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.

Hartland, a village nestled in the midst of “Lake Country”, appeals with its vibrant, small town charm and plenty of amenities offered by a thriving business district. Known as a walkable community, Hartland has a pedestrian friendly pathway system along the gently flowing Bark River. Numerous, well-maintained parks are tucked away throughout the community.

WHERE TO HIKE

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

HARTLAND SEGMENT

(6.8 miles)
As one hikes the paved trail through the Village of Hartland, they will discover shops, restaurants, amenities, and a lot of parks, as well as three Conservationists’ Hall of Fame commemorative sites.

MERTON SEGMENT

(5.2 miles)
This jaunt along the Bark River closely parallels the Bugline Trail, built on an abandoned Kettle Moraine Railway bed.

MONCHES SEGMENT

(3.1 miles)
This segment traverses a mature maple forest and parallels the Oconomoc River and features spring and early summer woodland wildflowers.
EATS & TREATS

Need a snack? Stop by Birch & Banyon Coffee for a quick treat and coffee to-go as you explore downtown Hartland. Enjoy a heartier meal and cultural charm at Senor Tomas Mexican-Latin Restaurant. If a juicy steak is on your mind, head to Palmer’s Steakhouse. Wash it all down with some local brews! You don’t need to be a “snob” to enjoy Beer Snobs Ale & Eats, a local bar and grill in downtown Hartland.

SHOPS & STOPS

The Hartland area benefits from a charming downtown shopping district, the Hartbrook Mall, Merton Plaza, and Cottonwood Plaza, each offering unique shops for variety and convenience. Visit the trendy Juli & Boutique and Décor Adore Boutique for clothing, home décor, and accessories. Groceries and hiking snacks can be found at the Fox Brothers Piggly Wiggly. Need to relax after a long hike? Get a massage at Avalon Bodyworks or engage in a Vinyasa yoga session at Coda Yoga Studio to stretch your muscles. Finally, browse contemporary works of art at Lake County Fine Arts Schools and Gallery.

RECREATION & RELAXATION

Hartland’s charm is enhanced by extraordinary green spaces for residents and visitors alike. The Hartland Marsh hosts improved trails, boardwalks, and a 1.7 mile stretch of the Bark River. Two commemorative overlook sites, bearing informational markers, highlight your walk through the marsh. The Hartland Marsh has been a focus of many volunteer hours, restoring it to its current state of loveliness. It is a great place to visit if you are a ‘birder’ since many species stop here during their migration. As you might imagine, it also offers many great photo opportunities for every season, especially in Fall. Nixon Park is home to the Splash Pad and Fine Arts Center and also includes a baseball diamond with bleachers and dugouts, four tennis courts, soccer fields, four shelters, restrooms, and play equipment. A pond fed by the Bark River provides hours of fishing enjoyment for everyone.

For more ideas, visit: downtownhartland.com

GET INVOLVED

Contact the Waukesha/Milwaukee County Chapter of the Ice Age Trail Alliance, a dedicated group of volunteers build, maintain, and promote the beautiful segments of the Ice Age Trail throughout Waukesha County. Email: iatawaukmilwchapter@gmail.com

The chapter’s “Walk the Wauk” hiking program recognizes hikers who have walked all 45 miles of the chapter’s Ice Age Trail segments and connecting routes.
Map 83f
Washington and Waukesha counties
Includes Loew Lake, Bark and Oconomowoc rivers, Merton, Monches and North Lake

- Loew Lake Segment: 4.9 mi
- Monches Segment: 3.1 mi
- Merton Segment: 5.2 mi
- Hartland Segment: 6.8 mi