



Together with the Ice Age Trail Alliance, Ice Age Trail Communities enhance appreciation and awareness of the natural and scenic beauty of the thousand-mile Ice Age National Scenic Trail. Visit our Trail Communities to enjoy small-town hospitality, local supper clubs, hometown bakeries, farm-to-table eateries, and sites highlighting Wisconsin's cultural heritage.

For current trail conditions, to connect with local volunteers, or to plan your Ice Age Trail hike, visit [iceagetrail.org](http://iceagetrail.org).

The **Village of Cross Plains**, located in western Dane County, is the gateway to the Driftless Region with outdoor recreation and natural beauty in abundance.



## WHERE TO HIKE

*Unless otherwise noted, dogs are allowed on the Ice Age Trail and should be under control and leashed at all times.*

### CROSS PLAINS SEGMENT

**(9 miles)**

This segment highlights the woods and restored prairies of the Ice Age Trail Alliance's Anderson Preserve, residential streets in the Village of Cross Plains, the Ice Age Trail Alliance headquarters, and the surprisingly remote-feeling bluffs and woodlands north of town. At the edge of Cross Plains, the segment continues along a connecting route toward Madison. At Old Sauk Pass Road, you'll encounter the National Park Service Cross Plains Interpretive site, which highlights a world-renowned example of the interface of glaciated and unglaciated terrain.



### TABLE BLUFF SEGMENT

**(4.8 miles)**

A few miles west of Cross Plains, this segment offers a trek through a stunning prairie which showcases the result of some remarkable land stewardship efforts by the SwampLovers Foundation. Notable features also include the expansive views to the southwest, dramatic rock outcroppings along the bluff itself, and enormous burr oaks which provide pleasing shade for reflection or trailside yoga.

### SPRINGFIELD HILL SEGMENT

**(1.6 miles)**

This loop hike features impressive vistas, mature oak woodlands and remnant oak savanna and prairie. When following the connecting route, it pairs nicely with the **Indian Lake Segment (2.9-miles)** which highlights charming Indian Lake County Park and its hilly, wooded terrain. Benches near the lake offer a picture-perfect place to savor an Instagram-worthy sunset. The park offers an extensive network of trails along with an off-leash dog area on its far western edge.



## SHOPS & STOPS

**Nineteen09** is a friendly, well-appointed neighborhood wine bar located in a historic 1854 building along the Trail route. Find a hidden gem at **Millie's Vintage and Thrift Emporium**. Stock up on supplies and snacks at **Piggly Wiggly** before hitting the Trail. Don't forget the moleskin and sunscreen from the **Cross Plains Pharmacy**. Find (almost) anything at **Ace Hardware**, the helpful place. Passing through on a weekday? Stop in at the **Ice Age Trail Alliance headquarters** (Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm) to say "hi".

## STAY & PLAY

For a traditional hotel stay, you'll need to head to Middleton. However, there are multiple Dispersed Camping Areas (DCAs) in Dane County, including the Cross Plains Segment, for long-distance and multi-day hikers. DCAs lack facilities, but pitching a tent is easy as permits or reservations are not required.

## RECREATION & RELAXATION

Bring your fly-fishing rod and cast a line in the Black Earth Creek, a class-1 Coldwater trout stream, which runs through the heart of the village. Enjoy fall fun at **Enchanted Valley Acres**, famous for its giant, 200-foot-long slides, corn maze, and wagon rides. Enjoy apple picking or pumpkin gathering at the **Appleberry Farm**. Reserve an Ice Age Trail "Explorer Backpack" at the **Rosemary Garfoot Public Library**. Pack the off-road bike and ride the **Cross Plains Mixed Use Trail system**, four-miles of dirt trails open for biking and walking/running. Please note: bikes are not allowed on the Ice Age Trail.

For more ideas, visit: [cross-plains.wi.us](http://cross-plains.wi.us)

## EATS & TREATS

Start the day with friendly hellos and perfectly-crafted lattes at the **Crossroads Coffeehouse** where their soups and sandwiches make an excellent grab-and-go-lunch. Dig in to some delicious baked goods at the **Vessel Cafe**. Satisfy your pizza craving with a specialty pizza or calzone from **PJ's Pizza**. Enjoy the outdoor patio at IATA staff favorite **Remington's Tavern** with a burger and a beer. Get your fill of street tacos, burritos, and enchiladas at **Reyes Tacos**. Stop in at **Culver's** for a fresh, frozen custard. Enjoy the local supper club atmosphere at **The Hilltop** for Friday fish fry or Saturday prime rib dinner. For a savory meal, grab a seat at **Dotty's Bistro**, a neighborhood bar and restaurant. Have a sweet treat before you go at **The Creekside Scoop**.

## GET INVOLVED

Contact the **Dane County Chapter** of the Ice Age Trail Alliance, a dedicated group of volunteers who build, maintain, and promote the beautiful segments of the Ice Age Trail throughout Dane County.

The chapter's "**Dane Drifters**" hiking program recognizes hikers who have walked all 38.5 miles of Ice Age Trail segments and the optional 29 miles of connecting routes in Dane County.





