

Winter Hiking Schedule December 2024/January 2025/February 2025

December

Tuesday 12/3: Lytle's Landing W8582 Lytle Rd, Holmen. Part of the Great River Bike Trail. Flat/easy-moderate.

Time: carpool departure 9:30 from UU parking lot or meet at Lytle's Landing parking lot at 10:00. Suggested to wear orange due to hunting season.

Sunday 12/15: Goose Island (flat/easy-moderate): Trail to be determined by hikers. Dirt and paved trails available.

Time: carpool departure 12:45 from UU parking lot or meet at the camp store parking lot in Goose Island at 1:00.

January

Tuesday 1/7: McGilvary Seven Bridges. Black River, Holmen/Trempealeau (easy-moderate). 3.5 miles round trip, fairly flat trail.

Time: 9:30 depart from UU or meet at trailhead at Seven Bridges at 10:00.

Sunday 1/19: Halfway Creek, Holmen. 1.6 miles round trip, 90 feet elevation change.

Time: carpool departure 12:45 at UU parking lot or meet at trailhead located behind Holmen Library at 1:10.

February

Tuesday 2/4: Upper Hixon. Specific trail(s) to be determined by hikers attending.

Time: carpool departure 9:30 at UU or meet at the parking lot by the weather ball at 9:45.

Sunday 1/16: Myrick Park (easy/flat).

Time: Carpool departure 12:45 at UU parking lot or 1:00 Myrick Park lower parking lot.

Trail Difficulty

- 1. Easy: 1-2 miles with easy terrain and little elevation gain*
- 2. Moderate: 2-4 miles with moderate terrain and some elevation gain*
- 3. Challenging: 4 or more miles or varying terrain*

These are self-led hikes (not church-sponsored), and hiking is at your own risk. We have attempted to give you enough information about each hike to determine whether it is a good fit for your interest and abilities. Feel free to invite family members and friends to participate. Kids, accompanied by responsible adults, are welcome to join! Pets are discouraged for these hikes and are prohibited on some local trails.

Hikes will not occur if severe weather is in the forecast or if wet weather has left trails vulnerable to erosion, but no announcements regarding cancellations will be made. Always be prepared with enough water and snacks to meet your own needs. Consider using walking shoes or hiking boots; hiking poles can be helpful, though are not needed for easier hikes. Also, when hiking in the winter, please consider using traction devices for boots such as micro spikes or yaktrax, which can help reduce slips and falls.

Carpooling is encouraged, with a meet up location at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship parking lot (401 West Ave S La Crosse, WI).