

Walla Hi Segment (Atlas Map 91f)

SNAPSHOT

 **2.3 miles:** Lax Chapel Rd. to Mueller Rd. at S. Cedar Lake Rd.

	From Lake Michigan and Molash Creek.		Dogs must be leashed (8-ft max) and under control at all times.
	At Walla Hi County Park.		Portions overlap Walla Hi hiking trails and small portions overlap equestrian trails and Mueller Rd.
			Walla Hi County Park hiking and equestrian trail network.
			Portions of this segment may be suitable for those using wheelchairs or similar devices.
	At nearby Manitowoc County Expo Center grounds (see Area Services).		

TRAIL ACCESS AND PARKING

- 1 Lax Chapel Rd. Trail Access (43.90268, -87.96949):** From Elkhart Lake at the intersection of STH-67 and CTH-A, take STH-67 north 5.5 mi. At STH-32/57 turn right and go east 2.6 mi. At Lax Chapel Rd. turn left and go north 0.4 mi. **No Parking.** Instead, park at Walla Hi County Park on Mueller Rd.
- 2 Mueller Rd. at S. Cedar Lake Rd. Trail Access (43.90639, -87.94223):** From Elkhart Lake at the intersection of STH-67 and CTH-A, take STH-67 north 5.5 mi. At STH-32/57 turn right and go east (stay on STH-32) 4.2 mi. At S. Lake Cedar Rd., turn left and go north 1.0 mi. **No Parking.** Instead, park at Walla Hi County Park main parking area 0.6 mi west and south on Mueller Rd.

THE HIKE

This segment travels along an easement and through the 160-acre Walla Hi County Park, showcasing the best glacial landscape features: kettles, moraines, and erratics. It packs in beauty and challenge over a short distance as the Trail navigates almost 200 feet in elevation change. It travels hummocky, high-relief topography through land heavily forested with oak and beech trees. In places, the ground cover is thick and diverse, with wildflowers and large moss-covered erratics.

From the Trail access on Lax Chapel Road, head east along an easement overlooking farm fields. To the south of the Trail is a sand and gravel pit, and you may hear equipment operating during work hours. Soon you'll reach a magnificent handcrafted stone staircase built by Crew volunteers. Hike 80 feet down "Slab Hill" as you head toward Walla Hi County Park.

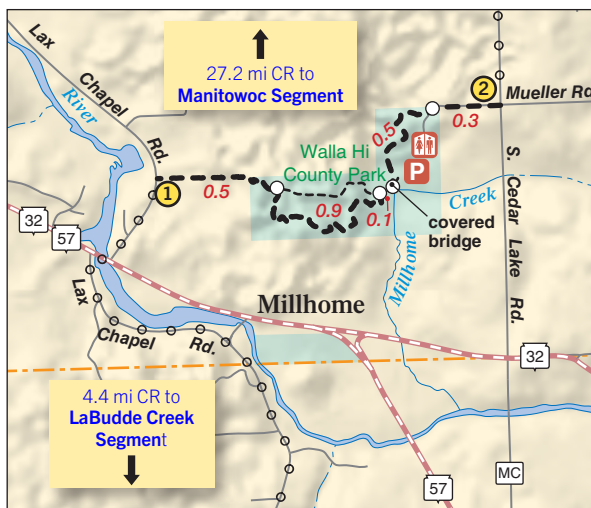
Shortly after the stairs, take a serpentine trek up a wooded hillside and enter Walla Hi County Park. You'll almost immediately meet a horse trail after reaching the top of the hill, quickly followed by a second. The park contains several hiking and horse trails, but the intersections are well marked with signs, yellow blazes, and park maps.

Soon, on your left, you'll meet the western end of a white-blazed loop trail that features other parts of the park and provides an alternate route to the park's main parking area. From the junction with the white-blazed trail, traverse the oak and beech forest to reach a high point. Enjoy the woods' stillness while

resting on a nearby bench. Upon descending the rocky terrain, you'll meet the eastern end of the white-blazed loop trail.

Cross a small clear stream on a covered bridge, another gem in the delightful landscape. After the bridge, a wide grassy area leads 200 yards to the Walla Hi County Park main parking area.

Continuing north from the grassy area, progress through a more open area, then return to the woods. Briefly share a park service road as you head toward Mueller Road near the Walla Hi County Park entrance sign. Continue on Mueller Road east 0.3 miles to the segment's terminus at South Cedar Lake Road.



AREA SERVICES

Kiel: Restaurant, grocery store, convenience store, medical service. From Walla Hi County Park go east on Mueller Rd. 0.3 mi, south on S. Cedar Lake Rd. 1.0 mi and west on STH-32 (becomes STH-32/57) 4.6 mi. Restaurant on Lax Chapel Rd south of STH-32/57.

Elkhart Lake: See LaBudde Creek Segment, p. 346. From Walla Hi County Park go east, south, west and south ~12 mi.

I am extremely grateful to the Trail for pushing my boundaries. It's easy to hike only where and when I'm comfortable, but the Trail pushed me beyond that. For example, it gave me the experience of camping alone. To start out it was out of necessity to save money. I was terrified, but since then I have camped by myself many times. Now, I love the time alone and being able to enjoy the quiet, the night sky, or a book and a fire before setting out to hike again the next morning.

SARAH DRISCOLL, THOUSAND-MILER