



Girl Scouts Love State Parks September 12 & 13, 2020

The Wisconsin State Park System is proud to partner with the Girl Scouts of the USA and invites every girl to visit and enjoy the many parks, forests, trails, and recreation areas available in the state. Take part in the beauty while recreating, learning, or taking part in a stewardship activity. There are many fun activities available for a day-trip or overnight camping experience. Contact properties directly to learn more about which opportunities listed below are available at that location.

Picture Yourself in the Wisconsin State Park System

Travel Wisconsin and Wisconsin State Parks teamed up to install selfie stands in several state park properties to help capture an outdoor adventure. Girl Scouts can take a hike to find the stand near them and enjoy scenic locations. Share your adventure and love of the outdoors **#gsoutdoors**, **#GirlScOutWiGo**, and **#ScenicWisconsin**. Find the nearest locations at <u>TravelWisconsin.com</u>.

Feel Good in the Great Outdoors

Wisconsin State Parks, Forests, Trails and Recreation Areas offer opportunities for visitors of all abilities to get out and enjoy the outdoors. Listed below are a number of programs we offer. For more details or information on other outdoor recreation opportunities visit our webpage at dnr.wi.gov. Also search 'Open the Outdoors' for accessible recreation opportunities.

Geocaching

Join the fun of going on a treasure hunt in the great outdoors using some amazing technology! Geocaching, a world-wide sport for all ages and abilities, involves finding hidden containers or special places with the aid of a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver or smart phone app. The Wisconsin Geocaching Association (wi-geocaching.com) has a Wisconsin State Park System series of caches. Try to find the Cold Caches (earth caches) along the Ice Age National Scenic Trail to learn more about Wisconsin's incredible Ice Age legacy. Learning to the basics of Geocaching is easy. Just check out the how to videos on geocaching.com. Here's what you need to geocache: a GPS unit or smart phone with app, internet access, and free account at geocaching.com. Remember to take along a compass, pen, water, and snacks and come dressed for some great outdoor adventures!

Wisconsin Explorer

The Wisconsin Explorer program offers exciting, hands-on activities that Girl Scouts can use to explore Wisconsin State Park System properties to solve many nature mysteries and help complete nature related badge requirements. You can find these fun, educational activities in three age level books: ages 3-5, 6-8, 9 and up. We invite troop leaders to download or copy Wisconsin Explorer materials to use with troop members during a visit to a property. (Note: patches or printed books are not available for troop members).

Wisconsin State Park System Rental Equipment

Girl Scouts are invited to try a new outdoor recreational activity. Wisconsin state parks and forests have partnered with private concessionaires and Friends groups to offer rental equipment at some properties. Contact the property for pricing and more information about instruction availability. Availability of equipment is subject to change. Please note that properties may have a limited supply of rentals and all are first-come, first-served. Rentals are available in season. For more information on accessible/adaptive rental equipment in the state park system, please see: Adaptive Equipment.

Camping

Spend the night with nature in one of more than 5,000 campsites in the Wisconsin State Park System. Camping opportunities include family and group campsites, indoor group camps, backpack and boat sites and equestrian campgrounds. Be aware of special conditions or closures. There are accessible campsites available and 10 properties offer cabins for persons with disabilities. Wisconsin nonprofit youth organization group camping rates are available.

Reserve a Shelter for Your Visit

Many Wisconsin state parks and forests have facilities that can be reserved for large group activities, events, or picnics. Check for special conditions prior to arrival. All Wisconsin state parks and forests have picnic areas and nearly all are accessible to people with disabilities. Use the reservation system to check availability, capacity, and make a reservation.

EEK! – Environmental Education for Kids (eekwi.org)

EEK! is a student-friendly website for youth and teachers to help connect, explore, and engage youth in learning outside. Designed for upper-elementary and middle school students to learn about Wisconsin's natural resources. Originally created by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the Wisconsin Green Schools Network relaunched the site with a new design and more content in 2020. Discover resources for getting outdoors and learning from school or home.

