

Spring Hiking Schedule

March 2025/April 2025/May 2025

March

Tuesday 3/4, Wagon Wheel Trail, La Crescent. Easy/flat. Distance to be determined by hikers. Time: Carpooling departure 9:30 at UU or meet at Sportsman's Boat Landing near south end of Shore Acres Rd at 9:45.

Sunday 3/16, Halfway Creek Trail, next to Holmen library. Easy/mostly flat. Distance to be determined by hikers. Time: carpooling departure 12:45 at UU or meet at trailhead (library parking lot) at 1:15.

April

Tuesday 4/1, Goose Island trails, south La Crosse. Easy/moderate trails. Distance to be determined by hikers. Carpooling departure 9:30 at UU or meet at main parking lot by the camp store at 9:45.

Sunday 4/20, Great River Trail, Lytle's Landing W8582 Lytle Rd, Holmen. Easy/flat. Time: Carpooling departure 12:45 at UU or meet at 1:15 at Lytle's Landing parking lot.

May

Tuesday 5/6, Gateway Trail on Grandad Bluff. Easy/moderate. (some short climbs elevation change 167 ft). Time: Carpooling departure 8:30 at UU or at Alpine Inn take a right and meet at the parking lot on the left side of the road at 8:45. If you get to the flag pole you've gone too far.

Sunday 5/18, Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge Visitor Center Trails, Brice Prairie. Easy/flat. Time: Carpooling departure at 12:45 at UU or meet at the Visitor's Center at 1:15.

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).