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Woodchips

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Discover Wisconsin: Wisconsin's State Parks – Where Nature Meets Wow

Wisconsin is home to 47 fun-filled, incredibly gorgeous and bucket list-worthy state parks. The state's largest park is Devil's Lake State Park in Baraboo, where kayakers and rock climbers alike relish the views of the quartzite bluffs and smooth-as-glass lake. Discover even more breathtaking vistas and meandering trails at High Cliff State Park along Lake Winnebago, Wisconsin's largest inland lake. Heading to northwest Wisconsin, we'll tour Amnicon Falls State Park and Pattison State Park, the latter of which is home to Wisconsin's highest waterfall, Manitou Falls. In Door County, we explore a beautiful beach, early 1880s historic lighthouse and the only golf course in the Wisconsin State Parks system at Peninsula State Park. Join us for a memory-making trip to a handful of Wisconsin's stunning state parks! [Watch Video](#)

In the News

State celebrates 125th anniversary of Wisconsin State Park System

In 2025, the state will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Wisconsin State Park System, which was first founded through the creation of Interstate Park in northwestern Wisconsin in 1900. While it's the oldest state park, the park's superintendent Matt Denow said it wasn't the first. [Read More](#)

Oaks Under Threat from Invading Insects, Warming Temperatures, Disease

The mighty oak may be in trouble in the Great Lakes region, — and climate change is largely to blame. A mix of factors is in play, including rising temperatures, more severe and intense rainstorms, increasing susceptibility to plant-eating animals and vulnerability to disease-causing microorganisms, a new study from Michigan Technological University says. [Read More](#)

A Declining Forest Products Industry Threatens Wisconsin's Woodlands

A new report by a conservation nonprofit is warning that Wisconsin's declining forest products industry could damage forest health. The report, "[Wisconsin Forests at Risk: Engaging Wisconsinites in Another Century of Forest Conservation](#)," highlights the numerous threats the state's woodlands are facing, from declining loggers and mills to changing weather patterns and invasive species. [Read More](#)

Oh ... Christmas Tree: Christmas Tree Lot Owners Face Inflation, Weather and Retirements

WAUKESHA — Many people buy real Christmas trees for the experience and tradition. Tiffany Foley, of Oconomowoc, said her family went to Christmas on Indian Lore, 7790 Indian Lore Road, Town of Farmington, and bought a 7-foot tree for \$80. "They had a good selection as they usually do. We cut our own and my family always enjoys it," Foley said. [Read More](#)

'Tonight the Bells Ring' as Notre-Dame is Restored Oak by Oak!

More than 1500 delegates from across the world—including United States First Lady Jill Biden, President-elect Donald Trump, Elon Musk, Prince William, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni—have gathered to celebrate the reopening of Notre Dame de Paris, more than five years after it was burnt down. [Read More](#)

Midwest Builders are Using Wood in a New Way to Construct High Rises. And it's Climate-friendly

On the northern edge of downtown Milwaukee, one high rise is not like the others. A typical tall apartment building is held up by steel and cement — the Ascent is made of wood. But it's not just any old lumber. The top 19 floors of the 25-story building are made with cross-laminated timber or CLT, an engineered wood created by layering and gluing lumber in a crossing pattern to form massive, strong beams. As Midwestern builders look for ways to construct more sustainably, some are thinking about wood in a new way. They're turning to mass timber to create structures that will have a positive effect on the environment, while also ensuring longevity and beauty. [Read More](#)

Researchers Remain Concerned While an Invasive Insect Kills Wisconsin Ash Trees

An invasive insect, the emerald ash borer (EAB), continues to kill ash trees across southern Wisconsin, including Dane County, and officials said tree mortality rates have risen. The insect is metallic green and only attacks ash trees. While the adult beetles eat ash leaves, EAB larvae eat the trees' inner bark, killing them from the inside out. Michael Hillstrom, the invasive forest pest coordinator at the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, told The Daily Cardinal EAB is from east Asia and arrived in the United States in the early 2000s in packing crates. [Read More](#)