

In 2021, my daughter gave me a book for my birthday called Thousand-Miler by Melanie Radzicki McManus. My husband and I happened to be camping at Interstate Park when I began reading it. I was so inspired that I decided to hike the St. Croix Falls segment the next day, which happened to be my 60th birthday, and this is where my Ice Age Trail journey began. I decided on a goal to complete the IAT by my 62nd birthday. Unfortunately, due to contracting Lyme's Disease in May of 2023, I did not finish the IAT until June 15, 2023. I began connecting with hiking groups on FaceBook and thru that process met individuals who would become my hiking partners/friends and help me to reach my goal. I did not have a specific direction but took advantage of different hikes that were scheduled. My favorite segments were Kettlebowl and Summit Moraine in the Fall; Dells of Eau Claire which I hiked in every season, Chippewa Moraine and Firth Lake in Spring. Each segment seems different depending on the season you hike it, which is why I intend to return to some segments in different seasons, to get a different perspective. Hiking the IAT has been such an enjoyable and challenging experience and I will continue hiking and staying involved with the IAT by volunteering so that others can continue to enjoy this beautiful National Trail.

2021: St. Croix, Plover, Milwaukee River (4.3), Walla Hi, City of Mantiowoc, City of Two Rivers, Dunes, Point Beach, ½ of Sturgeon Bay, Mishicot, East Twin River, Tisch Mills, Devils Staircase

2022: Last part of Sturgeon Bay, Sand Creek, Timberland Hills, Northern and Southern Blue Hills, Hemlock, Firth Lake, Chippewa River, Mondeaux Esker, Pine Line, Averill Kelly, Turtle Rock, Grandfather Falls, Underdown, Alta Junction, Harrison Hills, Parrish Hills, Highland Hills, Summit Moraine, Lumbercamp, Kettlebowl, Dells of Eau Claire(I've hiked 4 times - every season), Thornapple, Ringle, Skunk and Foster, Greenwood, Hartman Creek, Emmons, Deerrfield, Bohn, Wedde, Chaffe, John Muir, Portage Canal, Sauk, Devli's Lake, Merrimac, Gibraltar, Fern Glen, City of Lodi, Lodi Marsh, Eastern Lodi, Springfield, Indian Lake, Table Bluff, Cross Plains, Valley View, Madison, Verona, Montrose, Brooklyn Wildlife, Monticello, Albany, Arbor Ridge, Janesville, Milton, Storrs Lake, Clover, Whitewater, Eagle, Scuppernong, Waterville, Lapham Peak, Delafield, Hartland, Merton Monches, Holy Hill, Pike Lake slinger, Cedar Lakes, West Bend, South Kewaskum, Parnell, greenbush, Labudde Forestville

2023: Gandy Dancer, Straight Lake, Trade River, Pine Lake, McKenzie Creek, Indian Creek, Grassy Lake, Bear Lake, Tuscobia, Chippewa Moraine, Harwood, Lake Eleven, Jerry Lake, East Lake, Rib Lake, Woodlake, Newwood, Camp 27, Timberland Wildernness, Mecan River, New Hope-Iola, Blue Springs.

Eastern bifurcation - 2022