7. **French Creek State Wildlife Area:** From downtown Montello, take Hwy. 22 south 8.2 miles to Hwy. O. turn right/west on O and go 2.7 miles. Turn left /south on 13th Road one-half mile to parking lot. GPS: N43 39.940 – W89 21.367. Another parking lot is .4 miles south on 13th. Oak savannah, prairie and woodlots. No facilities.
8. **Apuckawa Nature Trail.** From the stoplights in downtown Montello: go east on Hwy. 23, .6 of a mile to County C east (rt. turn) 5.8 miles to 4-way stop. Proceed straight ahead on Fox Ct., .7 miles then turn right /south on Toepper Dr. to parking area . Pick up trail map at kiosk. Easy hike thru park and forest area containing 26 species of trees and shrubs. Lake and woods offers incredible birding. White squirrels frequent park area. Restrooms, picnic tables .GPS: N43 46.002- W89 11.511.
9. **Wedde Creek Savannah:** From Harrisville, take County E north to County Y then north to Deerborn then west on Deerborn Avenue 0.45 miles to a parking south of the road. Walk south into the site. State Natural Area, no facilities.
10. **Wedde/Chafee Creek:** Straight east of the intersection of County Y & Z is a parking lot. GPS: N43 57.118 – W89 21.919. Trail goes east trough old field and pines to confluence of Wedde and Chaffee Creeks.
11. **Germania Marsh and Wildlife Area:** This area has six parking lots with access to several miles of roads. Most roads are closed to vehicle traffic, but walking in the wildlife area is permitted. **Site A**: Hwy. 22 north from Montello 9 miles to Eagle Rd. Turn right and go .5 mile to parking lot on left. GPS: N43 54.375 – W89 18.201. **Site B:** Continue south on Eagle Rd. .5 miles to **Site C** parking lot on left. From Site B stay on Eagle Rd. east approx. 2 miles to parking lot on left. GPS: N43 53.479 – W89 16.362. **Site D:** continue east on Eagle Rd thru the town of Germania to Hwy. N turn north on N and just under a mile is a road on the left that will take you to the dam . GPS: N43 53.949 – W89 15.097. **Site E:** Continue north on N .7 miles to Duck Creek Rd. If gated, park and walk the road through the marsh. GPS: N43 54.537 – W89 15.117. **Site F:** Continue north on N one mile to Duck Creek Ave. Turn left and go just under two miles to Duck Creek Rd. Go 1 mile to parking area on left. GPS: N43 54.528 – W89 16.603. Wetlands, oak and aspen forests, marshes and impoundments throughout the area. No facilities.
12. **Mecan River Pine-Oak State Natural Area:** 12 miles north of Montello on Hwy. 22. Turn left on Dixie Ave., and go 1.2 miles to parking area on right/north. GPS: N43 57.129 – W89 20.361. Easy trail leading to Mecan River. No facilities.
13. **Chaffee Creek:** North on 22 from Montello to Dixie, west on Dixie to 14th, south on 14th. West side of 14th Avenue between Dixie and Dover is parking. Easy walking trails through oak and pine forests along Chaffee Creek. GPS: N43 56.986 – W89 20.828. No facilities.
14. **Chaffee Creek West:** B north out of Harrisville to Z. Go right / east on Z 1.7 miles. Turn left on 10th Lane 100 yards to parking lot on right. GPS: N43 57.669 – W89 24.626. Hike north of the lot through large pines and oak forest. No facilities.
15. **Chaffee Creek North:** From Westfield take E north to 7th Crt north to Z. Turn right/east on Z a half mile to Hwy B. Go left/ north on B 1.1 miles to parking lot on right. GPS: N43 58.516 – W89 26.559. No facilities.
16. **Comstock Bog State Natural Area.** Highway 22, five miles north of Montello to County J. Turn right on J and go one mile then turn left /north on Edgewood Rd. and proceed one mile to parking lot on left. GPS: N43 52.325 – W89 16.706. From the parking area, walk back west on the road to the corner of the State Natural Area property and walk into the glaciated ridge that borders the east side of the bog. No facilities.
17. **Westfield Community Trail.** From the intersection of I-39 and County E: go west one tenth of a mile and turn right on S. Pioneer Park Rd. Proceed .4 miles to the entry of Pioneer Memorial Park on right. Trailheads are behind the ball diamond. 2 groomed trails through mixed forest and field.
18. **Neshkoro's Community Trail:** From downtown Neshkoro: take Hwy. 73 N towards Wautoma just over one mile to Stan-O-Gene Park on the right side of the road. Hiking trails are behind the ball diamond. Three developed trails from two-thirds of a mile long to a mile and a quarter. Pines, fields and a pond. Restrooms, picnic area and playground at park.
19. **Andy Polk Memorial Labyrinth** open to the public on the grounds of Westfield High School. Cty Rd M north
20. **Lawrence Creek Saunter Sites.** There are at least four points at which to park and walk in this DNR fishery area.. Here are three: **A.** Take E west from Westfield to 3rd Rd and turn north/right. Go .7 mile to Eagle Ave, the 1.9 miles west/left to parking on north/right. **B.** Continue 1/2 mile on Eagle Ave to another parking area on north/right. **C.** Continue west on Eagle Avenue and turn north/right on 1st Ave. Just a tenth of a mile north on 1st are parking lots on the right and on the left that take you along Lawrence Creek.

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All the wild world is beautiful, and it matters but little where we go, to highlands or lowlands, woods or plains, on the sea or land or down among the crystals of waves or high in a balloon in the sky; through all the climates, hot or cold, storms and calms, everywhere and always we are in God's eternal beauty and love. So universally true is this, the spot where we chance to be always seems the best.
John Muir

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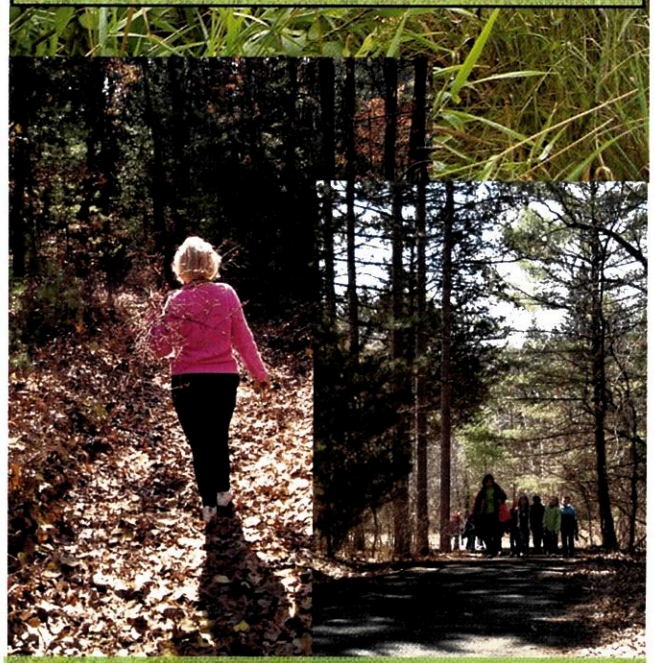
Marquette County Saunter Sites

I only went out for a walk and finally concluded to stay out till sundown, for going out, I found, was really going in.
John Muir



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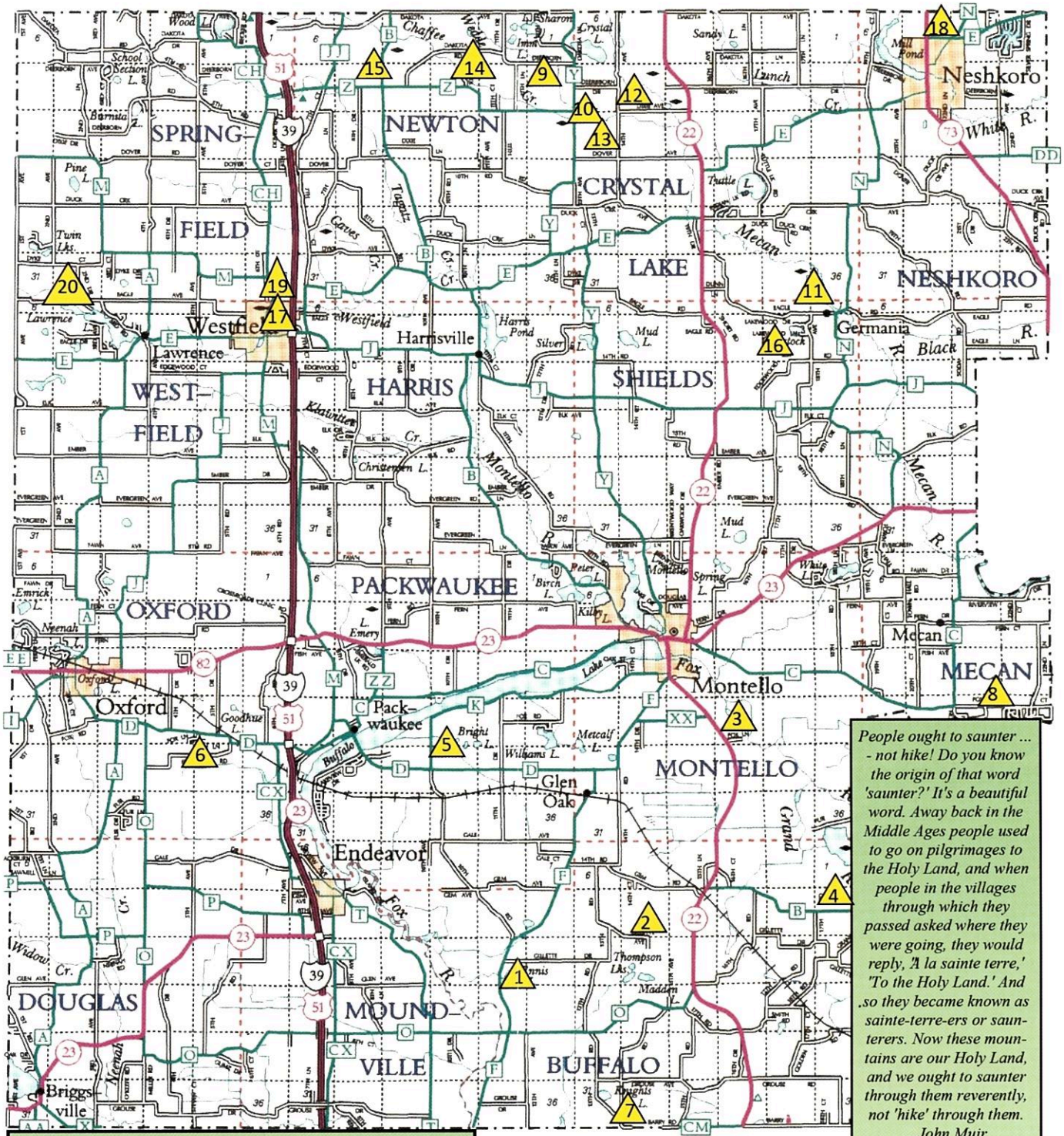

Wander a whole summer if you can. *John Muir*

Triangles are approximate to locations.

People ought to saunter ... - not hike! Do you know the origin of that word 'saunter?' It's a beautiful word. Away back in the Middle Ages people used to go on pilgrimages to the Holy Land, and when people in the villages through which they passed asked where they were going, they would reply, 'A la sainte terre,' 'To the Holy Land.' And so they became known as sainte-terre-ers or saunterers. Now these mountains are our Holy Land, and we ought to saunter through them reverently, not 'hike' through them.
...John Muir

Marquette County Saunter Sites

John Muir, the great naturalist and champion of preserving wild places spent his boyhood years in Marquette County. You can find the wonderful wilderness that he came to love by sauntering the public lands and trails of his boyhood home. This list is a beginning point for your strolls through nature. Some of the sites are designated trails and others are places on public land where access and walking are easy, but where trails are not always maintained. Be aware that DNR land is generally open to hunting during season and you must familiarize yourself with safety precautions during these times. Some land is also used by snowmobiles in the winter. Saunter sites on DNR land are not maintained trails, but we've chosen easy to find and follow paths for your saunter routes. Don't be surprised, though if you encounter fallen trees or some overgrowth. Stay safe.

1. **John Muir Park and the Ice Age Trail**. Take Cty Hwy. F, 7 miles south to the park entrance on the east. Hike the 2.3 mile mowed trail around Ennis Lake. Restrooms, picnic tables, small shelter.
2. **Observatory Hill** : From the intersection of Hwy. 22 and County F in Montello, take F south 4.8 miles, then left / east on 14th Rd. one-half mile. Turn right /south on 13th Rd., 1.4 miles then left /east on Gillette Ave., .6 miles to parking lot trailhead on north side of road. GPS: N43 42.046 – W89 20.375. Primitive trail, no facilities. State Natural Area. County's highest point.
3. **Grand River Locks:** From the stoplights at the intersection of Hwy. 22 and 23, in Montello, take Hwy. 22 south 3.2 miles; turn east on Lower Lock Road 1 mile to parking lot. GPS: N43 45. 402 – W89 17.052. Handicap accessible fishing pier and trail. Bathrooms seasonally. Parking. Great birding and easy walking.
4. **Grand River South**: take Hwy. 22 from Montello south 6 miles to County Hwy. B. turn left/east on B for 3 miles to gravel road on left. Road is open May-September but you can park and walk around the barricade at any time. It is a 1.3 mile saunter to Grand River Dam. Several parking areas offer access to 2,000 acres of forest, prairie and Grand River Wildlife Refuge. GPS to road entry: N43 42.519 – W89 15.338. No facilities.
5. **Page Creek State Natural Area**: Take 22 south from downtown Montello to County Road K.. Take K 5.9 miles to the parking lot on the left/east. Primitive trail through forests leads to ancient floating bog and lake. GPS: N43 45.549 – W89 25.498. No facilities.
6. **Summerton Bog State Natural Area**: from Packwaukee, take County D west 2.7 miles. Turn left on Freedom Rd., .7 miles to parking lot on left. GPS: N43 45.367 – W89 31.121. Prairie, bog, fen, tamarack remnant. No facilities. Another parking lot is 1.6 miles on Freedom Road: GPS: N43 45.190 – W89 32.001.