

# WELCOME TO WHITEWATER



Whitewater Historical Museum and Passenger Depot

We are pleased to share our city with you, and hope that this map will help you enjoy many of the wonderful recreational, educational, and historical features to be found here. Recreation abounds in this Wisconsin City of Fountains, which is surrounded by the beautiful Kettle Moraine State Forest and links the bike routes of Jefferson and Walworth counties. Boating, fishing, mountain and road biking, ski trails, hang gliding, and world-class performances at the Irvin L. Young Auditorium are just a few of the unique opportunities that await you. Within walking distance of the downtown you can experience some of the other amenities the city has to offer. Come and discover the many reasons we are proud of our community.

## PLACES OF INTEREST

- 12 Birge Fountain**  
The fountain, installed in 1903 and extensively renovated in 2003, was a gift from Julius Birge, the first settler child born in Whitewater, in appreciation of his native city.
- 13 City Hall**  
This building houses most of the city government, including the Park and Recreation Department and police and rescue services. Maps, brochures, park information, and facilities rentals are available here. 312 W. Whitewater St. 262.473.0500 [www.whitewater-wi.gov](http://www.whitewater-wi.gov)
- 14 Irvin Young Memorial Library**  
The library houses a collection of Leon Pescheret prints, Fran Achen photographs, and original manuscripts of author/historian and Whitewater native Stephen Ambrose. 431 W.Center St. 262.473.0530 [www.whitewaterlibrary.gov](http://www.whitewaterlibrary.gov)
- 15 Prairie Tillers Mural/Old City Hall Site**  
Located at the corner of Whitewater and Center Streets, artist Caryl Yasko's Prairie Tillers mural occupies the site that once held Whitewater's old city hall, which was torn down in 1971. The mural, first painted in 1980 and repainted in 2004, features local imagery derived from Whitewater's industrial and agrarian past, as well as Native American and naturalist symbols.
- 16 Territorial Oaks Marker**  
This tree, one of two used by government surveyors in 1838, thrives to this day at the northwest corner of Franklin and Main.
- 17 University of Wisconsin-Whitewater**  
The UW-Whitewater campus is located on 400 rolling acres and features an arboretum, a nature preserve, the Halverson log cabin (1864), and the Little Red Schoolhouse (Civil War era) as well as a book store, art center, and the Young Auditorium. The university serves about 12,300 students and was founded in 1868 as the Whitewater Normal School. The DLK Fieldhouse and Williams Center feature an indoor running track, fitness center, swimming pool, and four multipurpose courts. 907 Schwager Drive Visitor's Center: 262.472.1011 [www.uww.edu](http://www.uww.edu)
- 18 Whitewater City Market**  
From May to November, area farmers, artisans, food carts, and the community come together at beautiful Cravath Lakefront Park every Tuesday. Hosted by Downtown Whitewater, this vibrant market includes free music, kids' activities, and over 50 vendors. [downtownwhitewater.com](http://downtownwhitewater.com)
- 19 Whitewater Farmer's Market**  
From May to November, look for produce and local goods from 8:00 AM until 12:00 PM Saturdays at this local farmer's market, located at Winchester True Value 1415 W Main Street
- 20 Whitewater Historical Museum & Passenger Depot**  
The old train depot house, built in 1891, houses the Whitewater Historical Society's museum collection. The railway is still used on a daily basis. The Horse Fountain graces its entrance onto Whitewater Street. Check our website [www.historicalsociety.com](http://www.historicalsociety.com) for hours. Tours at other times can be arranged through the Historical Society: 262.473.6820 Whitewater Street

## WHY WALK?

Walking is an excellent way to stay active. Depending on the walking loop that you choose today, you will be getting about 20 – 60 minutes of physical activity.

As you enjoy discovering the Whitewater community today, you will also be gaining some other benefits of physical activity.

### Physical activity boosts mental wellness.

Regular physical activity can relieve tension, anxiety, depression and anger. You may not only notice a “feel good sensation” immediately following your physical activity, but most people also note an improvement in general well-being over time during the weeks and months as physical activity becomes a part of their routine. Exercise increases the flow of oxygen which directly affects the brain. Your mental acuity and memory can be improved with physical activity.

### Physical activity improves physical wellness by strengthening your immune system and reducing risk factors for certain diseases.

Becoming more active can lower your blood pressure by as much as 4 to 9 mm Hg. That's the same reduction in blood pressure delivered by some antihypertensive medications. Physical activity may also help boost your levels of good cholesterol.

### Physical activity prolongs your optimal health.

Without regular physical activity, the body slowly loses its strength, stamina and ability to function well. And for each hour of regular exercise you get, you'll gain about two hours of additional life expectancy, even if you don't start until middle age. Moderate exercise, such as brisk walking, for as little as 30 minutes a day has many proven health benefits.

For more benefits of walking and staying active, visit [www.w3wellness.org](http://www.w3wellness.org).

## WHITEWATER PARKS

- 1 Big Brick Park**  
Named for the school that was once located here, this is now a neighborhood park and playground that hosts many activities including ice skating and hockey in the winter and basketball and picnicking in the summer. Center Street & S. Prairie Street
- 2 UW-Whitewater Nature Preserve**  
Located on the north edge of the UW-Whitewater campus and adjacent to the Whitewater Trail biking/walking path, this 100-acre preserve features gravel and bark mulch walking/running paths through the 40-acre Friar's Woods and a 50-acre prairie restoration with wildflowers and native grasses. An informational shelter provides the story of the prairie and plant detail. Schwager Drive
- 3 Brewery Hill Park**  
Brewery Hill Park is settled along a quaint creek. Whitewater Trail, a multi-use path, extends from the downtown area to Starin Park and carries on to the Whitewater Creek Nature Area and adjacent prairie. Near the park's entrance on North Street is the Whitewater Rotary Skate Park, which opened in 2004. Bikes, skateboards, rollerblades, and scooters are all seen here on a daily basis. North Street
- 4 Cravath Lakefront Park**  
Located right downtown, this is a picturesque and popular spot. Features include a walking path along the lakefront, many benches, a gazebo, and a large picnic shelter. Anglers enjoy fishing off the boardwalk and stone steps. A boat landing is also available. Two fountains grace the lake in May through October. The park's outdoor stage hosts weekly entertainment during the summer months. Whitewater Street
- 5 UW-Whitewater Disc Golf Park**  
This disc golf course was built entirely by UW-W students and is located on university grounds. This 18-hole course is free and open to the public. Discs can be rented from the UWRec Center or purchased at sporting goods stores Off Schwager Drive
- 6 Effigy Mounds Preserve**  
Indian Mounds Park is tucked away in a wooded 16-acre area. Twelve Native American Indian mounds, constructed between 200 and 1200 AD, are shaped as turtles, birds, and other creatures. Parking is available along Indian Mounds Parkway. The park has a bark-chipped trail with interpretive signs. Indian Mound Parkway
- 7 Whitewater High School Educational Treeway**  
Skirting the perimeter of Whitewater High School, the Educational Treeway is a collaborative effort between the city, the school district, DNR, and WE Energies. Trees located along the mile-long gravel path are considered appropriate for our hardness zone and are excellent selections for residential plantings.
- 8 Whitewater Trail**  
This multi-use trail is paved for over a mile as it passes through the heart of downtown Whitewater. Extending to the south along city streets and a paved pathway along Trippe Lake, the trail will eventually connect with Whitewater Lake and the Kettle Moraine State Forest. To the north, the trail skirts a restored prairie and connects to the Jefferson County bike system.
- 9 Starin Park**  
Starin Park is one of Wisconsin's oldest parks, dating to 1888. This 35-acre park houses the state's 2nd oldest operating municipal water tower (1889). After WWII, the park provided housing for veterans and their families. Now a well-tended Veteran's Memorial, located at the end of Esterly Avenue, honors area service men and women and has a brilliant flower display in the summer. In the winter, the sledding hill is well used. The playground, picnic areas, baseball and softball diamonds, soccer fields, open play area, and Seniors in the Park activities make this a popular meeting spot for all ages. Starin Road
- 10 Trippe Lake Park**  
This 25-acre park offers the best overlook of the city and its lakes, from the top of Coburn Lane. Trippe lake, formed in the 1800s to help power a sawmill (1859-1895), now offers great fishing in the summer. In the winter you'll find ice fishing and an exciting sledding hill. There are excellent bird watching opportunities at the south end of the lake, and the Whitewater Trail, a multi-use path, will connect the downtown to the Whitewater Lake Recreational Area, the Kettle Moraine State Forest trails, and the Jefferson County trail system in the future. Wisconsin Street
- 11 Whitewater Creek Nature Area**  
This 60-acre park provides a grassed area, adjacent to the parking lot, where dogs are permitted. Fremont Road



## WALKING LOOPS

**UW-W Campus Loop 2.4 miles**  
On this loop you'll see a mixture of historic buildings, state-of-the-art facilities, a disc golf course, and a restored prairie. Starting at the corner of Main Street and Prairie Street, notice the historic Bassett House and Engebretsen-Dorr House (for details see "Historical Homes & Buildings"). The loop then continues west, past the Anderson Library, and turns north to wind along the Wyman Pedestrian Mall through the heart of campus. Here you'll find the typical campus amenities — a student union, campus store, and coffee house — as well as unique features such as the 1864 Halverson Log Cabin and a Civil War-era schoolhouse, both perched atop Hyer Hill to your left. Beyond Hyer Hill you'll find the imposing Irvin Young Auditorium and the adjacent Crossman Gallery, with its student art exhibits. Continuing on the loop you'll pass the campus bookstore, and proceed to the “backyard” of campus, in the shadow of Perkins Stadium, where you can play a round of disc golf or extend your hike along the adjoining Lawcon Trails, Friar (originally Fryer) Woods, and prairie, all of which make up the UW-Whitewater Nature Preserve. These extensive bark-mulched and gravel trails are used for many off-road 5K races and cross-country meets. On your way back towards town, you can walk inside the DLK Fieldhouse and see the state-of-the-art fitness facility that is open to visitors for a nominal daily fee.

**Downtown Loop 1.8 miles**  
Beginning at our Cravath Lake Park, this loop winds through beautiful flower displays, plenty of benches, and many places to stop and fish from the shore. Note the carefully restored Whitewater Historical Museum & Passenger Depot, which stands adjacent to the park. You'll continue along Cravath Lake, crossing under the railway, skirt the Mill Pond Fountain and Mill Pond Park, and pick up the Whitewater Trail at its entrance on North Street. Once on this paved multi-use trail, you'll see a skateboard park (The Whitewater Rotary Skate Park), used by skateboarders and also people of all ages with BMX bikes, scooters, and in-line skates.

About half of the Downtown Loop runs on the Whitewater Trail, which follows the Whitewater Creek and crosses picturesque pedestrian bridges. The loop then turns back onto Fremont Street, where you can take a detour into Starin Park, across the road, or continue back down town on Fremont Street, a quiet, stately residential stretch of historical homes, such as the Starin Mansion, featured on our Historic Loop.

**Historic Loop 1.7 miles**  
This short loop begins at the Birge Fountain in Flat Iron Park. This park is the site of the first school in Whitewater, built in 1842 near the Territorial Oak. The original wooden structure was replaced with a 24' by 48' brick structure, called the Little Brick School and built on the site the fountain now occupies. Behind the fountain you see the century-old White Memorial Building, which housed the public library for most of the 1900s. The Historic Loop heads west on Main Street; as you cross Franklin Street, stop at the Territorial Oak on the northwest corner of the intersection and consider a tree that was one of the two used to survey the territory in 1838. As you continue west on Main Street, you will pass several historic homes with national historic plaques: the Sanger Marsh House, the G.W.Esterly House, the Engebretsen-Dorr House, and the Bassett House. Crossing Main Street to head south on Prairie, you will then turn left (east) on Center Street.

Take a moment to look up Center Street to the west, to see the empty field where the former Esterly School stood until 1928, when it was razed to make room for City High, which was open until 1960. Then the high school moved and the middle school occupied the building until it was taken down in 1999. The UW-W Alumnus Association now owns this land.

On the northeast corner of Center and Prairie you'll see the childhood home of author/historian Stephen E. Ambrose. Continuing down Center Street, you'll pass Big Brick Park, the site of the former Big Brick School. Two blocks farther on, you'll find the new Public Library and, across the street, the Italianate Smith-Allen House. Continue for two more blocks to turn left onto Fremont Street, a charming residential stretch with houses from the 1800s, including the Starin Mansion. Turn left on Starin Road and consider a side trip into the park or a walk to the top of the hill, with its limestone water tower and lovely view. Continue back to the Birge Fountain along Franklin Street. The land behind it, on which Fairhaven was established in 1968, was fields and community victory gardens until the 1960s.

**Indian Mounds Loop 3.5 miles**  
Beginning on Main Street, this loop takes you to the western part of the city by way of three city parks—Indian Mounds Park, Optimist Turtle Mound Park, and Big Brick Park—making it an enjoyable longer walk. It passes near our High School, Middle School, and LINC'S Elementary School and skirts the Indian Mounds Park, where 12 Native American mounds can be viewed in a 16-acre wooded setting. These mounds, which date from 200 to 1200 AD, have interpretive signs next to them, making it an educational hike. Continuing on the loop, hikers can take in the 1-mile Whitewater High School Educational Treeway or visit the Whitewater Aquatic Center before returning downtown on Walworth Avenue (note the organic farm on the right, where plowing is still done with draft horses). At the bottom of Highland, where you turn to Center Street, you'll skirt the open field where the Esterly School was taken down to make way for City High (later Whitewater Middle School), which was razed in turn in 1999. For more detail on Center Street, see the “Downtown Loop” above.

**Cravath & Trippe Lakes Loop 1.5 miles**  
This loop is designed for water viewing, starting at Cravath Lakefront Park and following the Whitewater Trail to the south. The loop first takes you by both the Cravath Lake Fountain and the Mill Pond Fountain, operating mid-May through mid-October. Following along Wisconsin Street, you'll pass our American Legion building with the unmistakable 56-ton army tank (used in the Korean and Vietnam wars and Operation Desert Storm) in its front yard, and on to recently renovated Trippe Lake Park, formerly the city's swimming hole. The Hawthorne Melody Dairy, which closed in 1994, operated on this site for many years. Trippe Lake was originally formed to power the city's sawmill (1859-1895). For those who don't mind climbing, hike to the top of the hill behind Trippe Lake Park (Coburn Lane) and enjoy a great view over the city and surrounding farmlands. Both lakes in the city are no-wake lakes, so your hike should be quiet and peaceful. Continuing on the multi-use Whitewater Trail, you'll head south to our newest park, Minnieska Park. In the future this path will extend via an already-built box culvert under the Highway 12 bypass and connect the downtown to the Whitewater Lake Recreational Area south of town. Continue back to the downtown along the same path, and consider crossing the road to take a loop through Hillside Cemetery, with its lovely view of the downtown and Cravath Lakefront Park. The cemetery was founded in 1858; in 1859 an individual named Dann was the first to be buried in it.

## RECREATION RESOURCES

- 30 BicycleWise Sports & Fitness**  
Demo road and mountain bikes, repairs, maps and information, sports gear & custom bike frames, custom arch supports, shoe fitting, foot evaluation. Snowshoes and ice skate rentals & sales. 1155 W. Main Street 262.473.4730 [www.bicyclewise.com](http://www.bicyclewise.com)
- 31 Whitewater Aquatic & Fitness Center**  
Indoor water park with a 3,000 sq. ft. leisure pool, 120-foot water slide, whirlpool, and a lap pool with eight 25-foot lanes. Facility also includes a fitness center. 580 S. Elizabeth Street 262.473.4900 [www.parks.org](http://www.parks.org)
- 32 Quiet Hut Sports**  
Equipment rental (mountain bikes, snowshoes, cross-country skis, helmets & pads), repairs, maps and information, sports gear. 186 W. Main Street 262.473.2950 [www.quiethutsports.com](http://www.quiethutsports.com)
- 33 UW-Whitewater Rec Center**  
Billiards, bowling, outdoor equipment rental (canoes, camping equipment, volleyball nets, disc golf discs) and area brochures and maps. University Center: 262.472.1164 [www.uww.edu](http://www.uww.edu)
- 34 Williams Center / DLK Fieldhouse**  
Swimming pool, sports and fitness center, equipment, indoor track for running and walking in inclement weather. 262.472.1544 [www.uww.edu](http://www.uww.edu)
- 35 Discover Whitewater Center**  
Tourist information is readily available in the Discover Whitewater Center, which houses the Tourism Council, the Whitewater Area Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Whitewater, Inc. 150 W. Main Street 262.473.4005 [www.discoverwhitewater.org](http://www.discoverwhitewater.org) & [www.whitewaterchamber.com](http://www.whitewaterchamber.com)

LEGEND	
dogs allowed on leashes	fishing
running trails	picnic table
nature preserve; conservancy area	skating
drinking water	bicycle path
public restroom	tennis courts
cross-country skiing (ungroomed trails)	historical marker
playground	fountain
put-in spot (kayak or canoe)	

## WALK • WALK • WALK



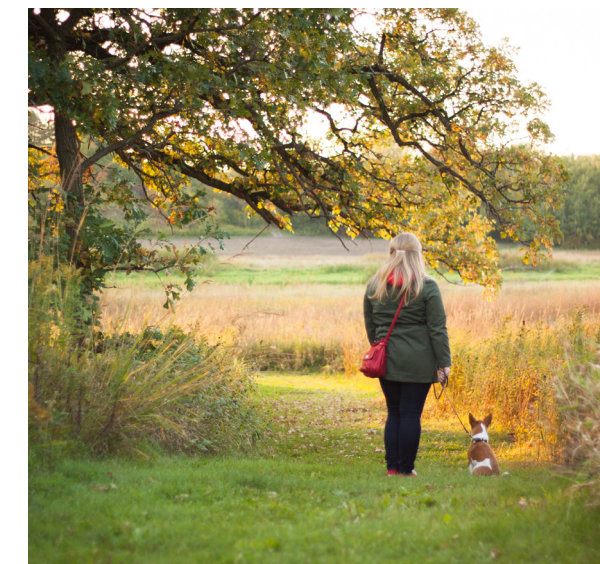
## Whitewater Walking

For more Information contact us:

**The City of Whitewater**  
312 West Whitewater Street • Whitewater, WI  
262.473.0520  
[www.whitewater-wi.gov](http://www.whitewater-wi.gov)

**Whitewater Tourism Council**  
150 West Main Street • Whitewater, WI  
262.473.4005 or 866.499.8687  
[www.discoverwhitewater.org](http://www.discoverwhitewater.org)











**Working for Whitewater's Wellness, Inc.**  
710 West Starin Rd • Whitewater, WI  
[www.w3wellness.org](http://www.w3wellness.org)

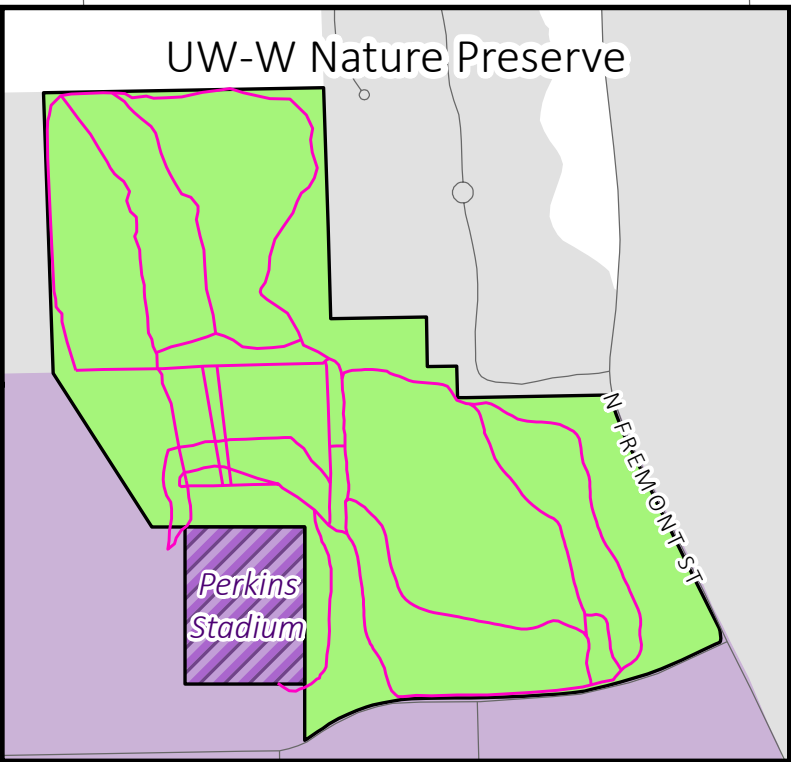
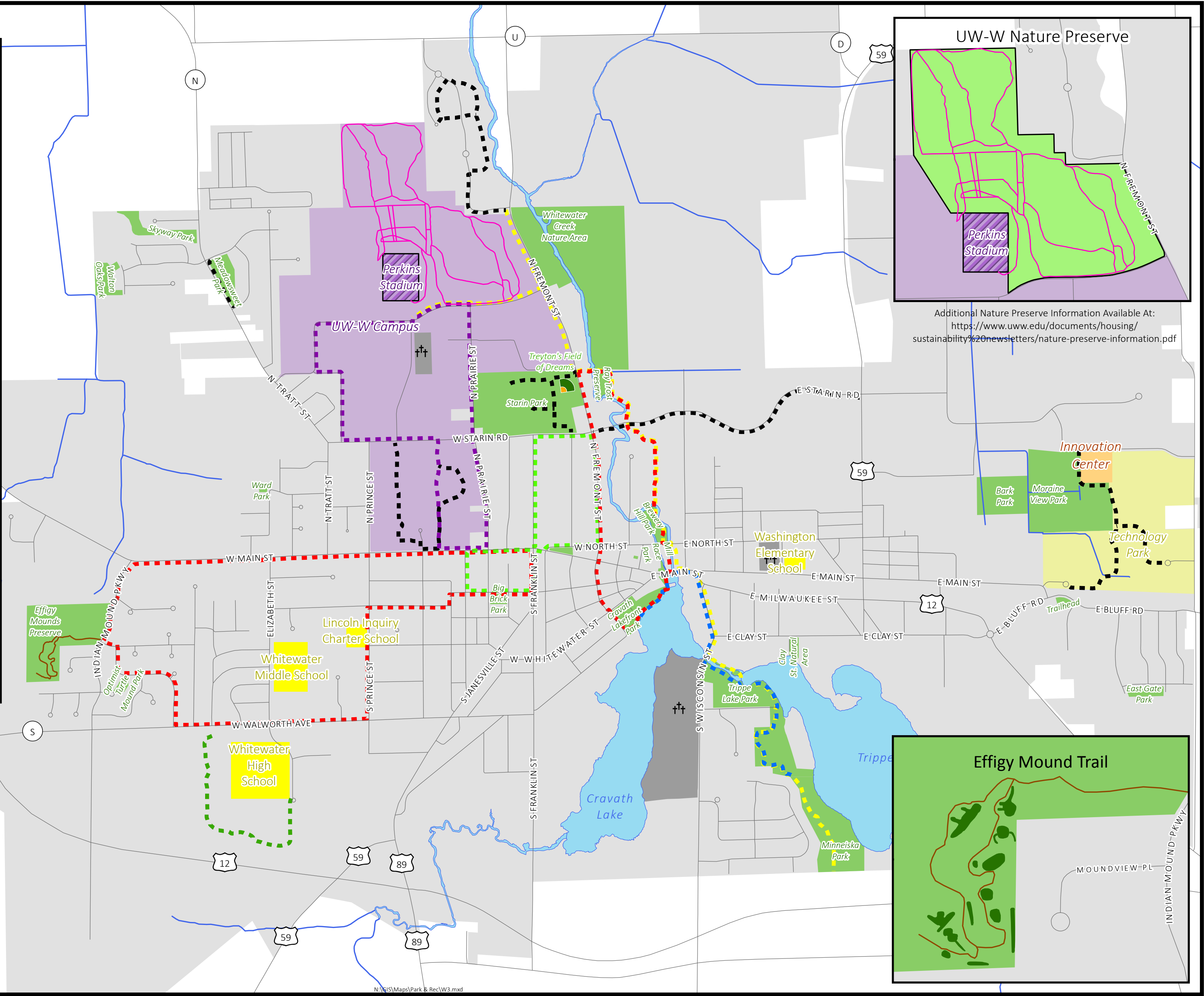


*This walking map was a cooperative effort of the City of Whitewater Park & recreation, Whitewater Tourism Council, and Workings for Whitewater's Wellness, Inc.*



# WHITEWATER, WI

-  Whitewater Creek Trail (3.1)
-  Downtown Loop (1.8 miles)
-  Historic Loop (1.7 miles)
-  Effigy Mounds Loop 3.5
-  UW-W Campus Loop (2.4)
-  Whitewater Educational
-  Whitewater Trail Loop (1.2)
-  Bike Path (4 miles)
-  UW-W Nature Preserve Trails (4.5 miles) -- See Inset
-  Effigy Mound Trail (1/2 mile)



Additional Nature Preserve Information Available At:  
<https://www.uww.edu/documents/housing/sustainability%20newsletters/nature-preserve-information.pdf>

