CEDAR RIVER

Charles City to LaPorte City

THE CEDAR RIVER WINDS ITS WAY from Charles City to Cedar Lake, a 200-acre impoundment created by the dam at Nashua. This is the lower segment of the river which was named Moshkwahwakwah (Red Cedar) by the Sauk and Fox Indians because of the large number of red cedar trees in the area.

THE FIRST ACCESS BELOW CHARLES CITY is the Howard Woods Recreation Area, located on the east bank of the Nashua

Nashua Impoundment. The dam at Nashua can be portaged on the east bank. Just

past the dam, the Little Cedar River enters on the east side.

AS YOU APPROACH BREMER COUNTY, the Cedar's stream bottom becomes more sandy

in nature as it closely parallels Highway 218. The floodplain becomes wider and flatter, with backwater areas becoming more prevalent approaching the North Cedar Park access. This access provides camping and water. The Cedar forks a mile below the access, and during lowwater flows, the east channel usually has the best flow.

AT CEDAR BEND ACCESS, the Cedar makes two sharp bends as it approaches the dam at Waverly. To portage this dam, take out on the west bank, cross Highway 3 and put in on the west bank below the dam.

THE CEDAR, BELOW WAVERLY, is very rocky in nature with a short stretch of sandy bottom before it reaches Janesville where it again becomes rocky. As the Cedar approaches the confluence of the West Fork and Shell Rock rivers, it becomes sandy with gravel bars. Indian tribes gathered at Turkey Foot Forks, the area where the three rivers meet.

WASHINGTON UNION ACCESS is located immediately below the junction of the West Fork and Cedar rivers. The Cedar becomes much larger at this point as it flows toward the Cedar Falls/Waterloo area.

THE DAM AT CEDAR FALLS is best portaged by taking out on the east bank at Island Park, crossing Highway 218 and putting in below the dam in Tourists Park. The Cedar River, through Cedar Falls and

Waterloo, is very rocky in nature as the old names for these towns, Sturgis Falls and Prairie Rapids, indicate.

THE CEDAR BELOW GEORGE WYTH STATE PARK has been modified by flood control projects. The portage past the dam in Waterloo is difficult, but can be made on either bank.

THE RIVER BECOMES MORE NATURAL again starting at the Mitchell Access in Waterloo. The river remains rocky in nature until you get downstream of the Gilbertville Park access.

THIS SECTION OF THE FLOAT TRIP ends at McFarlane Park, east of LaPorte City, where camping and water are available. The Cedar River is blessed with some of the best gamefish populations in the state. Smallmouth bass are abundant in the rocky areas of the river and below the dams. Walleye are common in these same areas, but are most abundant in the stretch of river between Waverly and Gilbertville. Northern pike, up to 20 pounds, have been caught in the Waverly-Waterloo area. Channel catfish are abundant throughout the entire river stretch and are usually found in deep pools, and log and brush piles.



CEDAR RIVER Charles City to Cedar Lake

Distance from Previous Access	Access Name	Location
0 miles	1. Brantington Park	Charles City
10 miles	2. Howard Woods	2 mi NW Nashua
2.5 miles	3. Nashua Access	E edge Nashua
6.1 miles	4. Pearl Rock	2-1/2 mi SE Nashua
6.5 miles	5. North Cedar Park	1 mi E Plainfield
8.3 miles	6. Cedar Bend Park	1-1/2 mi NW Waverly
4.2 miles	7. Three Rivers Park	N edge Waverly
2.4 miles	8. Brookwood Park	Waverly
10.1 miles	9. Janesville City Park	Janesville
4 miles	<u>10.</u> Washington Union Access	4 mi N, 2 mi W Cedar Falls
3.9 miles	11. Black Hawk Park	2 mi NW Cedar Falls
4.7 miles	12. Island Park	N edge Cedar Falls
.5 miles	Tourists Park	N edge Cedar Falls
1.5 miles	Washington Park	Cedar Falls
1.8 miles	15. George Wyth State Park	1 mi E Cedar Falls
3 miles	Cedar Bend Park	N edge Waterloo
1 mile	17. Exchange Park	Waterloo
.7 miles	18. Cedar River Park	Waterloo
3 miles	Mitchell Access	Waterloo
5.5 miles	20. Case Beer Heights	1/2 mi SE Evansdale
4.5 miles	21. Gilbertville Park	S edge Gilbertville
3.5 miles	22. Cedar River Area	2 mi S Washburn
3.8 miles	23. Brandon Pond Access	2 mi NE LaPorte City
2.6 miles	24. Cedar River Access	2 mi E LaPorte City
1.2 miles	25. McFarlane Park	2-1/2 mi E LaPorte City

