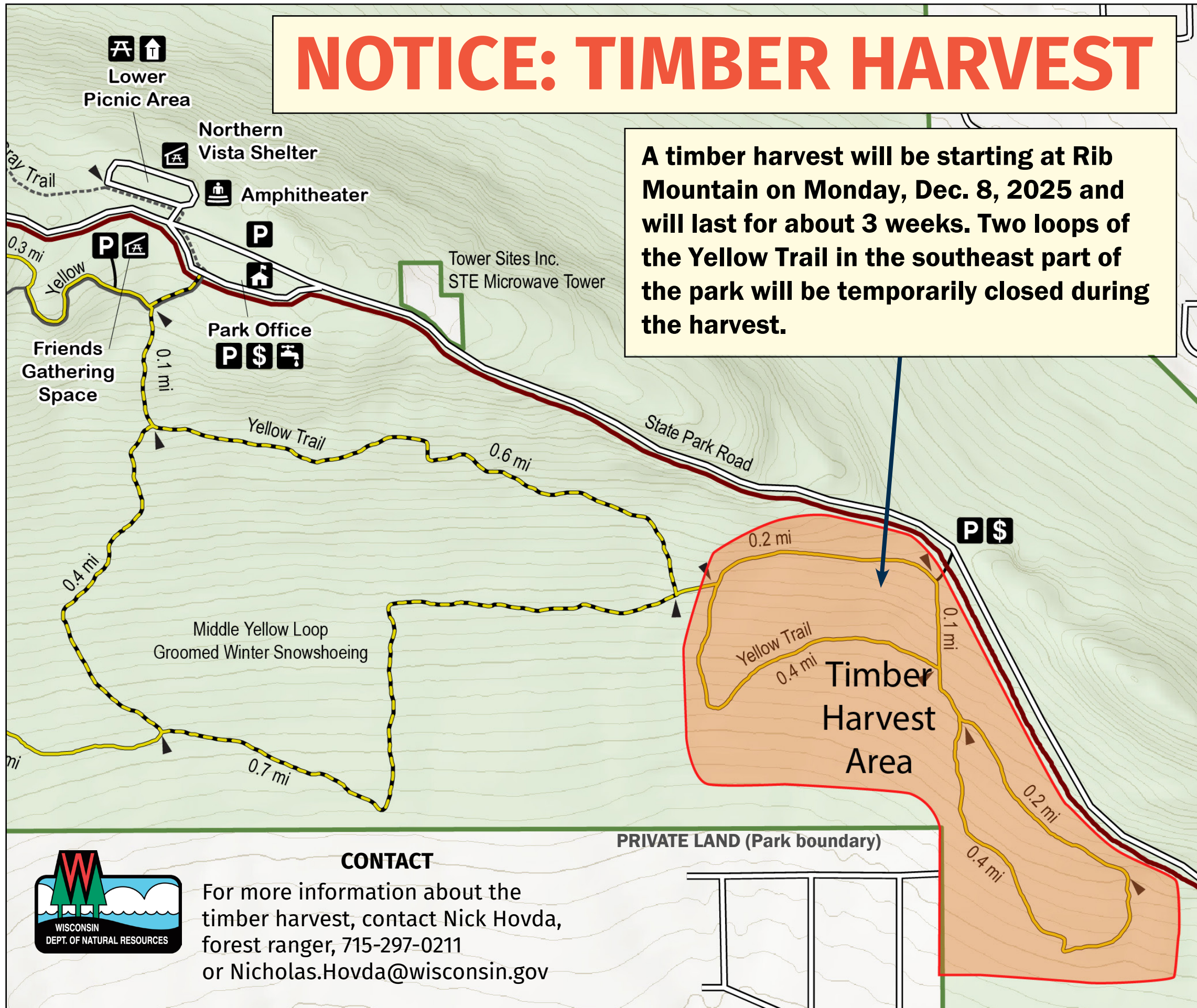


NOTICE: TIMBER HARVEST

A timber harvest will be starting at Rib Mountain on Monday, Dec. 8, 2025 and will last for about 3 weeks. Two loops of the Yellow Trail in the southeast part of the park will be temporarily closed during the harvest.



Why Is The Harvest Taking Place?

Objectives Of The Harvest:

- Decrease white ash populations to minimize the impacts of the invasive insect **emerald ash borer** (EAB).
 - EAB is expected to kill 99% of the ash trees in the park over the next few years.
 - Harvesting trees now will salvage the usable timber and remove trees that could prove hazardous in the future.
- Convert the forest stand structure from an even-aged forest to an uneven-aged (or all-aged) forest, diversifying the forest to benefit wildlife and insect habitat.
- Improve residual forest stand quality and create small openings (30-60 feet in diameter) in the tree canopy to allow sunlight to reach the ground.
 - This will help the forest adequately regenerate low-to-mid shade-tolerant tree species, as well as aspen.

What Can Visitors To Rib Mountain State Park Expect?

- **Orange slash marks** will be placed on trees to indicate the trees to be harvested. **Red slash marks** indicate the timber harvest boundary.
- **State Park Road** will be closed briefly during hazard tree-removal operations near the roadway.
- The section of the **Yellow Trail** within the timber harvest area (south of the mid-way parking lot) will be closed during active harvest operations.
- The harvest timeline is scheduled for **winter 2025-2026**.

CONTACT

For more information about the timber harvest, contact Nick Hovda, forest ranger, 715-297-0211 or Nicholas.Hovda@wisconsin.gov

