

Ice Age Trail Alliance 2017 Annual Conference

Featured Hikes:

Chippewa Moraine, Harwood Lakes, and Chippewa River Segments

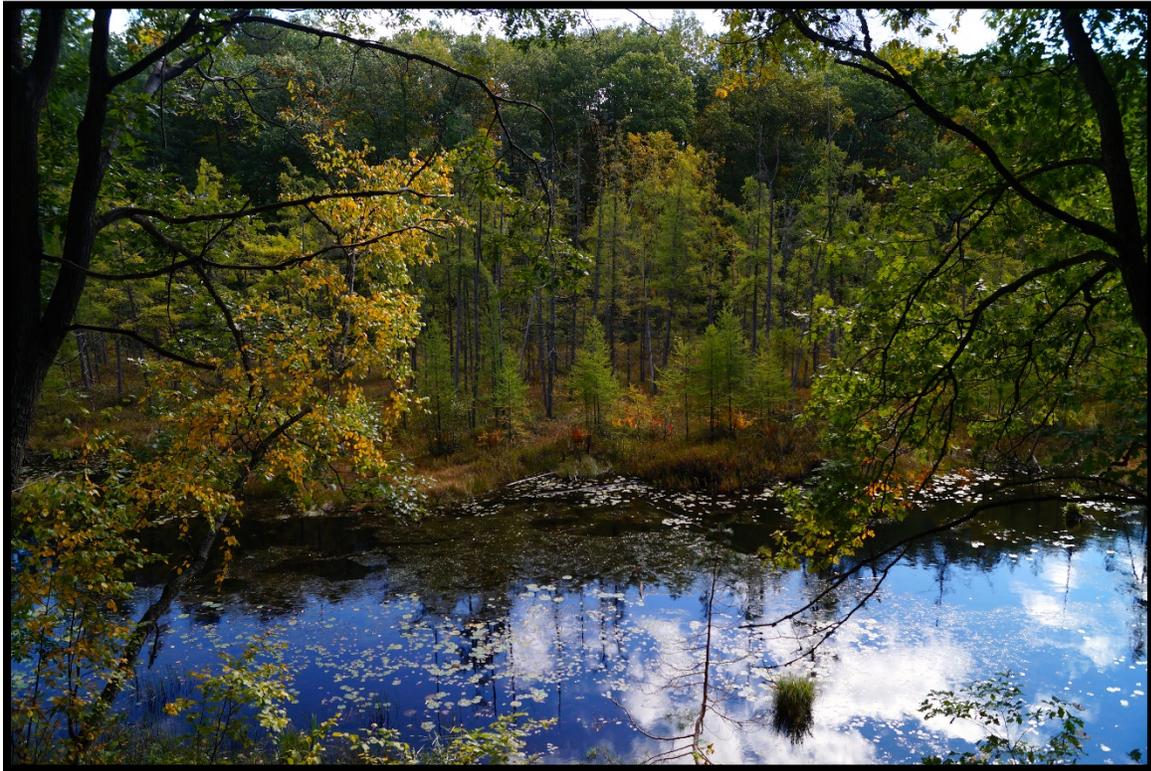


Photo credit: Dave Caliebe. A tamarack bog found along Harwood Lakes Segment

Spend three days immersed in the scenic beauty of Chippewa County. The Trail segments pass by glittering kettle lakes, through mesic forests, across winding board walks, and high-relief hummocky terrain.

Thursday: Chippewa Moraine Segment (East, 4.9 miles), from Rattlesnake Hill Road to the Obey Interpretive Center

The hike begins at the parking lot on formidable-sounding Rattlesnake Hill Road. It quickly turns delightful at Dumke Lake where the view gives you visual appreciation for how ice-walled lake plains formed. Horseshoe Lake beckons in the distance. Seemingly, every turn of the Trail reveals kettle lakes peeking charmingly through the trees.

Friday: [Harwood Lakes Segment](#), from Deerfly Road to CTH-E (3.4 miles)

Today's hike will take you through a second-growth forest with a high canopy and diverse understory of ferns and woodland plants. A keen eye may spot early spring flowers and it will appreciate the lovely view of Harwood Lakes. This segment offers a rollicking visual feast: rolling hills, tamarack bogs, beaver dams, and heron nests. The variety of trees in this mixed forest will have you grabbing for your tree-identification guide.

Note: A shorter option around Picnic Lake will be available.



Photo credit: Tim Malzhan. A father-daughter duo enjoy a scenic hike along the Chippewa River Segment

Saturday: [Chippewa River Segment](#), from CTH-CC to CTH-ZZ (1.8 miles)

Get your fill of stunning views of the Chippewa River as you walk along high, rolling bluffs. Deep ravines, steep topography, and picturesque streams contribute mightily to the visual interest of this segment. The Trail makes its way through forested Krank Nature Preserve before it reaches Perch Lake. Here it bends around the western shore of the lake and heads towards the segment endpoint.