



RUSK COUNTY



WISCONSIN

NATURE AWAITS YOU

Reclaimed Flambeau Mine Nature Trails & Recreation Area

HIKING • BIKING • BIRDWATCHING • RIVER FISHING AND MORE

HISTORY & SIGNIFICANCE

The site is beautiful and inspiring, and also has a rich history. The Flambeau Mine operated from 1993 to 1997 and produced tons of copper, silver and gold. In fact, the orebody is one of the richest ever identified in the world, and the minerals it supplied were used worldwide to manufacture electrical wiring, computers, cars, surgical equipment, church bells and more.



The Flambeau Mine also is historically important to Wisconsin, as it was the first mine to be approved and operated under the state's stringent mining standards. As part of that approval, and the company's Sustainable Development Policy, the Flambeau Mining Company made many promises to the state and local communities. The company promised to bring economic opportunity, provide safe and family-supporting jobs, protect the environment and the Flambeau River, enhance community and educational resources, and reclaim the site.



The Reclaimed Flambeau Mine Nature Trails & Recreation Area, which is the result of a \$20 million reclamation effort by the Flambeau Mining Company, is just one example of how all of those promises were kept.



THE RECLAIMED Flambeau Mine Nature Trails & Recreation Area is an environmental and educational destination located in Rusk County, Wisconsin. The 150-acre site, once home to the historic Flambeau Mine, today has been reclaimed to allow the land to serve as a recreational resource for the community and its visitors.

The site is **free and open to the public** year round, from dawn to dusk. Just a few of the activities encouraged at the site include:

- **Hiking**
- **Biking**
- **Birdwatching**
- **Dog walking**
- **Snowshoeing**
- **Cross country skiing**
- **Fishing and Picnicking along the Flambeau River**
- **Community and fitness events**
- **School fieldtrips**
- **Geocaching**

RULES

To ensure the Reclaimed Flambeau Mine Nature Trails & Recreation Area is enjoyable for all who visit, please be aware of the following rules:

- No motorized vehicles of any kind
- Dogs are welcome if they are under control at all times
- No horseback riding on the hiking trails
- No hunting is allowed
- Fishing is allowed at the Flambeau River, but not in wetland areas
- Always stay on the marked trails
- While using the site, you are responsible for your own health and safety

LOCATION

The Reclaimed Flambeau Mine Nature Trails & Recreation Area is located on Highway 27, about 1.5 miles south of Ladysmith in Rusk County, Wisconsin. Free parking for visitors is located at N4339 Highway 27.

For more information, visit www.flambeaumine.com.

Photos by Jana Murphy and Jeff Miller

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RECLAIMED FLAMBEAU MINE Nature Trails & Recreation Area

NATURE AWAITS YOU!



Whether it's on foot or snowshoe, alone or with family and friends, the Reclaimed Flambeau Mine Nature Trails & Recreation Area provides much to see. Features along the four miles of nature trails include:

Information Stations – Throughout the site there are several information stations that provide visitors with an overview of the history, significance and habitat of the site.

Woodlands – The site features more than two dozen species of trees and shrubs. The woodlands are a favorite nesting site for goldfinches, and kingbirds are frequently seen perched atop the trees scanning the area for insect prey.

Grasslands – More than 100 native plant species are thriving on the site, including Big Bluestem, Canada Wild Rye, New England Aster and Stiff Goldenrod. The grasslands provide a critical habitat to many animal species that have lost habitat to agriculture and other development.

Wetlands – The site's two wetland areas cover more than 10 acres and provide a self-supporting habitat for wildlife. More than 200 species of native plants are growing in these wetlands, and frogs – one of the best barometers of a healthy environment – thrive here. Several species of waterfowl – including hooded mergansers and coots – also raise their young within these wetlands.

Copper Park Equestrian Trails – These horseback riding trails cover about 10 miles and run along the Flambeau River on land adjacent to the reclaimed site. Developed cooperatively by the Flambeau Mining Company, the City of Ladysmith and the Flambeau Riders club, these are the first public trails developed for equestrian use in Rusk County. Hikers are encouraged to use the trails as well.

Flambeau River – Rest, picnic or fish along the Flambeau River, one of Wisconsin's most beautiful and scenic waterways. It's a popular site for canoeing, kayaking, whitewater rafting and more.

- Gravel Trail
- Mowed Trail
- Picnic Area
- Mileage Between Points (o)
- Overlook Point

