



## FRIENDS OF DODGE COUNTY PARKS, INC. BECOME A MEMBER AND/OR MAKE A DONATION

Annual membership dues are available for a variety of membership levels. To become a member and receive a newsletter, complete the Membership Form along with your name and address and return it with the applicable membership dues. If you would also like to make a tax deductible donation, please complete and return the Donation Form with your check.

Membership Form		Donation Form	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, sign me up as a member of the "Friends of Dodge County Parks". Enclosed is my ANNUAL membership contribution of:		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, I'd like to make an additional tax deductible contribution to the "Friends of Dodge County Parks" to assist with continuing improvements to the Dodge County Parks.	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 Senior Citizen/Child (Under 18) <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 Individual/Classroom/School <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 Family <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 Club/Agency/Organization/Not-for-Profit Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> \$75 Municipality <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 Corporation/Business/Foundation		I would like my contribution designated to:	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$1-\$99 - Friend <input type="checkbox"/> \$100-\$499 - Contributor <input type="checkbox"/> \$500-\$999 - Sponsor <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000-\$4,999 - Patron <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000-\$24,999 - Grand Patron <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000-\$49,999 - Benefactor <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000-\$99,999 - Pillar <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000+ - Philanthropist		<input type="checkbox"/> Harnischfeger Park <input type="checkbox"/> Wild Goose State Trail <input type="checkbox"/> Wild Goose Horse Trail <input type="checkbox"/> Parks Endowment Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Future Park Purchase <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	

Friends of Dodge County Parks  
PO Box 72  
Juneau, WI 53039

Please mail to:

Thank you!

## ABOUT THE TRAIL

The Wild Goose State Trail (WGST), Wisconsin's first "cooperative" State trail, is a multi-use recreation trail located in Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties on an abandoned Chicago and Northwestern railroad corridor. The trail is owned by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, while Dodge and Fond du Lac Counties develop, maintain and operate the trail.

The Friends of Dodge County Parks, a non-profit citizens group, raises money through individual and corporate donations to develop and improve the trail (in addition to the other Dodge County Parks). Local snowmobile clubs, horse clubs, all-terrain vehicle clubs and other user groups provide additional financial support and assistance. Local funds used for trail development and facilities are typically supplemented by State and Federal grants.

**NO TRAIL PASSES ARE REQUIRED  
HOWEVER, DONATIONS FOR MAINTENANCE AND  
IMPROVEMENTS ARE APPRECIATED**

(DONATION BOXES ARE LOCATED ALONG THE TRAIL AT  
HWY 60, HWY S AND HWY 33)



### For More Information

Dodge County Land Resources and Parks  
127 E. Oak Street - Juneau, WI 53039  
(920) 386-3700 - [www.dodgeparks.com](http://www.dodgeparks.com)

Fond du Lac County Planning and Parks  
160 S. Macy Street - Fond du Lac, WI 54935  
(920) 929-3135

Friends of Dodge County Parks  
PO Box 72 - Juneau, WI 53039

AT Wheelers-President (ATV Club)	(920) 885-3863
Marshview Riders ATV Club	<a href="http://www.marshviewriders.com">www.marshviewriders.com</a>
Dodge Co. Assoc. of Snowmobile Clubs	(608) 695-0745
Fond du Lac Co. Snowmobile Hotline	(920) 929-6840

All users are encouraged to join or support the trail and user groups with donations of time, labor or money.

**Watch for special trail events throughout the year and get involved!**

## TRAIL USES

The WGST allows travel at a safe and leisurely pace while enjoying the Dodge and Fond du Lac County country sides. Wildflowers, woodlots, wildlife, prairie remnants, fertile farm fields and the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge and State Wildlife Area (with over 250 bird species) are common sites along the trail.

The trail runs from the southern trail head at HWY 60 (about 4 miles south of the City of Juneau) in Dodge County to the northern trail head at Rolling Meadows Drive in the City of Fond du Lac.

### Trail Surfaces

- ◆ **Main Trail:** Compacted Limestone Screenings - 34 Miles
- ◆ **Horse Trail:** Wood Chips, Dirt, Grass - 14 Miles

### Trail Uses

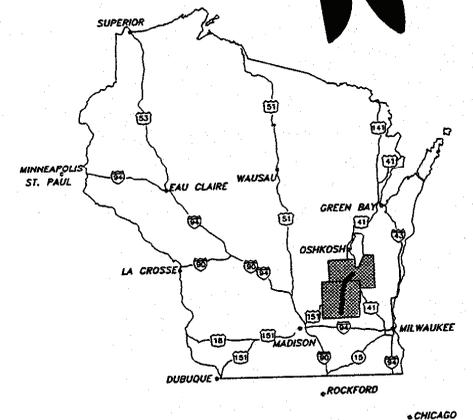
- ◆ **Bicycling - Walking - Hiking - Jogging and Cross-Country Skiing** are permitted year round on the main trail. The horse trail is recommended for cross-country skiing when snowmobile and ATV trail is open.
- ◆ **Horseback Riding** is permitted year round on the separate horse trail in Dodge County. The trail runs from HWY 60 to Pautsch Road, in Dodge County. Horses are not permitted on any portion of the limestone surfaced trail except at designated horse trail crossings.
- ◆ **Snowmobile Use** is permitted on the main trail between December 1 and March 31 when conditions allow County officials to officially open the entire snowmobile trail system. The WGST is part of the 320 mile Dodge County snowmobile trail system. A separate trail map is available.  
**DODGE COUNTY TRAIL STATUS: (920) 386-3705**
- ◆ **Winter ATV Use** is permitted on the main trail between December 1 and March 31 only in Dodge County and only when conditions allow County officials to officially open the trail for ATV use. To prevent trail surface damage, the ATV trail can be opened when the trail is frozen or sufficiently snow covered. The trail is 20 miles long see separate trail brochure for specific ATV information. Use of the adjacent horse trail by motorized vehicles is prohibited.  
**DODGE COUNTY TRAIL STATUS: (920) 386-3705**

*Hunting, Trapping and Unauthorized Motorized Vehicles are prohibited within the trail corridor.*



# Wild Goose State Trail

Wisconsin's 1st "Cooperative" State Trail



Visit us at:  
[www.dodgeparks.com](http://www.dodgeparks.com)



## COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND SIDE TRIPS

### Waupun (pop: 10,718)

Services: Restaurants, grocery, gas, camping, hotels, parks, parking, hospital, bike repair  
 Located 2 miles west of the trail on Hwy 49, Waupun is known as the City of Sculpture with 7 bronze statues, including the World Famous "End of the Trail" sculpture, visible throughout the City.

### East Waupun (unincorporated)

Services: none  
 Irish pioneers were the early settlers of East Waupun (originally known as Chester or Chester Station) in the 1840's. In 1846 a dam was built at Horicon which created a 9' deep lake (Lake Horicon). East Waupun was at the head of the lake and was a popular port for steamboats that carried passengers, grain and lumber. The railroad (now the Wild Goose Trail) from Fond du Lac was built in 1853. Lumber was hauled by rail to East Waupun and then floated down Lake Horicon and the Rock River to the mills. During its boom, East Waupun had a high class hotel, a railroad station, a grain elevator and a store. A stage coach came to East Waupun from Waupun 2 - 4 times daily for passengers and cargo until the early 1930's. *The trail follows a short 1/4 mile detour on a town road through East Waupun.*

### Burnett (unincorporated)

Services: Restaurants, community park - parking  
 Known by the Indians as "Grand Boubier" or Big Swamp, Burnett was home to many Indians. Mounds still exist east of the trail along HWY E, south of Burnett. In 1852, the Rock River Valley Union Railroad began the tracks from Minn. Jct. to Fond du Lac through Burnett. In 1856, the other railroad, the Milwaukee & St. Paul RR was built forming a junction in Burnett. This junction led to building of a hotel, a general store, a cheese factory, a shoe repair shop and other commercial buildings, including a grain elevator in 1864. A bank and a Ford car sales garage operated after 1910. At its peak, over 20 trains passed through Burnett daily. The east-west railroad and the grain elevator are still in operation. *The trail uses local roads for a short detour/bypass of the active RR crossing.*

### Horicon (pop: 3775)

Services: Restaurants, grocery, gas, camping, hotels, parks - parking  
 Located 2.5 miles east of the trail along Hwy 33, Horicon is home to the John Deere Factory and lies at the south end of the Horicon Marsh.

### Minnesota Junction (unincorporated)

Services: Restaurant, picnic area, parking, gas  
 The railroad from Minn. Jct. to Fond du Lac began in 1852, leading to its first railroad station in 1854. First platted in 1868, it was primarily settled by pioneers from Ohio, and became an important railroad center upon completion of the east-west railroad from Milwaukee to Portage. The 2 railroads and a north-south stage coach route intersected at the Junction leading to the development of hotels, general stores, a cigar factory, a carpet weaving factory, a hardware store & others. The Junction boasted of the Minnesota Junction Orange Blossoms baseball team and a four-story hotel with an elevator. The Junction Hotel, later renamed the Maple Shade Hotel, was a popular summer destination by southerners who stayed until the end of the prairie chicken season in fall. The advent of the auto, shifts in population and the loss of the lumber industry spelled the industrial doom for this community.

### Juneau - The Gateway to the Wild Goose Trail - (pop. 2485)

Services: Restaurants, grocery, gas, city park - parking, airport  
 Juneau was first settled in 1845 and later named after Paul Juneau the son of Solomon Juneau - the founder of Milwaukee. Juneau's grave and 2 oaks planted at the time of his death in his honor by area Indians can be seen at the Juneau Cemetery. Juneau is also home to an historical marker for Adrian "Addie" Joss, a Juneau native who was a "Hall of Fame" pitcher who pitched a perfect game against the White Sox in 1908 and a no-hitter in 1910. The marker is located adjacent to the City Park. *The trail follows a short 2 block detour on city roads in Juneau.*

### Nitschke Mounds Park - Side Trip

*Nitschke Mounds Park is located near the center of Dodge County adjacent to the Wild Goose State Trail and just west of the Horicon Marsh. The property is nearly 54 acres in size and contains about 40 preserved animal effigy, conical and linear mounds believed to have been constructed around 800AD - 1100AD. The mounds represent one of the best surviving examples of the Mound Builders culture that once occupied the Dodge County area. A hiking trail system with interpretive displays encircles the mounds.*

### Horicon Marsh - Side Trip

*Just east of the trail at Hwy 49, lies the Horicon National Wildlife Refuge and the Marsh Haven Nature Center (entrance fee). Interpretive displays, a gift shop, hiking trails and an observation tower can be found at Marsh Haven. The Refuge offers an auto tour route, hiking trails with a floating boardwalk and interpretive displays. A paved hiking/biking path just south of Hwy 49 connects the refuge with the Wild Goose State Trail.*

## ETHICS AND SAFETY "SHARE THE TRAIL" - FOR MULTI-USE TRAILS

### Ethics

- > Be alert and courteous to other trail users
- > Keep right - don't block the trail
- > Pass on the left and give audible signals
- > Yield when entering and crossing trails
- > Respect rights and privacy of adjacent landowners
- > Report trail damage, vandalism and accidents
- > All pets must be leashed and cleaned up after
- > Stay off the trail when closed

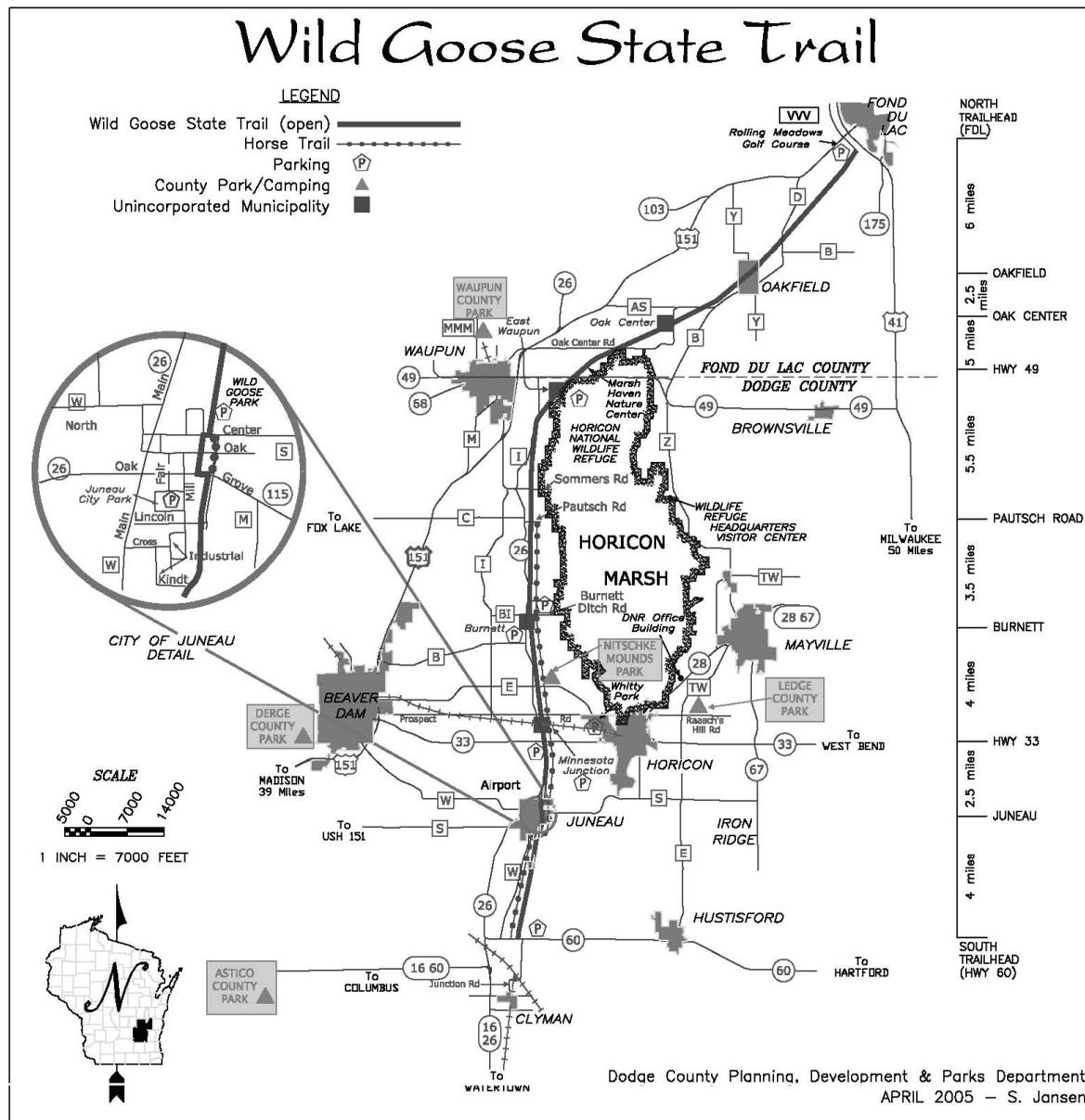
### Safety Tips

- ☉ Wear a helmet and bright clothes
- ☉ Stay on designated trails and obey all signs
- ☉ Travel at safe speeds
- ☉ Keep equipment under control at all times
- ☉ Be cautious of wet and slippery trail surfaces
- ☉ Use extreme caution during hunting seasons
- ☉ Trail use during gun deer hunting season is not recommended or wear blaze orange clothing

### County Sheriff Departments

Report trail damage and accidents.  
 Dodge County (920) 386-3726  
 Fond du Lac (920) 929-3391

## Emergency - 911



## FACILITIES

Facility	Description	Parking	Restroom	Picnic Areas	Misc
Northern Trail Head	Rolling Meadows Drive - City of Fond du Lac	X	X		
Oakfield Village Park	Adjacent to Trail - Senior Citizen Center	X	X		
Marsh Haven Nature Center	1/4 mile east of trail on Hwy 49	X			Nature Center Interpretive Trails
Horicon National Wildlife Refuge	1/4 mile east of trail on Hwy 49 - Pathway connects trail	X			Interpretive Trails
Burnett Fireman's Park	1/4 mile west of trail in Burnett	X			
Nitschke Mounds Park	1/4 mile east of trail on Hwy E	X	X		
Whitty Park	West edge of City of Horicon on Hwy E	X	X		
Minnesota Junction	1/2 mile north of Hwy 33 on Maple Street	X	X		
Dodge County Airport	Southeast corner of intersection - lot adjoins trail	X			
Wild Goose Park	On Hwy 26 north of the City of Juneau	X	X		
Juneau City Park	Juneau - Hyland Street - borders trail	X	X		
Southern Trail Head	Juneau - Lincoln Street	X	X		
	Hwy 60 - 4 miles south of Juneau/1.5 miles east of Hwy 26	X	X		
<b>Camping Facilities</b>					
Astico Park - Columbus	N3620 County Rd TT - 15 miles west of trail - (920) 386-3700	X	X		
Derge Park - Beaver Dam	N8379 County Rd CP - 20 miles northwest of trail - (920) 386-3700	X	X		
Ledge Park - Horicon	N7403 Park Road - 7 miles east of trail - (920) 387-5450	X	X		
Wild Goose Park - Juneau	Hyland Street - Adjacent to trail - (920) 386-4800	X	X		
The Playful Goose Campground	South of Horicon - 2.5 miles east of trail - (920) 485-4744	X	X		
Waupun County Park - Fond du Lac County	Waupun - 5 miles west of trail - (920) 324-2769	X	X		