Albany Segment  (Atlas Maps 69f, 70f; Databook pages 68–69)

SNAPSHOT

9.4 miles: Monticello’s Old Train Depot to Bump Rd.

This very straight and flat segment highlights the quiet, twisty Little Sugar and Sugar rivers.

Note: New Ice Age Trail is planned in Evansville in northwestern Rock County, approximately 10 mi northeast of Albany. Check with the Ice Age Trail Alliance (800-227-0046, iceagetrail.org) for details.

At Monticello’s Old Train Depot and Sugar River State Trail (SRST) parking area in Albany.

From the Little Sugar and Sugar rivers.

Private campground south of Bump Rd. (see Area Services).

One ColdCache site on segment.

By law, dogs must be leashed on the SRST.

The SRST is open to bicycles and snowmobiles.

The SRST continues north and south. The Badger State Trail continues south.

Portions of this segment may be suitable for those using wheelchairs or similar devices.

TRAIL ACCESS AND PARKING

Monticello’s Old Train Depot: From STH-69 at Monticello, turn east on Lake Ave. and go 1.0 mi. At Pratt Rd. turn right and go 1 block south to parking area at Old Train Depot, just north of CTH-EE.

Bump Rd.: From STH-59 in Albany, turn south on Cincinnati St. and go 0.8 mi. At Bump Rd. turn left and go 0.1 mi to the Trail access. No parking. Instead, park at the Sugar River State Trail parking area on 4th St. From STH-59 in Albany, turn south on Cincinnati St. and go 0.4 mi. At 4th St. turn left and go 0.1 mi; parking area on left.
THE HIKE

This segment shares the wide, crushed-gravel-surfaced Sugar River State Trail (SRST) for the segment’s full length. It begins and ends in small towns and is filled with long stretches of pastoral views. The segment meanders along the Little Sugar River and through the Albany Wildlife Area and features rustic wooden bridges, frequent wildlife sightings and seasonal sounds of bullfrogs and dairy cows.

From the historic train depot in Monticello the segment heads in a southeasterly direction; just after the crossing of CTH-EE, the SRST intersects (GR4) the Badger State Trail (BST), which heads south toward the Illinois border.

After leaving the BST behind, the segment heads east, paralleling the Little Sugar River. Watch for wild turkeys, pheasant, deer, sandhill cranes, snakes and turtles, who cross the path to lay their eggs.

As it nears the village of Albany, the segment crosses the Little Sugar River and then, on a long curving bridge with a picturesque view, the Sugar River. The latter crossing is just upstream from where the two rivers converge.

Upon reaching Albany, hikers can walk a few blocks off-Trail to the town’s historical museum, which offers a nice slice of area history. It explains that the Ho-Chunk people called the river “Tonasookarah,” meaning sugar, referring to the maple trees along the riverbank. They set up camps along the river in spring, cultivated gardens and fished in the Sugar River. As Europeans migrated west, the first settlers came to the area from New York State and New England and later Norway, Germany, Ireland, Wales and Switzerland. At the end of the 19th century, the Sugar River was called “River of Pearls,” due to its abundance of oysters and clams, which are now protected.
**AREA SERVICES**


Monticello: See Monticello Segment, p. 242. From the Monticello Old Train Depot go north then west 7 blocks. Also see Trail Access and Parking directions, above.

Albany: Restaurant, grocery store, convenience store, lodging, library, medical service. On Trail. From the Trail access, the business district is a few blocks west. INN Style program lodging at the Albany House B&B (608-862-3636, albanyhouse.com). Camping is available 2.4 mi south of Bump Rd. on CTH-E at Sweet Minihaha Campground (608-862-3769, sweetminihaha.com).

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I appreciate my wife, family and friends who encouraged me along the way. At the start I said one of the reasons for doing this was that I wanted to be away from people. It became clear to me that you don’t really do this alone. Every day I was reminded of people who were rooting me on and there for my success. Words of encouragement, donations to the cause and practical logistical support were available and ongoing. What I gained in self-reliance was outweighed by their ongoing generosity.

PAT ENRIGHT, ICE AGE TRAIL THOUSAND-MILER

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I appreciated the small towns I walked through. I sometimes changed connecting roads to walk through a town. I loved the endless little hamlets, campgrounds and bars I stopped in to talk to locals about life, the weather, or my hike. Luck, Haugen, Cornell, Gilman, Antigo, Weyerhaeuser, Birchwood and countless others in the southern and eastern parts of the state. I hope the Trail stays close to or includes these little places. They are gems of Wisconsin, and to someone not of the state, a real taste of the culture that makes this wacky Trail special. You can get too much of woods and bogs sometimes.

DAVID CLOUSTON (AKA “WALKA WALKA”), ICE AGE TRAIL THOUSAND-MILER
**Must-Have Ice Age Trail Books!**

The **Ice Age Trail Guidebook** features more than 100 detailed segment-by-segment descriptions and maps to help you connect with the thousand-mile Ice Age National Scenic Trail. Written for those seeking a wide range of adventures on the Ice Age Trail.

The **Ice Age Trail Atlas** is a set of 105 color, shaded relief-style maps at 1:48,000 scale. In contrast to the smaller map excerpts in the Ice Age Trail Guidebook, each map in this package is printed on an 8.5” x 11” sheet and includes not just the Ice Age Trail route but also a wider snapshot of the area around the Trail.

Both books were written and published by the Ice Age Trail Alliance. All proceeds for each book help build and maintain the Ice Age Trail. Please call the IATA at (800) 227-0046 with any questions.

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**TOTAL** = $240 + $337.50 + $14.40 + $11.00 = $622.90

[Please send this form to: Ice Age Trail Alliance  
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2110 Main Street  
Cross Plains, WI 53528]

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Please charge my Visa or MasterCard

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5/25/2017