

## About Boscobel Bluffs State Natural Area

Boscobel Bluffs is a scenic 389-acre property in Grant County east of Boscobel. It is within the Wisconsin River Valley and includes unique wind-blown features and rare dry prairie habitat, as well as oak savanna and oak woodlands. According to the Wisconsin Natural Heritage Inventory, dry prairie is considered globally rare and oak savanna is considered globally imperiled. These natural communities are home to the state endangered wild petunia, state species of concern clustered poppy mallow, and state threatened tuberous Indian plantain. This is a great site for birding enthusiasts, as it is home to the elusive and state threatened hooded warbler.

The property was purchased in June 2013 from the McNamee family with the support of the Wisconsin Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Fund and Endow-Bio, Inc., the first national endowment for biodiversity. The purchase fulfilled the wish of the late Dr. J. R. McNamee to preserve the bluffland he owned "as a wilderness and a permanent habitat for the many rare, and in some cases, endangered, species of flora and fauna who call it home."

### Activities allowed

Hiking, birding, nature photography, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing; hunting and trapping are allowed according to state and local ordinances

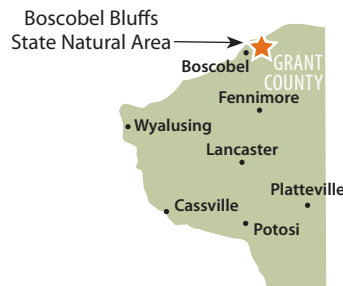
### Activities NOT allowed

Biking, dog-walking, seed collection, motorized vehicles, camping

Please respect landowners near Conservancy tracts by observing property boundaries.

### Some plants and animals seen here

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bee balm                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Black billed cuckoo (special concern) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly milkweed       | <input type="checkbox"/> Blue-winged warbler (special concern) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clustered poppy mallow   | <input type="checkbox"/> Hooded warbler                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cream gentian            | <input type="checkbox"/> Indigo bunting                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Harebell                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern hognose snake                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maidenhair fern          | <input type="checkbox"/> Leopard frog                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuberous Indian plantain |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wild petunia             |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Upland boneset           |  |



1309 Norplex Drive, Suite 9  
La Crosse, WI 54601  
608-784-3606  
[www.mississippivalleyconservancy.org](http://www.mississippivalleyconservancy.org)

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### TRAIL MAP

## Boscobel Bluffs State Natural Area

5368 County Road MS, Boscobel, Wisconsin





# Hiking Boscobel Bluffs State Natural Area

(5638 County Road MS, Boscobel, WI)

The main trail, approximately 1.5 miles one-way, climbs 400 feet from the trailhead along an old logging road through forests and clearings.

**How to get to the trailhead/parking lot from La Crosse:** From La Crosse follow US-14/61 south to Readstown. Turn right/south onto US-61 and follow it for approximately 40 miles until you reach Elm St/US-61 in Boscobel. Go 2 blocks past the Dairy Queen in Boscobel and then turn left/east onto Mary St, which becomes County Road MS. Parking lot is on the left, 2 miles east of the intersection of Mary St and US-61.

- 1 Start east of the parking lot on an old logging trail.
- 2 A short side trail heads north.
- 3 Short side trails go east, west, and south while the main trail continues northeast.
- 4 A side trail heads east to a small prairie.
- 5 The trail enters a long, narrow prairie and shrubland.
- 6 Turn around and retrace your steps.



**Key to Symbols**

- Parking and kiosk
- Main trail
- Side trail
- Point of interest
- Stop! (Entering private property)
- Tract boundary
- Road

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