What is a State Natural Area?



State Natural Areas (SNAs) protect outstanding examples of Wisconsin's native landscape, significant geological formations and archeological sites. The designation was made cooperatively with Rock County and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The land management is also a cooperative venture.

Wisconsin's more than 600 SNAs

encompass over 330,000 acres. SNAs are important for research and education, the preservation of genetic and biological diversity, and providing benchmarks for determining the impact of use on managed lands. They also provide some of the last refuges for rare plants and animals. More than 90% of the plants and 75% of the animals on Wisconsin's list of endangered and threatened species are protected in SNAs.

Why was Carver-Roehl Chosen?

One of the reasons that Carver-Roehl County Park was chosen is because of its outstanding southern dry-mesic forest and moist cliffs. The limestone cliffs were carved by a Spring Brook

Creek. The cliffs support moist cliff species, including bulbet fern, purple cliff, brake and liverworts. The forest is dominated by basswood, sugar maple and red oak. The complexity of the biology signifies this site has high conservation value. In addition,



the site contains an historical grave of early settlers to the area.

Natural Resource Land Management:

Land management plans outline specific restoration work to complete; Carver-Roehl's plan includes:

- Invasive species removal, specifically garlic mustard, Japanese hedge parsley and common buckthorn.
- $\bullet \quad Trail\ maintenance\ to\ County\ Park\ standards.$
- Red pines in the southeast corner of the park may be cut gradually to convert the stand back to a deciduous forest.

Garlic Mustard Eradication:

A garlic mustard eradication program has been in place since 2000 and is starting to achieve a noticeable reduction of the invasive species. To learn more, contact Rock County Parks.



How the SNA Affects Park Users

Park users should always treat the natural community with respect. Now that Carver-Roehl is designated as a SNA, it is even more important. Please observe the following:

- Stay on marked trails that are designated for your use.
- Do not use trail shortcuts.
- Do not collect flowers, plants or animals.
- Do not pull bark off of, cut, or otherwise damage trees.
- Observe wildlife from a distance and do not follow or approach animals. Do not feed wildlife.
- Do not litter, place all trash in dumpsters.
- Dogs are not allowed in picnic areas and must be on a 6 foot leash at all times.

For More Information on State Natural Areas:

Visit http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/er/sna/

Leave only the sound of your footsteps or track of your skis, take only memories and photos.

Rock County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in accommodations provided to persons using our parks.

For additional information or if special accommodations are required, please contact:

Rock County Parks 3715 Newville Road Janesville, WI 53545 Phone (608) 757-5451 Fax (608) 757-5470 www.co.rock.wi.us

Carver-Roehl State Natural Area

4907 South Carvers Rock Road
Clinton, WI 53525



Carver-Roehl County Park
was designated as a
Wisconsin State Natural Area
in November 2010



