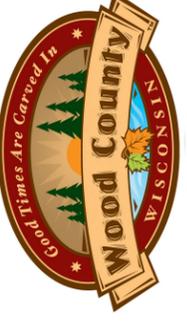
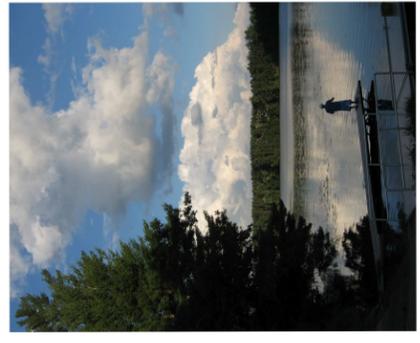


Recreation Map



We have taken great care to insure the accuracy with regards to lands open for public use. However, 100% accuracy is not guaranteed or implied. Please consult the official land records at the Wood County Courthouse Treasurer's Office.
*Front photo features Nekoosa's boat landing.

Find us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/Wood-County-Park-Forestry-Department-204221776296438/ Via E-Mail: parks@co.wood.wi.us Via Phone: (715) 421-8422

Wood County Park & Forestry
P.O. Box 8095
400 Market Street
Wisconsin Rapids WI 54495-8095

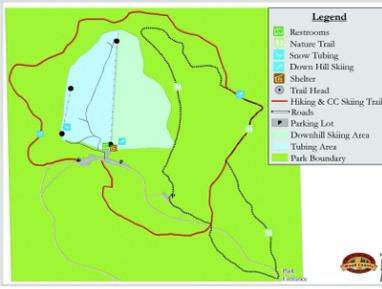
Powers Bluff County Park
6990 Bluff Dr., Arpin, WI 54410

Powers Bluff County Park is centrally located in Wood County,

approximately 17 miles northwest of Wisconsin Rapids, or 15 miles southeast of Marshfield. To get here, take U.S. Highway 10 or from State Highway 73 via County Highway E.

The park is 160 acres in total. Seventy acres of Powers Bluff is a designated State Natural Area that features a 11/2-mile self-guided nature trail, preserved Native American dance rings, and burial grounds. The south 80 acres of Powers Bluff County Park is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a Native American Cultural Sensitivity Area. Powers Bluff is the 13th highest point of elevation in the State of Wisconsin at 1,472 feet. The park is known for spring-time wildflowers and an abundance of trilliums. In 2012, Wood County acquired 223 acres north of the park which will be developed in the future for recreational activities.

Winter sports include downhill skiing, tubing, snowboarding, cross-country skiing, snowmobile access, and wooded areas for snowshoeing. There are three ski trails which are 1300', 1410', and 1500' in length, and are operated by a handle-tow ski lift. The estimated vertical drop is 250 feet. The tube hill has four tube runs and is operated by two handle-tow lifts. A two-story stone shelter building with concessions, a fireplace, and restroom facilities serves as the warming house during winter operations and may be reserved for private functions. Rental equipment is available for downhill skiing, snowboarding, and tubing.



Nepco Lake County Park
1410 Griffith Ave., WI Rapids, WI 54494

Nepco Lake County Park is located south of Wisconsin Rapids on State Highway 13 (enter on Griffith Avenue, County Highway Z). In 1977, this 125-acre park was donated by Nekosoa Papers, Inc. to be used for public recreation.

The 125-acre park features a beach area, one boat launch, picnic areas, playgrounds, and a handicapped beach, access paths, a handicapped fishing pier, a small open shelter, and an enclosed shelter open for rent year-round that holds up to 180 people. There is a 4.5-mile path that is used by many for hiking and cross-country skiing, as well as 5.25 miles of single-track trails used by bikers and snowshoers.

The trails differentiate by season. Winter use includes cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Summer use includes hiking and biking.

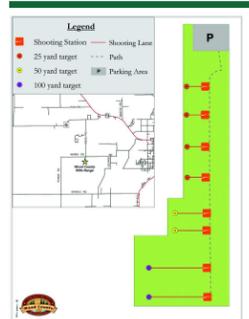
Hiking / Cross Country Skiing Trail



Single Track Trail



Wood County Rifle Range
Marsh Rd., WI Rapids, WI 54494



The Wood County Rifle Range is located 3 1/2 miles west of Wisconsin Rapids. To get there take State Highway 73 North to County Highway Q, turn left onto Ridge Road and go 1 1/2 miles south to Marsh Road. The rifle range is open year-round from sunrise to sunset. It is free-of-charge. There are eight shooting stations available (2 at 100 yards, 2 at 50 yards, and 4 at 25 yards). There is no range master so bring your own targets (cardboard only) and dispose of them properly. Please observe the posted rules at the site.

Hunting and Wildlife

Wood County is a great hunting destination for many different types of wildlife including white-tailed deer, grouse, pheasant, small game, bear, and migratory birds, among others. There are thousands of acres of publicly-accessible land for hunting and recreation. Some of these lands are the Mead Wildlife Area, Wood County Wildlife Area, Private Managed Forest - Managed Forest Law Open Lands, and County Forestlands. Hunting has always been a big tradition in Central Wisconsin, and the county offers many opportunities for hunters of all ages and abilities. Always practice safe hunting and know where you are. Check with officials before venturing out into the wilderness. Check county ordinance before hunting on county-owned lands to verify if an area is open for your type of hunting.

There are many areas in Wood County that can be used for hiking, wildlife and bird viewing. Wood County Wildlife Area and Sandhill Wildlife Area are both located in the southwest portion of Wood County. Sandhill Wildlife Area is managed as a wildlife demonstration area. It serves as a living laboratory not only to test management techniques for wildlife, but to test the effects of manipulating hunter and trapper numbers, their harvest methods, and season length and bag limits. Deer, ruffed grouse, owls, squirrels, loons, eagles, raccoons, Canada geese, snowshoe hare and cottontail, bluebirds, coyotes, deer mice and hundreds of other bird species and mammals all call Sandhill their home. There is a 20-mile, one-way loop through the wildlife area with many places to park your vehicle so you can get out of your car and enjoy the scenery. There are also three observation towers located in Sandhill so you can get a bird's-eye view of the area.

Wood County Wildlife Area is another beautiful place to recreate in. Thousands of sportsmen, bird watchers, hikers, berry pickers, naturalists and others visit Wood County Wildlife Area each year to observe wildlife and enjoy nature. The Mead Wildlife Area is located in the northeast portion of Wood County, contains nearly 20,000 acres of wetlands, forests, and grasslands. Over 267 species of birds are known to inhabit or migrate through the Mead area each year. This wildlife area offers many activities including hiking, hunting, bird and wildlife watching, boating, and dog training. The newly constructed Stanton W. Mead Education and Visitor Center provides opportunities to learn about natural resources and local history.



migrate through the Mead area each year. This wildlife area offers many activities including hiking, hunting, bird and wildlife watching, boating, and dog training. The newly constructed Stanton W. Mead Education and Visitor Center provides opportunities to learn about natural resources and local history.

Richfield 360 Area
8183 Heggelund Ln., Marshfield, WI 54449

Richfield 360 Area is located 7 miles north of STH 73 and 80 on County Highway A. This 360-acre area has wilderness camping with 7 primitive campsites and is open year-round. There are 5 miles of cross-country ski trails on gently rolling lands by Puff Creek. The ski trails are broken down into a 1-, 2-, and 5-mile loop. The Wood County snowmobile trail also crosses through the southern portion of the park. Horseback riding is another activity that can be enjoyed at Richfield 360 when there is no snow. This property is part of the County Forest system and is often open for hunting.



There are many opportunities for bicycling in Wood County. In the Marshfield Area there are over 20 miles of paved, well-marked trails taking you through some of the city's most scenic areas. This scenic yet functional trail network is safe and connects users to all that Marshfield has to offer. The Wisconsin Rapids Area has over 25 miles of trail. There is a 9-mile paved trail that travels through Wisconsin Rapids, Port Edwards and Nekosoa along the Wisconsin River. This route has many rest areas along the way and travels through some of the area's best parks. Check out some of the mountain bike routes through the Village of Hewitt.

For detailed bike routes, check out the websites for the City of Marshfield and the City of Wisconsin Rapids. You can also contact the Park and Forestry Office and many business locations. You may also call the office to receive a copy by mail. Please stay on the marked snowmobile trails.



Wood County has approximately 271 miles of snowmobile trails to enjoy. Seven clubs make up the Wood County Snowmobile Alliance and maintain the trails. Trail maps are available at the Wood County Park and Forestry Office and many business locations. You may also call the office to receive a copy by mail. Please stay on the marked snowmobile trails.



There are numerous sandbars and publicly accessible islands where you can dock your boat for the afternoon and relax. The wide open water is deep enough for most boats and great place for water-sports. The sunset view on this stretch of river is priceless after a great day of cruising.

The second largest body of water in the state of Wisconsin, Lake Petenwell, can be accessed from the new four lane boat landing on Point Basse Rd. in Nekosoa. Lake Petenwell is a flowage of the Wisconsin River that covers 23,000 acres. Even during the busiest summer weekends there is plenty of space for everyone. Known for great walleye, musky and bass fishing, this section also boasts some of the best sailing, boating, and water-sports in the Midwest. Much of the shoreline is undeveloped and there are many opportunities to view wildlife. Be sure to follow the navigation buoys that mark the channel and purchase a quality lake map if you are unfamiliar with the area.



Wood County ATV
4415 State HWY 54, Port Edwards, WI 54469

The Wood County ATV Area is located 3 miles west of Port Edwards on STH 54. The 400-acre area includes 10 miles of ATV trails, restroom facilities, running water, loading ramp, playground equipment, and an open shelter. The park is open year-round with the exception of gun deer hunting season. This area offers varying terrain and mud holes. Use at your own risk! Please follow the posted rules:

- Area Rules:
1. Helmets are required
 2. ATV's & UTVs using this facility must be registered
 3. Operator must be of legal age
 4. Follow directional areas for one-way trails (ex. below)
 5. Always operate vehicles safely
 6. Area is closed to vehicles during all gun deer seasons
 7. Stay on marked trails



South Wood County Park
6411 South Park Rd., WI Rapids, WI 54494

South Wood County Park is located 5 1/2 miles east of Wisconsin Rapids on County Highway W. The park is located on 332 acres around Lake Wazeecha. In the Choctaw nation (formerly the WI Winnemac nation) language Wazeecha means "lake of the land of the pines." The lake spans on 148 acres.

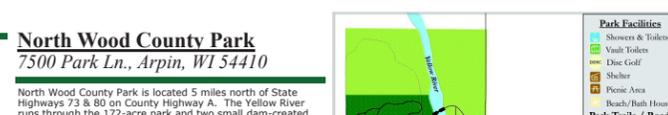
Camping is a popular attraction at South Wood County Park. There are 73 campsites available and 61 of these have electrical hook ups. Shower facilities are also available.

There is a 4-mile trail surrounding the lake. This multi-use trail features community walk/run events each year. Daily trail users enjoy the scenic views in fall, winter, spring, and summer.

Lake Wazeecha is a great place for many water-sport activities. There are numerous small sandy beaches that are perfect for parking a boat and having a picnic. There is great fishing that includes pan fish, walleye, northern pike, and bass. Water skiing and tubing are other activities enjoyed out on the lake and the park is the home of the State Water Ski Show Tournament held each July at Red Sands Beach.

Other attractions at the park include handicapped fishing access areas, a boat launch, two beaches, numerous shelters, and excellent shore fishing.

A 12-basket disc golf course is also featured on the north side of the lake and is called "Willow Run".



North Wood County Park is located 5 miles north of State Highways 73 & 80 on County Highway A. The Yellow River runs through the 172-acre park and two small dam-created lakes provide many recreational opportunities. One of the main attractions of the park is the 225-foot suspension bridge that spans the Yellow River.

There are 98 total campsites in North Park and 78 of these have electrical hookups. Shower facilities, a dump station, and fresh water are available for registered campers. Other attractions include a disc golf course, a stone enclosed shelter for rent, a beach area, a bath house, and walking trails along the river.



Dexter County Park
8220 State HWY 54, Pittsville, WI

Dexter Park is located 6 miles south of Pittsville at the junction of STH 80 and STH 54 West. The 1,235-acre park is located around the 298-acre Lake Dexter. The park has over 1,000 acres of wild and undeveloped land with many hiking trails. With an abundance of natural areas, there are many opportunities to view wildlife. Hunting is permitted in designated areas of the park. Dexter Park features a campground with 95 camping units, of which 92 have electric hookups. Surfaced camp pads are provided on all campsites and shower facilities are available. The park also features an enclosed shelter, playground, beach, sand volleyball courts, handicapped fish access areas, and hiking trails.

There are two boat launches on Lake Dexter. A secondary launch is located in the campground and is for registered campers only. The other launch is located on the southeast corner of the lake, is open to the public, and includes a boat wash down station and fish cleaning house. In addition to boat fishing, there are many shore fishing opportunities including handicapped fishing areas. Lake Dexter is not only popular for its open-water and ice fishing. Some fish species include: northern pike, pan fish, and many small mouth bass.



Facilities & Activities	Powers Bluff County Park	Nepco County Park	Richfield 360 Area	North Wood County Park	ATV Area	South Wood County Park	Dexter County Park	County Forest Land
Camping				X		X	X	
Electricity				X		X	X	
Showers				X		X	X	
Toilets	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Dump Station				X		X	X	
Wood/Ice				X		X	X	
Camping Wilderness			X					X
Wells		X		X		X	X	
Fireplaces/Grills	X	X		X		X	X	
Playground Equipment	X	X		X		X	X	
Picnic Grounds	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Swimming	X	X		X		X	X	
Boat Landing Ramp	X			X		X	X	
Boat Wash Station	X			X		X	X	
Fishing	X	X		X		X	X	X
Fish Cleaning Station							X	
Canoeing	X					X	X	X
Water Skiing	X					X	X	
Enclosed Shelter	X	X		X		X	X	
Open Shelter		X		X		X	X	
Handicap Hunting Blinds								X
Hiking Trails	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Downhill Skiing	X							
Snow Tubing	X							
CC-Skiing	X	X	X					
Snowmobiling						X	X	X
Disc Golf				X		X		
Trapping								X
Hunting								X
Berry Picking	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Snow Shoeing	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Wildlife Observation	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



Fishing, Wildlife, and more!

Wood County is hard to beat in terms of fishing variety, quality and access to resources. The Wisconsin River runs through the southeastern part of the county with excellent public access and boat landings. Three landings that stand out are at County Highway U in Biron, Ben Hansen Park in Wisconsin Rapids, and the new four lane launch in Nekosoa. The County Highway U landing provides access to the 2000+ acre Wisconsin River Biron Flowage known locally as a great place to target musky. Ben Hansen Park provides access to the section of river that runs through the City of Wisconsin Rapids. This stretch of river is generally more rocky and shallow. Target downstream sides of islands, rocks and trees for good smallmouth bass action. The new launch on Point Basse Road (County Highway AA) in Nekosoa was completely rebuilt to provide safe river access during high and low flow periods and is also the site of the famous Nekosoa Walleye Days every spring. From here you can travel south to access Lake Petenwell, the second largest water body in the state with over 90 miles of shoreline to explore. The "Pete" is well-known for monster musky and walleye and excellent ice fishing for slab crappie and perch. If the river isn't your thing, enjoy the solitude of miles and miles of trout streams, as well as the Yellow and Black Rivers. You will also want to explore Lakes Nepco, Dexter and Wazeecha. All lakes have excellent shore fishing opportunities as well as top notch boat landings. Many of the boat landings have recently been improved and the launch at Dexter County Park even has a fish cleaning shelter to fillet your catch.

Various wildlife sightings of Bald Eagles can be viewed along the Wisconsin River and even some nests can be spotted at some of our local camping areas. Other animals that can be spotted in Wood County include Sandhill and Whooping Cranes, Bald Eagles, Painted Turtles, Blue Herons, Foxes, Deer, and many, many more!

For More Information

- Marshfield Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry**
Marshfield Convention & Visitors Bureau
700 South Central Avenue
P. O. Box 868
Marshfield, WI 54449
(608) 422-4541
Website: www.visitmarshfieldwi.com
- Wisconsin Rapids Area Convention & Visitors Bureau**
2507 8th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
(800) 554-4484
(715) 423-1830
Email: cvsatw@pilotwisrapids.com
Website: www.visitwisrapids.com
- Heart of Wisconsin Business & Economic Alliance**
1120 Lincoln Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494
(715) 423-1830
Fax: (715) 423-1865
Email: info@heartofwi.com
Website: www.heartofwi.com
- Wood County Parks & Forestry Department**
111 W. Jackson Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
Phone: (715) 421-8422
Fax: (715) 421-8534
Email: parts@co.wood.wi.us
Website: www.co.wood.wi.us/parks/
Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/Wood-County-Parks-Forestry-Department-204221776296438/
- Wood County Wildlife Area**
Website: www.dnr.wi.gov/topic/lands/wildlifeareas/woodcounty.html
- Sandhill Wildlife Area**
Website: www.dnr.wi.gov/topic/lands/sandhill/woodcounty.html
- Wisconsin Rapids DNR Satellite Center**
Phone: (715) 421-7800
Website: www.dnr.wi.gov
- Hardwood Bombing Range**
Phone: (608) 427-1509
- Wood County Treasurer**
Phone: (715) 421-8464
Website: www.co.wood.wi.us/treasurer/
- Wood County Land Conservation Department**
Phone: (715) 421-8475
Website: www.co.wood.wi.us/land/
- Friends of Mead-McMillan Wildlife Area**
Phone: (715) 457-6771
Website: www.meadwildlife.org

