

Map 74f

Rock County

Includes Blackhawk Creek, Rock River, Rotary Gardens, Riverside Park and Janesville

1 : 48,000 scale

0 1/2 1 mile

- Ice Age Trail
- Connecting Route
- Future Trail
- Other Trail


Arbor Ridge Segment and Devil's Staircase Segment (Atlas Maps 73f, 74f; Databook page 72)

SNAPSHOT


Arbor Ridge Segment—2.1 miles: Robert Cook Memorial Arboretum Upper Parking Area to N. Washington St. (CTH-E)


Devil's Staircase Segment—1.8 miles: N. Washington St. (CTH-E) to Riverside Park South Pavilion


  *The scenic **Arbor Ridge Segment** through the Robert Cook Memorial Arboretum is handy to Janesville but feels miles away.*


 At the Arboretum Outdoor Educational Lab area.


 From Marsh Creek.


 In the Arboretum near the Marsh Creek area.



 Hikers will not have any interaction with hunting on this segment.



 By law, dogs not permitted in Janesville Parks May 15 to Sept. 15; must be leashed at other times.



 Small portion overlaps asphalt walkway in the arboretum.

 Robert Cook Memorial Arboretum trail network.


 Portions of this segment are suitable for those using wheelchair or similar device. In addition, there is a network of paved trails accessible from the Arboretum's upper parking area.


  *Like the Arbor Ridge Segment, the remarkable, remote-feeling **Devil's Staircase Segment** will make hikers forget they are in a city.*


  At Riverside Park North and South pavilions.

  From the Rock River.

 Two ColdCache sites on segment.

 Hikers will not have any interaction with hunting on this segment.

 By law, dogs not permitted in Janesville Parks May 15 to Sept. 15; must be leashed at other times.

 Small portions overlap golf course paths.

TRAIL ACCESS AND PARKING

Robert Cook Memorial Arboretum Upper Parking Area: From Janesville at the intersection of Washington St. and Memorial Dr., take W. Memorial Dr. west 1.4 mi. Memorial Dr. becomes CTH-A. Continue west on CTH-A 0.4 mi to the paved entrance drive for the Arboretum on the right shortly after passing the Arbor Ridge subdivision entrance. The Ice Age Trail is accessed from the upper parking area. Additional parking in the lower parking area.

Riverside Park South Pavilion: From I-39/90 at Janesville, take Exit 171B onto USH-14 and go west 4.0 mi. At N. Washington St. (CTH-E) turn left and go south 2.5 mi. At Parkside Dr. turn left and go northeast for 0.4 mi to the pavilion. Roadside parking.

Additional Parking: (i) Roadside parking in Arbor Ridge subdivision. (ii) N. Washington St. (CTH-E) parking area on the east side of the road across from the entrance to the Arbor Ridge subdivision. (iii) Riverside Park parking areas on Parkside Dr. One is located along the road between the pavilions and another is located at the end of the road near the North Pavilion.

The **Arbor Ridge Segment** traverses an area of bedrock hills covered with till from glacial advances much older than those explored by most of the Ice Age

Trail. From its starting point at the upper parking area for the Robert Cook Memorial Arboretum–Janesville Schools Outdoor Laboratory, the segment heads under an archway and into the heart of the arboretum property. Trailside signage provides educational information on trees and local flora. The arboretum is a 160-acre City of Janesville park (managed



by the Janesville school district) that is open to the public sunrise to sunset.

The segment route heads east from the parking area, then turns off the paved path at the log cabin and enters the woods. The Arboretum's Outdoor Educational Lab area and buildings are visible through the trees and can be accessed by several short spur trails. The segment descends a long bedrock ridge to the valley floor lined with intermittent tributaries of Marsh Creek. Upon reaching a junction where one of the larger tributaries flows into the creek, the segment turns east. Here there is a picnic table and access to other trails in the Arboretum's trail network. The segment then skirts a prairie with benches before exiting the Arboretum's property after passing under a power line.

The segment bends away from Marsh Creek within a 30-foot-wide wooded easement granted to the IATA for foot traffic only. Volunteers have worked hard to remove invasive species in the area and open the mixed hardwood forest to views of magnificent oaks. The segment parallels an active railway, then intersects an Arbor Ridge subdivision road, Northridge Drive. Here hikers should turn left and follow Trail signage east a short distance to the segment's endpoint at the Ice Age Trail parking area across North Washington Street (CTH-E).

Mobile Skills Crew project site, 2011

From its starting point at the parking area on the east side of North Washington Street (CTH-E), the **Devil's Staircase Segment** heads southeast a short distance parallel to the road, then emerges onto the City of Janesville's Riverside Golf Course property. As the segment continues, hikers will walk past a couple of the golf course's tee and green areas, crossing a set of railroad tracks in the process.

Hikers are asked to be respectful of golfers when passing through this area; keep voices low and yield to those in the process of teeing off, hitting approach shots or putting. Hikers should stay on the mulched pathway and off the grass.

The segment parallels a high-tension power line and then enters a wooded area. For the next half mile, hikers will traverse one of the more unique portions of the entire Ice Age Trail and may have a hard time remembering they are in the city of Janesville. The Public Works Department built this trail in the late 1920s as the City of Janesville was developing Riverside Park. During the intervening years, however, it deteriorated to the point where it became impassible. The Ice Age Trail Alliance, along with great cooperation from the city, golf course, environmental groups, local businesses and dozens of local and statewide volunteers, rebuilt the Trail with an emphasis on keeping the area as natural as possible. As a result, when hiking the segment hikers will not see the golf course but will enjoy outstanding views of the Rock River. Skillfully placed rock steps, blending into the landscape, take the hiker up and down steep hills. A portion of the route incorporates and preserves stonework attributed to the original crew of trailbuilders from the 1920s.

As hikers begin this unique section of the Ice Age Trail, the segment descends a steep switchback into the natural feature known as the Devil's Staircase (R015). This area features a huge gully (usually dry) descending from the golf course down across the Trail to the river. Lining the gully are large rocks that appear as though purposely placed as steps, thus leading to the name "Devil's Staircase."

The segment departs from the Devil's Staircase gully and continues along to the shore of the Rock River. The route then ascends from the river's shore up into the wooded area between the golf course and the river. On the uphill (south) side of the segment hikers will soon encounter carbonate calcareous rock faces, some of which rise up to 50 feet above the Trail. Numerous cliff-dwelling plants and woodland wildflowers highlight this portion of the segment.

Continuing east the segment arrives at a hand-crafted stone bench, where hikers will leave the wooded area by descending a steep set of manmade steps (R010) and arrive at Riverside Park's North Pavilion area. From here to its endpoint at the park's South Pavilion the segment hugs the shoreline, generally sticking to the thin strip of land between the Rock River and Parkside Drive.

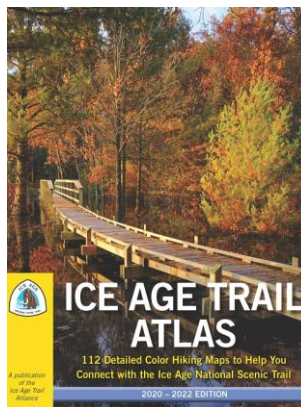
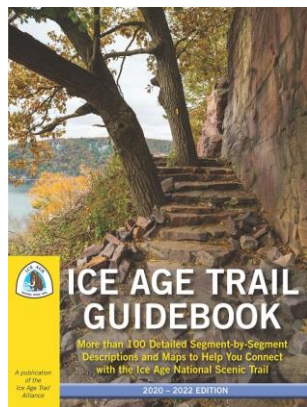
Mobile Skills Crew project site, 2007, 2009

AREA SERVICES

Tc Janesville: See Janesville Segment, p. 256. From the N. Washington St. (CTH-E) Trail access go south into the city. Also see Trail Access and Parking directions, above.

Evansville: Restaurant, grocery, convenience store, general shopping, lodging, library, medical service. From the N. Washington St. (CTH-E) Trail access go north 1.3 mi. At USH-14 go west 12.5 mi. Refer to Atlas maps 71f-73f. Lodging at Boarder Inn & Suites (608-882-0936, cobblestoneinns.com). Area parks with possible future Ice Age Trail are Magnolia Bluff County Park, Leonard-Leota Park in Evansville and Gibbs Lake County Park. Area information at City of Evansville (ci.evansville.wi.gov). The Wisconsin Historical Society identified Evansville as home to "the finest collection of 1840s to 1915 architecture of any small town in Wisconsin." The area is also known for its historic barn quilts.

Must-Have Ice Age Trail Books!



The **Ice Age Trail Guidebook** features more than 100 detailed segment-by-segment descriptions and maps to help you connect with the thousand-mile Ice Age National Scenic Trail. Written for those seeking a wide range of adventures on the Ice Age Trail.

The **Ice Age Trail Atlas** is a set of 105 color, shaded relief-style maps at 1:48,000 scale. In contrast to the smaller map excerpts in the Ice Age Trail Guidebook, each map in this package is printed on an 8.5" x 11" sheet and includes not just the Ice Age Trail route but also a wider snapshot of the area around the Trail.

Both books were written and published by the Ice Age Trail Alliance. All proceeds for each book help build and maintain the Ice Age Trail. Please call the IATA at (800) 227-0046 with any questions.

Name: _____

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<u>Item</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Price</u>	
Guidebook	_____	x \$24 (members) or \$30 (nonmembers)	= _____
Atlas	_____	x \$18 (members) or \$22.50 nonmembers)	= _____
Sales Tax		5.5% for orders shipped to a Wisconsin address	= _____
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