

# AFTON STATE PARK

## FACILITIES AND FEATURES

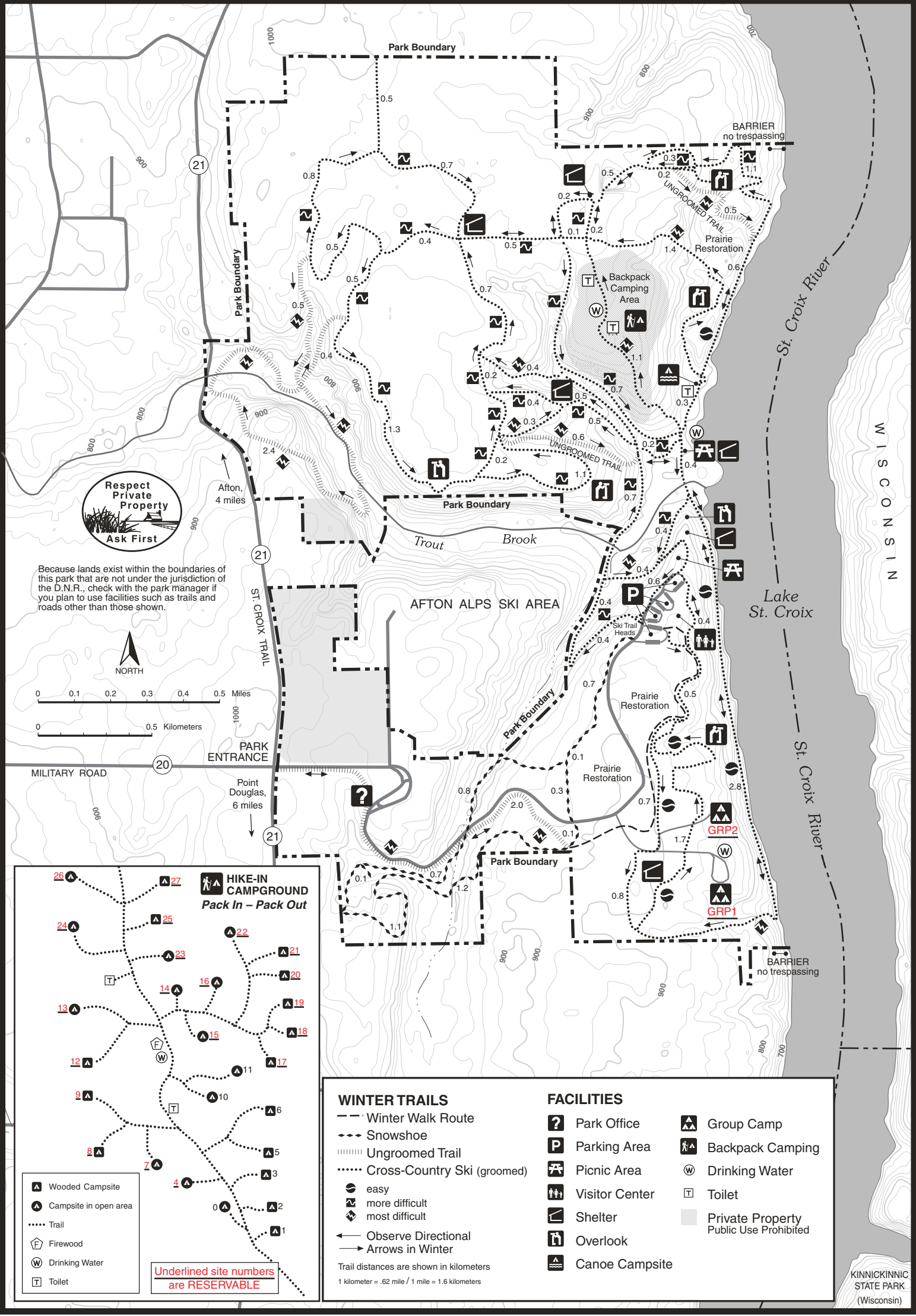
- 28 backpacking campsites
- 2 picnic grounds with a total of 50 tables
- 20 miles of hiking trail
- 18 miles of cross-country ski trail
- 5 miles of horseback riding trail
- 4 miles of bike trail
- 4 miles of snowshoe trail
- Visitor center with interpretive displays, information, and a pay telephone
- 2 rustic group camps
- 1 canoe campsite

### LOOKING FOR MORE INFORMATION?

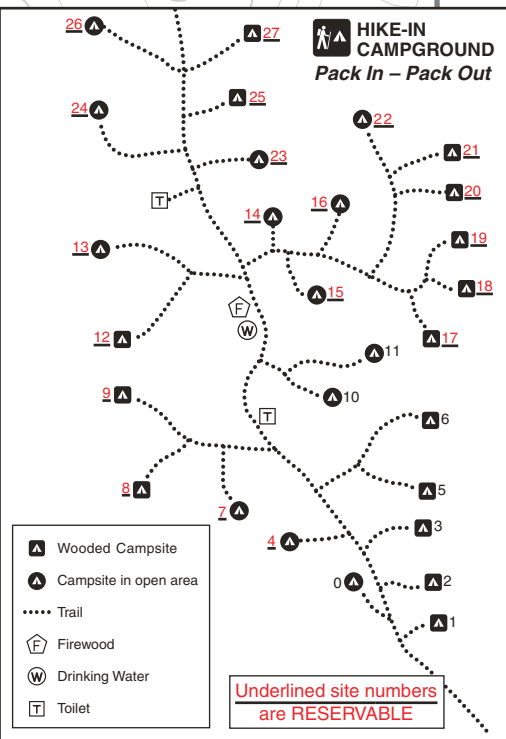
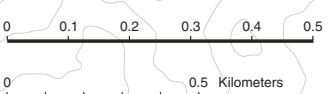
The DNR has mapped the state showing federal, state and county lands with their recreational facilities. Public Recreation Information Maps (PRIM) are available for purchase from the DNR gift shop. DNR regional offices, Minnesota state parks and major sporting and map stores.

**Check it out - you'll be glad you did!**

© 1/2009 by State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources



Because lands exist within the boundaries of this park that are not under the jurisdiction of the D.N.R., check with the park manager if you plan to use facilities such as trails and roads other than those shown.



- #### WINTER TRAILS
- Winter Walk Route
  - Snowshoe
  - ||||| Ungroomed Trail
  - ..... Cross-Country Ski (groomed)
  - easy
  - more difficult
  - most difficult
  - ← Observe Directional
  - Arrows in Winter
- Trail distances are shown in kilometers  
1 kilometer = .62 mile / 1 mile = 1.6 kilometers

- #### FACILITIES
- ? Park Office
  - P Parking Area
  - Picnic Area
  - Visitor Center
  - Shelter
  - Overlook
  - Canoe Campsite
  - ▲ Group Camp
  - ▲ Backpack Camping
  - W Drinking Water
  - T Toilet
  - Private Property Public Use Prohibited

KINNICKINNIC STATE PARK (Wisconsin)



## AFTON STATE PARK

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Afton State Park  
6959 Peller Avenue South  
Hastings, MN 55033  
(651) 436-5391

Department of Natural Resources  
Information Center  
500 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

651-296-6157 (Metro Area)  
1-888-646-6367 (MN Toll Free)

TDD (Telecommunications  
Device for Deaf)  
651-296-5484 (Metro Area)  
1-800-657-3929 (MN Toll Free)

DNR Web Site: [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)  
State Parks page: [www.mnstateparks.info](http://www.mnstateparks.info)

**DIRECTIONS TO AFTON STATE PARK FROM ST. PAUL:** Nine miles east on I-94 then seven miles south on State Highway 95 then three miles east on County Road 20.

AFTON STATE PARK was established in 1969 to preserve unique natural fea-

tures and to provide opportunities for nature-oriented recreation. Located just forty minutes east of the Twin Cities, the park offers excellent opportunities for hiking, cross-country skiing, swimming, picnicking, and hike-in camping in a quiet, natural setting. To preserve the natural character of the park, development has been kept to a minimum. The campground, swimming beach and interior of the park are accessible only by trail. The steep terrain offers challenging hiking and skiing plus the promise of a rewarding natural experience.

Afton State Park lies on the bluffs overlooking the St. Croix River. The park is cut by deep ravines which drop three hundred feet to the river. Outcrops of sandstone jut from the side of the ravines. The rugged terrain affords spectacular views of the St. Croix Valley.

Oak, aspen, birch, and cherry trees grow in the ravines and valleys of the park. The forests they form are home to a wide variety of wildlife. In spring, the woods are alive with color and song as warblers return from their winter havens. In fall, migrating hawks and eagles soar above the bluffs. In any season, spotting a fox or deer is always a test of your observation skills.

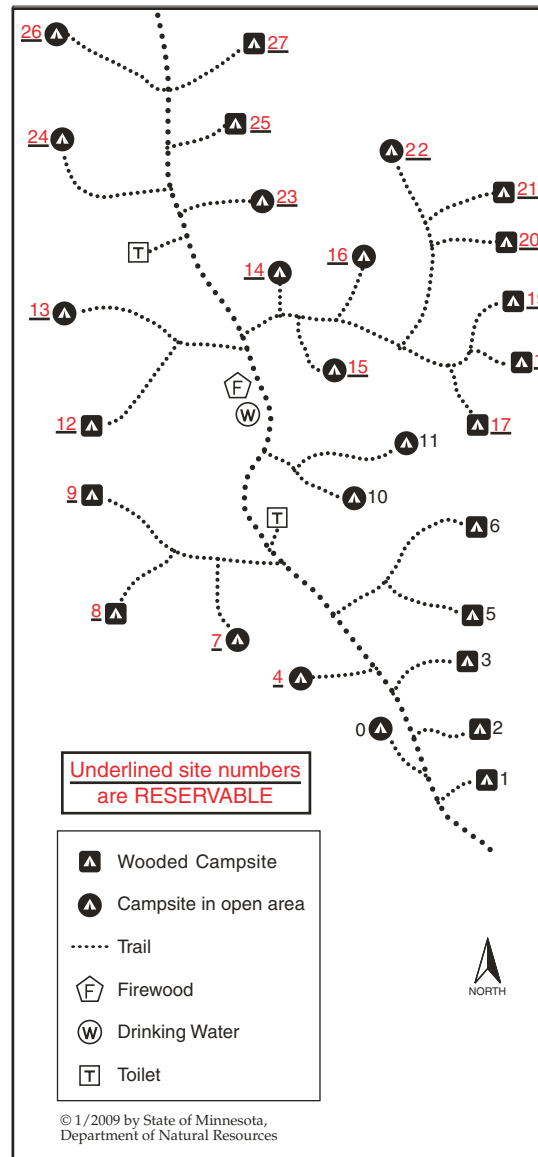
Above the forested ravines are rolling fields and pastures which attest to their previous agricultural role. Badger and redtailed hawk hunt these fields where once a vast prairie and savanna grew. A few patches of this native grassland that escaped the plow remain in the park. A program to restore and rejuvenate these valuable prairie remnants is underway.

Rolling grasslands, deep forested ravines, and the broad St. Croix River—these are only a few of a Afton State Park's natural features. For more information visit the interpretive displays in the visitor center.

**VOLUNTEER PROGRAM:** Afton State Park needs volunteers to assist the park staff with resource management, visitor information services and interpretive programs. If you would like to help, please contact the park manager.

### SO EVERYONE CAN ENJOY THE PARK . . .

- The park belongs to all Minnesotans. Please treat it with respect and help us to protect it by following the rules.
- The park is open year-round. On a daily basis, the park is closed from 10:00 P.M. to 8:00 A.M. the following morning except to registered campers.
- Camp only in designated locations.
- The use of firearms, explosives, air guns, slingshots, traps, seines, nets, bows and arrows and all other weapons is prohibited in state parks.
- Pets must be restrained on a leash no longer than six feet. Pets are not allowed in park buildings.
- Park in designated areas only.
- Enjoy park wildlife and plants, but please respect them. Do not pick or dig up plants, disturb or feed animals, or scavenge dead wood.
- Build fires only in designated locations—fire rings or fireplaces. Wood is available for purchase from park staff. Portable stoves or grills are permitted.
- Daily or annual permits are required for all vehicles entering a state park. They may be purchased at the park headquarters or the Information Center in St. Paul.



## AFTON STATE PARK HIKE-IN CAMPGROUND

Campers must register for sites at park office.

### CAMPGROUND INFORMATION:

- Campground is a strenuous 3/4 mile hike from the parking lots.
- As of the 2009 season, backpack sites will be PACK IN – PACK OUT, meaning there will NOT be refuse containers located in the campground. Everything brought in must be brought out.
- Campground well is solar powered.
- Firewood is available near the hand pump. (Pay when you register for camping.)
- Pay phone located at south side of visitor center building—at parking lots or at the Park Office.

### CAMPGROUND RULES:

- Please read and observe posted state park rules and regulations. Violations are misdemeanors and can result in arrest.
- Camping is permitted only at assigned sites in designated camping area.
- Camping permits expire at 4:00 P.M.
- Campfires allowed in fireplace or fire rings only.
- Pets must be attended and leashed.
- Quiet must reign in campgrounds after 10:00 P.M.
- Please leave the campsite in a clean, neat condition.
- No trenching or digging in campgrounds.
- Gathering of firewood prohibited. (Firewood provided near hand pump.)
- Cutting of trees, shrubs and other vegetation prohibited. *Peeling bark from birch trees will kill them!*

- Observe designated trail use signs.
- Motor bikes and other licensed vehicles are allowed only on park roads, not on trails.

*This information is available in alternative format upon request.*

"Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is available to all individuals regardless of race, color, creed or religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, age or disability. Discrimination inquiries should be sent to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4031; or the Equal Opportunity Office, Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240."



© 1/2009 by State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources

DNR Maps