

Enjoy the River Safely and Responsibly

Regulations

Boating and Paddling (36CFR 3)

- Wear your life jacket! Approved life jackets for each person are required on your vessel.
- Children under 13 are required to wear a life jacket.
- Slow-no wake, which is operation of a motorboat at the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage, is in effect within 100 feet of:
  - o A downed water skier;
  - o A person swimming, wading, fishing fro shore or floating with the aid of a flotation device;
  - o A designated launch site;
  - o A manually propelled, anchored or drifting vessel; or
  - o Whenever the water level reaches or exceeds 683.0 feet mean sea level as measured at the Stillwater gauge. (MN6 105.0330.2; WI NR 5.33(1))
- Slow Speed Zone: from the dam at Taylors Falls (see Map 8) to the Arcola Sandbar located approximately at mile 31.0.
- Slow Speed: operation of a motorboat at a leisurely speed, less than planing speed, whereby the wake or wash created by the motorboat is minimal.
- Use of personal watercraft and airboats is prohibited. (Defined in 26CFR 1.4)
- Towing skiers, tubes, or similar devices is prohibited:

1. north of the High Bridge (29.5) at any time,
2. between Stillwater and the High Bridge after noon on Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, and
3. between sunset and sunrise river wide.

Camping (36CFR 2.10)

- A camping permit is required for visitors camping outside of state parks in the stretch of river between U.S. Hwy 8 (S52.5) and the High Bridge (S29.5).

- Camping is only allowed at designated sites on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Camping stay limit is 3 consecutive nights at a campsite.
- Individual campsites accommodate a maximum of 8 people and 3 tents.
- Group sites accommodate a maximum of 16 people and 6 tents.
- Tents must be occupied on the first night of stay. Equipment left unattended to hold a site will be treated as abandoned.

Campfires and Firewood (36CFR 2.1)

- Campfires are allowed in designated areas with NPS-provided metal campfire rings.
- Dead and down wood may be collected for campfires from shoreline areas but not from islands.
- The cutting of live vegetation is strictly prohibited.
- To prevent the spread of emerald ash borer, only use firewood that is kiln dried or collected within 25 miles of where it will be used.
- Campfires must be out and cold before you leave the area.

Fishing (36CFR 2.3)

- Dumping or release of live bait is prohibited.
- Use of live crayfish as bait is prohibited.
- Help prevent the introduction of invasive species. Never release bait, bait water, or water from live bait wells into the river.

Sanitation and Refuse (36CFR 2.14)

- Portable toilets are required to be possessed and used by campers from Franconia Landing to the Boom Site Landing. Public toilets are at Eagle’s Nest Landing and Osceola Landing.
- Carry out all trash.
- Pet waste must be removed from the park or be buried at least 6 inches underground and a minimum of 100 feet from any water source, high water mark, trail, or facility.
- Littering is not allowed.
- Please do not put trash in toilets.

Resource Protection (36CFR 2.1)

- Collecting live or dead mussels, empty mussel shells, historical artifacts, or wildflowers is prohibited.

General

- Pets must be on a leash no longer than 6 feet. Pet waste must be removed from the park or buried. (36CFR 2.15(a)(1))
- Possession or shooting of fireworks are prohibited. (36CFR 2.38(b))
- Quiet hours are from 10:00 pm to 6:00 am. (36CFR 2.10(b)(4))
- Do not jump or dive from cliffs, trees, swing ropes, or bridges. (36CFR 1.5)
- Alcohol is prohibited at Osceola Landing and Eagle's Nest camp site (36CRF 1.5)

Safety Tips

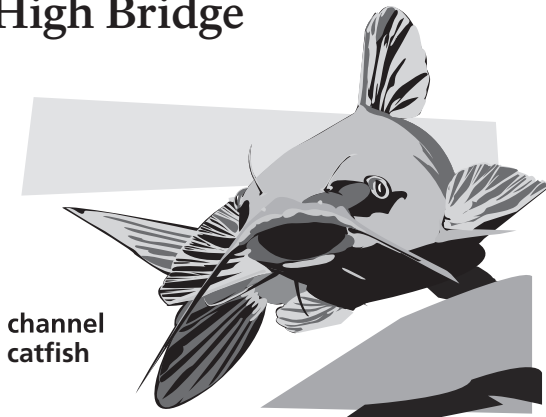
- Check river conditions before launching [www.nps.gov/sacn/planyourvisit/current-conditions](http://www.nps.gov/sacn/planyourvisit/current-conditions).
- Know your paddling ability. Not all stretches of the Riverway are suitable for beginners.
- Avoid trees that have fallen into the river. They can catch and overturn your vessel.
- Wear sunscreen, sunglasses, and a hat to prevent sunburn.
- Use alcohol responsibly.
- Do not bring glass containers to the Riverway. Broken glass cuts bare feet.
- Protect your feet with river shoes or sandals
- Bring your own drinking water. The water is not safe to drink unless purified.
- Check for ticks.
- Watch for poison ivy.

For COVID-19 updates, see [www.nps.gov/sacn](http://www.nps.gov/sacn).

Codes: Superintendent’s Compendium, park specific rules under 36 Code of Federal Regulations (36CFR), [www.nps.gov/sacn/learn/compendium.htm](http://www.nps.gov/sacn/learn/compendium.htm)



St. Croix River Map 9:  
Osceola Landing to the  
High Bridge



channel  
catfish

*Catfish are important host fish for many species of freshwater mussels.*

In This Stretch

- No rapids are found in this stretch, and powerboats are common.
- Much of the land in this section is private.
- A permit to camp is required in this stretch. See: [www.nps.gov/sacn/planyourvisit/camping](http://www.nps.gov/sacn/planyourvisit/camping).
- The **William O’Brien State Park Landing** is located in a side channel behind an island to the right.
- The river becomes shallow and narrows at the **Arcola Sandbar** due to the Apple River flowing in and depositing sediment.
- Upstream travel past the **High Bridge** is prohibited to prevent the spread of zebra mussels.

ALERT:

Starting after Labor Day in September 2023, the Walter Mondale Day Use Area, river access and Riverway campground at William O’Brien State Park will be closed through October 2024.

# St. Croix National Scenic Riverway

## St. Croix River Map 9:

### Osceola Landing to the High Bridge

#### St. Croix River Visitor Center

401 N. Hamilton Street  
St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin  
715-483-2274

#### For Current River Conditions

Visit [www.nps.gov/sacn/planyourvisit/current-conditions.htm](http://www.nps.gov/sacn/planyourvisit/current-conditions.htm)  
Call 715-483-2274

**Emergencies call 911**

**See a problem? 1-800-PARKTIP**

[www.nps.gov/sacn](http://www.nps.gov/sacn)

[www.facebook.com/StCroixNSR/](https://www.facebook.com/StCroixNSR/)



# FIND YOUR PARK

#### For more park-specific regulations

Visit [www.nps.gov/sacn/learn/compendium.htm](http://www.nps.gov/sacn/learn/compendium.htm)



SCAN ME

