

If while on your adventures you find items that are not listed on this brochure please call us, or stop by the Chamber of Commerce and we will collect "data" from you for our "Trail Board". We may ask for you to identify what you see, as we want to be sure that we have the correct name and photo attached to the brochure for future trail exploration adventures!

Thank you, and happy trails to you!

Date
What I saw on the Trail
Where I saw it on the Trail

Image: Second state of the same of



St. James Bike Trail 4 Miles of Paved Trail



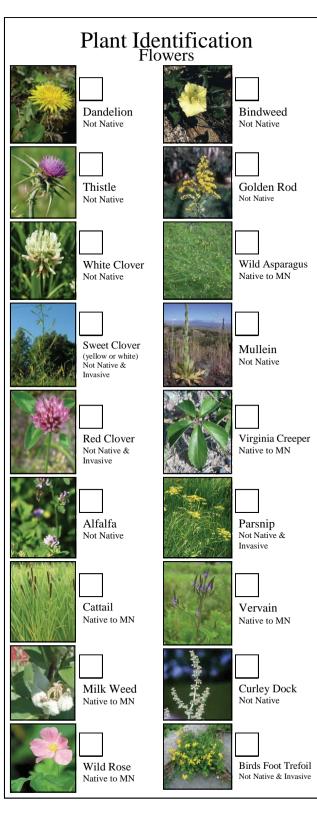
Keep your eyes open to the sights of nature...

Enclosed is a brief inventory of plants, animal, and rock that can be seen and identified along the St. James Bike Trail.

This "check-off" form is just the beginning of what you will see on your travels around the lake. If you find items of interest that are not listed, let us know and we will add them at a later time.

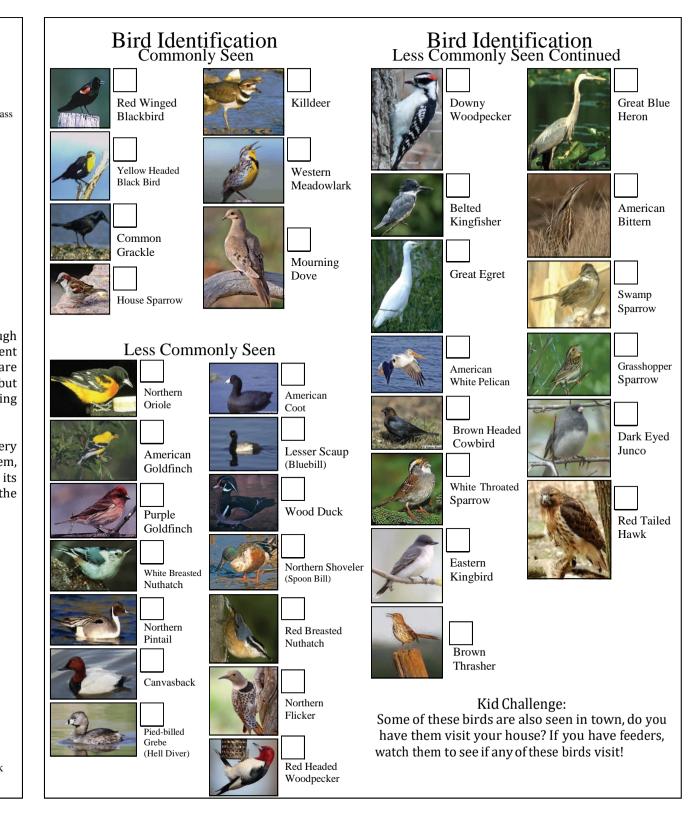
Please use this brochure as a "getting to know nature" identification tool, and discover the diversity our trail beholds. Blank spaces have been left for your notes of features that you have seen but are not listed on the form.

White Tail Deer





Plant Identification



Minnesota Geology

Minnesota is best known for it's 1000's of lakes, rolling farmland, low areas of the northwest, rocky northeast and valley shaped southeast. Geologists say that in prehistoric times, Minnesota had mountains, volcanoes (as close as Franklin), oceans (shark teeth, coral, trilobites and squid fossils are relatively common) and glaciers. Since glaciations was the most recent event, that action formed most of the surface features that we see today.

Southeast Minnesota is known for its sandstone and limestone (with fossils). Northeast Minnesota has a variety of rocks, most of which are igneous. Our part of the state has occasional outcroppings of quartzite and with the help of eroding waters, metamorphic and igneous rocks in the Minnesota River Valley. New Ulm, Mankato and St. Peter provide us with sandstone and limestone features.

Here in Watonwan County, we have only one small area where bedrock is found. However, granite is found several hundred feet below the entire county.

Glaciers and glacier melt water have greatly influenced our soil types. Along with the transported soil, we have received a great variety of large rocks (very few farmers say "thanks a lot"). The 20 ricks at this site were all a result of glaciations. Ice and wa- ter shaped them, polished them, flattened parts of them and even put small scratches in them. All rocks were found on the south side of the Cottonwood River, south of Sleepy Eye.

Types of Rocks

- 1. Igneous Rocks: Rocks formed from the cooling of liquid rock.
 - A. Intrusive: cooled below the surface. This extra time allows crystals to grow larger.
 - B. Extrusive: cooled at the surface. This rapid cooling produces small grains.
- 2. Metamorphic Rocks: Rocks changed by the action of heat and pressure. This action may produce new minerals, flow characteristics, or a type of mineral alignment. No melting occurs as with the igneous rocks.
- 3. Sedimentary Rocks: These rocks show grains or fragments obtained from other rocks. Some smaller grains may be difficult to see (shale, which is mud, may have very small particles while a person can feel sand in sandstone).

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Geology Study on the Trail Rocks found at the Sertoma Shelter

Metamorphic Rocks

Fine sediments of calcium carbonate (like in Tums). Limestone hubbles in acid while fine sandstone or shale will not Fossils found here?

Oolitic Limestone

Add a feature to the rock and you get a new name Here fragments produced by water-dwelling organisms have resulted in "balls" in the limestone

Ouartzite

Gneiss

Limeston

Quartz grains of sandstone have heen re-crystallized or cemented with silica and the help of heat. Rocks The color may vary from white to pink to purple.

Gneiss Lavering (foliation) of dark

miner- als make it a gneiss (nice).

A wavy mineral alignment is often

found in gneiss. The bands are often light and dark.

Mica Schist

The large amount of dark mica (biotite) give a special name to this schist. There are many types of schist just like there are many types of gneiss.

Morton Gneiss

Sometimes called granite-gneiss because it used to be granite. and yes, it could have come from Morton. Found as a building stone (First Presbyterian Church, and other store fronts in St. James).

Migmatite

This is more of a condition than that of a rock name. Twisted layers of granite and biotite schist. This is almost like saying "Morton Gneiss".

"Basalt-Like"

Rasalt

Very similar to basalt, but basalt is not coarse Notice the rusted surface This is the best example of glaciation because of the abraded flat surface and striation marks

Relatively common rock found in Minnesota's north our fields. shore, and they Hawaiian Islands. Always dark and very small grained.

Gabbro

A dark, coarse grained rock. Chemically the same as basalt but because it cooled deep underground it had time to grow larger crystals.

Porvphvrv

Contains all of the minerals found in granite but is cooled slowly and has a very large orthoclase feldspar (red feldspar) crystals.

Red

Granite Large crystals of quartz, red feldspar, black mica and hornblende. Cooled faster than Porv-

White Granite

Same minerals as in the red granite except it contains white feldspar. Compare this granite to the red: notice the white has smaller crystals so it must have cooled more auickly.

Dark Rock with Granite Intrusion

Here you can see the power of very hot liquid rock (the red granite). Geologists say it would have forced its way into the already solid, older black

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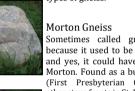
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Sedimentary Rocks









