small shelter built by the WCC for cross-country skiers to warm up. A picnic table and fire ring are available there. Call (715) 478-3475 for more information.

Directions: From Crandon, take U.S. Hwy. 8 East about 5 miles to Otter Creek Road. Turn left and go north 0.1 miles to a parking area on the left (west) side of the road. Parking is available for 8-10 vehicles.



MICHIGAN RAPIDS TRAIL:

This picturesque hiking trail follows the edge of the Peshtigo River. The main feature is a view of Michigan Rapids. You'll also see where Armstrong Creek flows into the river. Beautiful rock formations (with one that looks like a great stone hard hat), river islands, and wildlife can be observed. White diamond-shaped reassurance markers designate this trail. Call (715) 674-4481 for more information.

Directions: From Laona, take Hwy. 8 north about 3 miles to FR 2131. Turn right and go east approximately 12 miles to FR 2134. Turn right and go south 1/2 mile. Look for trailhead sign on left just south of Peshtigo River crossing at Burnt Bridge. Parking is available for 3 vehicles.



ED'S LAKE TRAIL: The trail follows several early 1900s railroad grades through a variety of forest types. An Adirondack-style shelter overlooking Ed's Lake is located along the Birch loop. A map and brochure are available at the trailhead. Call (715) 674-4481 for more information. **Directions:** The trailhead is located on County Hwy. W midway between Crandon and Wabeno. Look for a large sign along the northeast side of the highway. Parking is available for 12 or more vehicles.



RAT RIVER RECREATION TRAIL:

This 9-mile trail connects the Nicolet State Trail to the Town of Blackwell and to Bear Lake Campground. Enjoy scenic views of the Rat River as you follow alongside it on the old Flanner Railroad. The trail is surfaced with gravel and is open to hiking and biking. **Directions:** From State Hwy. 32 in Wabeno, drive north 6 miles to County Hwy. T. Turn right onto County Hwy. T and go 3 miles to County Hwy. H, turn left on County Hwy. H. Approximately .25 mile on County Hwy. H will be a parking area and trail head. Parking is available for 20+ vehicles and trailers.

PICKEREL LAKE WALKING AND BIKING TRAIL:

The Pickerel Lake trail is 2 miles long; however, from Hwy. 55, there are 4 miles designated for walking/biking. It is good for easy walking and biking due to it being paved.

Directions: Located 18 miles southwest of Crandon. From Crandon, take Hwy. 55 and turn onto Pickerel Lake Road by Hills Still Supper Club. The trail is located next to Pickerel Lake Road.



RAT RIVER RECREATIONAL TRAIL
Jenny Henkel





BIRDING & NATURE TRAILS



DENDRO-ECO TRAIL:

An interpretive hiking trail primarily for the snow-free seasons. However, you are welcome to ski or snowshoe the trail in winter and view the changes that winter brings. Call (715) 674-4481 for more information. **Directions:** From Laona, follow U.S. Hwy. 8 north 3 miles to FR 2131. Turn right onto Peshtigo River Road (FR 2131), and drive east 4 miles to Peshtigo River. Cross bridge and trailhead is on the left. Parking is available on both sides of the road for 3-4 vehicles.



HALLEY CREEK BIRD TRAIL:

This 1-mile trail is rated with an easy difficulty level. It is flat with some exposed roots and rocks. **Directions:** Follow County Hwy. H southeast of Laona for 5.5 miles to FR 2136. Turn left and continue 5 miles, looking for Halley Creek Trail signs on the left and gravel access road on the right. At the end of the road, the trailhead and parking area for 3-4 vehicles can be found.



KNOWLES CREEK IMPOUNDMENT AND INTERPRETIVE TRAIL:

This 170-acre wetland impoundment is a favorite for wildlife viewers. Open water, marsh, old fields, and forests combine to attract many species including owls, hawks, eagles, loons, and waterfowl. Enjoy a 0.75-mile hiking trail, which has easy access. **Directions:** 9.5 miles east of Wabeno on Hwy. C to FR 3132, south on 3132 for .5 mile. This is a .33-mile barrier-free access interpretive trail which follows the north shore of Knowles Creek impoundment. This is also a state designated watchable-wildlife viewing area.



ARGONNE EXPERIMENTAL FOREST TRAIL:

Since 1946, the Argonne Experimental Forest has been managed by the Forest Service as a living laboratory to study methods for managing northern hardwoods. This interpretive trail passes through 9 study areas where you can learn about different cutting methods and their effects. The trail features 17 informational signs. A brochure with more detailed information is available at the trailhead. Call (715) 674-4481 for more information. **Directions:** From Hiles, take Hwy. 32 north 2 miles to Experimental Road (FR 2184). Turn right and go 1.5 miles north to FR 3905. Turn right and go east 1/8 of a mile to the trailhead on the left. Parking for 2-3 cars is available.

EQUESTRIAN TRAILS



BAILEY LAKE EQUESTRIAN TRAIL:

Enjoy this trail from high in the saddle. Take your horse on a slow trot through a tall, red pine forest over what was once a logging road and railroad grade at the turn of the century. Early loggers used a combination of horse-drawn sleds and trains to haul timber from the woods. Once the snow falls, parts of this trail are used as a snowmobile route. Call (715) 479-2827 for more information. **Directions:** From Hiles, take State Hwy. 32 north 9 miles to Military Road (FR 2178). Turn right and go north 2 miles to Sheltered Valley Road (FR 2182). Turn right and go east 2 miles to (FR 3861B). Turn left into parking area where there is space for approximately 10 vehicles with horse trailers.



OTTER SPRINGS TRAIL: 10 miles of trail winding through a large area of rolling hardwood forest provides riding opportunities for all ages and skill levels. As you make your way through the forest, keep your eyes open for wildlife! The trailhead is equipped with picnic tables, hitching posts, high-lines and a pit-toilet constructed and maintained by the Silver Dollar Saddle Club. Call (715) 478-3475 for more information. **Directions:** From Crandon, take U.S. Hwy. 8 east about 5 miles to Otter Creek Road. Turn left and go north 0.1 miles to a parking area on the left (west) side of the road. Parking is available for 8-10 vehicles with trailers.



PUBLIC ATV TRAILS - Over 300 miles of routes and trails, featuring two state trails: Nicolet and Wolf River.

More information on all of these trails is available at forestcountywi.com, or call (715) 478-3475.



NICOLET STATE TRAIL: 32 miles of gravel trail open from May 1 to the close of the snowmobile trails. The Nicolet State Trail (NST) is open for winter ATV riding but it is illegal to go off this trail onto a snowmobile trail. The NST connects to Oconto and Florence counties and is open to hikers, bikers, horseback riders, dual-sport motorcycles and snowmobilers.



WOLF RIVER STATE TRAIL: 14 miles of gravel trail open from May 1 to the close of the snowmobile trails. The Wolf River State Trail (WRST) is open for winter ATV riding but it is illegal to go off this trail onto a snowmobile trail. The WRST starts in the city of Crandon and connects to Langlade County and is open to hikers, bikers, horseback riders, dual-sport motorcycles and snowmobilers.



FOREST COUNTY PUBLIC ATV TRAIL: 8 miles of looping trails on old logging roads. There are no trails leading on or off of this system so you must trailer in and stay on the marked trails. Any road not marked with a brown and white trail sign is illegal to ride on. The parking area and loading ramp are located just off County Hwy. W.



VALLEY TRAIL: Phase II was completed in 2018, adding approximately 7 miles of trail west of Crandon along Highway 8. The trail is open for ATVs, UTVs, and snowmobiles and connects the city of Crandon to the Crandon International Off-Road Raceway, also linking riders to the Little Rice Flowage, north to Hiles and south to Mole Lake. The next phase will plan to connect to Oneida County.

HELP CREATE NEW ATV TRAILS IN FOREST COUNTY!



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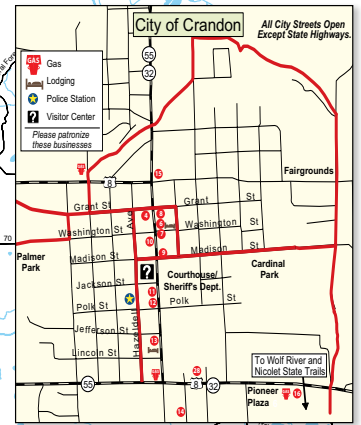
M-Th 9-5:30 F 9-6:30 SAT 7-100



WABIKON LAKE ATV RIDE
Brian Delhafen

FOREST COUNTY ATV MAP

www.forestcountyatv.com



- Paved ATV-UTV Routes/Trails
- Dirt ATV-UTV Routes/Trails
- Nicolet State Trail
- Wolf River State Trail

FCATVA would like to thank all the sponsors that have made this map possible.

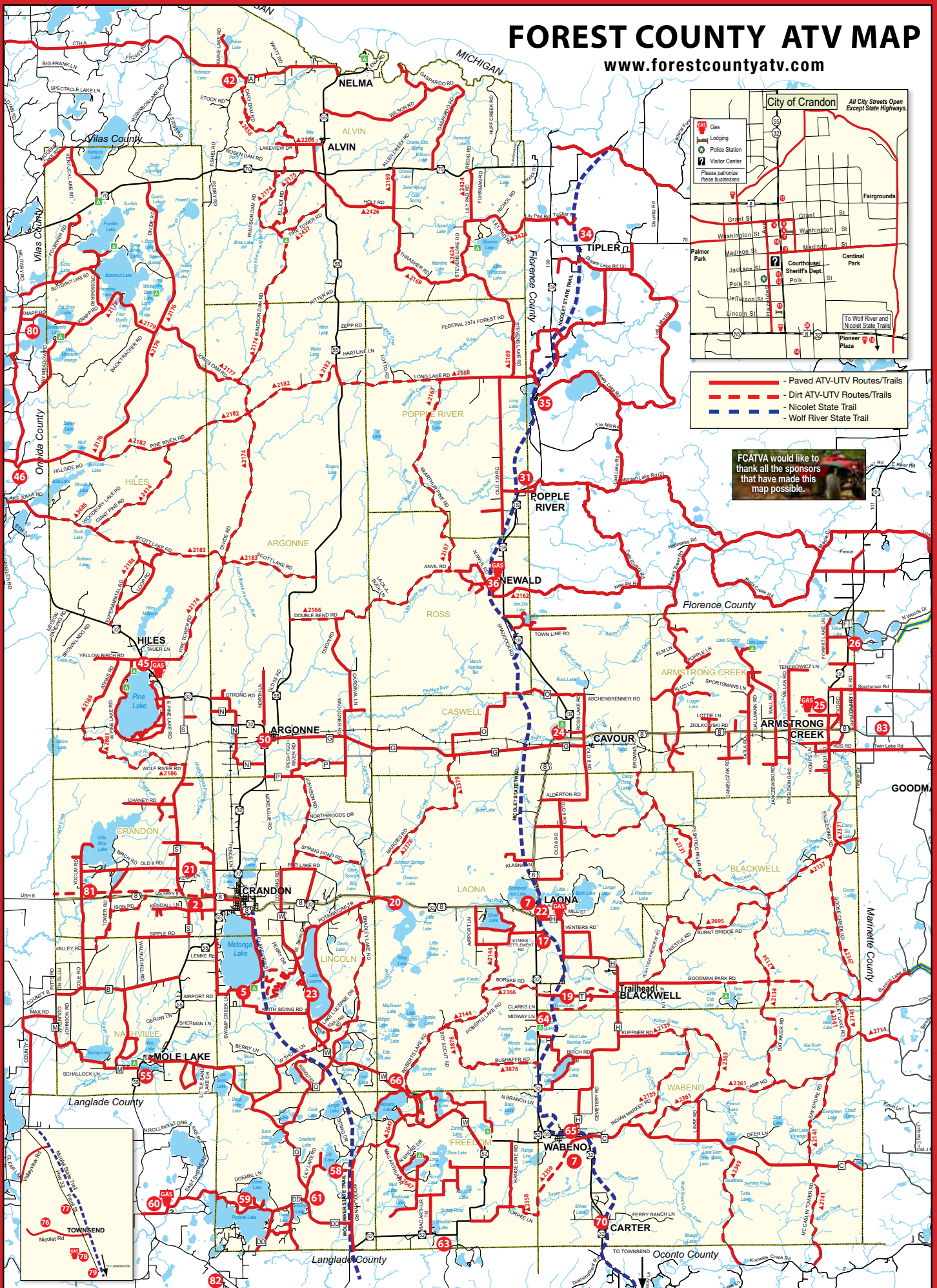




Photo courtesy of Pilch & Barnett

RUSTIC ROADS & AUTO TOURS

RUSTIC ROAD 34

LOCATED IN FOREST COUNTY, from the Village of Alvin, follows portions of Lakeview Dr., Carey Dam Rd. and Fishel Rd. to Hwy. 70. The route is 8.8 miles in length and the surface is paved and gravel in portions.

Located in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, this scenic route includes the Old North Rd., the very first road in the Town of Alvin, and one which has changed very little over the years. The road leads through a heavily-wooded area, including a 50-year-old pine plantation abundant with wildlife, and is ideal for hunting, fishing, hiking, skiing, and snowmobiling.

CHEQUAMEGON-NICOLET NATIONAL FOREST AUTO TOURS THE HERITAGE DRIVE NATIONAL FOREST SCENIC BYWAY, the

first scenic byway in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, was dedicated in May 1992. The byway incorporates a 10-mile section of Military Rd. (FR 2178) and 4 miles of Butternut Lake Rd. (FR 2181). A tabloid-styled interpretive guide and special byway signs help visitors learn more about the forest's rich cultural history.

THE CHEQUAMEGON-NICOLET NATIONAL FOREST AUTO TOUR

OF FOREST AND VILAS COUNTIES, is a self-guided natural history auto tour beginning in Eagle River and ending in Three Lakes. The 80-mile tour takes about 4 hours to complete. There are two developed picnic areas along the route, including one at Franklin Lake. There are 12 designated stops on the tour. Two stops feature short walking trails and one stop is a museum. The tour

helps you better understand the meaning of multiple use, while taking a leisurely drive through the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

For further information or brochures, check out the website for the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest at www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf.

RUSTIC ROAD 118

LOCATED IN THE CHEQUAMEGON-NICOLET NATIONAL FOREST, begins in the historic logging town of Wabeno. This 26.3-mile road begins at the intersection of WIS 32 and County C, Indian Market, Kuffner, Camp 1 and Bay Shore roads forming a loop back to County C, and includes both paved and gravel roads. The Knowles Creek Impoundment and Interpretive Trail are accessible from County C. It is a popular place to view owls, hawks, eagles, loons, waterfowl and other

wildlife. There is also a short interpretive trail. Indian Market Road has natural vegetation, travels through Native American lands and crosses several creeks. R-118 is a prime destination to view fall colors since it's heavily wooded with maples, oaks, pines and poplars. The Nicolet State Trail is accessible from Wabeno.

For a map and additional information: www.wisconsin.gov/rusticroads.

STATE SCENIC BYWAY

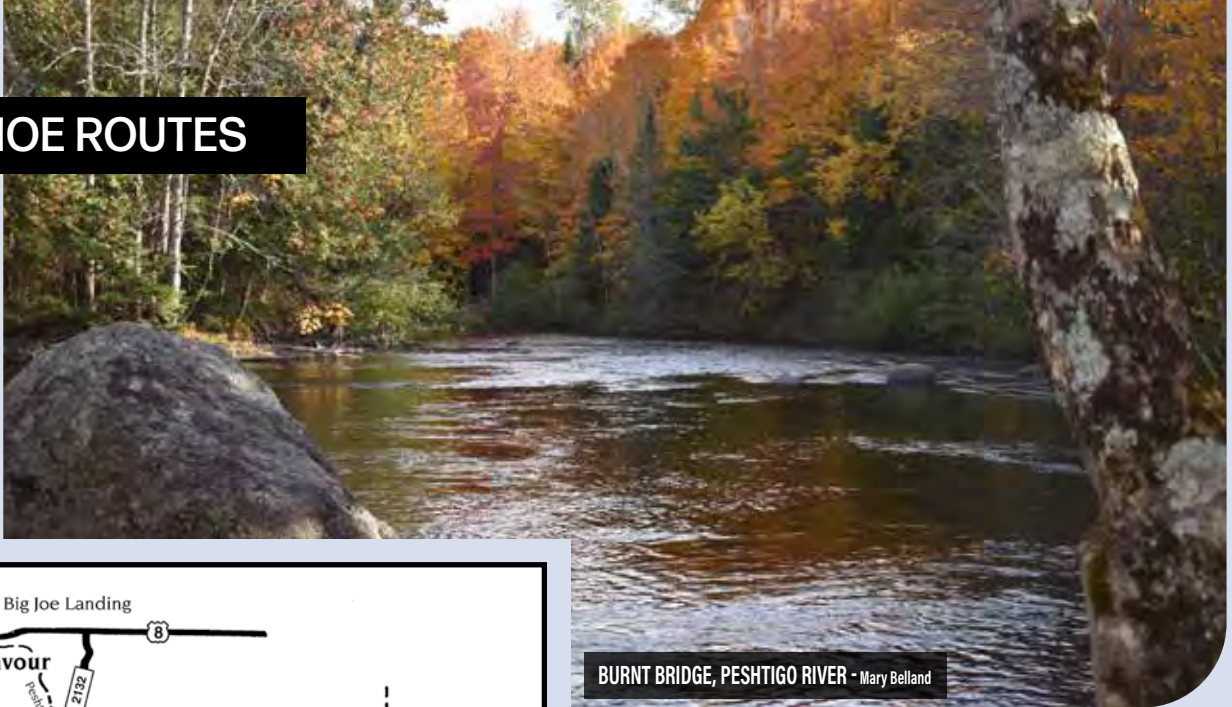
NICOLET WOLF RIVER SCENIC BYWAY

LOCATED IN NORTHEAST WISCONSIN, the 145-mile route includes views of the pristine Wolf River, a protected National Wild and Scenic River and the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. The route has limited development, dotted with a few rural communities, two tribal communities, as well as a few small farms. With beautiful wooded stretches and many waterways, a variety of wildlife abounds. Located mainly in Forest County, the Byway also includes parts of Langlade, Oneida and Vilas counties. The Byway is quite unique in that it travels a figure 8 route along State Highways 55, 32, 52, and 70, as well as US Highway 8. Teeming with many state natural areas and a variety of trails of all types, there is much to explore on the Nicolet Wolf River Scenic Byway.

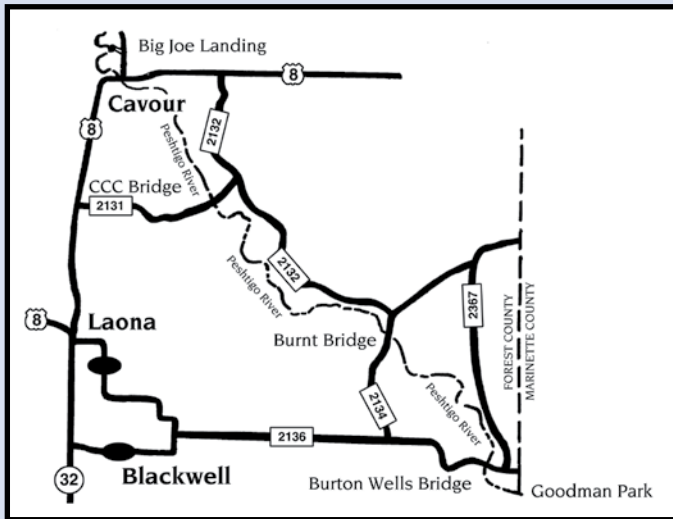
For an interactive map and additional information: Nicoletwolfriverbyway.com or www.wisconsin.gov/Pages/travel/road/scenic-ways/default.aspx



CANOE ROUTES



BURNT BRIDGE, PESHTIGO RIVER - Mary Belland



BISHOP LAKE - Hinztanya

RIVER	MAP #	PUT-IN	TAKE-OUT	LENGTH (MILES)	DESCRIPTION
Brule River	1	Brule Lake Dam	Hwy 139 Bridge	18	Two rapids - Water should be medium high
Pine River 1	2	Pine River Rd	Highway 55	9	Slow and winding
Pine River 2	3	Highway 55	Stevens Lake Rd	11	Faster with a few difficult rapids
Popple River	4	Highway 55	Old Hwy 139	13	Very secluded - 1 Portage - Some rapids - Water must be high
Wolf River 1	5	Pine Lake	Little Rice Flowage	10	Secluded area - some riffle rapids - Water should be medium high
Wolf River 2	6	Little Rice Flowage	Highway "B" Bridge	15	Very secluded - Many beaver dams - Water should be medium high
Peshtigo River 1	7	Big Joe Canoe Landing	CCC Bridge - FS Road 2131	7.5	Quiet Water - Novice level - Good for families
Peshtigo River 2	8	CCC Bridge - FS Road 2131	Burnt Bridge - FS Road 2134	9.5	Several rapids - Intermediate
Peshtigo River 3	9	Burnt Bridge - FS Road 2134	Burton Wells - FS Road 2136	5.75	Class II, III, IV Rapids - 1 Portage
Wabikon & Riley Lakes	10	Wabikon Lake	Wabikon Lake	—	Stream from Wabikon to Riley Lake - Indian River from Riley Lake to Indian Springs

LAKE RIVERS & STREAMS

LAKE	ACRES	DEPTH	ACCESS	WALLEYE	BASS	N. PIKE	MUSKIE	TROUT	PANFISH
Arbutus	161	28	Yes	▪	▪				▪
Atkins	151	4	Yes			▪			▪
Birch	468	72	-	▪	▪	▪			▪
Bishop	287	12	Yes			▪			▪
Bogbrook IMP	490	6	Yes		▪	▪			▪
Butternut	1292	42	Yes	▪	▪	▪			▪
Crane	341	25	Yes	▪	▪	▪			▪
Franklin	892	46	Yes	▪	▪	▪			▪
Haymeadow IMP	241	9	Yes			▪			▪
Hiles Millpond	713	5	Yes			▪			▪
Himley	149	8	-			▪			▪
Howell	177	16	-	▪	▪	▪			▪
Julia	401	4	Yes	▪	▪	▪	▪		▪
Jungle	182	14	Yes	▪	▪	▪			▪
Laura	110	22	Yes		▪				▪
Lily	211	24	Yes	▪	▪	▪			▪
Little Long	102	28	-		▪	▪			▪
Little Rice	1219	10	Yes		▪	▪			▪
Little Sand	243	22	Yes	▪	▪	▪			▪
Lucerne	1026	73	Yes	▪	▪	▪		▪	▪
Metonga	2157	79	Yes	▪	▪	▪			▪
Pat Shay	120	5	-		▪				▪
Peshtigo	156	4	Yes	▪	▪	▪			▪
Pickerel	1299	14	Yes	▪	▪	▪			▪
Pine	1670	14	Yes	▪	▪	▪			▪
Rice	208	6	-		▪	▪			▪
Riley	213	12	-	▪	▪		▪		▪
Roberts	452	32	Yes		▪		▪		▪
Scattered Rice	486	10	Yes		▪	▪	▪		▪
Shoe	169	7	-			▪	▪		▪
Silver	320	20	Yes		▪	▪	▪		▪
Stevens	295	10	Yes	▪	▪	▪			▪
Trump	172	20	Yes	▪	▪	▪			▪
Wabikon	594	15	Yes		▪		▪		▪

TROUT STREAMS	MILES	BROOK	BROWN
Allen	8.9	▪	▪
Alvin	5.0	▪	
Armstrong Creek	15.1	▪	▪
Armstrong W. Br.	7.5	▪	
Brule Creek	12.6	▪	▪
Brule River	12.3	▪	▪
Camp 8	7.9	▪	
Elvoy	7.0	▪	▪
Gaspardo	5.4	▪	
Jones	7.7	▪	▪
Kimball	6.1	▪	
Kingstone	5.4	▪	
Lilypad	7.5	▪	
Little Popple	10.5	▪	
McDonald	7.7	▪	
Meadowbrook	8.5	▪	
Oconto River	15.1	▪	▪
Otter	14.8	▪	
Otter North	12.7	▪	
Peshtigo	40.0	▪	▪
Peshtigo N. Br.	15.4	▪	▪
Peshtigo W. Br.	5.7	▪	
Pine River	13.5	▪	▪
Pine River N. Br.	13.9	▪	▪
Pine River S. Br.	14.5	▪	▪
Popple	14.0	▪	▪
Popple N. Br.	8.9	▪	▪
Rat	15.1	▪	▪
Rock	5.2	▪	▪
Simpson	5.8	▪	
Spencer	5.0	▪	
Swamp	8.0	▪	
Torpee	6.9	▪	



BISHOP LAKE
Hinztanya

HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES



Eurasian Milfoil

If you plan to bring your canoe or boat to Forest County, please do your part to help stop the spread of aquatic invasives like Eurasian Milfoil and Zebra Mussels. These life forms can be unintentionally transported from a contaminated lake to one that is not. Be a responsible boater. Properly clean and disinfect your boat, trailer, and fishing equipment before leaving home.




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ALVIN



Michelle Bauer

By an act passed by the Wisconsin Legislature in 1885, Forest County was created from portions of Langlade and Oconto Counties. Subsequent boundary changes occurred in 1893, 1897 and 1905 when the current boundaries were established.

The County was given the name of Forest by Crandon pioneer Mrs. Samuel Shaw due to the dense forestation which covered the area when it was organized in 1885 from the two townships of Cavour and Crandon. In 1911, the town of Alvin was set apart from portions of North Crandon and Caswell.

Logging, hunting, fishing, trapping, and the lure of land earned by homesteading and relocation for health reasons, brought many pioneers to this vast forest land. The first pioneers to the Alvin area filed homesteads in the early 1900s. They braved hardships and isolation to establish their new lives in a wilderness unlike any place they had known. In a wide arc that encircled the Alvin community, Dan Cain settled on Elvoy Creek, John Howell on Howell Lake, John Shopodock on Pine River, Austin Bell along Hwy. 55, McHale and Dehart near Hwy. 70, about five miles east

of Alvin. They survived by hunting, fishing and trapping.

The first Kentuckians who came with families to establish homes were: Curtis Powell, Sidney Hall, Willis May, John C. Phelps, Alvin Spencer, Arbury Brooks, Louis Puckett, William Powell, Miles McIntosh, Edgar Thrasher, Mort Powell, Joseph McIntosh and Thomas Powell.

In order to submit a request for a post office, a community had to have a city name. Alvin Spencer sent in Curtis Powell's name and Curtis sent in Alvin's name. A post office for a town named Curtis already existed, so Alvin became the town's name.



Cilla Packard

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ARGONNE

Kentuckians who came to homestead first populated the town of Argonne along the Pine River with the Native Americans. Argonne was first named VanZile, after Abraham VanZile who plotted all the land in the area. The Soo Line Railroad came in 1887, and a depot was built. There was one large hotel and a school located just north on Hwy. 32, housing eight students.

In 1894, the first two-story school was built and it served the community until 1991. The town, later called North Crandon, was originally located over a mile east of its present location, relocated because it was impossible for trains to start up with a load of lumber due to the steep grade. As more people came north to work in the lumber camps, the town grew until it contained two large hotels, two large grocery stores, one clothing store, a meat market, a post office, a printing shop, two newspapers (Forest Leaves and Northern Citizen), a large livery stable, a bank, seven saloons, two doctors, and several other small businesses.

When the town of Crandon was planned, a limit of two saloons was imposed on North Crandon. That effort was unsuccessful. Men from the Hiles logging camps came to frequent the saloons and if they drank more than their paychecks, owners would send the bills to Mr. Hiles and their tab would be taken out of their next paychecks.

A stagecoach carried the mail and passengers between Crandon and North Crandon, taking three to four hours

to drive over the rough corduroy roads. When a proposal came up to locate the Forest County Courthouse in downtown Argonne, a well-educated resident found a way for the Three Lakes Township to break away and become attached to Oneida County. This eliminated quite a number of people who would have voted for the Argonne location. He also put ads in papers recruiting people to come to live in North Crandon. This brought one person with small pox, resulting in 85% of the population contracting the disease.

Confusion with the mail and the name "North Crandon" prompted the community to come

up with a new name. "Champion", the name of a local merchant, was considered for a short while. In 1921, the name "Argonne" was chosen following the patriotic fervor after World War I for the Battle of Argonne in eastern France.

Today, the railroad tracks still exist along with a small post office and a handful of businesses. Argonne invites past and present residents to its annual "Argonne Days" celebration held in August to commemorate its history.



Michelle Bauer



Carrie Kulinski



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ARMSTRONG CREEK

The Town of Armstrong Creek is located on the far northeastern corner of Forest County. It is bordered by two other counties: Florence to the north and Marinette to the east. It was legally named and put into the Forest County books in November of 1922, but the town was in existence long before under such names as Caswell, LaFollette, Bonneville, and Engleking.

In the early 1900s, Grimmer Land Company published ads in the Chicago and Pittsburgh area newspapers, targeting the Polish immigrants with Polish advertisements promising that Armstrong Creek was the "Land of Milk and Honey". Armstrong Creek soon became a town of residents with deep Polish roots. In 1919, Polish residents formed a local branch of the Polish National Alliance, a national group that is still in existence today. It is from this early history that Armstrong Creek's annual Polish Heritage Days festival was formed.

On July 24-25, 2020, the 30th Annual Polish Heritage Days pays tribute to the town's colorful past. The weekend starts

out with a polka dance and crowning of "Miss Armstrong Creek" on Friday. On Saturday, there is an authentic Polish Mass at St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church, followed by a parade. Visitors will enjoy experiencing the Polish culture and seeing the elaborately-decorated costumes. The parade culminates at the town park, where spectators enjoy a full day of Polish foods, displays, crafts, Polka music, dancing, and other entertainment. The fun continues on Sunday with more polka music and Polish foods to enjoy. All this polka music is enjoyed in the beautiful 40'x100' pavilion built in 2006, through funds raised at the festival.

Polish Heritage Days was founded in 1991 and is sponsored by Citizens for Armstrong Creek, Inc. For more information on the event, contact: Pres. Kara Millan, 8896 Millan Rd., Armstrong Creek, WI 54103 or call (715) 336-3299.

When visiting Armstrong Creek, one might venture south on old Hwy. 101 to see the "Red Bridge". This piece of Armstrong Creek history was built in the late 1800s.



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BLACKWELL



Cilla Packard

History has played a major roll in the development of this small community. Once a company town owned by the Flanner Corporation, bankruptcy during the Great Depression forced the Town into receivership. In 1928, a wealthy lumber baron who owned a lumber mill in the Town of Blackwell built a grand home with walnut-paneled living and dining rooms, birdseye flooring, and beautiful fieldstone fireplaces. It has since become "The Bay at Nu-Roc", a health and rehabilitation nursing home. The Flanner Railroad line has become the Rat River Recreational Trail, a 7-mile non-motorized limestone trail that follows the scenic

river where once logs floated to the sawmill. The town is currently planning on two handicap fishing piers along the trail to improve access to all populations. The old schoolhouse is in renovations to become an apartment complex and retail outlet. The town grows, as three new developments have occurred at Bear, Camp Six, and Revolver Lakes. Blackwell is also home to the Civilian Job Corp Center, operating as a training center for youth 16 - 24. It provides them with meaningful work experience job training, and gives them the opportunity for community service. The USDA employs over 90 people at the center.

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CAVOUR

The center of the once thriving community of Cavour is about half-mile off Hwy. 8 on County Hwy. G, and thus few present-day travelers have a chance to go through Cavour. It is well worth the effort, if only to envision what went on there at the turn of the century. Cavour used to be quite a bustling place with a lumberjack population of nearly 600.

The Soo Line Railroad came through in 1887 at the start of the logging era. Cavour boasted a general store, a sawmill, a hotel and a bar – all owned by the Hess family. Frank and Mary Hess were the founders of the legacy. The fact that the town was built in a different era is evident in that it exists on the railroad tracks rather than on the major highway.



Cilla Packard

The Hess Hotel had a legacy all its own. It was a place where many logging men came to stay and wile away his woes in pleasant surroundings. Cavour was a major stop on the Soo Line Railroad and many travelers got laid off and stayed in Cavour. In 1911, the original hotel burned down but was rebuilt immediately. Frank Hess died and Mary ran the hotel by herself from 1919 until she died in the 1950s. The hotel business dwindled after the boom of logging died down. The Hess House and school still stand for anyone who wants to visit this historical place.

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CITY OF CRANDON COUNTY SEAT

Crandon was the dream of Samuel Shaw, an entrepreneur and capitalist who acquired property in the area in the 1880s. His vision was to build the city between the two hills and around the four lakes that are within the city limits. The area was part of Oconto County at that time, and Shaw, with assistance from Major Frank P. Crandon (tax commissioner with the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad), successfully lobbied the legislature for the creation of a new county. Forest County was created in 1885 and Crandon was named the county seat. Crandon didn't expand as fast as other communities in the county due to lack of rail service. Freight and passengers traveled to Crandon by riding the train to either Pelican Lake or Argonne, then walking or riding the stagecoach.

In 1891, Page and Landeck Lumber Company bought a huge tract of hardwood timberlands near Crandon, but they were unable to utilize the resource until the CN&W railroad built a spur from Pelican Lake. By 1902, the company built a huge sawmill (later named the Keith & Hiles Lumber Mill) near Clear Lake on Crandon's north side. The population of Crandon grew from

800 to over 2,400 in just a few years.

The migration of settlers and loggers who came to Crandon in the first part of the century was due, in part, to the cheap cutover land available for farming and, in part, to the fact that the Page & Landeck sawmill was moved to Crandon from Glasgow, Kentucky. Many employees followed the mill from Kentucky to its new home. The so-called Crandon "Kentuck" is known about statewide and is the source of much rich cultural history in Crandon.

Crandon was incorporated into a city right after the new courthouse construction began Jan. 28, 1909, and times were booming with many of the attractive brick buildings in town built during that time frame. The outlook was good for Crandon until the timber industry began to play out. Crandon still boasts a good many logging companies that work in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, has a healthy tourist industry, and is currently enjoying a growth in light industry.



Alyssa Gruett



Jason Headson



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FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI



FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI *Keeper of the Fire*

The Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) — Bod-we'wadmi, Keepers of the Fire, are one of eight federally-recognized bands of Potawatomi in the United States and Canada.

Following the Treaty of Chicago in 1833, the government forcefully relocated thousands of Potawatomi to Kansas and Oklahoma. At this time, small groups and families broke away from the main Potawatomi tribe to seek refuge in the dense forests of North Central Wisconsin. In 1913, treaty lands were recognized by the federal government

as a reservation. The FCP settled down on new land bases near Wabeno, Blackwell and Stone Lake. There are now more than 1,700 enrolled tribal members who reside there.

The FCP have maintained its traditional ways. They continue to practice traditional religions and honor their elders and children.

In recent years, there has been new development in the lives of the FCP. Indian gaming



has allowed for economic development in a way never imagined. Tribal members and non-tribal people work in the tribal offices, tribal businesses and casinos. The FCP employs over 750 people, the largest employer in Forest County.

Today, in a continuous effort to invest in its people and tribe, the FCP contributes monies to its own tribal-run programs. Current FCP programs and facilities include:

- Tribal housing
- Preschool program
- Daycare
- Elder program
- Farm
- Community center
- Health and wellness center
- Cultural center, library and museum
- Potawatomi Carter Casino Hotel
- Two convenience stores

The Potawatomi have done much with its gaming revenues. They remember the difficult times of the past and look to continue

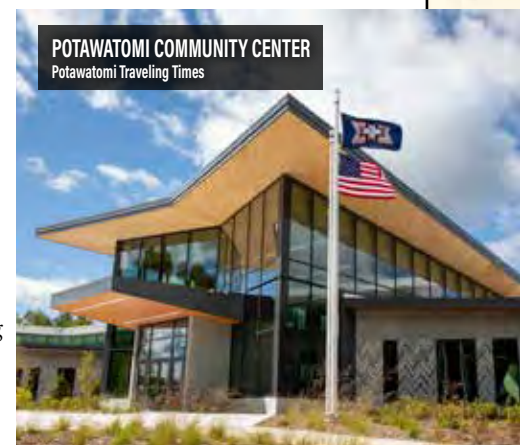
economic development for the future. This is evident through the work of the FCP Community Foundation. The Foundation's contributions to charities, organizations and schools have helped improve Forest County's vitality and quality of life. By working together with the community, everyone can strive to achieve goals and a better understanding for each other.

For information regarding any of the events or FCP businesses, please call (715) 478-7200, or visit www.FCPotawatomi.com.

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HILES

Although small in population, the Hiles area is very large in terms of Wisconsin history. Hundreds of years ago, the Old Copper Culture Indians traveled through this area from the Fox River Valley, along the Wolf and Pine Lake shores. They continued on north to the copper outcroppings near Lake Superior. When the Soo Locks opened in 1855, this trail was followed from Ontonagon on Lake Superior to Pine Lake and then along the Wolf to Shawano and on to Fort Howard (Green Bay). By the late 1860s, loggers used the lake and river to float logs downstream to sawmills located as far away as Oshkosh. The decade of the 1880s brought railroads to northeastern Wisconsin. In 1888, the Soo graded and laid their Minneapolis-to-Soo tracks along the south end of the lake. In 1892, Pete Johnson built the first official resort.

The town got its real start when 52-year-old Franklin Pierce Hiles purchased thousands of acres of timberland in the Pine Lake area and started a sawmill near the Mill Pond. In 1903, the new village was named Hiles. The Hiles' operation continued until 1905 when it was sold to Forster-Whitman and later reorganized as the Forster-Mueller Lumber Company. In 1918, Charles Fish purchased the town and its lumber and logging operations until it closed down in 1928. During this era of logging,

many improvements were made to Hiles, including a general store, a large boarding house, schools, churches, and some 30 or more homes. Hiles had its own logging railroad running into the forest, east and north of town. At some points in time, the census records indicate that there were as many as 450 residents in this small town. Throughout the years there have been small lumber and logging operations active in Hiles.

Today, Hiles is a good mixture of forestry, logging, hunting, fishing, boating, cross country skiing, and snowmobiling. Hiles was designated the official "Mushroom Capital of Wisconsin" by the State Mycological Society in 2013. Hiles is also home to several outstanding lakes. Pine Lake is a 1,650-acre, family-friendly lake with excellent swimming and great fishing. One little known fact is that Pine Lake is the 'headwaters' of the Wolf River which flows to Lake Winnebago in Oshkosh. Other excellent lakes include: Butternut, Franklin and Kentuck Lakes at the north end of the Town of Hiles. For more information on the town, refer to www.townofhiles.org.

Don't miss these great Hiles annual events:

- Hiles Fishoree, first Saturday in February; prizes, raffle, food and fun! Activities held at Town Hall. Fish 1,650-acre Pine Lake, best in the north!

- Fire Department Trap Shoot, July 16, 2022, 10 a.m., Hiles Fire Department Park. Great competition, food, friendship and prizes!

- Wisconsin Mycological Society Annual Summer Foray, July 21-24, 2022. Participate in the annual mushroom foray with two



full days of education, hunting, and fellowship. To date, there have been over 325 different varieties of mushrooms identified in the Hiles/Nicolet area. Cost is \$45 which includes Saturday night dinner. Participants must be a

member of the Wisconsin Mycological Society. Visit www.wisconsinmycologicalsociety.org for information. Contact Mark at Little Pine Motel for info: (888) 541-4150, or email littlepinemotel@gmail.com.



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LAONA



HONEY CREEK, LAONA
Mark Biederman

The 1,400 people who live in the Laona area are heirs to the shared heritage of the timber industry. The turn of the century marked the founding of Laona, just 20 years prior to logging's heyday. Around 1876, the pine loggers came into the area and cleared off the pine stands, which were scattered throughout the hardwoods. Not until the railroad came to Laona in 1900, however, did the great hardwood logging operations begin. Exploratory expeditions into this area by pine loggers and a few other individuals took place between 1870 and 1890. The area was not very accessible and few men ventured this far from the last outposts. Eventually, logging expeditions moved into the area, with pine being hauled on sleighs to Roberts Lake and floated down the Wolf River or put in the Peshtigo River below Taylor Falls.

During the last decade of the 19th century, William Duncan Connor hiked through the area and examined the fine stands of hardwood timber. He purchased 100,000 acres of timberland in Forest County, founding the

Connor Lumber and Land Company. During this period, the Chicago Northwestern Railroad was moving northward into the Laona area. The initial logging of the area occurred between 1900 and 1910.

The first settler in Laona was Norman Johnson. His daughter, Laona, was the first white child born in this town, and the town was named in her honor. The Connor Lumber and Land Company built its first sawmill in 1901; logging camps were opened and roads were built. Laona began to thrive as railroads steamed their way into northern Wisconsin, and Laona's economy became largely dependent upon the timber industry. A member of the Connor family still operates a sawmill in the community to this day. An authentic 1916 Vulcan steam engine, actually used by the Connor Lumber and Land Company during early logging operations, is now used to pull the vintage passenger train at the award winning, internationally-recognized Camp Five Lumberjack Special & Museum attraction.



MOLE LAKE SOKAOGON CHIPPEWA COMMUNITY

The Mole Lake Anishinaabe (Chippewa) migrated and settled on a 1,700 acre reservation over a thousand years ago. The reservation may not be large; however, the natural beauty and wild landscapes remain intact. Adjacent to Mole Lake are three lakes: Bishop Lake, Rice Lake and Mole Lake, all intertwined with Swamp Creek. Fishing and gathering wild rice from

these lakes are a large part of why the Sokaogon people settled here and call this place home. (Sokaogon means the "post in the lake people" because of a spiritual significance to a post – or petrified tree – in a nearby lake).

The Sokaogon Chippewa Community Enterprises include a casino, hotel-conference center, c-store, restaurant and more. Located on snowmobile, ATV and other trails.

For information about the Sokaogon Chippewa Community, call (715) 478-7500, or for the Mole Lake Casino Lodge, call (715) 478-3200.



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NEWALD



Hinsztanya

The Town of Newald, platted by Abraham VanZile in 1905, was originally called Ross, after Charles Ross, a pioneer settler. It was renamed Newald in 1906 after a local landowner. The town's nearby lake was called VanZile.

Throughout the early 1900s, Newald prospered from its robust hardwood lumbering economy. Two sawmills, Cleereman and Jaquet, sprang up along with two grocery stores, a Catholic and an Evangelical church, a train depot, a post office, a hotel, and Greenview School, a two-story red brick building with its own school bus—a carriage pulled by a team of horses.

Every payday, hordes of lumberjacks from Hermansville, Val Butler, and other logging camps descended on Newald, thirsty for a rip-roarin' good time. The town's fancy new dancehall

and four taverns eagerly helped the rambunctious loggers part with their hard-earned wages.

Today, the hum of sawmills has been replaced by the clamor of snowmobiles in winter and ATVs in summer along the rugged, adventurous old logging trails through the woods surrounding Newald. The multi-use Nicolet State Trail, a former railroad bed along the town's western boundary, is easily accessible. Newald's Out of the Blue Art Festival and soup cookout is held the first Saturday in October and is sponsored by Jimmy Koch, a noted California artist who maintains homes in Newald and California. This cultural event has seen a promising increase in both exhibiting artists and visitors since it began in 2015.

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PICKEREL

The Pickerel area is a premier vacation destination. Located in the southwest corner of Forest County, it offers year-round vacation opportunities. The Pickerel and Crane Lakes are the crown jewels of the area. Pickerel Lake is a shallow lake offering canoeing, paddle and pontoon boating and, of course, fishing. One may just want to relax and enjoy the natural beauty of the area. Besides Pickerel and Crane, other lakes in the area include Rollingstone, Lily, Big Twin, and Post Lakes, all offering the same great recreational opportunities.

The region has many fine restaurants, resorts, bars, campgrounds, and gas facilities. There is an excellent

golf course in the area. This region is home to one of the largest snowmobile clubs in Wisconsin, the Tombstone-Pickerel Snow Club (www.tombstonepickerel.com). It is also home to the newly-established Pickerel-Pearson Wolf River Riders ATV Club (www.wolfriverriders.com).

For bikers and walkers, a bike-pedestrian trail has been built, running along Pickerel Lake Rd. from the bridge, between Pickerel and Crane lakes west to Bartz Bay Rd. Sportsmen and nature lovers of all ages enjoy the unspoiled beauty of the area. The serenity of the forests, and the casual lifestyle are welcome changes from the daily hustle and bustle of this fast-paced world.



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WABENO

On June 2, 1880, a tornado swept across northern Wisconsin from Antigo to Lake Superior, causing timber to blow down in a strip that measured 1/2 to 1 mile wide. The Native Americans called this area Waubeno". Waubeno means "the coming of the winds" or "the opening". The town took its name from this event.

In the closing years of the 1800s, the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad pushed north into the area. Sawmills were soon built along the tracks, and Wabeno sprang up around them. Founded in 1897, the early history of Wabeno centers around the development of many lumber companies; the principle ones being the Menominee Bay Shore Lumber Company, A.E. Rusch Lumber Company, and the Jones Lumber Company. Wood fueled the community's

economy until the late 1930s, but shortly after most of the mills closed due to changes in access to timber and the market.

Downtown Wabeno has preserved a number of artifacts from the logging era. The Wabeno Logging Museum, a replica of an old logging camp, was built in 1941 by the Wabeno Lions Club. It contains a photo history of early Wabeno and items needed for hardwood logging. The museum is open Memorial Day through Labor Day. The Wabeno Public Library, a quaint and charming log library, is on the National Registry of Historic Places. Built in 1897, it served as the land office for the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Company, making it one of the first buildings in Wabeno. The library is open Monday through Saturday year-round. Check



Sarah Bradley



LARRY THE LOGROLLER

Wabeno Steam-Up Days, its annual celebration of historic logging technology. Wabeno also hosts a day-long Wabeno Annual Art and Music Fest (WAM Fest) with professional musicians and artists the first Saturday in August.

The event has an art competition as well as a creative activities for young artists. The Friends of Wabeno created a barrier-free boardwalk and nature trail along the North Branch of the Oconto River and the Range Line Creek that merge in the downtown parks. The trail has accessible piers and a compacted trail for sightseeing, fishing and birdwatching.

library and museum days and hours of operation at www.townofwabeno.org

The Wabeno Antique Power Association maintains the Phoenix Log Hauler, one of a few remaining steam-powered log haulers still operational. It was used by the Jones Lumber Company from 1909 until 1935 and purchased and refurbished by the town in 1944. The Phoenix is operated during




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LIBRARY MUSEUMS

FCP Cultural Center, Library & Museum

8130 Mish ko swen Dr., Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 478-7478
FCPotawatomi.com/culture
See ad page 37

Homes • Garages • Remodeling • Skidsteer Work • Blown Insulation



Walentowski Builders, Inc.

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

8840 E. Pioneer • Crandon, WI 54520

Rodger (715) 478-3853
Darren (715) 478-3459
(715) 889-0430 (715) 889-0433

Lumberjack Steam Train & Camp 5 Museum

5068 US Hwy. 8, Laona, WI 54541
(715) 674-3414
lumberjacksteamtrain.com
See ad page 35

Forest County Historical Museum

105 W. Jackson St., Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 902-1620 • forestcountyhistory.org

Forest County Public Libraries

110 West Polk, Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 478-3784, crandonpl.org
5216 Forest Ave., Laona, WI 54541
(715) 674-4751 • laonapubliclibrary.com
4556 N. Branch St., Wabeno, WI 54566
(715) 473-4131, wabenopl.org
See ad on 32

PHARMACY

Wolf River Pharmacy

600 E. Pioneer Plaza #3.
Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 478-3369 / (715) 478-3945
wolfriver01@frontiernet.net
wolfriverrx.com

PRINTERS

Minuteman Press

507 W. Johnson St.
Fond du Lac, WI 54935 • (920) 923-0800
fonddulac@minutemanpress.com
fdl.minutemanpress.com
See ad page 31

REAL ESTATE

Century 21 Northwoods Team, Inc.

121 N. Lake Ave., P.O. Box 144
Crandon, WI 54520
877-221-6937 • C21nwds@yahoo.com
C21nwds.com • See ad page 15

Coldwell Banker,

Bartels Real Estate, Inc.

15251 Hwy. 32, Lakewood, WI 54138
(920) 574-6884 • See ad page 17

Integrity Realtors, LLC

Crandon: (715) 478-0233
Antigo: (715) 627-4181
Elcho: (715) 275-3001
integrityrealtorsllc.com
See ad page 33

RECREATION

Crandon International Raceway

10104 Hwy. 8, P.O. Box 101
Crandon, WI 54520 • (715) 478-2222
trackoffice@crandonoffroad.com
crandonoffroad.com • See ad page 13

Heritage Hunt Club

5480 Connor Farm Rd., Laona, WI 54541
(715) 889-9893 • HeritageHuntClub.com
See ad page 14

Forest County ATV Association

7284 Freedom Trail, Wabeno, WI 54566
(715) 473-2219 • forestcountyatv.com
See ad page 26

Lumberjack Steam Train & Camp 5 Museum

5068 US Hwy. 8, Laona, WI 54541
(715) 674-3414
lumberjacksteamtrain.com
See ad page 35

Moose Knee Rafting

142943 Moon Rd., Mosinee, WI 54455
(715) 660-8316
moosekneerafting@gmail.com
wisconsinrafting.com

Northwoods Powersports Adventures

(920) 889-5367
northwoodspowersportsadventures.com • See ad page 17

RETAIL

Argonne Lumber & Supply

7595 State Hwy. 32 / 55 Argonne, WI 54511 • (715) 649-3237
1015 W. Davenport St., Rhinelander, WI 54501 • (715) 369-3237
argonnelumber.com • See ad page 33

Conway True Value Hardware

600 East Pioneer St.
Crandon, WI 54520 • (715) 478-3617
conwaytruevalue@live.com
truevalue.com/conwaytruevalue
See ad page 16

Dvorak's Docks

N11176 US Hwy. 45, P.O. Box 353,
Elcho, WI 54428 • (715) 275-3625
dvoraksdocks@gmail.com
dvoraksdocks.com • See ad page 17

FCP Bodwéwadmí Ktëgan

3389 Cty Hwy H, Laona, WI 54541
(715) 478.4545 • farm.fcpotawatomi.com
See ad page 31

Flowers from the Heart & UB's Northwoods Emporium

117 N. Lake Ave., Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 478-3710
CrandonFlowersFromTheHeart.com
See ad page 40

Jameson's Whiskey Darlin'

306 N. Lake Ave., Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 784-1257
communityconnect@yahoo.com
whiskeydarlin.com • See ad page 19

Northern Tee and Gifts/Creative Screenprinting & Embroidery

119 N. Lake Ave., Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 478-1075 • creativecrandon.com
See ad page 35

Northwoods Firearms

409 E. Pioneer St., Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 478-0404
northwoodsfirearms@gmail.com
northwoodsfirearms.com
See ad page 26

SCHOOLS

Forest County Schools:

School District of Crandon

9750 Hwy. 8 West, Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 478-3339 • sdofcrandon.com

School District of Laona

5216 Forest Ave., Ste. A
Laona, WI 5454 • (715) 674-2143
laona.k12.wi.us

School District of Wabeno Area

P.O. Box 460, Wabeno, WI 54566
(715) 473-2592 • wabenok12.wi.us
See ad page 34

SERVICES

American Legion Post 94

110 E. Madison St., Crandon, WI 54520
(920) 240-7159 • See ad page 36

Forest County Economic Development Partnership

116 S Lake Ave., P.O. Box 96
Crandon, WI 54520 • (715) 478-3450
fcedpwi.org • See ad inside front cover

Laundromat Village Inn

600 D East Pioneer St.
Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 487-5175 • See ad page 3

Bug Tussel

417 Pine St., Green Bay, WI 54301
(920) 600-4760
amanda.hatch@btussel.com
btussel.com • See ad page 6

Storage City

West of Crandon on Hwy. 8
P.O. Box 25, Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 478-2085 • See ad page 32

The Forest Republican

103 S. Hazeldell Ave. • Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 478-3315 • FAX (715) 478-5385
news@forestrepublican.com
florence-forestnews.com
See ad page 32

Toy Storage

5258 Linden St., Laona, WI 54541
(920) 367-3107 • toystoragewi@gmail.com
toystoragewi.com • See ad page 40

Votis Tree Removal

(715) 889-3776 • FB: Votis Tree Removal
See ad page 17

Weber-Hill Funeral Home, Inc.

302 S. Lake Ave., Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 478-2322 • FAX (715) 478-2323
info@weberhillfuneralhome.com

Xecutive Limousine

PO Box 249, Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 344-1153
info.xecutivelimo@gmail.com
xecutivelimousine.com • See ad page 34

Yaeger Oil Co., Inc. and Laona Machine Supply

4902 Hwy. 8, PO Box 38
Laona, WI 54541 • (715) 674-2601
405 N. Boulevarde., Crandon, WI 54541
(715) 478-3528
laonamachine.com • See ad page 39



PALUBICKI'S EATS & TREATS

103 W. Glen St.
Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 478-3757



HEALTH IN MOTION

501 W. Lincoln Street | Crandon, WI 54520
(715) 478-6168 | himwi.com

AREA CHURCHES

ARGONNE

United Methodist Church

7945 Pine St.
(715) 649-3750
Sunday Worship at 9 a.m.

ARMSTRONG CREEK

St. Stanislaus Kostka Catholic Church

Hwy. 8, (715) 336-2334

CARTER

Sunnyside Community Church

P.O. Box 354, Hwy. 32

CRANDON

Crandon Church of Christ

100 Prospect Ave.
(715) 478-2645
Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church - LCMS

1507 North Lake Ave.
(715) 478-3555
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.

Jehovah Kingdom Hall

1036 Hwy. 55
(715) 478-5775

Lakeland Baptist Church

106 South Hazeldell,
(715) 478-3901
Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.
and 6 p.m.

Living Faith Church of God

202 South Hazeldell
(715) 478-2369
Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m.
and 6 p.m.

Praise Chapel

200 East 6th St.
(715) 478-2051
Sunday Worship at 10 a.m.
and 6:30 p.m.

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

208 North Park St.
(715) 478-3396
Saturday Mass at 5 p.m.,
Sunday Mass at 9 a.m.

St. Luke's United Methodist Church

301 South Lake
(715) 478-3797
Sunday Worship at 10:30 a.m.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church - WELS

501 North Park
(715) 478-5620
Sunday Worship at 10:15 a.m.

HILES

Christ Lutheran Church - WELS

9126 Hwy. 32. Sunday Worship
Call for service time:
(715) 478-5620

LAONA

Forest Larger Parish Presbyterian Church

Linden St., (715) 473-3603
Check Facebook for times/locations

St. John Lutheran Church - LCMS

5502 Beech St.
(715) 674-3836
Sunday Worship at 8 a.m.

St. Leonard's Catholic Church

5331 Beech St.
(715) 674-3241
Saturday Mass at 4 p.m.,
Sunday Mass at 9 a.m.

MOLE LAKE

Waba Nun Nung Chapel

(715) 478-2730, Sunday Worship at
9:30 a.m.

NEWALD

St. Hubert Catholic Church

(715) 674-3241, Saturday Mass
at 5:30 p.m.

WABENO

Forest Larger Parish Presbyterian Church

4347 Branch St.,
(715) 473-3603
Check Facebook for times/locations

St. Ambrose Catholic Church

1793 Elm St., P.O. Box 280
(715) 473-2511
Saturday Mass at 4 p.m.
Memorial Day to Labor Day,
Sunday Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Trinity Evangelical - WELS Lutheran Church

1741 Forest Ave.
(715) 473-5633.
Sunday Worship at 9:30 a.m.,
Monday Worship at 6 p.m.
www.trinityrisensavior.com

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

EMERGENCY 911

Forest County Sheriff(715) 478-3331
City of Crandon Police Department (715) 478-1000

USDA NICOLET NATIONAL FOREST

Laona Ranger District.....(715) 674-4481
Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
(DNR) Crandon.....(715) 478-3717

CITY OF CRANDON

Mayor.....(715) 478-3690
Clerk Treasurer.....(715) 478-2400
Crandon Municipal Airport.....(715) 478-2400

CLINICS

Crandon.....(715) 478-3318
FCP Health & Wellness Center.....(715) 478-4300
Mole Lake.....(715) 478-5180
Wisconsin Poison Control Center...(800) 222-1222

U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

Argonne.....(715) 649-3398
Armstrong Creek.....(715) 336-2430
Crandon.....(715) 478-2356
Laona.....(715) 674-4511
Pickerel.....(715) 484-2655
Wabeno.....(715) 473-4741

FOREST COUNTY COURTHOUSE OFFICES, CRANDON

HOURS: 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M., MONDAY - FRIDAY

Child Support Agency.....(715) 478-2157
Clerk of Circuit Court.....(715) 478-3323
Commission on Aging.....(715) 478-3256
Coroner, Wabeno.....(715) 473-4802
Corporation Counsel, Forest County(715) 623-3743
County Clerk.....(715) 478-2422
County Judge.....(715) 478-2329
County Nurse.....(715) 478-3371
County Treasurer.....(715) 478-2412
County Board Chairman.....(715) 336-2463
District Attorney.....(715) 478-3511
Economic Development.....(715) 478-3450
Emergency Management.....(715) 478-3430
Forest County Snowline.....(715) 478-2024
Forestry.....(715) 478-3475
Highway Commissioner.....(715) 478-3516
Highway Shop.....(715) 478-2123
Medical Examiner.....(715) 478-3331
Real Property Lister.....(715) 478-3216
Register of Deeds.....(715) 478-3823
Register in Probate.....(715) 478-2418
Social Services Department.....(715) 478-3351
UW-Extension.....(715) 478-2212
Veterans Service.....(715) 478-3722
Youth and 4-H Agent.....(715) 478-7797
Zoning and Recycling.....(715) 478-3893



1930 Jameson's Inn
5-Star Marketing & Distribution
A & M Property Management
American Legion Post 94
Appraisal Shoppe
Argonne Lumber & Supply, Inc.
Associated Bank - Crandon
Best Wash of Crandon
Breakaway Properties, LLC
Bug Tusel Wireless
Center for Human Restoration
Century 21 Northwoods Team
Chad Swanson Agency LLC,
American Family Insurance
Charlie's Lake Metonga Resort, LLC
Clem & Sandra Walentowski
Conway True Value Hardware
Country Camping
CoVantage Credit Union
Crandon Inn & Suites
Crandon Motorsports
Crandon Pharmacy
Crandon Water Shows
Creative Screenprinting/
Northern Tees and Gifts
Dean Distributing
Duck's Bar & Grill
Elite Automotive
Final Touch Construction
Flannery Trucking Company
Flowers From the Heart/
UB's Northwoods Emporium
Forest Abstract Company
Forest County Advertising
Forest County ATV Association
Forest County Economic Development
Partnership
Forest County Humane Society
Forest County UW Extension
Forest Granite Works
Forest Republican
Forest TV & Appliance
Four Seasons Motel
Gowey Abstract & Title Co.
H&R Block
Health In Motion
Hiles Pine Lake Campground
Hollywood Hill Event Center
Infinity Wood Floors Acquisitions, LLC
Integrity Realtors
Iron River Community Broadcasting
J. Schaefer Enterprises, Inc.
Jameson's Whiskey Darlin'
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L & L Clearing, LLC
Lake Avenue Restaurant
Laona Beautifying Committee
Laona State Bank
Lazy Brook Enterprises, LLC
Laundromat, Village Inn
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Main Street Eds
Main Street Inn
Maplewood Villa
Marco
Millan Forestry Care
Nicolet Country Club
Night Owl
Northwoods Powersports Adventures
Northwoods Connect
powered by Bug Tusel
Northwoods Firearms, LLC
Northwoods Inn
Northwoods Insurance Agency
Northwoods United Way
Pack Em Inn
Parson's Auto & Truck Sales
Piacenza's on Wabikon
Pickerel Point Resort, LLC
Potawatomi Carter Casino Hotel
Potawatomi Traveling Times
Rusty's Wabeno Bowl
School District of Crandon
School District of Wabeno Area
Trailside Hideaway Campground, LLC
The Bay at Nu Roc Health and
Rehabilitation Center, LLC
Town of Laona
Town of Lincoln
Town of Wabeno
Wabeno Area Players
Waldvogel Landscaping & Seal Coating
Walentowski Builders, Inc.
Walter & Mary Wied
Weber-Hill Funeral Home
Widucki & Associates, LLC
Wisconsin Public Service Corporation
Wolf River Pharmacy
WXPR Public Radio
Yaeger Oil Co, Inc./Laona Machine Supply
Yeti's Drive In
Chris Shafer Agency, LLC
Double J Shuttle
Double K., Inc., Hometown Trolley
Minuteman Press - Fond du Lac



Visitor Information Center

Toll Free: 800.334.3387 | 715.478.3450

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