

# FOREST

COUNTY, WI

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VISITORS GUIDE  
2024



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ALVIN ARGONNE ARMSTRONG CREEK BLACKWELL CARTER CAVOUR CRANDON FREEDOM  
HILES LAONA MOLE LAKE NELMA NEWALD PICKEREL POPPLE RIVER STONE LAKE WABENO



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## About us

# Forest County

## A CAPSULE OF HISTORY



Courtesy of Crandon Public Library - A farmer's market in progress behind the Opera House on the South side of Washington Street

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

### Nursing Homes:

- Bay at Nu-Roc Health and Rehabilitation Center, Laona
- Maplewood Villa, Armstrong Creek

### 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

# Take a breath... Visit Forest County



We would like to Thank You and Welcome you to Forest County! Visit Forest County would like to share all the exciting things that this beautiful county offers.

From the beauty of our forests, lakes and rivers to our wonderful communities we are truly blessed. We aim to be welcoming to everyone and showcasing the customer service all so richly desire. When planning your weekend getaways, summer vacations or looking for a place to retire or start your new family look no further than Forest County! "Take a Breath" isn't just a slogan, it is a way of life!

CEO of Visit Forest County

*Chris Shafer*

chris.visitforestcounty@gmail.com  
(715) 478-3450

This publication was made possible with the support of Forest County Advertising and Visit Forest County.

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



### Visit Forest County

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Please check the Visit Forest County Website, Facebook, and Instagram for new events that are added by our communities. There are so many things to do in Forest County and we can't wait to share them with you.

Check us out at  
visitforestcounty.com.

## WEEKLY EVENTS

**Mondays: 8 - 10 a.m.**  
**Hiles Service Club Coffee with Friends**  
Hiles Town Museum, Hiles

**Wednesday: 8 - 10 a.m.**  
**Coffee at the American Legion Post 94,**  
American Legion Post 94, Crandon

**May - October:**  
**Tuesdays: 9 - 1 p.m.**  
**Crandon Farmers & Maker's Market,**  
Crandon Courthouse Lawn, Crandon

**May - September:**  
**Fridays: 10 - 2 p.m.**  
**Laona's Farmers Market,**  
Laona Town Hall Parking Lot, Hwy, 8

**June - August:**  
**Wednesday: 6:30 p.m.**  
**Crandon Water Show,**  
Waters Edge Lodge, Crandon

**July: Monday: 6:30 p.m.**  
**Crandon Water Show,**  
Waters Edge Lodge, Crandon

## JANUARY

- 6 **Laona Lions Club Predator Hunt,**  
Senolihn's Bar, Laona
- 11-13 **Three Lakes Tavern League Poker Run #1,** Ends at Spiritview Lakeside
- 20 **Crandon Lions Winterfest,** Community Building, Crandon
- 20 **Wabeno Area Players,**  
2024 Season Launch, Madonna Hall, Wabeno
- 27 **Chicken Soup Cluck Off,**  
Proceeds benefit the Three Lakes Brule Trails, Lindy's Hideaway, Three Lakes, WI, 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.
- 27 **Snowmobile to Beat Cancer – 6th Annual SPANKY Ride: Poker Draw,** Fireworks, Raffles, Live Music Pelican Lake, 11 a.m.

## FEBRUARY

- 3 **Hiles Fishoree, Hiles**  
Town Hall, Pine Lake, 10 a.m.
- 3 **Lumberjack Memorial Trail 50th Anniversary Raffle, Meat Raffle and Poker Run,**  
Wabeno, 12 p.m.
- 3 **Three Lakes Vintage Sled Ride,** Start at Spiritview Lakeside, Ends at Tavern on the Loop, Proceeds benefits Three Lakes Brule Trails.
- 10 **American Legion Sylvan Post 44's Fish-O-Ree,**  
Hosted by, Trump Lake Pavilion, all day
- 10 **Three Lakes Tavern League Gun and Meat Raffle,**  
Spiritview Lakeside, 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- 15-17 **Three Lakes Tavern League Poker Run #2,** Ends at 32 South Tavern
- 16-17 **Three Lakes Shootout,** Spirit Lake, snowmobile races, TBD
- 17 **Laona Beautifying Committee Winter Fun Day,**  
Laona Community Building, Laona, 10 a.m.
- 18 **Northern Lights Snowmobile Club Weenie Roast,** TBA
- 24 **Three Lakes Junker Sled Ride,** Three Lakes Snowmobile Park, Proceeds benefits Three Lakes Brule Trails.



Photo by Barb Thiel

- 24 **Laona Fire Department Fishoree,** Hosted by LFD Auxiliary, Silver Lake Beach, Laona

## MARCH

- 9 **7th Vintage Snowmobile Show,** Jars Bar and Grill, Laona. 11 a.m.
- 16 **Pickereel Pearson St. Patrick's Parade,** Hosted by Country Inn Bar and Grill Snow Club on County Rd, Pickereel
- 23 **American Legion Sylvan Post 44's Gunless Poultry Shoot,** Rusty's Bowl, Wabeno
- 23-24 **Forest County Potawatomi Winter's End Powwow,**  
Potawatomi Community Center, Crandon
- End of March-  
**Sappy Days - Tours of Sap Shacks,** Armstrong Creek

## APRIL

- 6 **Crandon American Legion Post 94 Easter Egg Hunt,**  
Courthouse Lawn, Crandon, 12 p.m.
- 6 **Laona Beautifying Committee Easter Egg Hunt,** Laona Town Hall, 12 p.m.
- 12-14 **Wabeno Area Players, The Seasonal Psychologist: A Comedy by Dr. Daniel Boatright,** Nancy Volk Auditorium, 7 p.m. and 14th at 2 p.m.

## MAY

- 4 **Laona Rescue Squad Bear 100 (Bike Race),** Jars Bar & Grill, Laona
- 4 **Wabeno Area Players, Bluegrass Band: Special Consensus,** Nancy Volk Auditorium, 7 p.m.
- 6-10 **Prevention Week Activities,**  
Community Coalition of Forest County, Location TBD
- 17-19 **Town-Wide Rummage Sale,**  
Laona
- 18 **Three Lakes Golf Outing,**  
Big Stone Golf Course, Proceeds benefits Three Lakes Brule Trails.
- 18 **Wabeno Area Players, Huisman Honor Concert,**  
Nancy Volk Auditorium, 7 p.m.
- 18 **Laona Rescue Squad Crystal Bear (Bike Race),**  
TBA, Laona
- 18 **Forest County ATV Association Spring Kick Off Ride,** Crandon International Raceway, Crandon
- 26 **Laona Lions Club Trap Shoot,** Padus Nicolet Gun Club, Wabeno
- 27 **Laona Beautifying Community Veteran's Memorial Park Ceremony & Luncheon,** Veteran's Memorial Park, Laona
- 27 **Hiles Service Club Dinner after Veteran's Memorial Park Ceremony,** Hiles Town Hall, Hiles



Photo credit by Mike Balistreri

## JUNE

- 5 **Crandon Water Ski Show Opening Night,** Water's Edge Lodge, Crandon, 6:30 p.m.
- 6-8 **Wabeno Dual Sports Ride,**  
Wabeno
- 7 **Laona Beautifying Committee Rock The Block,**  
Centennial Park, Laona, 4:30 p.m.
- 8 **Laona Quarterback Club Annual Golf Outing,** Nicolet Golf Course, Laona, all day
- 10-11 **Forest County Potawatomi Veteran's Powwow,** Carter Powwow Grounds, Wabeno
- 15 **Trailside Hideaway Campground Father's Day Ride,** Trailside Hideaway Campground, Laona
- 20-22 **Flatrock Bluegrass Jamboree,** Armstrong Creek at Stonewall Music Park
- 21-23 **31st Forest County Potawatomi Brush Run Off-Road Races,** Crandon International Raceway, Crandon, all weekend
- 22 **Wabeno Lions Club Mega Meat Raffle,** Wabeno Firefighters' Grounds, Wabeno, 11 - 5 p.m.

## JULY

- 5-7 **Forest County Festival, Crandon International Raceway,** Crandon, all day
- 6 **Laona Fourth of July Celebration,** Hwy. 8 and Silver Lake Beach, Laona, all day
- 6 **Crandon Fire Department Fourth of July Celebration,**  
Crandon
- 6 **Senolihn's Bar Street Dance,** Linden Street, Laona, 5 p.m.
- 6 **Wabeno Chamber Craft & Vendor Fair,** Downtown Wabeno, 9 - 3 p.m.
- 7 **Town of Wabeno Steam Up Days,** Wabeno, Noon
- 13 **Crandon American Legion Post 94 Summerfest,** City Beach, Crandon, 10 a.m.
- 13 **Hiles Fire Dept. Annual Trapshoot,** Hiles Fire Dept. Trap Range, 10 a.m.
- 19 **Laona Beautifying Committee Rock The Block,**  
Centennial Park, Laona, 4:30 p.m.
- 19-21 **Wisconsin Mycological Society Annual Foray,** Little Pine Motel, Hiles
- 20 **Wabeno Art and Music (WAM) Fest Wabeno Band Shell,** Wabeno, all day
- 27 **Polish Heritage Days,**  
Downtown Armstrong Creek
- 27 **Visit Forest County Kentucky Day Festival,** Courthouse Square Lawn, Crandon
- 27 **Visit Forest County Car Show,** Packard-Weber-Hill Funeral Home, Crandon

## AUGUST

- 2 **Wabeno Area Chamber Family Fun Night & Street Dance,** Fire Fighters Grounds, Wabeno
- 2 **Laona Beautifying Committee Rock The Block,**  
Centennial Park, Laona, 4:30 p.m.
- 2 **Laona Lions Club Laona Super Reunion,** Laona, all weekend
- 3 **Laona Rescue Squad Souper Run,** Silver Lake Beach, Laona, 7 a.m. - 11 p.m.
- 3 **Laona Lions Club Community Soup,** Silver Lake Beach, Laona
- 10 **Laona VFW Corn Boil,** Silver Lake Beach, Laona
- 10 **Argonne Days,** Argonne, all day

- 17-18 **38th Annual Footstock National Endurance Barefoot Ski Championship,**  
Peshtigo Lake, Crandon
- TBA **Forest County Potawatomi Meno Keno Ma Gē Wen Powwow,** Powwow Grounds, Carter
- 24 **Roadhouse139, 2nd Annual Car/Bike/Tractor Show,**  
Roadhouse 139, Long Lake
- 24 **Hiles Fire Department 2nd Annual Fireman's Picnic,**  
Hiles Fire Department Trap Range, Hiles, 10 a.m.
- 30 **Crandon Motor Sports Lucas Oil World Championship Parade,**  
Hwy. 8, Crandon
- 8/30 - 9/1 **55th Polaris World Championship Off-Road Races,** Crandon International Raceway, Crandon, all weekend

## SEPTEMBER

- 8/30 - 9/1 **55th Polaris World Championship Off-Road Races,** Crandon International Raceway, Crandon, all weekend
- 8-10 **Forest County Fair, Forest County Fairgrounds,**  
Crandon
- 14 **Forest County ATV Association End of Season Ride,** Holly Wood Hill & Crandon Saloon, Crandon
- 21 **Visit Forest County Art in the Square,** Courthouse Square, Crandon, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- 24-28 **Wabeno Dual Sports Ride,**  
Wabeno

## OCTOBER

- Sat & Sun **Forest County Potawatomi Bodwēwadmi Ktēgan Fall Fun at the Farm,** Blackwell
- 4-6 **Wabeno Area Players, Mom's Gift: A Warm-Hearted Comedy by Phil Olson,** Nancy Volk Auditorium, 7 p.m. and the 6th at 2 p.m.

- 7 **Holly Wood Hill & Crandon Saloon Okto-Bear-Fest,**  
Holly Wood Hill & Crandon Saloon, Crandon
- 12 **Hiles Service Club Harvest Dinner,** Hiles Town Hall, Hiles
- 12 **Trailside Hideaway Campground Hobo Ride,** Trailside Hideaway Campground, Laona
- 26 **Forest County Potawatomi Bodwēwadmi Ktēgan Halloween at the Farm,**  
3389 Cty Hwy H, Laona

## NOVEMBER

- 29 **Argonne Fire Department Gun Raffle,** Argonne Town Hall, Laona, 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

## DECEMBER

- TBD **Wabeno Area Players, Christmas Reader's Theater and Variety Show**
- 2 **Laona Beautifying Committee - Laona Tree Ceremony,** Laona Town Hall, Hwy. 8, Laona, 6 p.m.
- 4 **Laona Beautifying Committee - The Great Quilt Auction,** Facebook
- 6 **Christmas on Main Street,**  
Crandon
- 7 **Wabeno Volunteer Fire Department Winterfest Crafter & Vendor Fair,**  
Wabeno High School, Wabeno, 9 - 2 p.m.
- 31 **Forest County Potawatomi New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow,** Potawatomi Community Center, Crandon
- Early December -  
**Potawatomi Farm Bodwēwadmi Ktēgan Holiday Open House,** Blackwell
- Early December -  
**100 Mile Snow Safari Cash Raffle,** Drawing early December



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## 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 whitetailed 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



## Veterans Memorial Park

Located 4 miles South of Crandon and County Park Rd. off East Shore Dr. The park was developed and is maintained by the Forest County Forestry & Recreation Department. Lake Metonga is the highlight of the park, where swimming, fishing, boating, and kayaking are easily done. With ample parking and a newly renovated campground area, it is a one stop destination for Forest County residence and visitors combining the beauty of the Forest County with the love of camping in the Northwoods. The Park is open from May 1 - October 1, reservations can be made online at [www.co.forest.wi.gov](http://www.co.forest.wi.gov)



[www.co.forest.wi.gov](http://www.co.forest.wi.gov)

## Biking Trails

**Forest County and the US Forest Service Offer marked recreational trails; Otter Springs Recreation Area, the Anvil, Ed's Lake and Nicolet North trails.**

**Otter Springs Recreational Area is 3 miles East of Crandon on Hwy 8, North on Otter Creek Rd. This area features about 6 miles of singletrack and 6 miles of doubletrack. These trails serve as great place for summer-time mountain biking and trail hiking. In the winter months groomed access for only fat bikes & snowshoes on the singletrack, & xc skiing, fat bikes, & snowshoes on the doubletrack. Singletrack trails are built & maintained by volunteers with the Forest County Area Singletrack Association. 501(c)(3) Anvil National Recreation Trail was constructed in 1930 by the Civilian Conservation Corps and was expanded in 1978 as a Recreational Trail System.**

**Ed's Lake National Recreation Trail follows early 1900's railroad grades through all types of forests and terrain, with a shelter located along the Birch Loop. Nicolet North Trail connects to the Anvil Trail and follows part of the Hidden Lakes Trail. All Maps are available at [forestcountywi.com](http://forestcountywi.com)**

## Take a Breath.

### ENJOY THE BEAUTY OF FOREST COUNTY

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



**FARMERS MARKET**  
Crandon Farmers & Maker's Market, Crandon Courthouse Lawn, Crandon

# Things to See & Do

**Aquaponics** - How can fish grow lettuce? Come see the state-of-the-art facility at FCP Bodwéwadmí Ktëgan (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](http://www.facebook.com/fcpotawatomi). **See page 44**

**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 30**

**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 22**

**Camping** - Several Forest Service campgrounds, county, and privately-owned campgrounds are available throughout the county. **See page 18**

**Canoe/Kayaking** - Most area lakes. Rentals available. **See page 31**

**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 14-15**

**Crandon Water Shows** - Summer water ski shows on Lake Lucerne, June through August, by the Crandon Water Ski Club. **See page 13**



**ATV TRAILS**  
Ongoing development of several miles of routes and trails. **See page 28-29**



# Things to See & Do

**Crandon Farmers Market** - Tuesday's, Spring through late Fall, Downtown Crandon

**Cross-Country Skiing** - See page 23

**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 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 Veterans Memorial** - Two beautiful tributes to area veterans. Located in the Courthouse Square, Crandon and Veterans Memorial Park in Laona on Elm Street.

**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](http://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 17

**Hiking Trails** - See pages 24-25

**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 Visit Forest County Office.

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

Laona Beautifying Committee at Laona Community Center by 5233 Beech Street, Laona, lighted rink, skates available to use.



**Laona Lions Club Community Soup** - First Saturday of August at Silver Lake Beach - a 100+ year old tradition.

**Laona Farmers Market** - Every Friday from June to August at the Laona Town Hall on Hwy 8.

**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 41

**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.

**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 22

**Museums** - See page 12-13

**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 46

**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 Linden Street in Laona, Palmer Park on West Washington, Crandon, Silver Lake Beach, 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.

**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. See back cover

**Powwows** - The Mole Lake Sokaogon Chippewa and the Forest County Potawatomi communities host powwows. See pages 6-7

**Rock the Block Summer Concert Series** - Held at Centennial Park, Laona, Wisconsin, Free Concerts once a month in June, July, and August. See page 35

**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 30

**Self-Guided Nature Trails** - Available throughout the county. Bird watching, hiking, and walking routes are listed. See page 26

**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 22.

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

**Snowmobile Trails** - Over 400 miles of trails. See page 22

**Snowshoeing** - All of the great hiking trails in Forest County can be well-utilized in the winter by snowshoe. See page 23

**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. Padus Gun Club, Hwy 32 North of Wabeno. Free admission.

**Video Archery** - An indoor complex on East Pioneer Street in Crandon at Tamarack Outfitters.

**Walking Trails** - See pages 24-25

**WAM Fest** - Wabeno Art and Music Festival - One day of art and music in downtown Wabeno in July.

**Wabeno Band Shell** - Live music Wednesday nights during the summer, free to all.

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

**World's Largest Soup Kettle** - Located on Linden Street, Laona

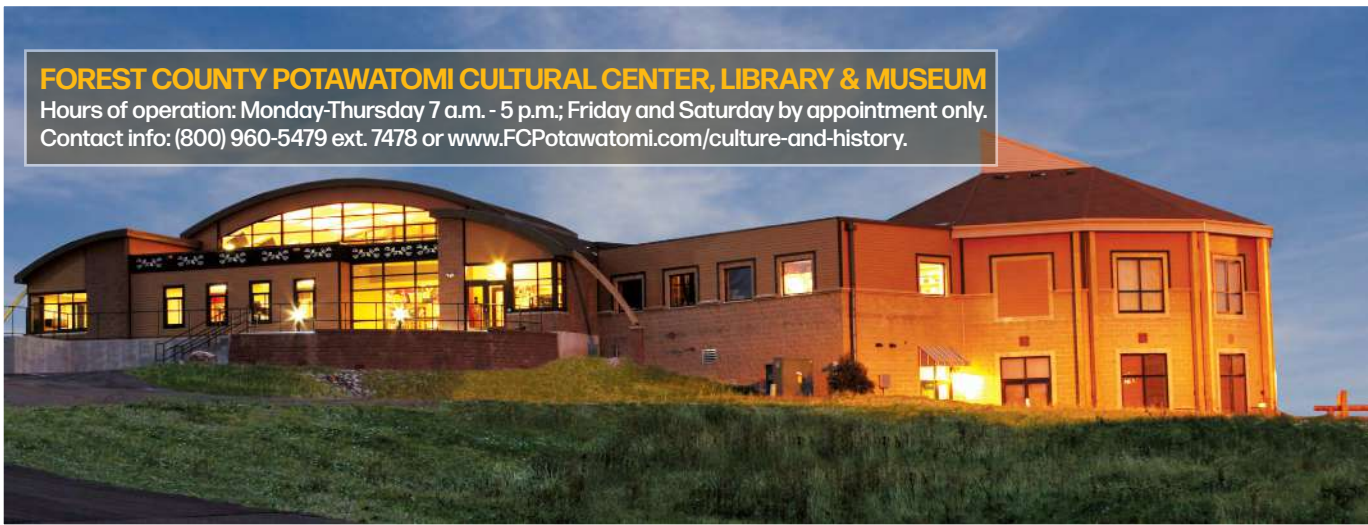




# Visit our MUSEUMS OF FOREST COUNTY

## 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](http://www.FCPotawatomi.com/culture-and-history).



## 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 2024 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](http://www.lumberjacksteamtrain.com).

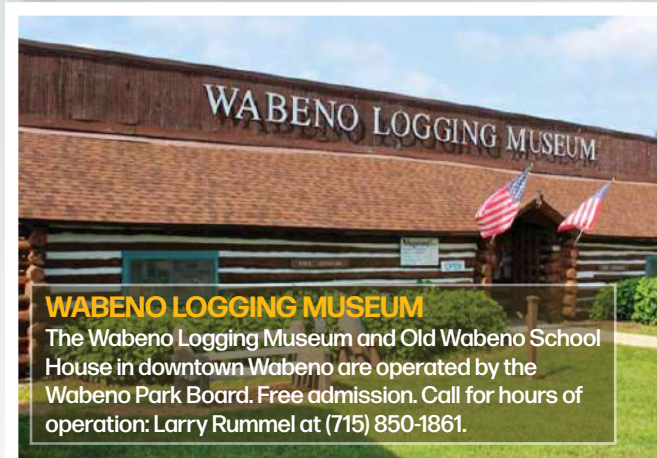


## HILES MUSEUM

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 Pfiefer (715) 649-3381.

## 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](http://www.forestcountyhistory.org).



## 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.

## Weekly Water Ski Shows

June 5 - August 14, 2024

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

*Water's Edge Lodge*  
4140 County Rd W,  
Crandon



## Footstock

National Figure 8  
Barefoot Championships

August 17 - 18 2024

Join in on all the world class fun! Watch professional and amateur barefooters compete in five divisions in an endurance style shoot-out over 1-1/2 mile figure eight course! Skiers will even take to the water in outrageous costumes for a chance to be named number one!

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# CRANDON 2024

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**31ST FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI BRUSH RUN**  
**JUNE 21-23, 2024**

**55TH POLARIS CRANDON WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**AUG. 29-SEPT. 1, 2024**



**FOR RESERVATIONS AND MORE INFORMATION VISIT [CRANDONOFFROAD.COM](https://crandonoffroad.com)**



Several years ago, Martin Rickman, a famed automotive journalist, spent his Labor Day weekend at Crandon International Raceway to take in the annual Crandon World Championship Off-Road Races®. In the follow-up story he penned for Auto Week magazine, Rickman encapsulated his experience with these memorable words:

"The saying goes that there's nothing like Crandon. And that's true. It only takes one trip out to the woods of Wisconsin to learn that..."

The best have always raced it, and the best will continue to race it because there's something about Crandon that is indescribable. If you believe in magic -- that's probably it. If you believe in anything else, Crandon has a place for that too."

In today's world overt hyperbole is king. Words like "legendary" and "iconic" are thrown around to the point of

insignificance. That's not true, however, for the organic spirit and place that is Crandon International Raceway.

For 55 years, fans by the tens of thousands have gathered twice a year in the small Wisconsin Northwoods town of Crandon for the intense, dirt-slinging warfare of short course off-road racing. Coming to the place affectionately known as the "Big House," the Crandon faithful come to witness world-class motorsports competition, extended weekends of family camping and top-tier concerts from acts like KISS and Kid Rock.

Now locally owned by Crandon's Flannery family, in recent years the track and its events have grown to historic heights thanks to the power of dreams, hard work and the dedication of countless local volunteers. Hosting nearly 100,000 race and music fans last year, the Big House is preparing for another record season in 2024.

The idea of off-road racing in the Wisconsin Northwoods traces back to local members of the Crandon Jaycees wanting to emulate television coverage of the 1968 NORRA Mexican 1000. Promoting the first "Brush Run 101" in 1970, the group created a 25-mile course in the wooded trails around Crandon. Competitors completed the loop four times, making the full race 101 miles in length. The growth of the event spurred race officials to move into a former dairy farm in 1984, a now permanent facility known as Crandon International Raceway.

Today, the 400-acre facility incorporates a large kitchen and grandstand complex, 2,200 grass camping sites and a large pit area for Pro teams. Fans enjoy a wide variety of off-road races each weekend, from youth classes to 1,000 horsepower Pro 4 unlimited trucks.

In 2024 Crandon International Raceway will play host to two major event

weekends. The 31st Forest County Potawatomi Community Brush Run takes place June 21 – 23. Labor Day weekend's massive Polaris Crandon World Championship Off-Road Races® are scheduled for August 29 – September 1. The later features the biggest and richest day in the sport, the 9th annual Red Bull Crandon World Cup Sunday, where the sport's best Pro drivers engage in off-road racing's ultimate "Super Bowl."

For more information, please visit [www.crandonoffroad.com](https://www.crandonoffroad.com)





# LODGING

Forest County offers you a variety of lodging options to make your stay the best it can be.

	NUMBER OF UNITS	ATV TRAIL ACCESS	BAR/RESTAURANT	BOAT LANDING	BOAT AVAILABLE	FISHING	FIREPLACE	HOUSEKEEPING	KITCHENETTE	LAUNDRY	PETS ALLOWED	PICNIC AREA	PLAYGROUND	POOL OR SWIMMING BEACH	SEASONAL	SNOWMOBILE ACCESS	WATER (ON OR NEAR)	WHEELCHAIR ACCESS
CHARLIE'S LAKE METONGA RESORT: (715) 478-1059	2	•	•			•	•	•	•	•		•				•	•	
CRANDON INN AND SUITES: (715) 478-4000	99	•	•					•	•	•	•			•		•		•
FOUR SEASONS MOTEL: (715) 473-2202	20	•						•									•	•
HERITAGE HUNT CLUB CABINS: (715) 889-9893	2	•													•	•		
HOLLYWOOD HILL AND CRANDON SALOON EVENT CENTER:	2	•	•					•	•	•	•					•		
LITTLE PINE MOTEL: (888) 541-4150	12	•				•			•		•		•			•	•	•
MAIN STREET INN: (715) 478-2423	9	•						•			•					•	•	•
MOLE LAKE CASINO AND LODGE (877) 478-5772	75	•	•					•	•	•				•		•	•	•
PICKEREL POINT RESORT: (715) 484-2603	7	•	•	•		•			•		•			•		•	•	
POTAWATOMI CARTER CASINO HOTEL: (800) 487-9522	99	•	•					•						•		•		•
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<b>COUNTY</b>								
Veteran's Memorial Park	66	•	Flush	•	•	All		(715) 478-3475
<b>NATIONAL FOREST</b>								
Bear Lake	27		Vault	•	•	Electric		(715) 674-4481
Franklin Lake	77		Vault	•	•	All		(715) 479-2827
Kentuck Lake	31		Vault		•	All		(715) 479-2827
Laura Lake	41		Vault		•	Electric		(715) 674-4481
Ludington Lake	6		Vault		•	All		(715) 674-4481
Luna-White Deer Lake	37		Vault	•	•	Electric		(715) 479-2827
Pine Lake	12		Vault	•	•	All		(715) 674-4481
Richardson Lake	26		Vault		•	All		(715) 674-4481
Stevens Lake	6		Vault		•	All		(715) 528-4464
<b>PRIVATELY OWNED</b>								
Crandon Off-Road Raceway	1900	•	Flush				•	(715) 478-2222
Hiles Pine Lake Campground	79	•	Flush	•	•	All		(715) 902-9331
Hollywood Hill and Crandon Saloon Event Center	47	•	Flush	•			•	(715) 212-3308
Sokaogon Chippewa	20		Vault	•	•	All		(715) 478-7500
Trailside Hideaway	40	•	Flush	•			•	(715) 889-0380
Wolf River Rendezvous	19	•	Flush	•			•	(715) 478-WOLF

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# Dining & drinks

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The Night Owl  
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Yeti's Drive-In

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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.

**TOMBSTONE-PICKEREL TRAILS:** The Tombstone-Pickerel Trails include over

THANK YOU FOREST COUNTY SNOWMOBILE CLUBS  
KEEPING OUR TRAILS IN THE BEST CONDITIONS POSSIBLE  
ALL SEASON LONG.



CHECK OUT THEIR UPCOMING EVENTS ON THEIR FACEBOOK, WEBSITE AND IN THIS GUIDE!  
ALL NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

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!



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 singletrack 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".

## CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRAILS

### CHEQUAMEGON-NICOLET NATIONAL FOREST

#### 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 groomed trails with several loop opportunities.

**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

#### OTTER SPRINGS TRAIL:

This trail is located 4 miles east of Crandon off Hwy. 8 on FR 2378. This trail has a parking area and ski shelter available. It offers a 1.25-mile loop and .75-mile loop suitable for beginners. The intermediate trail is a 3-mile loop. Groomed for classic and skate skiing. See map (right).

#### 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).

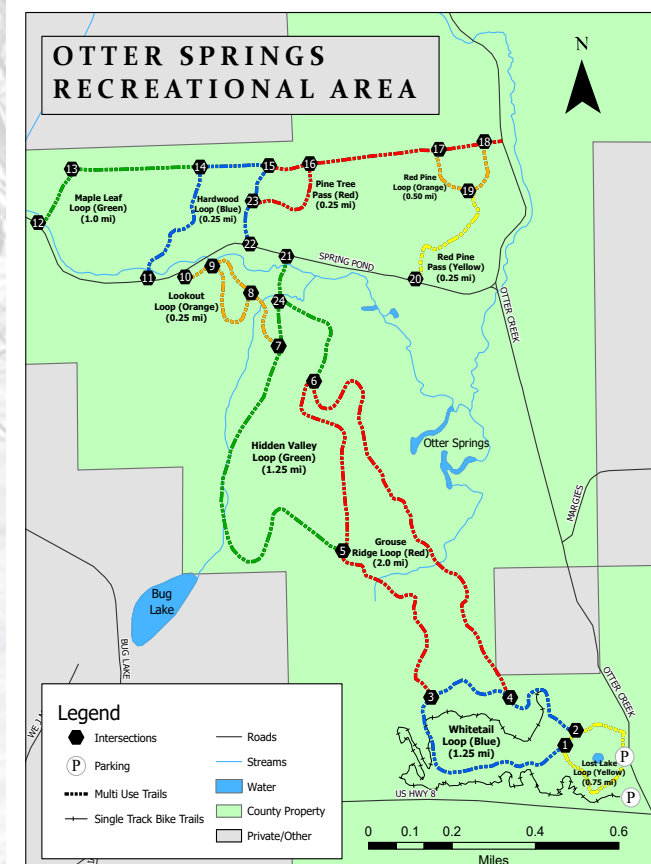


Photo credit by Charlie's Lake Metonga



Photo credit by Jerzy Górecki





## 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.



Photo credit by Carrie Kulinski

Call (715) 479- 2827 for more information. **Directions:** From Eagle River, take State Hwy. 70 east for 11 miles to Fournier 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. (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



Photo credit by Michelle Shafer

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 Hiles, take Hwy. 32 north 2 miles to Experimental Rd. (FR 2184) Turn right and go north 3 miles to Scott Lake Road (FR 2183). Turn left and go west 2 miles to Giant Pine Road (FR 2414). Turn right and go north 1.5 miles to a small parking area on the left (west) side of the road.

### SCOTT AND SHELPLE 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.

### 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.





## 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.

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.



Photo credit by Sandi Rakow

### 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



Photo credit by Amber Haseman



Glass Lake - Mole Lake  
by Carrie Kulinski

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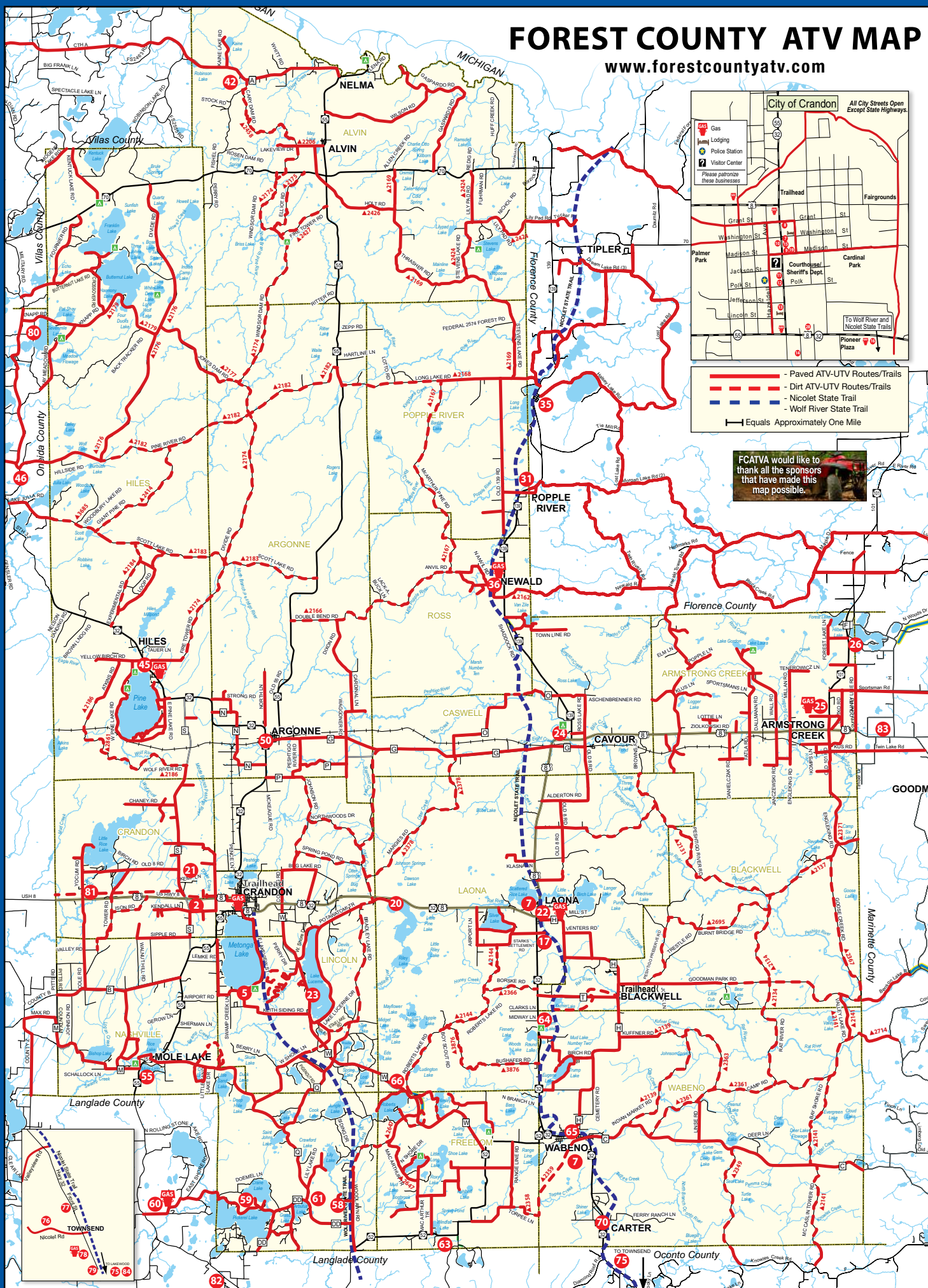
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# FOREST COUNTY ATV MAP

www.forestcountyatv.com



## 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](http://forestcountywi.com), or call (715) 478-3475.



Photo credit by Mike Balistreri

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.

**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.



## Join the Forest County ATV Association Today!

BUSINESS - \$30    FAMILY - \$20    SINGLE - \$15  
BECOME A MEMBER TODAY

Membership Chair  
PO Box 331  
Laona, WI 54541

Creating and Maintaining New Trails & Maps in Forest County

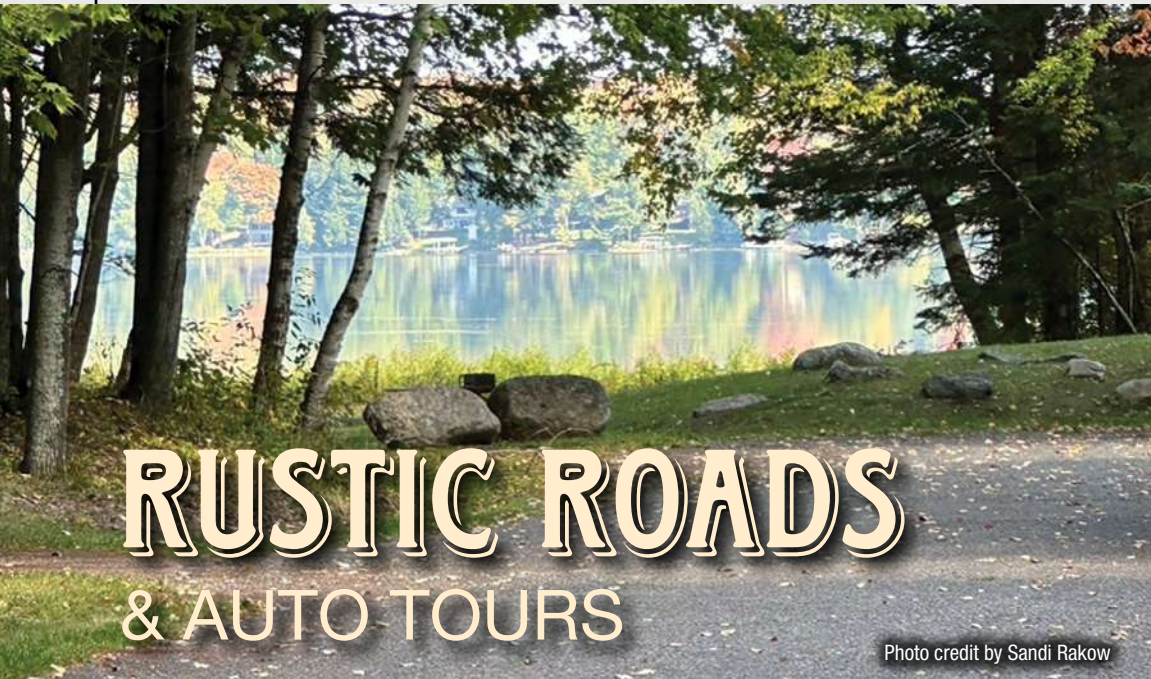
[www.ForestCountyATV.com](http://www.ForestCountyATV.com)

Mark your Calendars for our 2024 Events

May 18th, 2024 - Spring Kick Off Event - Crandon International Raceway  
Sept 14th, 2024 - End of Season Event - Holly Wood Hill & Crandon Saloon

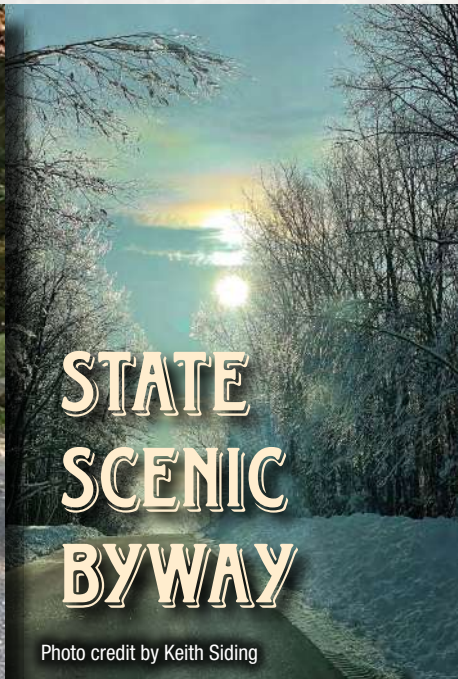
Watch our Website, and follow us on  for more information.





# RUSTIC ROADS & AUTO TOURS

Photo credit by Sandi Rakow



## STATE SCENIC BYWAY

Photo credit by Keith Siding



Photo courtesy of Carrie Kulinski



Photo courtesy of Amber Haseman

### 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](http://www.fs.fed.us/r9/cnnf).

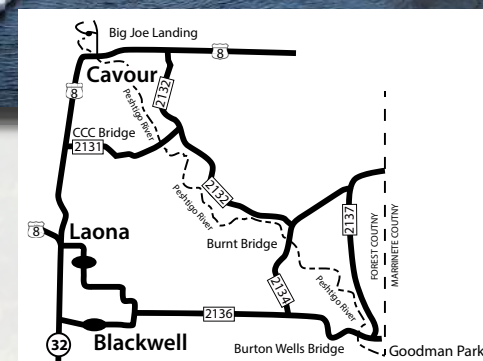
### RUSTIC ROAD 118

**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.wisconsindot.gov/rusticroads](http://www.wisconsindot.gov/rusticroads).

### 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](http://Nicoletwolfriverbyway.com) or [www. http://www.wisconsindot.gov/Pages/travel/road/scenicways/default.aspx](http://www.wisconsindot.gov/Pages/travel/road/scenicways/default.aspx)

## CANOE ROUTES



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



## 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.



Photo courtesy of Carrie Kulinski





## ALVIN

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.



### STORAGE CITY

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## Rock The Block

### 2024 Line Up

June 7th Nervous Hermus Letter Z	<b>Centennial Park Laona, WI</b>  <b>4:30 PM</b>  <b>FREE Concerts</b>  Presented by the Laona Beautifying Committee
July 19th TBA Logan Speicer	
August 2nd Larry Seiler Jason McNabb & the Rein	

### Forest County Public Libraries

**Check Us Out!**

**EDITH EVANS COMMUNITY LIBRARY**  
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[www.laonapubliclibrary.org](http://www.laonapubliclibrary.org)

**Summer Hours:**  
Mon: 12 - 6 pm;  
Tue, Wed, Thur: 8:30 am - 2 pm;  
Fri: 8 am - 12:30 pm

**Winter Hours:**  
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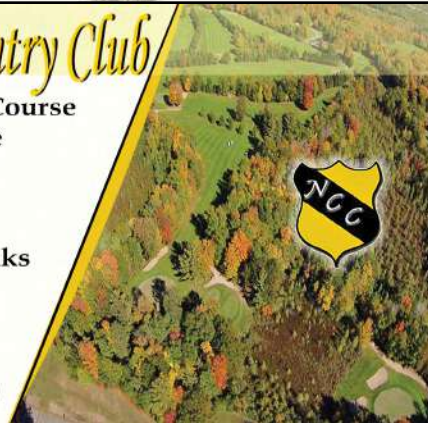
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## ARGONNE

"A TOWN WITH MANY NAMES" Its first name was the Village of VanZile, named by early Forest County Pioneer Abe VanZile. In June of 1889, as the Soo railroad was deciding the location of its railway station, Abe VanZile offered the Soo Line every other lot in the village of VanZile, if they would erect their station on section 28 of township 37, range 13.

They accepted his offer, and the Village of North Crandon was founded. While the Soo Line continued to call the Village North Crandon, the people themselves continued to call it VanZile, establishing the VanZile post office in November of 1889 with G.E. Bailey appointed Postmaster.

Eventually the name North Crandon stuck, and the villagers established the North Crandon school, their own newspaper titled the North Crandon reporter, a sawmill, a hotel and several other businesses and community organizations. One of the most influential North Crandon organizations was the North Crandon Grange.

The North Crandon Grange was organized in February of 1914 with Charles Marshall as its master officer. The group, primarily interested in promoting the interest of farmers, sponsored community social activities and gatherings. According to the recollections

of Charles Marshall in his written memoirs titled the Argonne Story, town officials began to discuss changing the name of North Crandon due to constant confusion at the post offices of Crandon and North Crandon.

In July of 1914, the North Crandon Grange signed and forwarded a petition to Washington asking that the name of the Post Office be changed to Burleson. The petition was signed by over 100 residents.

However, at the same time, another movement was started to name the Town "Champion" to honor I.G. Champion, an early county resident and father-in-law of influential town member John Mausbam.

In November of 1914, a special meeting of the Town of North Crandon was called to determine the legality of the Town Board's earlier decision to call the Town Champion. A vote was taken, and the name was changed to Champion, although neither the Post Office nor the Railway Station would reflect the change in name so "North Crandon" stuck.

In 1921, the Commercial Men's Club decided to initiate a naming contest that included the local school children. The name Argonne was chosen in honor of the boys of Forest



townspeople of Argonne made a grand spectacle of the name changing ceremony, taking down the old town sign, putting it in a coffin and carrying the sign to its final resting place which many current residents believe is the location of the current Town of Argonne fire department building. The coffin and sign were escorted by a marching band where they burned and buried the sign. A speech was given by Ward Wescott, a Crandon lawyer to mark the occasion. From

August 2021 marked 100 years of this Argonne celebration. Information and research was done by Historical Society members Izak Drangstrick and Bryce Marshall. Recently Bryce and Izak presented this information on channel 12.

Currently the Town of Argonne has four businesses, Argonne Lumber, Main St Eds, Kathy's Inn, and the Argonne Post Office.



Photo courtesy of Jim Wolf

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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,

Photo courtesy of Amber Haseman



Photo courtesy of Amber Haseman

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.

At the end of July, the Polish Heritage Days pay 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

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.



Photo courtesy of Makenzie Destishe

## 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.


The Hess Hotel had a legacy all its own. It was a place where many logging men came to stay and while 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.



Photo courtesy of Peggy Egan



Photo courtesy of Amber Haseman



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# CITY OF CRANDON

## County Seat



Photo of Crandon International Raceway

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.



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# FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI



The Forest County Potawatomi (FCP) — Bodwe'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](http://www.FCPotawatomi.com).

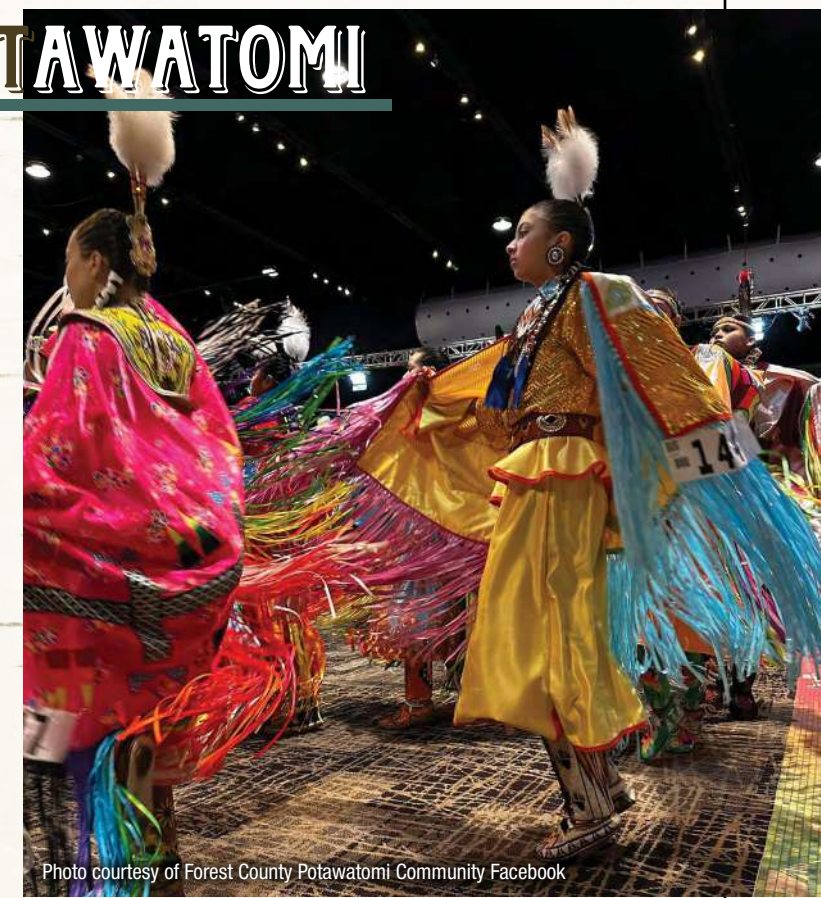


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Photo courtesy of RAMLOW/STEIN, Inc.



## HILES



Photo courtesy of Mark Burton

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 Looks 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](http://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, Hiles Fire Department Park. Great competition, food, friendship and prizes!
- Wisconsin Mycological Society Annual Summer Foray. 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](http://www.wisconsinmycologicalsociety.org) for information. Contact Mark at Little Pine Motel for info: (888) 541-4150, or email [littlepinemotel@gmail.com](mailto:littlepinemotel@gmail.com).



Photo courtesy of Sandi Rakow

## LAONA

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.



Photo courtesy of Shane Babich



Photo courtesy of Carrie Kulinski

## 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

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 Jauquet, 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.



Photo courtesy of Mike Balistreri

## 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](http://www.tombstonepickerel.com)). It is also home to the newly established Pickerel-Pearson Wolf River Riders ATV Club ([www.wolfriverriders.com](http://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.



Photo courtesy of Mike Balistreri

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# TOWN OF POPPLE RIVER

Nestled in the heart of the Nicolet National Forest in the northern part of Forest County, is the town of Popple River. Population wise, Popple River is only a small part of the county with an average population of 45 people. When it comes to PRIDE however, Popple River can match any other community in the Northwoods. Most of the residents lie off Highway 139 on Forest Service Road 2404 or "Old 139" as it's called. There you will find the Popple River Town Hall with its quaint antique barrel stove and its reminiscences of days gone by.

At one time Popple River was part of the Town of Newald. The whole area between Popple River and Newald was called the Town of Newald. In March of 1925, the town split into two parts, the Town of Ross (which is present day Newald) and the Town of Newald (which is present day Popple River). The town hall of Popple River still has a huge safe and stacks of minute books and ledgers that say, "Town of Newald". The village of Newald stayed with the Town of Ross and there was so much confusion about mail delivery etc., that in 1926, our name was changed to Town of Popple River and has

remained so to this day. In the 1920's through the 1940's the population in Popple River was at an all-time high due to the booming logging industry and the train route that ran north to south right through the town. The population was so big we had to have two elementary schools. Today's elementary and high school aged students attend school in Laona. The Town hall was constructed in 1928. The town solicited bids for the project and the lowest bid was \$370.00. In the 1920's most towns took care of their own people. They had a form of welfare which was called local poor-aid. In 1932, a resolution was passed that stated if you needed town aid, you could not own any dogs or automobiles. Also from records, it was recorded that in 1933 the town confiscated 7 head of cattle for back taxes and sold them for a total of \$55.50. In 1936, town labor was worth \$.30 per hour. It does appear that some important people in town who had fallen on hard times were helped by the town when Popple River paid the real estate taxes on 80 acres. That total for the taxes came to \$28.00. This was in 1936. All of these facts came from old meeting minutes books dating



back to 1915.

As of present day, there is only the Town Hall and Garage & Shop buildings. Population has dwindled except on the holidays, weekends and deer season when the cabin folks join us to get away from their big city living. There are few businesses in our little town. We have one active quarry owned by Northeast Asphalt, that when in use it's very busy. We have several vacation rentals. We are also home to Forest Counties very First and Only Brewery located on the corner of Hwy 139 and Popple River Road, Haen's Popple River Brew Pub. It's not

only a brewery, with 5 Brews and homemade Root beer on tap, but it's a full-service bar and restaurant. When visiting Popple River be sure to check out our well-maintained Snowmobile, ATV/UTV trails, several spots for trout fishing on the Popple, backroads cruising, rustic camping/hiking/fishing on Bastile Lake, fishing on Long Lake or just seeing what nature has to show in her seasons.

Popple River is proud of its heritage, and we know that is what makes it a great area to visit, and a great area to fall in love with, and a great area to live in and thrive.



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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 library and museum days and hours of operation at [www.townofwabeno.org](http://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 Wabeno Steam-Up Days, its annual celebration of historic logging technology. Wabeno also hosts a daylong 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.

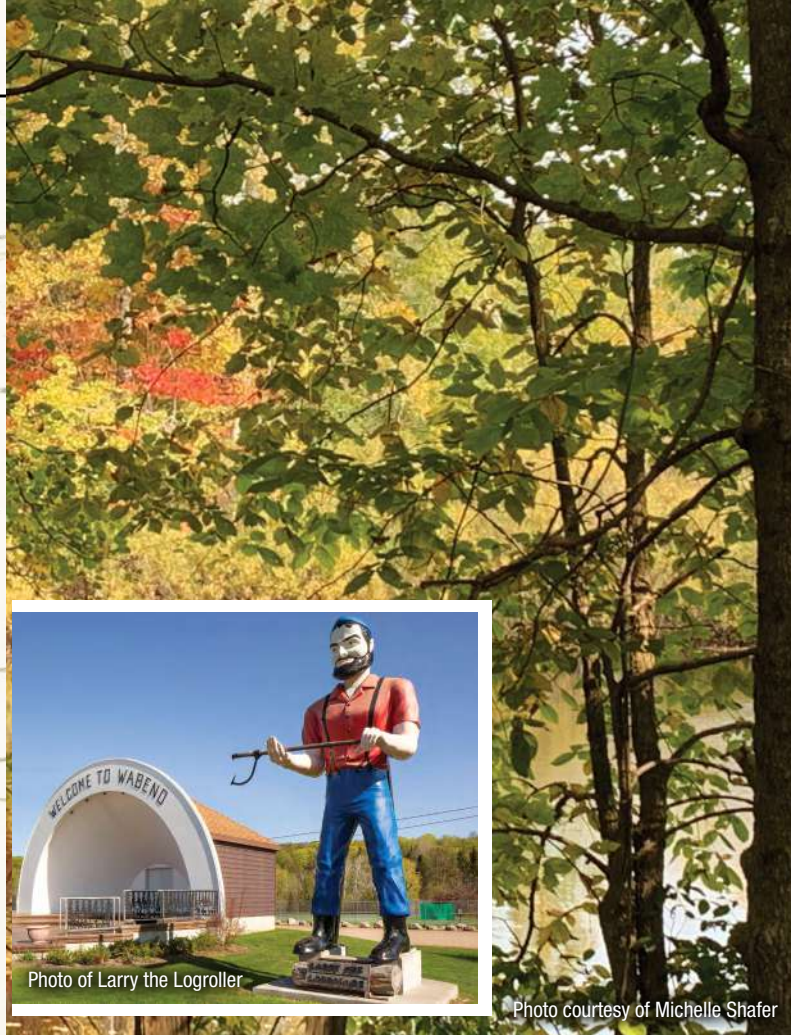


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See ad - page 17

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See ad - page 48

### Potawatomi Carter Casino Hotel

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[cartercasino.com](http://cartercasino.com)  
See ad - 43

### The Tree Top Cabin

Hiles, WI • See ad - page 17

## CAMPGROUNDS

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### Hiles Pine Lake Campground

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### Trailside Hideaway, LLC

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See ad - page 51

### Wolf River Rendezvous

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[wolfriverrendezvous.com](http://wolfriverrendezvous.com)  
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## CASINOS

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[cartercasino.com](http://cartercasino.com)  
See ad - page 43

### Mole Lake Casino and Lodge

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[forestcountyatv.com](http://forestcountyatv.com)  
See ad - page 29

### Laona Beautifying Committee

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[townoflaona.org](http://townoflaona.org)  
See ad - page 35

### Forest County Economic Development Partnership

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[co.forest.wi.gov](http://co.forest.wi.gov)  
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### Friends of Wabeno

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See ad - page 52

### Visit Forest County

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See ad - page 60

## DINING & DRINKS

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### Armstrong Creek Pub

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See ad - page 38

### Blue Roof Saloon

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[bluroofsaloon@gmail.com](mailto:bluroofsaloon@gmail.com)  
See ad - page 40

### Campfire Bar & Grill

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See ad - page 40

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(715) 674-7777  
See ad - page 41

### Haen's Popple River Brew Pub

4985 Popple River Rd  
Popple River, WI  
(715) 674-2266  
See ad - page 53

### Jameson's Whiskey Darlin'

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### JARS Bar & Grill

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[jarsbar@yahoo.com](mailto:jarsbar@yahoo.com)  
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See ad - page 21

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mhill@mainstreeteds.com  
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pickerelpointresort@outlook.com  
pickerel-point.com  
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customerservice@cartercasino.com  
cartercasino.com  
See ad - 43

## Roadhouse 139

3322 Hwy 139  
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Roadhouse139@gmail.com  
Roadhouse139.com  
See ad - page 51

### Senolihn's Bar

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Laona, WI 54541  
(715) 674-4723  
See ad - page 21

### Taco Bellas

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(715) 212-3308  
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### The Night Owl

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Crandon, WI 54520  
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See ad - page 21

### Tricia's Bistro

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### Vesser's Wild Rose

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### Waters Edge Lodge

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See ad - page 51

### Yeti's Drive-In

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(715) 889-6820  
See ad - page 51

### Wolf River Rendezvous

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(715) 478-WOLF  
wolfriverrendezvous.com  
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## ENTERTAINMENT

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crandonoffroad.com  
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hollywoodhillcampgroundrv.com  
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## Mole Lake Casino and Lodge

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### Nicolet Country Club

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See ad - page 36

### Potawatomi Carter Casino Hotel

618 State Hwy. 32  
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cartercasino.com  
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- 15570 Hwy 32  
Lakewood  
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- 17953 Hwy 32  
Townsend  
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- 4519 N Branch St  
Wabeno  
(715) 473-2311
- 1784 Superior St  
Three Lakes  
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LaonaStateBank.com  
See ad - page 46

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See ad - page 34

## MUSEUMS



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FCPotawatomi.com/culture  
See page 12 and  
See ad - page back page

### Forest County Historical Museum

105 W Jackson St  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 902-1620  
forestcountyhistory.org  
See page 13

## Hiles Museum

9193 North Main Street  
Hiles, WI 54511  
Julie Brink: (715) 649-3759  
Marylin Pfiefer: (715) 649-3381  
See page 13

### Wabeno Logging Museum

WI Hwy 32  
Wabeno WI 54566  
Larry Rummel: (715) 850-1861  
See page 13

### Lumberjack Steam Train & Camp 5 Museum

5068 US Hwy  
Laona, WI 54541  
(715) 674-3414  
lumberjacksteamtrain.com  
See page 12 and See ad - page 41

## PHARMACY

### Wolf River Pharmacy

600 E. Pioneer Plaza #3.  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 478-3369 / (715) 478-3945  
wolfriver01@frontiernet.net  
wolfriverrx.com • See ad - page 5

## PRINTERS

### Minuteman Press

507 W Johnson St  
Fond du Lac, WI 54935  
(920) 923-0800  
fonddulac@minutemanpress.com  
fdl.minutemanpress.com  
See ad - page 39

## REAL ESTATE

### Century 21

### Northwoods Team, Inc.

121 N Lake Ave  
or PO Box 144  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(877) 221-6937  
C21nwds@yahoo.com  
C21nwds.com  
See ad - page 49

### Integrity Realtors, LLC

- Crandon: (715) 478-0233
  - Antigo: (715) 627-4181
  - Elcho: (715) 275-3001
- integrityrealtorsllc.com  
See ad - page 58

### RADenton Realty LLC

(715) 764-6051 or  
cell (715) 902-0509  
RickDenton55@gmail.com  
See ad - page 40

## RECREATION

### Crandon International Raceway

10104 Hwy 8 or  
PO Box 101  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 478-2222  
trackoffice@crandonoffroad.com  
crandonoffroad.com  
See ad - page 14

### Heritage Hunt Club

5480 Connor Farm Rd  
Laona, WI 54541  
(715) 889-9893  
HeritageHuntClub.com  
See ad - page 17

### Forest County ATV Association

7284 Freedom Trail  
Wabeno, WI 54566  
(715) 473-2219  
forestcountyatv.com  
See ad - page 29

### Lumberjack Steam Train & Camp 5 Museum

5068 US Hwy 8  
Laona, WI 54541  
(715) 674-3414  
lumberjacksteamtrain.com  
See page 12 and See ad - page 41

### Northwoods Powersports Adventures

(920) 889-5367  
northwoodspowersportsadventures.com  
See ad - page 19

## RETAIL

### Argonne Lumber & Supply

- 7595 State Hwy 32/55  
Argonne, WI 54511  
(715) 649-3237
- 1015 W Davenport St  
Rhineland, WI 54501  
(715) 369-3237  
argonnelumbar.com  
See ad - page 37

### Conway True Value Hardware

600 East Pioneer St  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 478-3617  
conwaytruevalue@live.com  
truevalue.com/conwaytruevalue  
See ad - page 19

### FCP Bodwéwadmí Ktëgan

3389 County Hwy H  
Laona, WI 54541  
(715) 478.4545  
farm.fcspotawatomi.com





See ad - page 44

### Flowers from the Heart & UB's Northwoods Emporium

117 N Lake Ave  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 478-3710  
CrandonFlowersFromTheHeart.com  
See ad - page 48

### Gudowicz's Marathon

8017 Hwy 10  
Armstrong Creek, WI 54103  
(715) 336-2424  
marathonpetroleum.com  
See ad - page 49

### Jameson's Whiskey Darlin'

306 N Lake Ave  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 784-1257  
communityconnect@yahoo.com  
whiskeydarlin.com  
See ad - page 21

### Little White Fence

771 Hwy 8  
Armstrong Creek, WI 54103  
(715) 336-3000  
info@littlewhitefence.com  
littlewhitefence.com  
See ad - page 40

### Northern Tee and Gifts/ Creative Screenprinting & Embroidery

119 N Lake Ave  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 478-1075  
creativecrandon.com  
See ad - page 16

### Northwoods Firearms

409 E Pioneer St  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 478-0404  
northwoodsfirearms@gmail.com  
northwoodsfirearms.com  
See ad - page 36

### Tricia's Treasures

109 North Lake Ave  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 478-1160  
triciastreasuresandbistro.com  
See ad - page 35

## SCHOOLS

### Blackwell Job Corps Civilian Center

4155 County Road H  
Laona, WI 54541  
(877) 763-0580  
blackwell.jobcorps.gov  
See ad - page 39

### 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, Suite A  
Laona, WI 5454  
(715) 674-2143  
laona.k12.wi.us

#### • School District of Wabeno Area

PO Box 460, Wabeno, WI 54566  
(715) 473-2592  
wabeno.k12.wi.us

See ad - page 38

## SERVICES

### Advanced Bed Bug Preparation

(920) 355-1535  
advancedbbp.com  
info@advancedbbp.com  
See ad - page 36

### Alderton Metal Fabrication

6580 Schmelling Ln  
Laona, WI 54541  
(715) 209-4934  
aldertonfab@gmail.com  
See ad - page 50

### American Legion Post 94

110 E Madison St  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(920) 240-7159  
See ad - page 42

### B Stauber Trucking & Excavating

Laona, WI 54541  
(715) 889-3133  
See ad - page 19

### Bug Tussel

417 Pine St  
Green Bay, WI 54301  
(920) 600-4760  
amanda.hatch@btussel.com  
btussel.com  
See ad - page 27

### Crandon Docks & Lifts

105 E Pioneer St  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 889-1068  
dpackard@crandondocks.com  
See ad - page 35

### D Rock Grizzly

9311 Rangeline Rd  
Argonne, WI 54511  
(715) 889-1175  
jeff@drockgrizzly.com  
See ad - page 40

### Forest County Economic Development Partnership

116 S Lake Ave or  
PO Box 96  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 478-3450  
director@forestcountywibusiness.com  
co.forest.wi.gov  
See ad - inside front cover

### Ishackshare.com

(715) 881-3474  
info@ishackshare.com  
See ad - page 36

### L & L Clearing

PO Box 41  
Fairwater, WI 53931  
(920) 904-0840  
lucas@lclearing.com  
See ad - page 19

### Laundromat Village Inn

600 D East Pioneer St  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 487-5175  
See ad - page 16

### Schmelling Logging and Tree Service

Newald, WI  
(715) 889-1240  
See ad - page 40

### Storage City

West of Crandon on Hwy 8 o.  
PO Box 25  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 478-2085  
See ad - page 34

### Teddy G Auto Body

950 Zinzer Rd  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 478-0028 or  
(715) 550-7467

TeddyGAutoBody@yahoo.com  
See ad - page 36

### 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 57

### Xecutive Limousine

PO Box 249  
Crandon, WI 54520  
(715) 344-1153  
info.xecutivelimo@gmail.com  
xecutivelimousine.com  
See ad - page 57

### Yaeger Oil Co., Inc. and Laona Machine Supply

- 405 N Boulevard  
Crandon, WI 54541  
(715) 478-3528
- 4902 Hwy 8 or  
PO Box 38  
Laona, WI 54541  
(715) 674-2601

laonamachine.com  
See ad - page 47



Check out all  
the Visit Forest County  
Partners' Advertisements

See Page Numbers listed here in the Directory

## Worship

# 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

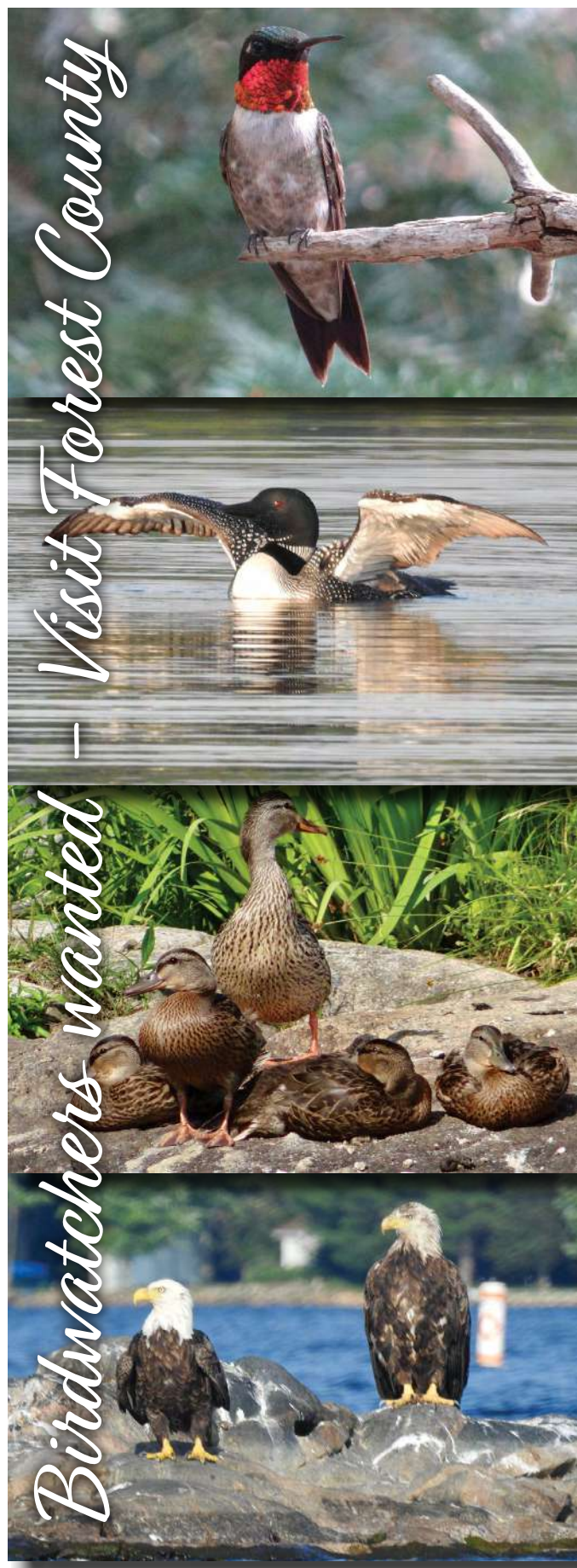
Argonne..... (715) 649-3398  
Armstrong Creek..... (715) 336-2430  
Crandon..... (715) 478-2356  
Laona..... (715) 674-4511  
Pickere!..... (715) 484-2655  
Wabeno..... (715) 473-4741

## COUNTY DEPARTMENTS

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

FOREST COUNTY COURTHOUSE  
OFFICES, CRANDON  
HOURS: 8:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M., MONDAY - FRIDAY





Visit Forest County  
—  
Birdwatchers wanted

**3 LOCATIONS TO BETTER SERVE YOU**

510 ACKLEY ST  
**ANTIGO**  
715-627-4181

N11303 ANTIGO ST  
**ELCHO**  
715-275-3001

112 SOUTH LAKE AVE  
**CRANDON**  
715-902-0233

---

**KME ACCOUNTING & TAX SERVICES, LLC**  
605 S. Lake Ave., PO Box 249 | Crandon, WI 54520  
KME.businessinfo@gmail.com

Ph: 715.478.3250  
F: 715.478.3260

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Email: news@forestrepublican.com  
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Take a breath...

# Visit Forest County

## Partnership Investment

**INVESTMENT SCHEDULE**

All Partnerships Renew on January 1st

Standard Business Investment Rates

0 Employees	\$130
1 – 10 Employees	\$185
11 – 20 Employees	\$235
21 – 30 Employees	\$340
31 – 40 Employees	\$450
41 – 50 Employees	\$500
50 or More Employees	\$550
Non-profit Groups	\$60
Civic Member	\$50
Veteran Members	\$30

**WELCOME AND THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**

Your Investment

When joining Visit Forest County, you become a part of one of the strongest and most diverse business organizations in the Forest County area. You support an organization with high expectations and big goals.

**Your Partnership Benefits**

- Partner Directory
- Special Rates on Promotional Materials
- Promotional Opportunities
- Networking Opportunities
- Community Development
- Sponsorship Opportunities
- Educational Opportunities
- Business Development
- Resource Center
- Tax Deductibility

**Visit Forest County Partnership Investment Registration and Agreement**

Name of Business, Organization, or Individual \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Contact \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Business Investment Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method ☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Account Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY**

Join Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**CEO**  
**Chris Shafer**  
Chris.visitforestcounty@gmail.com

**COO**  
**Mary Belland**  
Mary.visitforestcounty@gmail.com

**Visit Forest County**  
**116 South Lake Ave**  
**Crandon, WI 54520**  
**715-478-3450**

Investment in Visit Forest County may be tax deductible as an ordinary and necessary business expense  
Your Partnership has Value, and as a Partner you are Valued!



# Please Support our VISIT FOREST COUNTY Partners

1930 Jameson Inn  
ADRC of the Northwoods  
Advanced Bed Bug Preparation  
Alderton Metal Fabrication  
American Legion Post 94  
Argonne Lumber & Supply Inc  
Armstrong Creek Pub  
Associated Bank - Crandon  
B Stauber Trucking & Excavating  
Best Wash of Crandon  
Blackwell Job Corps Civilian  
Conservation Center  
Blue Roof Saloon  
Bug Tussel Wireless  
Campfire Bar and Grill  
Center for Human Restoration  
Century 21 Northwoods Team  
Chad Swanson Agency LLC, American  
Family Insurance  
Charlie's Lake Metonga Resort, LLC  
Chris Shafer Agency, LLC  
Club Cavour  
Collins Auto Repair  
Conway True Value Hardware  
Covantage Credit Union  
Crandon Area Community Foundation  
Crandon Country Camping  
Crandon Docks and Lifts  
Crandon Inn & Suites  
Crandon Motorsports  
Crandon Pharmacy  
Crandon Senior Snoop Shop  
Crandon Water Shows  
Creative Screen Printing/Northern Tees  
& Gifts  
D Rock Grizzly  
Dean Distributing  
Double J Shuttle  
Dvorak's Docks  
Elite Automotive  
Emy B's DD Storage  
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 Potawatomi Community  
Center  
Forest County Historical & Genealogical  
Society  
Forest County Humane Society  
Forest County UW Extension  
Forest Granite Works  
Forest Republican  
Forest TV & Appliance  
Four Seasons Motel  
Friends of Wabeno  
Gowey Abstract & Title Co  
Gudowicz's Marathon  
H & R Block  
Haen's Popple River Pub LLC  
Health In Motion  
Heritage Hunt Club  
Hess Engineering  
Hiles Pine Lake Campground  
Hollywood Hill Event Center  
Hometown Manufacturing  
Infinity Wood Floors Acquisitions LLC  
Integrity Realtors  
Iron River Community Broadcasting  
IShackShare.com  
J. Schaefer Enterprises, Inc.  
Jameson's Whiskey Darlin'  
Jansen Septic  
JARS Bar and Grill  
Johnnies Resort  
KME  
Kovach Paving and Constructions  
L & L Clearing, LLC  
Lake Avenue Restaurant  
Laona Beautifying Committee  
Laona Machine Supply  
Laona State Bank  
Lazy Brook Enterprises LLC  
Little Pine Motel  
Little White Fence  
Lumber Jake's  
Lumber Jack Steam Train  
Main Street Eds  
Main Street Inn  
Maplewood Villa  
Marco  
Millan Forestry Care  
Minuteman Press - Fond du lac  
Mole Lake Casino Lodge Conference  
Center

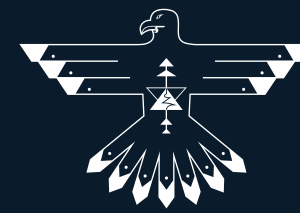
Naunka LLC  
NewCap Oconto  
Nicolet Country Club  
Night Owl  
Northwoods Firearms LLC  
Northwoods Inn  
Northwoods Insurance Agency/Robertson  
Ryan & Associates  
Northwoods Powersports Adventures  
Northwoods United Way  
Northwoods Veterans Homestead  
Pack Em Inn  
Palubicki Eats and Treats  
Parson's Auto & Truck Sales  
Piacenza's on Wabikon  
Pickerel Point Resort LLC  
Potawatomi Carter Casino Hotel  
Potawatomi Community Center  
Potawatomi Traveling Times  
RADenton Realty  
Reinsport  
Roadhouse 139  
Rusty's Wabeno Bowl  
Schmelling Tree Services  
School District of Crandon  
School District of Laona  
School District of Wabeno Area  
Senolihn's Bar  
Silver Lake Preservation  
Association, Inc.  
Stanley Land & Holdings  
Taco Bellas  
Tamarack Outfitters LLC  
Teddy G Autobody  
The Power of the  
Mind in Hypnosis  
The Tree Top Cabin  
Tony's Wabeno Redi-Mix LLC  
Town of Laona  
Town of Lincoln  
Town of Wabeno  
Trailside Hideaway  
Campground LLC  
Tricia's Treasures & Bistro  
United Healthcare -  
Local Agent Jamie B  
Vesser's Wild Rose  
Village Inn Laundromat  
Wabeno Area Players  
Waldvogel Landscaping & Seal Coating

Walentowski Builders, Inc  
Walter & Mary Wied  
Waters Edge Lodge  
Weber-Hill & Packard Funeral Home  
Widucki & Associates LLC  
Wildcat Den Bar and Grill  
Wisconsin Public Service Corporation  
Wolf River Pharmacy  
Wolf River Rendezvous  
Woodmen Life  
WXPR Public Radio  
Xecutive Limousine  
Yeti's Drive In

Take a breath...  
**Visit Forest County**



**Visitor Information Center**  
715.478.3450 | 116 S. Lake Ave. | Crandon, WI 54520  
**Open Year-Round:** Monday-Friday; 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
chris.visitforestcounty@gmail.com  
mary.visitforestcounty@gmail.com  
**VISITFORESTCOUNTY.COM**



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10am-6pm

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- Basketball Hoops
- Water Slide
- Hot Tub
- Lap Pool with Diving Blocks

## ➤ Recreation

- Golf Simulator
- Basketball/Pickleball/Badminton Courts/Volleyball
- Turf Fieldhouse: Indoor Soccer/Batting Cages
- Sports Equipment to Use
- Game Room

## ➤ Fitness & Wellness

- Walking/Running Track
- Cardio & Strengthening Machines
- Free Weights
- Rock Climbing Wall
- Group Exercise Studio
- Combative Room
- Personal Training Services

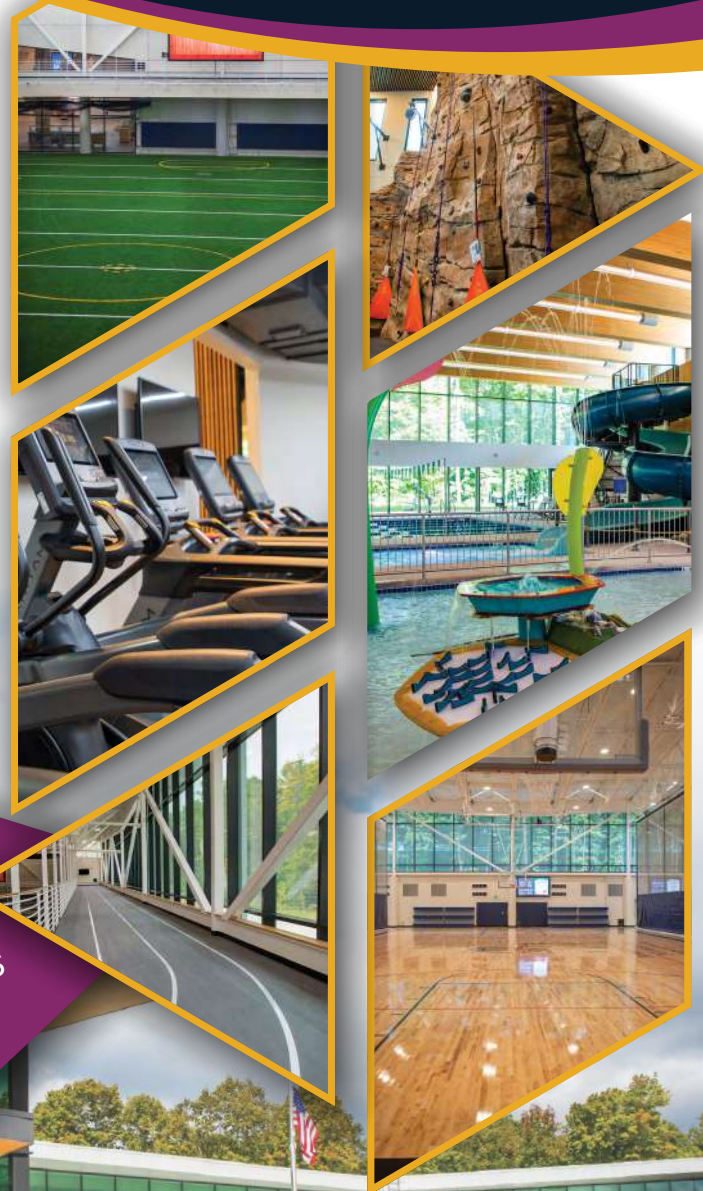
## ➤ Child Care

- On-Site Child Drop-Off

## ➤ Concessions

- Soup & Salad Bar

*Visit Our Website*  
for info on:  
➤ MEMBERSHIPS  
➤ DAY PASSES  
➤ SCHEDULES



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