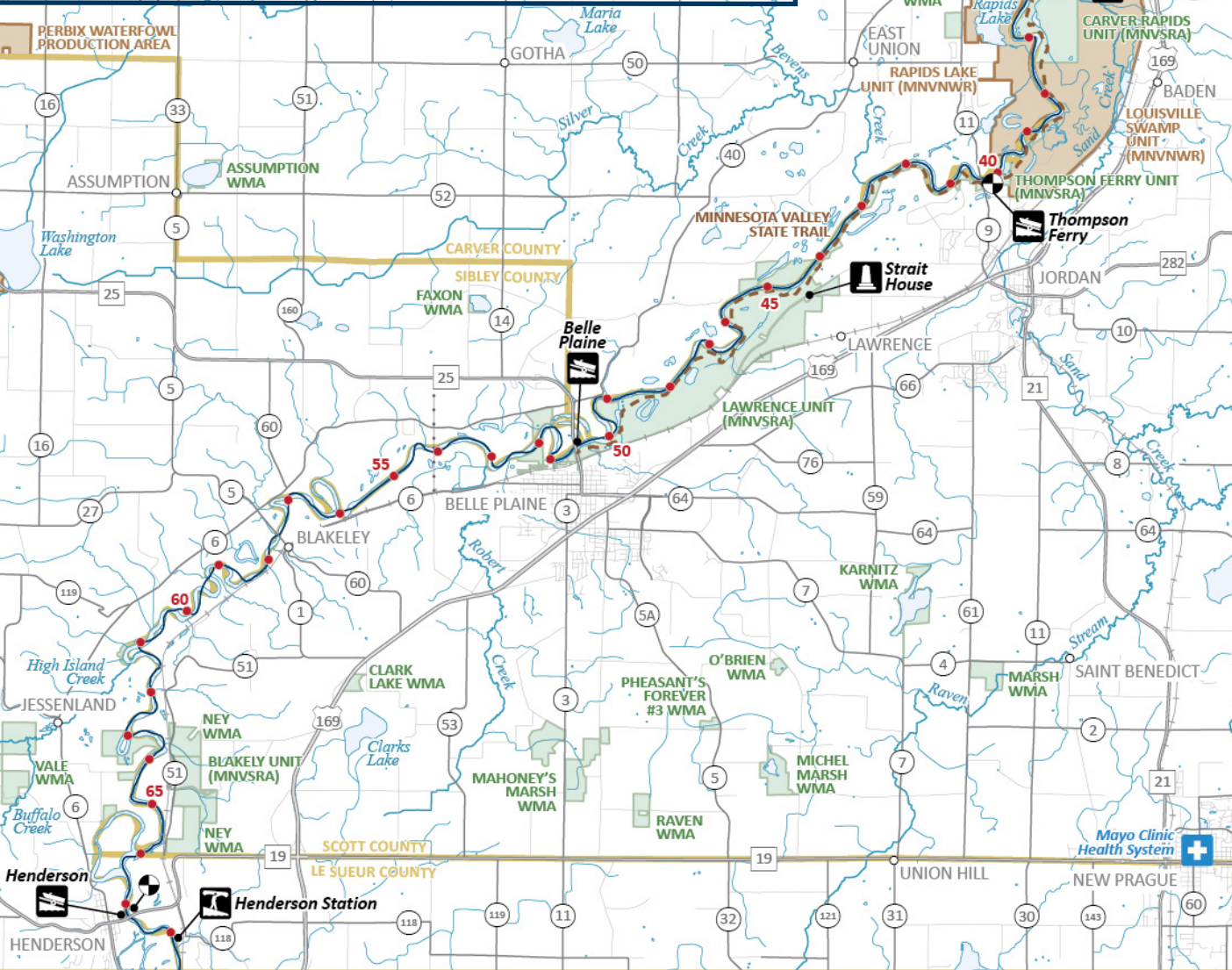


MINNESOTA RIVER STATE WATER TRAIL
MAP 6 - Henderson to the Mississippi River

Legend: Carry-in Access, Trailer Access, Parking, Historic Site, Hospital/Clinic, Drinking Water, Rest Area, Fishing Pier, Campground, Watercraft Campsite, River Level Gauge, River Miles, Powerline, Minnesota Valley State Trail (paved), Minnesota Valley State Trail (unpaved), State Public Lands, Other Public Lands, National Public Lands, WMA, AMA, SNA, MNVSRA, MNVNR.

Scale 1:160,000. Scale in Miles. Map 5 inset showing the river's location in Minnesota.



Route Description, RM 68 to 0

R and L represent sides of the river facing downstream		present at the lower rapids. Some maneuvering may be required. In higher water, these rapids are not present. Jabs Farm Historic Site is off Sand Creek at 36.0, river right.		Unit (river right) and Bloomington Ferry Unit (river left).	
68.1 (R)	Henderson Station carry-in access. Confluence with Robert Creek.	34.0 (R)	Confluence with Sand Creek.	20-19	Powerline crossings.
67.1 (L)	Henderson trailer access. City of Henderson. Highway 19 bridge. River level gauge.	34.0-26(R)	Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area, Gifford and Nyssens Lakes Units.	18.4 (L)	Confluence with Purgatory Creek.
63-66	Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Blakesly Unit.	33.4	Powerline crossing.	17.5	Highway 169 bridge.
61.3 (L)	Confluence with High Island Creek.	32.6-29.0(L)	Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Chaska Lake Unit.	15.8 (R)	Confluence with Eagle Creek.
57.8	County Road 5 bridge. Town of Blakely.	32.5 (L)	Confluence with Carver Creek.	14.1	Powerline crossing.
54.0	Powerline crossing.	32.4 (L)	Rest area.	13.5 (R)	Confluence with Credit River.
53.0 (R)	Confluence with Robert Creek	32.1 (L)	Carver Riverfront Park trailer access.	10.5 (L)	Confluence with Ninemile Creek. Interstate 35W bridge.
52.6-44	Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area, Lawrence Unit.	30.4 (L)	Winkel Park trailer access. City of Chaska, Chaska Creek confluence, Highway 41 bridge.	10.4 (L)	Russel trailer access.
50.7 (L)	Belle Plaine trailer access. City of Belle Plain. Highway 25 bridge.	29.4	Powerline crossing.	10.9-0	Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, BlackDog and Long Meadow Lakes Units.
44.6 (R)	Strait House Historic Site.	28.0	Powerline crossing.	9.1-8.9	Powerline crossings.
42.9 (L)	Confluence with Bevens Creek. State Park vehicle permit required if parking a vehicle in the Strait House lot, but no permit is needed if accessing the site from the river.	27.2	Powerline crossing.	7.3 (R)	Cedar trailer access. Highway 77 bridge. enter Fort Snelling State Park.
40.2 (R)	Thompson Ferry trailer access. County Roads 11/9 bridge. Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area - Thompson Ferry Unit. River level gauge.	26.0 (L)	Raguet Wildlife Management Area.	7.2-0	Fort Snelling State Park.
40.1-35.0	Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Louisville Swamp Unit (river right) and Rapids Lake Unit (river left).	25.3 (L)	Shakopee trailer access.	6.6 (R)	Confluence with Kennaley's Creek.
37.5-36.1	Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area, Carver Rapids Unit. At normal summer levels (6.5') larger boulders are present at the upper rapids and some turbulence is	25.3 (R)	Huber City Park rest area. City of Shakopee.	3.9	Interstate 494 bridge.
		23.4 (R)	The Landing rest area. Restrooms available.	3.1 (L)	Fort Snelling State Park rest area. Carry-in access nearby on Snelling Lake.
		26.5-20.0 (L)	Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge - Upgrala Unit.	1.6 (R)	Fort Snelling trailer access. Rest area, and water. Highway 55 (Mendota bridge).
		22.9 (L)	Confluence with Bluff Creek. Powerline crossing.	1.5-0.0	Pike Island.
		22.8 (L)	Riley Creek confluence.	0.0	Confluence with the Mississippi River. See Mississippi River map 10 for details on this river.
		21.0-15.0	Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge - Wilkie Unit (river left and right), Rice Lake		

END OF MAP SERIES

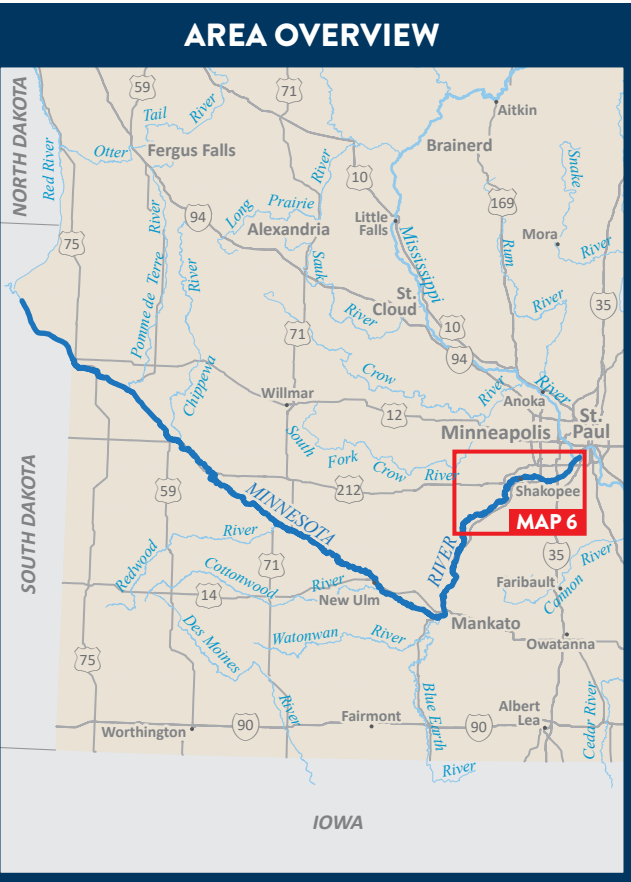
MINNESOTA RIVER STATE WATER TRAIL



MAP 6 - HENDERSON TO THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER



m MINNESOTA
STATE PARKS AND TRAILS



ABOUT THE WATER TRAIL

This section of the Minnesota River becomes more urban, passing through many larger cities until it reaches the confluence with the Mississippi River. The Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge, which covers a large portion of this river section, was established to provide habitat for a large number of migratory waterfowl, fish, and other wildlife species threatened by commercial and industrial development.

The Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area also preserves part of the Minnesota River Valley. The landscapes along the Recreation area include wetlands, floodplain forest and blufftop oak savanna. Both the refuge and recreation area are well-known for bird watching. Annual migrations funnel hundreds of thousands of waterfowl, songbirds, and raptors through the valley.

Another major feature along the river is Fort Snelling State Park. The park offers extensive hiking, bike, snowshoe, and ski trails that link to an extensive regional trail system.



Many sandy banks line the river.

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.

RECOMMENDED DAY TRIP

Thompson Ferry Access to Carver Riverfront Park

- Put-in location: River mile **40.2**
- Take-out location: River mile **32.1**
- Length: **8.1** river miles

This stretch takes you in an area that feels remote, even though it is close to the Twin Cities Metro Area. Lots of sandbars to stop and hang out at in lower water levels.

EXPLORE ON SHORE

Fort Snelling State Park River mile 7-0.0

Located at the confluence of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers, the park has a wide variety of activities for an interesting visit. Hiking, historic sites, fishing, interpretive displays and more.

mndnr.gov/fortsnelling

Minnesota Valley State Recreation Area and Trail River mile 65-25

The recreation area and state trail provide opportunities for recreation along a large stretch of the Minnesota in this area. The Lawrence and Carver Rapids Units offer historic sites and multi-use trails.

mndnr.gov/minnesotavalley

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

CONTACTS

DNR REGION HEADQUARTERS

1200 Warner Rd.
St. Paul, MN 55106
651-259-5800

DNR INFORMATION CENTER

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

FORT SNELLING STATE PARK

101 Snelling Lake Rd.
St. Paul, MN 55111
612-279-3550

MINNESOTA VALLEY STATE RECREATION AREA

19825 Park Blvd.
Jordan, MN 55352
651-259-5774

MINNESOTA VALLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

3815 American Blvd. East
Bloomington, MN 55425
952-854-5900
fws.gov/refuge/minnesota_valley/

MEDICAL

TWO TWELVE MEDICAL CENTER

111 Hundertmark Rd.
Chaska, MN 55318
(952) 361-2447

ST. FRANCIS MEDICAL CENTER

1455 St. Francis Ave.
Shakopee, MN 55379
(952) 428-2200

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911

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.