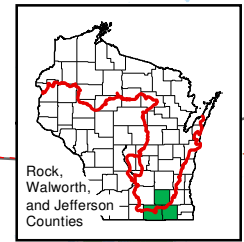


Ice Age Trail Rock, Walworth and Jefferson Counties

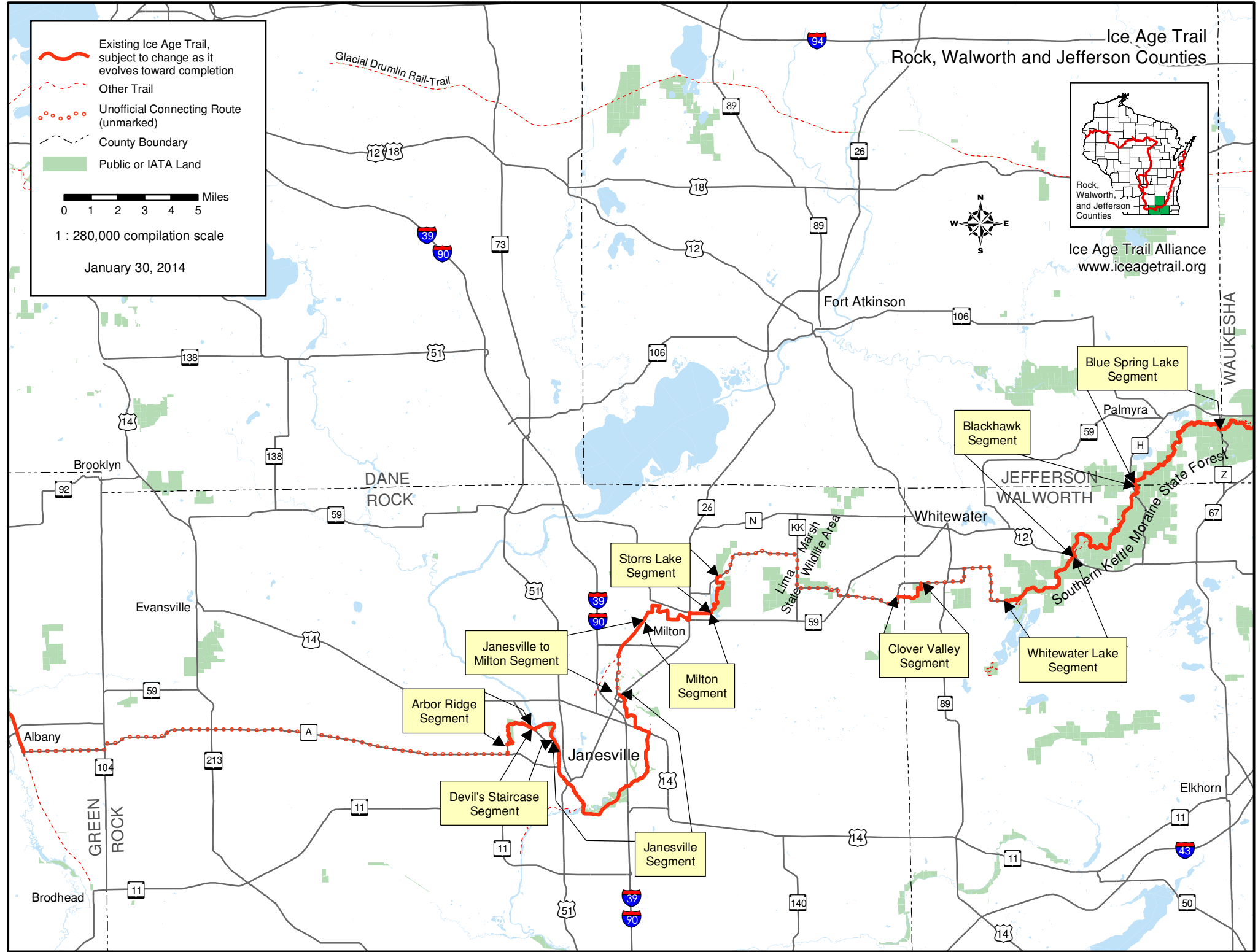


Ice Age Trail Alliance
www.iceagetrail.org

- Existing Ice Age Trail, subject to change as it evolves toward completion
- Other Trail
- Unofficial Connecting Route (unmarked)
- County Boundary
- Public or IATA Land

0 1 2 3 4 5 Miles
1 : 280,000 compilation scale
January 30, 2014

Glacial Drumlin Rail-Trail



Storrs Lake Segment

Janesville to Milton Segment

Arbor Ridge Segment

Devil's Staircase Segment

Milton Segment

Janesville Segment

Clover Valley Segment

Whitewater Lake Segment

Blackhawk Segment

Blue Spring Lake Segment

Fort Atkinson

Whitewater

Janesville

Palmyra

Brooklyn

Evansville

Albany

Brodhead

Elkhorn

DANE
ROCK

JEFFERSON
WALWORTH

GREEN
ROCK

WAUKESHA

Southern Kettle Moraine State Forest

Lima Marsh Wildlife Area

Blue Spring Lake Segment (Atlas Map 79f)

SNAPSHOT

7.1 miles: Young Rd. to CTH-Z

 This up-and-down segment features panoramic views from the top of Bald Bluff and the Stone Elephant, a massive granite erratic.



At Horserider's Camp on Little Prairie Rd. and Emma Carlin Trails parking area.



Bald Bluff trails, Stone Elephant spur trail and Emma Carlin bike/hike trail system.



From small ponds and springs near the segment.

TRAIL ACCESS AND PARKING

Young Rd.: From the intersection of STH-59 and CTH-H in Palmyra take CTH-H southwest 3.0 mi. At Young Rd. turn left and go east 0.1 mi. Roadside parking.

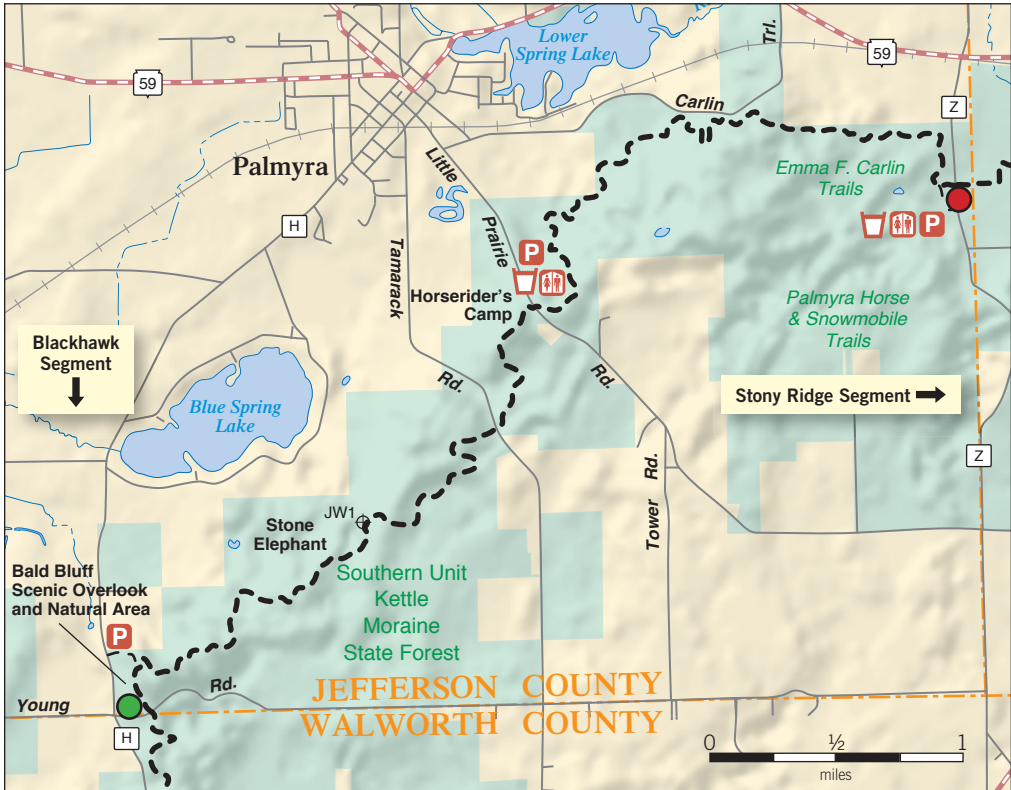
CTH-Z: From the intersection of STH-59 and STH-67 in Eagle, take STH-59 west 3.7 mi. At CTH-Z turn left and go south 0.6 mi. No parking. Use nearby Emma Carlin Trails parking area on CTH-Z south of the Ice Age Trail access. A short blue-blazed spur trail leads to the Ice Age Trail.

Additional Parking: (i) Bald Bluff Scenic Overlook parking area. From the intersection of STH-59 and CTH-H in Palmyra, take CTH-H southwest 2.8 mi. Parking area on east side of road. The trail to Bald Bluff serves as a spur to the Ice Age Trail. (ii) Tamarack Rd. Trail access; roadside parking. (iii) Horserider's Camp parking area on Little Prairie Rd.

THE HIKE

From the trail access point on Young Road the segment heads north and quickly intersects (0.3 miles) with a spur trail that leads west to the CTH-H Bald Bluff parking area. From this intersection the segment makes its way up Bald Bluff on a series of switchbacks. Bald Bluff is the largest and most diverse of the area's dry native prairie openings, which are often found on gravel knobs and steep south-and west-facing ridges. Here grow prairie flowers and grasses such as little bluestem, sideoats grama, prairie dropseed, silky aster, pasqueflower, grooved yellow flax and rough blazing star. Trailside benches encourage hikers to soak in the panoramic view. Bald Bluff is one of the highest points in Jefferson County at 1,050 feet above sea level and 200 feet above the surrounding area. Native Americans used the prominence as a lookout and for ceremonial dancing. Twice in July 1832, General Henry Atkinson camped with troops to the northwest of the bluff as he pursued the Sauk Chief Black Hawk in the Black Hawk War. A brochure for the self-guided nature trail is available at the KMSF's Southern Unit headquarters or at the Bald Bluff trailhead on CTH-H.

The segment descends down Bald Bluff and after a mile comes to a small clearing. Past the clearing the segment intersects with a short spur trail that leads downhill to the massive granite erratic known as the Stone Elephant (JW1). Prairie Potawatomi Native Americans visited the rock frequently and probably considered it a sacred area. Early settlers named the rock the Stone Elephant because of its color, size and general elephant-like shape. In the 1920s it was a popular day



outing, in which tourists traveled to the site by horse-drawn surrey.

Almost all of the portion of this segment between Young Road and Tamarack Road traverses the Kettle Moraine Oak Opening State Natural Area. This area is a mixture of oak openings and oak woodland dominated by open-grown bur and black oaks. The Trail also passes a few native dry prairie remnants along the way. The first is located 0.2 miles past the Stone Elephant spur intersection and is located in a field on the north side of the Trail. The showy rough blazing star, a dry prairie species, is found here; the best time to see this plant is late August. The second remnant is found about 0.3 miles east of the first remnant (or about 0.5 miles southwest of Tamarack Road) on a south-facing slope. Here are found flora such as silky aster, leadplant, goldenrod, purple prairie clover, flowering spurge, sunflowers, arrow-leaf aster and a number of prairie grasses. A trailside bench provides a rest stop with a view.

The segment leaves the State Natural Area, crosses Tamarack Road and then Little Prairie Road before climbing to the top of a steep, narrow ridge, where a clearing with a bench offers views to the northwest. From this bench, Horserider's Camp is 0.2 miles farther on.

The segment crosses through the Horserider's Camp and 0.2 miles east of the camp passes a small trailside pond. The segment continues east past a few more small ponds and small springs and eventually comes to an opening with a trailside map and a view of a barn across Carlin Trail (a road). From here hikers will travel up and down some hills and be rewarded with nice views down into the

forest on both sides of the segment. In early spring hikers should watch for fields of mayapples in this area.

In the final mile a careful observer may notice a rock seat embedded in a tree and discover an old foundation with day lilies. Just south of the segment's end point on CTH-Z a short spur trail leads to the Emma Carlin Trails parking area.

Mobile Skills Crew project site, 2003

AREA SERVICES

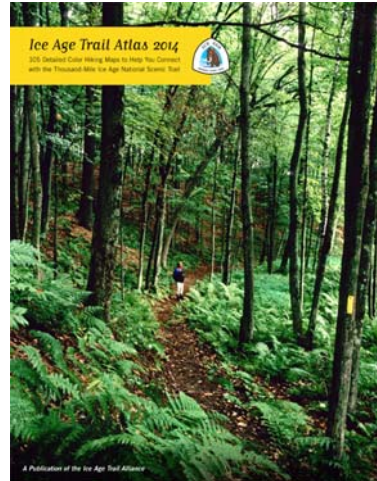
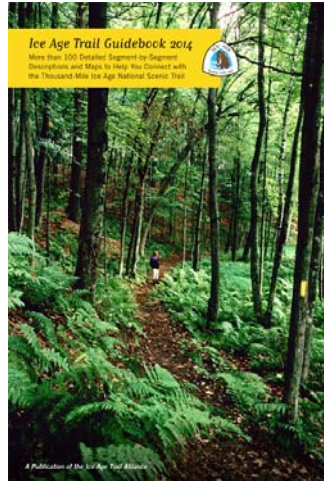
Palmyra: Restaurant, grocery store, convenience store, library, medical care. From the Little Prairie Rd. Trail access go 1.0 mi northwest on Little Prairie Rd. The library has limited hours.

Eagle: See Eagle Segment, p. 272. From the CTH-Z Trail access go north then east ~4 mi. Also see Trail Access and Parking directions, above.

I came to feel as though the Trail was my home. I walked along it by day and slept along it by night. I met people whose homes are established along it as well as animals living and dying there. Shelter could mean an empty culvert or an established campsite, a house or a hotel. I loved being with those who sheltered me for the night or hiked with me for a day or days. I left my warm and dry, comfortable "normal" home for a wider concept of home as being the state of Wisconsin. I fell in love with my state!

CHRIS MILLER (AKA "DANCING DOVE"), ICE AGE TRAIL THOUSAND-MILER

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The **Ice Age Trail Guidebook 2014** features more than 100 detailed segment-by-segment descriptions and maps to help you connect with the thousand-mile Ice Age National Scenic Trail. Written for those seeking a wide range of adventures on the Ice Age Trail, the soft cover Guidebook includes these items and more:

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Both books were written and published by the Ice Age Trail Alliance. All proceeds for each book help build and maintain the Ice Age Trail. Please call the IATA at (800) 227-0046 with any questions.

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