

About the La Crosse River Conservancy

This was the first property protected by Mississippi Valley Conservancy (MVC), with the first parcels acquired in 1999. LRC is now 381 acres, 168 owned by MVC and 213 (on both sides of the La Crosse River) provided through donated easements with the City of La Crosse. The property open to the public for hiking, shown on this map, is approximately 105 acres.

Much of the property is former farmland that was once used for pasture and growing marsh hay. When MVC acquired it, the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) provided some funding and technical expertise for restoration. Thanks to successful restoration work, this riparian marshland and forest habitat once again provides flood protection to neighboring cities and serves as a migratory refuge and breeding ground for countless animal species.

Trails are mowed regularly except when high water prevents access. The side trail to the mound (4) on the map is open only after August 1 to minimize disturbance of nesting sedge wrens. (Note: The mound is natural bedrock that was resistant to erosion as the rest of the river valley was formed.)

The entrance between Olive Garden and Kwik Trip (5) on the map) is open to the public, but since we do not own the property, there are no signs until you get to the bottom of the hill.

Activities allowed

Hiking, showshoeing, cross-country skiing, hunting, fishing, trapping, canoeing, kayaking.

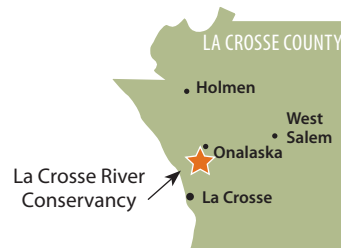
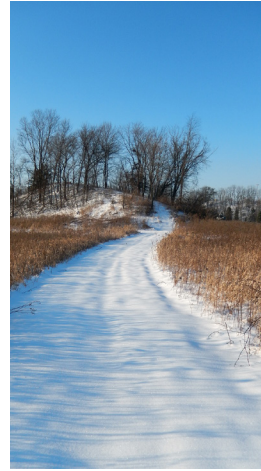
Activities NOT allowed

Biking, dog-walking, horseback riding, making fires, camping, motorized vehicles.

Please respect landowners near Conservancy tracts by staying on the trail and turning back when signs indicate private property.

Some animals seen at the La Crosse River Conservancy

- Canada goose
- Blue wing teal
- Sandhill crane
- Sedge wren
- Rough-legged hawk
- Red-tailed hawk
- Kestrel
- Bald eagle
- Chorus frog
- Beaver
- Muskrat
- Fox
- Coyote
- Blanding's turtle



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HIKING MAP

La Crosse River Conservancy

La Crosse County, Wisconsin





Mileages

5 3 2 6 7 6 2 1	1.9 mi
1 2 3 5	.9 mi
1 2 6 7 6 2 1	1.6 mi
1 2	.3 mi
2 6 7	.5 mi
3 4	.15 mi
1 2 7 3 4 3 5	2.25 mi

Key to Symbols

- P** Parking
- A** Access
- Main trail
- Side trail
- 1** Point of interest
- Tract boundary
- Road

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Hiking the La Crosse River Conservancy (Highway 16, Onalaska, WI)

The trails quickly descend from the Highway 16 level (at **1** and **5**) to river level with flat, easy hiking. There are approximately 1.5 miles of trail.

How to get to the trailhead/parking lot from La Crosse: From Losey Blvd at Main St, follow Losey/Hwy 16 north 4.8 mi to S Kinney Coulee Rd. Park along the road near Stoney Creek Inn or in the Gundersen Clinic ramp.

WEST TRAIL

- 1** Start at the kiosk at the west end of Stoney Creek Inn.
43° 52.408'N, -91° 11.239'W
- 2** Turn right to complete a 1-mile loop that goes through trail points **3** and **5** plus a short road walk back to the kiosk at **1**.
43° 52.216'N, -91° 11.116'W
- 3** Turn left for a .3-mi (round trip) side trip (open seasonally) to a small oak-covered mound **4** topped by a bench.
43° 52.071'N, -91° 11.358'W

EAST TRAIL

- 1** Start at the kiosk at the west end of Stoney Creek Inn.
43° 52.408'N, -91° 11.239'W
- 2** Turn left for a 1-mile total out-and-back hike past an active beaver area at **6**. Turn around at **7**.
43° 52.216'N, -91° 11.116'W
- 7** Turn around and return to **1** or **5**.
43° 52.215'N, -91° 10.796



Side trail open only after Aug 1.

