

# CARLEY STATE PARK

## TRAILS

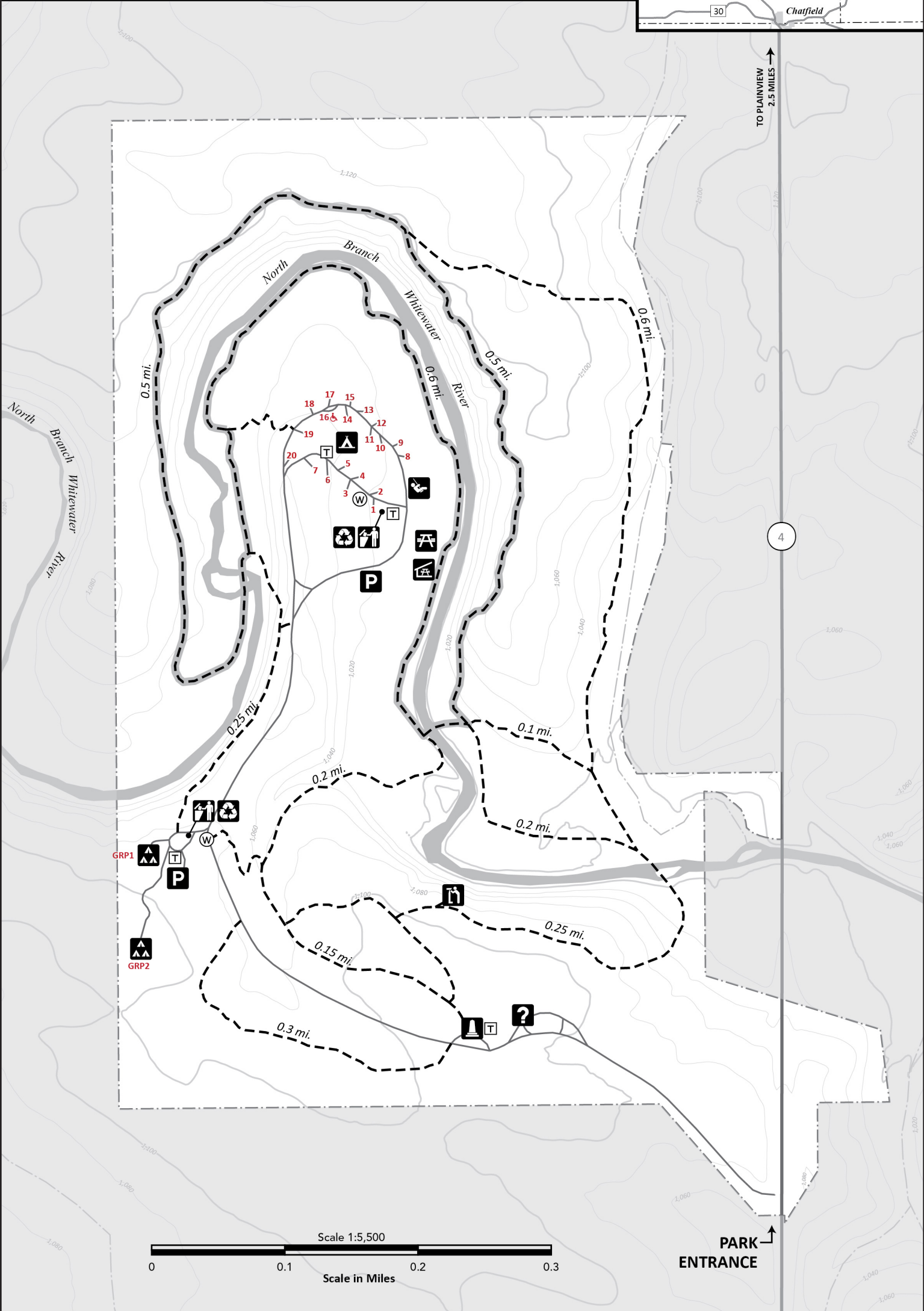
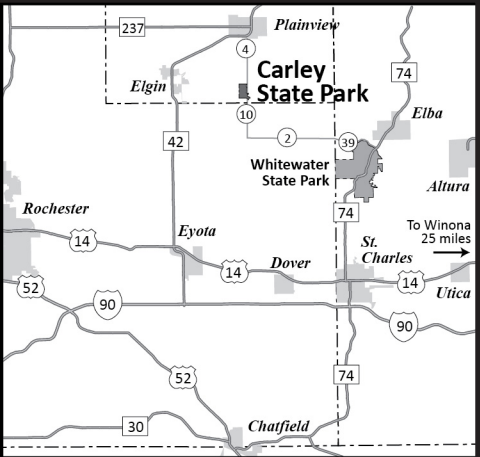
- Hiking
- Hiking Club



## FACILITIES

- ? Information
- P Parking
- ⛶ Picnic Area
- 🏠 Picnic Shelter
- ⬆ Campground
- ⬆⬆ Group Camp

- 🏰 Historic Site
- 👤 Overlook
- 🚽 Primitive Toilet
- 🍷 Drinking Water
- 🎡 Playground
- 🗑 Dumpster
- ♻ Recycling Area



# MAP AND GUIDE: CARLEY STATE PARK

50187 COUNTY RD. 4  
PLAINVIEW, MN 55964

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT  
WHITEWATER STATE PARK  
19041 HIGHWAY 74, ALTURA, MN 55910  
WINONA COUNTY • 507-312-2300



## VISITOR TIPS

- Wear good hiking shoes.
- Some areas have steep drop-offs, keep small children close.
- Use caution at river crossings during high water events.
- Please stay on trails.
- Pack out all trash.
- In an emergency call 911.
- Non-emergency sheriff's number: 651-565-3361.



## ONLY HAVE AN HOUR?

- Park by the picnic grounds and hike the Wildflower Trail in early May to see Virginia bluebells carpeting the forest floor. The level trail winds along the north branch of the Whitewater River.
- Look and listen for a variety of resident and migratory birds during the summer.



LOOKING FOR MORE TO EXPLORE  
DURING YOUR STAY?  
VISIT [MNDNR.GOV/CARLEY](https://mndnr.gov/carley)

## ABOUT THE PARK

Visit the park in spring for a parade of early wildflowers, or in the fall for a display of colorful oaks and maples. Come during any season to glimpse the towering white pines that first prompted the park's creation. State Senator James A. Carley and the Ernestina Bolt family donated this land in 1948 to preserve an outstanding grove of white pines found here. Look opposite the picnic area and you will still see some of these giants in the river valley today. In addition to the pines, spring wildflowers and numerous bird species, the park also protects a portion of the Blufflands Landscape Region. This is a unique area in southeastern Minnesota that features high bluffs, deep valleys and rolling uplands.



See Virginia bluebells each May  
during the park's Bluebell Festival.

## PARK HIGHLIGHTS

### Hiking

The park offers nearly 6 miles of packed dirt hiking trails with a variety of scenery from valley floors to rock ridges. Some trails are steep with stairs, switchbacks and concrete block river crossings. Concrete blocks may be slippery when wet, use caution. The Wildflower Trail is the flattest trail. Trails become steeper as they lead away from the parking and camping areas.

### Fishing

The north branch of the Whitewater River is a designated trout stream and provides good habitat for brown and rainbow trout. Make sure to have your fishing license and trout stamp if you plan to fish in the park.

### Relaxing

A large open game field and a playground are next to the picnic area.

### Winter Recreation

Roads are not plowed in the winter. You can park your car at the trailhead parking lot (at the monument) and either walk or ski into the park.

## MORE TO EXPLORE NEAR CARLEY

- Try trout fishing. NOTE: a trout stamp is required.
- Check out a free naturalist program at nearby Whitewater State Park.

## SO EVERYONE CAN ENJOY THE PARK...

A full set of STATE PARK RULES AND REGULATIONS is available at [mndnr.gov](https://mndnr.gov).



### PARK OPEN

8 a.m.–10 p.m. daily.



### VEHICLE PERMITS

Permits required; purchase at entrance kiosk.



### PETS WELCOME

Keep on 6-foot leash; pick up after; attend at all times; not allowed in buildings.



### CAMPGROUND QUIET HOURS

10 p.m.–8 a.m.; only registered campers may be in campground during quiet hours.



### FIREWOOD

Must be purchased at this park or from vendors who sell wood approved for this park; no gathering firewood in the park.



WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT TROUT  
FISHING? GO TO [MNDNR.GOV/FISHMN](https://mndnr.gov/fishmn)

## ? MORE INFORMATION

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
Information Center  
500 Lafayette Rd. , St. Paul, MN 55155-4040  
888-646-6367 or [mndnr.gov/parks](https://mndnr.gov/parks)

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This information may be available in alternative format upon request.

**m** MINNESOTA  
STATE PARKS AND TRAILS