

LITTLE DID I KNOW WHEN FIRST HEARING OF THE  
ICE AGE TRAIL EXACTLY WHAT IT WAS. I HAD SEEN  
THE YELLOW "BLAZES" WHILE HIKING BEFORE, BUT 1200 MILES?  
SO OFF TO THE LIBRARY SEARCHING ALL I COULD FIND.  
PRINTING MAPS, WATCHING YOU-TUBE, STORIES OF AND  
ABOUT. OCTOBER OF 2019 I DECIDED TO GIVE IT A TRY,  
SEE IF HIKING WAS FOR ME. THE FIRST 3 OR 4 MONTHS  
WAS ALL CLOSE TO HOME, I HARDLY SAW ANYONE ON THE  
TRAIL. I'D COME HOME AND TELL MY WIFE - NO ONE AGAIN.  
I THOUGHT IT WAS ODD, BUT ENJOYABLE NONE THE LESS.  
IT DIDN'T TAKE A LOT OF THOUGHT AFTER ADDING  
SOME NUMBERS. EVEN IF 1200 PEOPLE AT THE SAME  
TIME WERE ON TRAIL - COULD BE A MILE APART AND NOT  
KNOW IT. SOON IT BECAME A PASSION AND KNEW I NEEDED  
BETTER RESOURCES. CROSS PLAINS 1AT CENTER FOR GUIDE  
BOOK, ATLAS AND A LARGE MAP TO CHART MY PROGRESS.  
AS I HIT THE KETTLE MURAME AREA, THE TOPOGRAPHY  
HAD CHANGED. I THEN STARTED TO LEARN ABOUT ESKERS  
KAMES, ERRATIC'S - FEATURE'S NEVER VISITED.

WHEN COVID HIT, THE TRAIL GOT BUSY. WAS NOT  
PREPARED FOR IT, HECK, FOR THE MOST PART I HAD THE  
TRAIL TO MYSELF, OR SO I THOUGHT. NEVER THE SKILLS  
AT INTERACTING WITH PEOPLE VERY WELL, A NEW LEARNING  
PROCESS BEGAN, AND CONTINUES. I HAVE LEARNED SOME  
ABOUT THE TRAIL, SOME ABOUT OTHERS, AND SOME ABOUT  
MYSELF. I CAN, I DID - WALK EVERY STEP OF THE  
ICE AGE TRAIL 1000 MILE WANNABE NO MORE!  
AFTER 2 YEARS (OCTOBER 12, 2019 TO OCTOBER 11, 2021)  
109 ACTUAL DAYS OF HIKING,

BRUCE A DAVIS

*Bruce A Davis*

I'VE COMPLETED MY JOURNEY  
NOT FROM END TO END  
BUT WHERE I COULD FIND  
MY TIME TO SPEND  
SOME OUT AND BACK  
FOR MANY EXTRA SMILES  
SOME BIKE AND HIKE  
FOR MANY EXTRA MILES  
IN ALL SEASONS, IN ALL  
WEATHER, I HAVE PUT  
MY STEPS TOGETHER  
MY MAP IS FULL FROM  
EAST TO WEST, I FILLED  
IT IN AND PASSED MY  
TEST!

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