Highlights of My Fourth Hike of the Ice Age Trail
Kris "Hair Tie" Van Handel

- Hiking with so many new people
- Taking numerous week long vacations to go hiking
- Seeing Penny prance through the snow with her boots on
- Backpacking with 17 middle schoolers from West Salem Middle School
- Hiking with our new dog, Maisy
- Going to Culvers after a long hot hike in the summer
- Watching Penny take Jared's sausage and eat it
- Stopping midhike in Cornel to rest and hang out with Amy Lord and Vicki Christianson
- Hiking the new section of La Budde Creek with fresh snow on a sunny day
- Pulling a squirrel carcass out of Maisy's mouth so that she didn't eat it
- Stopping at the Mondeaux Dam Lodge for an ice cream sandwich midhike and going back that evening for supper
- A lady slamming on her breaks to ask me for directions in the middle of nowhere and then telling me "those are some crazy socks you have!" She was talking about my gaiters.
- Photographing the trail in all seasons, but especially in the fall
- Hiking in a downpour with Maisy who pranced the entire way.
- Kettlebowl Guidebook field editing
- Riding the zipline at Janesville's Riverside Park
- Getting back on the trail after a month off due to an injury
- Running the Lapham Peak Colorama 5k and then hiking in the area
- Mammoth Hike Challenge
- Hiking on the new Highway H bridge (Milwaukee River Segment)
- Taking the new Highway 23 underpass (Greenbush Segment)
- Hiking along Lake Michigan on the beach in the winter. It was so easy because the sand wasn't slipping around with each step!
- Riding the moped for a shuttle with a below zero windchill.
- Getting to the car just as it started to rain
- Photographing spring flowers along the trail
- Spending many days hiking with Penny and having so many memories of her enjoying the trail
- Hiking newly built sections of trail
- Spending lots of time outside
- Backpacking trips where I lived outside for numerous days
- Finding a giant puffball along the trail
- Finishing my fourth completion at the new Eastern Terminus location