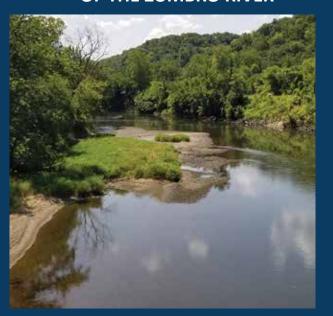


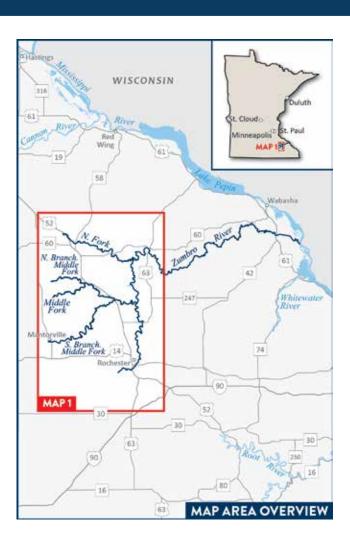
# **ZUMBRO RIVER** STATE WATER TRAIL



**MAP 1 - FORKS AND BRANCHES** OF THE ZUMBRO RIVER



MINNESOTA STATE PARKS AND TRAILS



# **ABOUT THE WATER TRAIL**

Limestone and sandstone bluffs watch over the Zumbro River as it winds through southeastern Minnesota to the Mississippi. The Zumbro flows through a narrow valley hemmed in by cliffs for much of its path below the Rochester power dam.

Paddlers expecting to drift down the Zumbro may be taken by surprise. The river has a lively current even at moderate levels, so be sure to avoid snags. Other hazards include logs, dams and flash floods.

Be aware of water levels below the Rochester power dam. The river level may rise dramatically and dangerously after rainstorms, when flash floods are likely to occur.



Area parks offer many launching and landing options.

# ( CONTACTS

## **DNR REGION 3 HEADQUARTERS**

3555 9th Street NW, Suite 350 Rochester, MN 55901 (507) 206-2847

### **DNR INFORMATION CENTER**

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

## 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. State and national forests do allow dispersed camping. Be sure to check regulations before your trip.
- 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
- Follow the rules for firewood. State forests allow you to gather dead wood for a fire, but state parks do not.

# -MEDICAL-

## **Mavo Clinic**

200 First St. SW Rochester, MN 55905 (507) 284-2511

### **Olmsted Medical Clinic**

210 Ninth Street SE Rochester, MN 55904 (507) 288-3443

#### **Olmsted Medical Clinic**

111 County Road 11 NW Pine Island, MN 55963 (507) 356-4929

**IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 911** 

# **RECOMMENDED DAY TRIP-**

### **Green Bridge to Zumbro Falls**

- Put-in location: River mile **55.8**
- Take-out location: River mile 46.1
- Length: **9.7** river miles

Paddle through a deep valley with high hills and rocky bluffs at the edge of the flood plain. The current is lively and races through frequent but easy rapids. Follow the river as it winds past wooded bluffs. Bring your fishing pole, as the fishing can be excellent along this stretch. mndnr.gov/watertrails/recommended

## EXPLORE ON SHORE -

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**Goodhue Pioneer State Trail** River mile **72** Hike or bike over 5 miles of paved trail that wind north of the city of Zumbrota.

## mndnr.gov/state\_trails/goodhue\_pioneer

## **Douglas State Trail**

River mile **79** 

Hike or bike over 12 miles of flat, paved trail through rural scenery and rich agricultural land. The trail begins in northwestern Rochester, travels through the small town of Douglas and ends in Pine

mndnr.gov/state trails/douglas

## - 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.