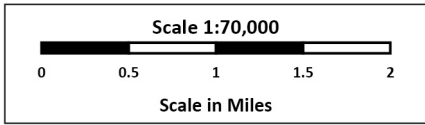


CEDAR RIVER STATE WATER TRAIL

- | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Carry-in Access | Shelter | Point of Interest | Power Lines |
| Trailer Access | Rest Area | Dam | River Miles |
| Hospital/Clinic | Fishing Pier | Drinking Water | State Trail |
| Historic Site | Campground | Public Lands | |
| Parking | Watercraft Campsite | River Level Gauge | |

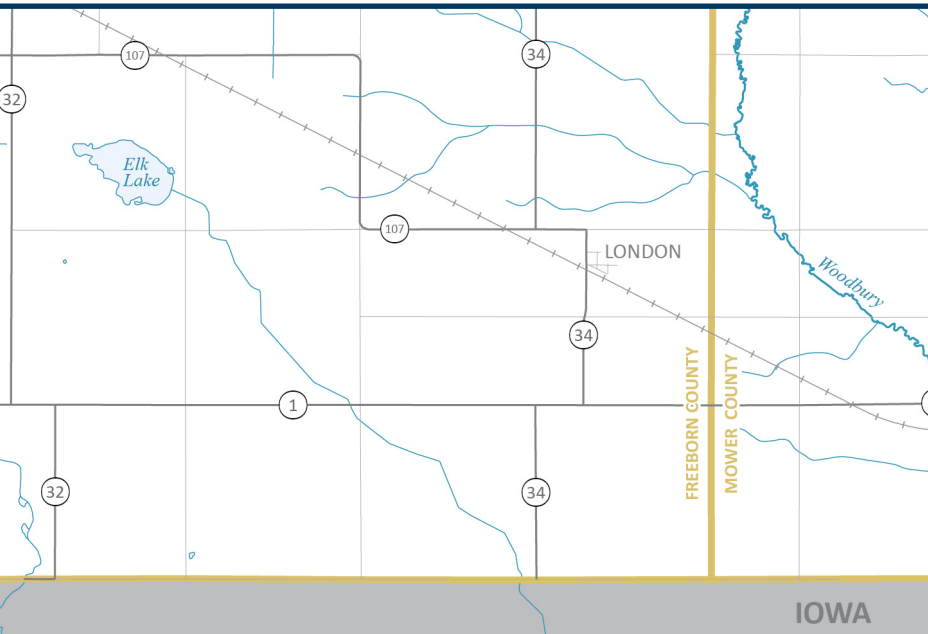
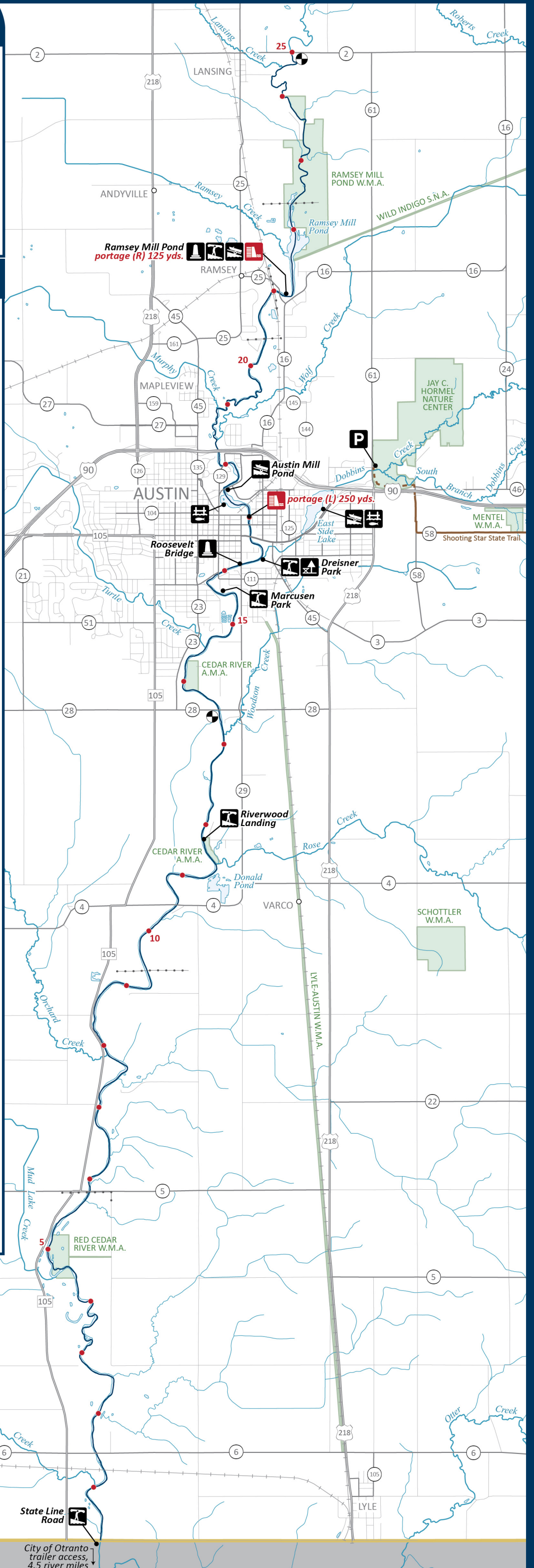


W.M.A. = Wildlife Management Area
S.N.A. = Scientific and Natural Area
A.M.A. = Aquatic Management Area

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

NOTE: (R) and (L) represent right and left banks of the river when facing downstream.

- 25.0 County Road 2 bridge. River level gauge.
- 24.6 (R) Confluence with Lansing Creek.
- 24-21.6 Ramsey Mill Pond Wildlife Management Area.
- 22.4 Powerline crossing.
- 22.0 Ramsey Mill Pond.
- 21.6 Wild Indigo Prairie Scientific and Natural Area.
- 21.6 (R) Abandoned railroad trestle.
- 21.2 (R) Trailer access above dam.
- 21.2 Low head dam - Ramsey Mill Pond. Portage river right, 125 yards.
- 21.2 (R) Carry-in access below dam.
- 21.1 County Road 25 bridge.
- 21.0 Railroad trestle/powerline crossing.
- 21-15 City of Austin.
- 20.4 Powerline crossing.
- 18.8 (R) Confluence with Murphy Creek.
- 18.4 (L) Confluence with Wolf Creek.
- 18.2 Highway 90 bridge.
- 18.0 Main St N bridge.
- 17.5 (L) Austin Mill Pond trailer access. 4th St. bridge.
- 17.4 Foot bridge.
- 17.3 (R) Fishing pier.
- 17.1 Foot bridge.
- 17.0 4th Ave. NE bridge.
- 17.0 (L) Dam - Austin Mill Pond. Undeveloped portage river left 250 yards, take out upstream of 4th Avenue bridge and follow bike trail around the dam until safe river access is possible.
- 16.9 2nd Ave. NE bridge.
- 16.8 Oakland Place SE bridge.
- 16.5 (L) Dreisner Park. Carry-in access and rest area.
- 16.5 (L) Confluence with Dobbins Creek.
- 16.2 4th St. SE bridge.
- 16.2 Foot bridge.
- 15.9 Main St. S. bridge.
- 15.6 (L) Marcusen Park trailer access.
- 14.5 (R) Confluence with Turtle Creek.
- 13.8-14-4 (L) Cedar River Aquatic Management Area.
- 13.4 County Road 28 bridge. River level gauge.
- 11.8 (L) Riverwood Landing carry-in access.
- 11.8-.5 (L) Cedar River Aquatic Management Area.
- 11.5 (L) Confluence with Rose Creek.
- 10.4 County Road 4 bridge.
- 9.4 Powerline crossing.
- 7.9 (R) Confluence with Orchard Creek.
- 5.8 County Road 5 bridge. Powerline crossing.
- 5.2-4.4 Red Cedar River Wildlife Management Area.
- 4.6 (R) Confluence with Mud Lake Creek.
- 1.5 County Road 6 bridge.
- 1.3 Railroad trestle.
- 1.0 (R) Confluence with Woodbury Creek.
- 0.0 Minnesota/Iowa border. State Line Road carry-in access, river right (no parking at this location).



CEDAR RIVER STATE WATER TRAIL



m MINNESOTA
STATE PARKS AND TRAILS

ABOUT THE WATER TRAIL

The Cedar River begins north of Austin, Minnesota and flows to southeast Iowa. It passes agricultural land, forests, ridgetops with oak savanna, gently rolling hills with prairie plants, and steep ravines lined by maple and basswood trees. The Cedar River eventually joins the Iowa River and becomes a major tributary of the Mississippi River.

This river has a moderate flow and no major rapids, which makes it wonderful for beginner paddlers. The river is highest in spring and occasionally floods. Water levels are usually sufficient for canoeing throughout the summer. Anglers may enjoy casting a line for smallmouth bass, northern pike, walleye, bullheads and rock bass.

Hazards include dams, be sure to know their locations. Also watch for occasional snags and overhanging trees which may tip an unwary paddler.



Cedar River Watershed District

This gentle river is great for beginners.

CONTACTS

RICE LAKE AREA OFFICE
8485 Rose St.
Owatonna, MN 55060
507-414-6191

DNR INFORMATION CENTER
500 Lafayette Rd.
St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
888-646-6367
info.dnr@state.mn.us

JAY C. HORMEL NATURE CENTER
hormelnaturecenter.org

TRIP PLANNING AND SAFETY



- Plan your trip with a map before you leave. Tell someone your plans, including put-in and take-out times.
- Travel with a companion or group.
- Most people paddle 2-3 river miles per hour.
- River levels can affect your speed and trip safety. Check conditions at mndnr.gov/river_levels.
- Don't underestimate the power of wind and waves, especially on large lakes.
- Be cautious of obstacles in the river and avoid overhanging and dead trees.
- Bring clean drinking water and a waterproof container with a first aid kit, waterproof matches and extra clothes.
- Wear a life jacket at all times while on the water.
- Purchase a license for your non-motorized watercraft if it's more than 10 feet in length. If you're not from Minnesota, check your state's watercraft license laws.

WATERCRAFT CAMPING



- Camp only in designated campsites, which are often available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Riverbed camping next to private property is not permitted.
- Stay off private property. Stop only at designated sites; much of the shoreland is private property.
- Be sanitary! Use designated toilet facilities or bury human waste away from the river.
- Follow the rules for firewood. State forests allow you to gather dead wood for a fire, but state parks do not.

MEDICAL



MAYO CLINIC HEALTH SYSTEM
1000 First Drive NW
Austin, MN 55912
507-433-7351

MAYO CLINIC HEALTH SYSTEM
404 W Fountain St.
Albert Lea, MN 56007
507-373-2384

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

(cover photo: Cedar River Watershed District)



RECOMMENDED DAY TRIP

Riverwood Landing to State Line Road

- Put-in location: Riverwood Landing (carry-in)
River mile **11.8**
- Take-out location: **State Line Road (carry-in)**
River mile **0**
- Length: **11.8** river miles

This route offers a day of variety on the river. Meander through the river's twists and turns as you pass incoming streams, wooded shoreline, farm fields and a Wildlife Management Area. Be aware that the take-out location does not have a parking lot.

EXPLORE ON SHORE

Ramsey Mill Pond Wildlife Management Area (WMA)

This WMA covers over 300 acres of wetlands, woodlands, grasslands and river habitats. Recreational opportunities include bird watching, fishing, waterfowl hunting and trapping.
mndnr.gov/wma

Shooting Star State Trail

Portions of this 29-mile, paved trail follow the Shooting Star Wildflower and Historic Route Scenic Byway. Native wildflowers and grasses are a highlight of this byway and trail. The trail starts in the city of Austin.
mndnr.gov/shootingstar

Austin city bike trails: ci.austin.mn.us/park-recreation/bike-trail-map

PROTECT THE RIVER

Your experience on the river depends on a healthy environment. As you explore the beauty of this waterway, also do your best to protect it.

Protect Your Waters

- Before launching...before leaving
- Clean off aquatic plants and animals.
 - Drain all water away from the landing.
 - Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash.

mndnr.gov/invasives/aquatic

Buffer Protection

The Minnesota buffer law establishes new vegetation buffers along rivers, streams and ditches to help filter out chemicals and sediment before they reach waterways.

mndnr.gov/buffers

More Information

mndnr.gov/watertrails

- River level reporting
- River conditions reporting
- Interactive water trail map
- Recommended routes
- River rapids definitions
- Virtual tours

Search for outfitters at exploreminnesota.com

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by contacting info.dnr@state.mn.us, 651-296-6157, or MN Relay 711.