Pike Lake Segment, Slinger Segment and Cedar Lakes Segment (Atlas Maps 84f, 85f)

SNAPSHOT

Pike Lake Segment—3.3 miles: CTH-E to STH-60

Slinger Segment—1.5 miles: STH-60 to Kettle Moraine Dr.

Cedar Lakes Segment—2.8 miles: Kettle Moraine Dr. to CTH-NN

*The **Pike Lake Segment** passes through the family-friendly Kettle Moraine State Forest—Pike Lake Unit (KMSF-PLU) and offers outstanding views from the top of the nearby Powder Hill observation tower.*

At KMSF-PLU facilities.

From Pike Lake.

Three walk-in campsites at KMSF-PLU (see Area Services).

KMSF-PLU campground.

Dogs are not permitted at park facilities.

KMSF-PLU trail network loops and spurs.

*The short **Slinger Segment** mostly follows roads and sidewalks.*

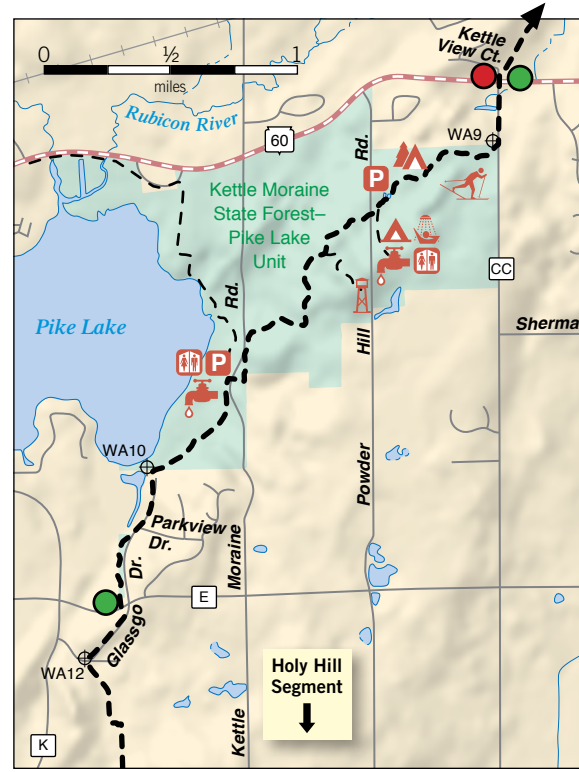
At Community Park.

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

*The **Cedar Lakes Segment** features the Polk Kames, the second largest cluster of kames in the state.*

No reliable sources of water.

A white-blazed loop trail and blue-blazed connecting trail.



TRAIL ACCESS AND PARKING

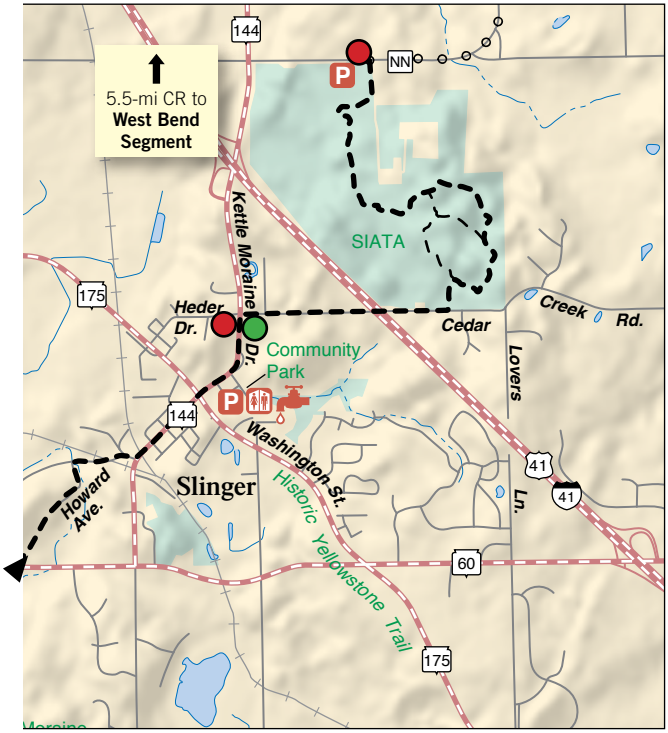
CTH-E: From I-41 exit onto STH-60 and go west 2.3 mi. At CTH-CC turn left and go

south 2.0 mi. At CTH-E turn right and go west 1.4 mi to the Trail access just west of Glassgo Dr. Roadside parking on Glassgo Dr.

CTH-NN: From I-41 take Exit 66 onto STH-144 and go north 0.4 mi. At CTH-NN turn right and go east 0.4 mi to the parking area on the south side of the road.

Additional Parking: (i) Kettle Moraine State Forest—Pike Lake Unit (KMSF-PLU) Swim Area on Kettle Moraine Rd. (ii) KMSF-PLU Black Forest Nature Trail parking area on Powder Hill Rd. The Ice Age Trail passes through the east end of the parking area. (iii) Roadside parking in Slinger. No parking along Cedar Creek Rd.

THE HIKE



The **Pike Lake Segment** heads north from its starting point on CTH-E, paralleling and then following quiet Glassgo Drive 0.3 miles to the southern property boundary (**WA10**) of the 446-acre Kettle Moraine State Forest—Pike Lake Unit (KMSF-PLU). Most of the segment here follows the edge of a glacial ridge through heavily forested maple and beech woods. Pike Lake is a spring-fed kettle with a very popular sandy beach; the segment reaches the swimming area parking lot 0.5 miles after first entering the unit.

The segment crosses Kettle Moraine Road and makes its way uphill for 0.9 miles to an intersection with a spur trail marked by an informational sign. The spur climbs 0.2 miles to the top of 1,350-foot Powder Hill, one of the larger kames in the area. A lookout tower on top offers spectacular 360-degree views. From the intersection with the spur trail the segment continues another 0.25 miles to Powder Hill Road, joining the Black Forest Nature Trail along the way.

East of Powder Hill Road the segment passes a spur trail to the Pike Lake Unit campground and turns north to pass through the east end of the Black Forest Nature Trail parking area. From here, the segment travels north and east through a heavily wooded area. Three walk-in backpack campsites are located in this area. The segment continues east to CTH-CC at a spot (**WA9**) marked with an Ice Age Trail signpost on the west side of the road. At this point, hikers should turn left and head north on CC for 0.3 miles to the segment's endpoint at the CTH-CC/STH-60 intersection.

The **Slinger Segment** starts from the CTH-CC/STH-60 intersection by

heading northeast on an abandoned road that leads to Howard Avenue. Hikers should head east and then north on Howard Avenue to Hartford Road, where the segment heads east to Kettle Moraine Drive (STH-144).

At Kettle Moraine Drive (STH-144) the segment heads northeast and takes hikers through the village of Slinger. Slinger was an important trading center for Native Americans. Over the years, it has been at the crossroads for many trails and roads such as the Winnebago Trail, which was the easiest route through the Kettle Moraine, and the Yellowstone Trail, America's first coast-to-coast automobile highway. Along Kettle Moraine Drive (STH-144) the segment passes Community Park before reaching its endpoint at the Cedar Creek Road intersection.

The **Cedar Lakes Segment** highlights several of the Polk Kames while traversing agricultural fields, wetlands and mixed forest of old oaks, sugar maple, white birch and beech. During the winter, the north and east sides of the kames retain snow later in season. The spring months present a scattered display of woodland and prairie wildflowers, including trillium, wood anemone, mayapple, violets, jack-in-the-pulpit and many ferns. The fall colors here are not to be missed. A few Ice Age Trail informational signs are placed along the segment.

From the intersection of Kettle Moraine Drive (STH-144) and Cedar Creek Road the segment follows Cedar Creek Road east for 0.7 miles. The segment departs the road and heads north along the edge of a farm field and enters the woods, soon arriving at a junction with the 0.8-mile white-blazed Kame Loop trail, which curves around a prominent kame and allows hikers to see the west side of the kame; look for a large area of shooting stars on a hilltop north of the kame. From this junction the segment heads east and then north, passing a bench and informational sign on the east side of the kame. The segment then reaches the north junction with the white-blazed loop trail and skirts the eastern sides of a second kame. Volunteer-built puncheons and rock-lined water drainage structures highlight this portion of the segment.

The segment bends west and passes by the north side of the northern kame, and then comes to a junction with a blue-blazed trail, which connects to the white-blazed Kame Loop. The segment continues west and then north, passing through a mix of forest and farm fields before reaching its endpoint at the Trail access on CTH-NN.

Mobile Skills Crew project site, 2004, 2009

AREA SERVICES

Kettle Moraine State Forest—Pike Lake Unit (KMSF-PLU): Camping. On Trail (262-670-3400, dnr.wi.gov/topic/parks/name/pikelake; walk-in backpack campsite B1 is first come, first served. Two additional walk-in backpack campsites and general campground sites require reservations (888-947-2757, reserveamerica.com).

Hartford: Restaurant, grocery store, convenience store, lodging, camping, library, medical service. From the STH-60 Trail access go 2.5 mi west on STH-60. INN Style program lodging at the Jordan House B&B (262-673-5643, jordanhousebandb.com) and at Westphal Mansion Inn B&B (262-673-7938, westphalmansioninn.com). Area info available from the Hartford Chamber of Commerce (262-673-7002, hartfordchamber.org).

Slinger: Restaurant, grocery store, convenience store, library. From the STH-60 Trail access go 1.5 mi east on STH-60 or on Trail along Kettle Moraine Dr.