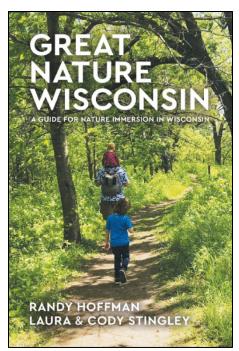
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## FAMILY GUIDE TO WISCONSIN NATURE IMMERSION FEATURES 400 SITES, EXPERIENCES



MINERAL POINT, Wis. —With the growing recognition of nature's extraordinary benefits, finding the right place to experience nature with your family is essential. Retired Wisconsin DNR Ecologist Randy Hoffman, along with family nature adventurers Laura and Cody Stingley, help you find the right places—along with suggested immersive nature experiences at those places—in their new Little Creek Press guide, **Great Nature Wisconsin** (978-1-955656-75-7, Paperback: \$32.95, 300 pages). Crafted by Hoffman, a seasoned nature expert, and Laura and Cody Stingley, who are passionate about introducing children to the natural world, this book is designed to inspire nature enthusiasts of all ages and interests.

The guide offers suggestions for 400 locations and immersion experiences near and far—for everything from a weeklong trip to a daily trek. The book first identifies prime vacation spots categorized by desired experiences, making it easy for families to plan an ideal getaway. Its second section breaks down regional

destinations by county to suggest great weekend adventures. The book concludes with a selection of favorite places ideal for daily activities.

The guide defines each site by its primary immersion value, naming each area as a "cognitive enrichment, family immersion, forest therapy, problem solving, or wilderness therapy" location as defined in the book. The guide also ranks each area on its natural diversity, physical challenges, access, night sky, and more). It uses icons to denote whether an area has a beach, paved trails, etc. The book also includes nearby out-of-state areas as well as a section of "accessible trails" for those with mobility restrictions.

By the end readers will know not just how to take a hike in the Wisconsin woods but how their family can get the most out of the nature that surrounds them.

## **ABOUT THE AUTHORS:**

Retired ecologist **Randy Hoffman** spent his nearly 30-year career with the Wisconsin State Natural Areas Program. His statewide responsibilities provided the opportunity to experience the best nature Wisconsin has to offer. Hoffman's ecological work led to the establishment of more than 300 State Natural Areas. He is the past president of the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, author of *Wisconsin's Natural Communities* and *When Things Happen*, and was the major contributor to *Wisconsin's Important Bird Areas*. He enjoys nature exploration, birding, writing, and public service. He lives with his wife, JoAnn, in Waunakee, Wisconsin.

Laura and Cody Stingley live in DeForest, Wisconsin, with their two children. Both are proud graduates of the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point, where they met and bonded over their shared love of the natural world. When responsibilities pry them away from Wisconsin's magnificent natural areas, Laura works in Internal Operations at an accounting firm and Cody teaches math and computer science at a public high school.

## PRAISE FOR THE BOOK

Here I thought I was doing good knowing some of the best sites of natural beauty and intact ecology in Wisconsin. Nope! ... Highest kudos to Randy Hoffman for this exceptionally comprehensive resource! --John Bates, naturalist and author of several books on Wisconsin's Northwoods

Looking for a wonderful outdoor adventure with something for every family member to love? Great Nature Wisconsin offers 400 possibilities! ... everyone from toddlers to grandparents can reap the rich rewards of nature immersion together, this book will show you the way.

--Laura Erickson, author and "For the Birds" radio producer

A huge bravo to Hoffman and the Stingleys on presenting a naturalist's master class! ... This guide has it all!

--Sumner Matteson, author Afield: Portraits of Wisconsin Naturalists, Empowering Leopold's Legacy

## **BOOK EVENTS**

Add events

**FIND THE BOOK:** "Great Nature Wisconsin" is available for wholesalers through Ingram Content Group and Little Creek Press. It is available through bookstores and libraries everywhere and online retailers, including <a href="https://www.littlecreekpress.com">www.littlecreekpress.com</a>. The guide is one of many books about Wisconsin published by Little Creek Press, Mineral Point, Wis.

MEDIA: For interviews, review copies, and more, contact: Kristin Gilpatrick, KLG Marketing, kristing@littlecreekpress.com