

# Springfield Hill Segment and Indian Lake Segment

(Atlas Map 64F)

## SNAPSHOT

**Springfield Hill Segment**—1.6 miles: Loop trail east of Ballweg Rd.

*2.6-mile Connecting Route*

**Indian Lake Segment**—2.9 miles: STH-19 Eastern Trail Access at Indian Lake County Park to STH-19 Western Trail Access at Indian Lake County Park

**3 1/2 The Springfield Hill Segment is a loop hike featuring impressive vistas, mature oak woodlands and remnant oak savanna and prairie.**

**Note:** New Ice Age Trail is planned north of Indian Lake County Park between Matz Rd. and STH-19. Check with the Ice Age Trail Alliance (800-227-0046, iceagetrail.org) for details.

-  No reliable sources of water.
-  At a Dispersed Camping Area (DCA).
-  A blue-blazed spur trail (DA39) to the DCA.

**3 1/2 The Indian Lake Segment highlights charming Indian Lake County Park and its wooded, hilly terrain.**

**Note:** New Ice Age Trail is planned south of the Indian Lake Segment on the east side of Pine Rd. Check with the Ice Age Trail Alliance (800-227-0046, iceagetrail.org) for details.

-  From a new well located near the park's open-sided shelter that will be installed sometime in 2017.
-  From Indian Lake.
-  Park cabin (DA24) available with advanced permission (see Area Services).
-  Dogs must be leashed except in signed dog-exercise area.
-  Portions overlap with ski trails. Hike off to the side when groomed.
-  Park's trail network.

Within the County Park.

## TRAIL ACCESS AND PARKING

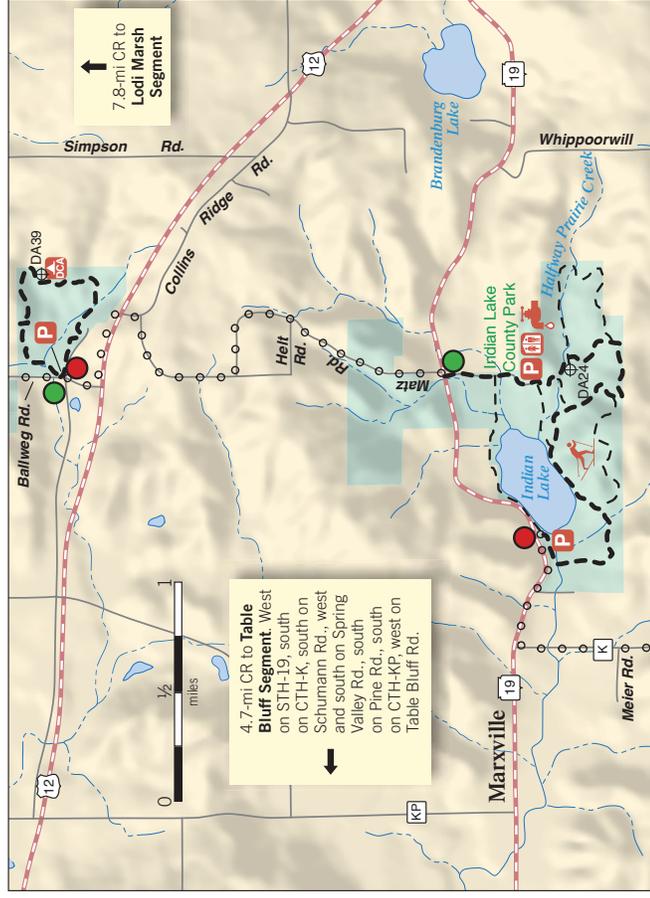
**Ballweg Rd.:** From the intersection of USH-12 and USH-14 in Middleton, take USH-12 west 12.0 mi. At Ballweg Rd. turn right and go 0.2 mi to the parking area on the east side of the road.

**STH-19 Western Trail Access at Indian Lake County Park:** From the intersection of USH-12 and USH-14 in Middleton, take USH-12 west 10.0 mi. At STH-19 turn left and go west 2.8 mi to Indian Lake County Park's gravel parking area for the lake access and dog training/exercise area.

**Additional Parking:** Indian Lake County Park's main parking area off of STH-19. The entrance road leading to the main parking area is 0.8 mi east of the dog training/exercise area parking.

## THE HIKE

The **Springfield Hill Segment** is a short loop that can be hiked in either direction. From the parking lot, hikers heading northeast on the loop will gradually ascend to the crest of a south-facing slope offering dramatic views to the west. After descending off the ridge the segment intersects (DA39) a short spur trail that leads to a Dispersed Camping Area (DCA) for long-distance, multi-day hikers. The segment descends through beautiful oak savanna and woodlands, then crosses a boardwalk before passing near the remains of Frederic Hahn's log build-



ing, dating to the late 19th century. The segment continues along a grassy hillside and passes an agricultural field before arriving back at the parking area.

*Mobile Skills Crew project site, 2013, 2014*

To reach the **Indian Lake Segment**, hikers should follow a 2.6-mile connecting route by heading south on Ballweg Road 0.2 miles. At USH-12 turn left and walk east on the gravel shoulder for 0.4 miles. Cross USH-12 at Collins Ridge Road and go south 0.1 miles. At Matz Road turn right and go west and south 0.6 miles to a T-intersection. Turn left and continue to follow Matz Road 1.3 miles east and south to STH-19. Jog right and turn left into Indian Lake County Park.

From its starting point on STH-19 at the Indian Lake County Park eastern entrance the **Indian Lake Segment** follows the park entrance road to the main parking area. A trail from the parking area leads about 0.5 miles to historic St. Mary of the Oaks Chapel (look for signage behind and to the right of the restrooms).

Indian Lake County Park has 8 miles of ski and hiking trails. The segment overlaps with some of the park's ski trails, which have their own color-coded markings and directional designations, and at times may follow the ski trail in the "wrong" direction. Hikers should follow carefully the Trail's yellow blazes.

From the parking area the segment heads south, soon passing a warming hut/cabin (DA24), with a restroom nearby, that is open during the ski season. Past the cabin the segment climbs up and down steep hills and then briefly follows along the south side of Indian Lake. After crossing a meadow and passing a marsh the segment skirts around a dog exercise area before ending at Indian Lake County Park's dog exercise/lake access parking area on STH-19.