

Ginny Gaynor

Ice Age Trail – Mindy Creek Segment

Mindy Creek cuts through a steep ravine in a tumble of traprock boulders. In early spring and after heavy rains water cascades through and pools among the rocks.

Entering from the residential neighborhood on Day Road, the trail descends to the creek and up the other side of the ravine through woods dotted with wildflowers in spring. The trail comes out in the open to an outcropping of bedrock and prairie plants with views to the St. Croix River. Continuing on through the maple forest is glorious in spring with seepages of skunk cabbage and marsh marigold, and carpets of spring beauty and trout lily. The forest is open with very few shrubs.

Website: www.iceagetrail.org

Location: East trailhead is on Day Road in St. Croix Falls, WI. The west trailhead is on Hwy 87 at the Wert Nature Preserve (across from Lion's Park).

https://www.cityofstcroixfalls.com/vertical/Sites/%7B6CB91FC9-AC45-42D9-89B2-4CBB00F86846%7D/uploads/scftrails_map.pdf

www.iceagetrail.org/hiker-resources/ (click on the Trail Map for an interactive map of the whole trail)

Parking and amenities: At the Day Road entry, park across the street in the small paved lot for the Zillmer Trail. Maintained foot trail, no toilets.

Public status, fee: The Ice Age Trail is a National Scenic Trail running about 1200 miles through WI, featuring landforms carved by the retreating glaciers. The trail travels through both public and private lands and is managed by National Park Service, WI Department of Natural Resources, and the non-profit Ice Age Trail Alliance. No fee.

When you're there: From Day Road, the trails drops to the creek and then up to an overlook. Be sure to continue past the overlook for the most prolific wildflower bloom. The trail is about 1 mile long, one-way.