

2021 RECONNECT EVENTS



Trailbuilding and Stewardship

A lot of promise fills 2021, yet we will err on the side of caution with COVID-19's uncertainty still present. The ability to pivot and remain flexible carried the day last season. This mindset created the 2021 schedule, and we will employ it throughout the year. Although Reconnect events may not have the same base camp amenities as Mobile Skills Crew events in the past, the projects' organization and professional heart remain, along with camaraderie and fun.

Small-Scale Events: To provide the best chance of success, we will warm up with small-scale projects requiring crews of **25 volunteers or less**. These events will not include food service or base camp amenities, and participants will bring sack lunches.

Large-Scale Events: As the season progresses into late summer and fall, if conditions warrant, we will expand our projects' scope. These large-scale events will allow us to accommodate groups of **50 or more volunteers** and offer camping. No food service is planned, though coffee and hot water will be available each morning. Participants will bring their meals.

Stay up-to-date by regularly visiting iceagetrail.org/2021-reconnect-events/



Large-Scale Events: Season at a Glance

July 28-August 1, Valley View and Cross Plains Segments, Dane County

To complete the Valley View Segment extension, we will create a wetland crossing that features stepping stones and a 400-foot-long boardwalk. New tread through Mammoth's Back Preserve will connect Stagecoach Road to County Road P.

Aug 25-29, Ringle Segment, Marathon County

After completing Phase Two of the reimagined Ringle Segment in 2020, we shift to Phase Three which picks up where we left off at Mole Brook Road. Boardwalks, stonework, and yes, more rotten granite await!

Sept 15-19, Waterville Segment, Waukesha County

We aim to give hikers a half-mile reprieve as we move the Ice Age Trail off of a busy rural road. In the plans: new tread construction, boardwalk construction, and tread maintenance.

Oct 6-10, Ringle Segment, Marathon County

Fingers crossed as we make the final push to complete the nearly 7-mile reimagining of the Ringle Segment. In the plans: tread construction, stonework, and plenty of signage. Hopefully, a toast will celebrate the opening of the new Ringle Segment.

Oct 21 – 23, Wildcard, Stay tuned...



Small-Scale, Local Events: Season at a Glance



TRAILBUILDING

The crews for these tightly focused events may be primarily composed of local chapter members and additional folks as needed.

April 21-23, Waterville Segment, Waukesha County

The boardwalk builders of Waukesha County take on the task of replacing four bridges and boardwalks.

May 1-4, Blue Hills Trail Layout and Design, Rusk County

Following up from last fall, this Trail Layout and Design event in Rusk County will focus on refining possible trail routes and connecting impressive geologic features.

May 18-20, Montrose Segment, Dane County

A new 330-foot long boardwalk on the Montrose Segment will keep boots dry and the Trail open and passable.

July 7-10, Jerry Lake Segment, Taylor County

It's time to replace the structures built over Sailor Creek with a heavy-duty Forest Service bridge.

STEWARDSHIP*

Along with creating access to the outdoors for people, the Alliance works to create habitat for native plants and animals.

Steenbock Preserve, Gibraltar Rock Segment, Columbia County

The Alliance will continue to clear trees from the historic ridgetop prairie.

- **February 18-20:** Cedar Removal
- **November:** Invasive Brush Removal

Brownrigg-Heier Preserve, Manitowoc County

To keep this preserve's hardwood forest healthy, projects include:

- **April 30-May 2:** Tree Planting
- **May:** Garlic Mustard Removal
- **September:** Invasive Brush Removal

Swamplovers' Preserve, Table Bluff Segment, Dane County

This 433-acre preserve is packed with species diversity. To maintain high-quality habitat, projects will include:

- **May-July:** Prairie Weeding
- **September-October:** Seed Collecting
- **November:** Invasive Brush Removal
- **December:** Selective Tree Removal

Mammoth's Back Preserve, Dane County

The preserve was doubled in size in 2020, giving us plenty of work to do!

- **October:** Invasive Brush Removal

*Stewardship events, noted by the month in which they will take place, await specific dates. Finalized details will populate the Alliance's event calendar, be sent as project announcements, and will appear here: iceagetrail.org/2021-reconnect-events/