The Root River

The Root River maintenance is stateinsitewhich represent somelimitedtrout waters to be harvested, gillnet fishing in designated trout waters are required to have a current trout stamp.

Birds  These inhabitants constitute some of the most spectacular river life and can be seen in abundance. The Root River supports over 40 species of birds. While floating, it is quite common to see blue herons, egrets, and wood ducks moving about the river’s edge. One might also see wild turkey foraging on the stones or cliffs as they build their tan-colored mud nests on bridge overhanging.

The Root River has a gentle to moderate flow with some riffles at various stretches. From Chastad to the Mississippi River the river falls 110 feet for an average drop of 3 feet per mile. River levels peak in mid-March and once again in early June. Water levels also vary substantially with rainfall. Though the watered has many spring-fed, clear water tributaries, including the South Branch, the Root River is somewhat closely due to saline soil types in the watershed.

The Root River’s aquatic flora and fauna characteristics make it suitable for many types of recreation. Family day trips are very popular. These recreation activities include trout fishing, canoeing, and paddling. Several towns along the Root River also offer historic sites, services and hospitality to the visitor. The villages along the River offer picturesque views of the water and can be found in the water. Lighthouses such as the dusk, moonlight, and many species of birds, including the river towpaths, can be found along the banks and outcrops.

Fish - There are many species inhabiting the river including smallmouth bass, channel catfish, rock bass, sunfish, crappies, and rough fish. Most of these can be found in the active stretches or poled areas of the river.

Brown trout can be found in the colder and clearer spring-fed tributaries, as well as the South Branch. All anglers fishing in designated trout waters are required to have a current trout stamp.

Boats - These inhabitants constitute some of the most spectacular river life and can be seen in abundance. The Root River supports over 40 species of birds. While floating, it is quite common to see blue herons, egrets, and wood ducks moving about the river’s edge. One might also see wild turkey foraging on the stones or cliffs as they build their tan-colored mud nests on bridge overhanging.

Rapids - Whether poised high in a tree or soaring majestically above the valley, these magnificent birds of prey provide a visual bounty for these using the Root River.

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