

About Trempealeau Lakes

In 2009, aided by a donation of land value and grants, the Conservancy purchased the 55-acre Trempealeau Lakes property, with its half-mile of frontage on Second Lake that abuts the state's Trempealeau Lakes State Fishery Area. This area, located within the "Mississippi River Large River Corridor," is recognized as being of "Continental Significance" by Wisconsin's Wildlife Action Plan. It is within one half-mile of the USFWS National Wildlife and Fish Refuge, which includes access to the Long Lake Canoe Trail.



A mix of 1,500 swamp white oak, silver maple and river birch trees were planted by volunteers in spring of 2023. These trees, which replaced the mature pines previously on the property, are integral to our habitat restoration efforts. They fulfill key goals outlined in our DNR-approved habitat management plan. As they mature, they will offer crucial benefits, including providing diverse wildlife habitats, capturing carbon dioxide, preventing soil erosion, and safeguarding water quality.

Public Access

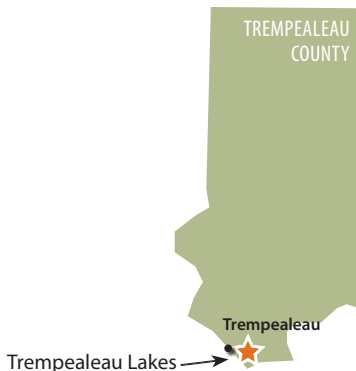
Dogs and bikes are NOT allowed on this property. Visitors must follow our **Recreational Use Policy** as well as all federal and state laws and local ordinances. Use either link to see the policy: mississippivalleyconservancy.org/resources/policies



Please respect landowners near Conservancy tracts by observing property boundaries.

Some animals and plants seen here

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Black-capped chickadee | ☐ Great blue lobelia |
| ☐ Downy woodpecker | ☐ Indian tobacco |
| ☐ Giant swallowtail butterfly | ☐ Indian pipe |
| ☐ Pileated woodpecker | ☐ Poison ivy |
| ☐ Turkey vulture | ☐ Purple meadow rue |
| ☐ White-breasted nuthatch | ☐ Maple |
| ☐ Wood duck | ☐ Red pine |
| ☐ Beaver | ☐ River birch |
| ☐ Leopard frog | ☐ Spotted joe pye weed |
| ☐ Raccoon | ☐ Swamp white oak |
| ☐ Snapping turtle | ☐ White pine |
| ☐ White-tailed deer | ☐ Wild plum |
| ☐ Blackberry | ☐ Wild rice |
| ☐ Black-cap raspberry | ☐ Woolgrass |
| ☐ Buttonbush | |
| ☐ Cardinal flower | |
| ☐ Culver's root | |



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2026-0714



TRAIL MAP

Trempealeau Lakes

23671 Pickerel Path, Trempealeau, WI



Key to Symbols

P Parking and gate

--- Trail
1 Point of interest

--- Tract boundary

== Road

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Hiking Trempealeau Lakes

(23671 Pickerel Path—Intersection of Lake Rd & Pickerel Path, Trempealeau, WI)

This ¾-mile flat, wide loop trail traverses a floodplain forest, a tree planting, and a former pine plantation near spring-fed Second Lake. **Trail may be flooded or wet during spring and other high-water periods.**

How to get to the trailhead/parking lot from La Crosse: Follow Hwy 35 (Great River Road) north to Trempealeau. Turn left on unmarked Fremont St (the road to the lock and dam). It becomes Lake Rd near the lock and dam turnoff. Turn left on the next road, unmarked gravel Pickerel Path, and follow it 0.3 mi to a parking place near its end.

- 1** Start at the parking area gate and head northwest. You'll pass short side trails to fishing spots, and then the trail turns west on a wide, mowed path through deciduous woods.
- 2** Turn right (north) at a Y in the trail and follow it to **3**, another fishing spot.
- 3** Turn left (west) for a walk through a cathedral-like pine forest. Watch for stumps in the path!
- 4** At another MVC gate (an additional parking spot), turn left (east) to return to the Y at **2** and veer right (east) to return to the parking area. Instead, you may exit to Pickerel Path at **4** and follow it east to the parking area.

