

St. Croix Crossing Bike/Pedestrian Loop Trail *What to Expect*

April 2018 v.4



Q: What should bicyclists and pedestrians expect over the 2018 construction season and into summer 2019 (until the Stillwater Lift Bridge is open)?

A: Trail users should expect changing access and site conditions as construction continues both on and alongside the Loop Trail and parking areas through fall, 2018. The trail from the Hilltop Trailhead down to the Stillwater Lift Bridge will be closed until the Lift Bridge is opened in summer, 2019. Users are expected to use caution around construction activities and to obey all “Trail Closed” and other warning signs.

Spring 2018

The pedestrian underpass and trail access from the main trailhead remains closed. Trail users will have access to the completed portions of the WI Loop Trail via the Park and Ride and connecting trail, located south of the pedestrian underpass. The Park and Ride and connecting trail were completed to a gravel surface last fall. **Please note: The Loop Trail and connecting trail are open to bicycle and pedestrian use only. Barricades are in place to prevent cars and trucks from driving on the trail.**

The Park and Ride and connecting trail will be completed to final conditions by early June 2018. During final construction of the Park and Ride lot, trail users will park in the snow storage area (adjacent to the Park and Ride) and access the Loop Trail via a temporary gravel connection. Once the Park and Ride is complete, trail users will be able to use the new parking lot facility to park and access the Loop Trail. The completed Park and Ride facility will have lighting and an asphalt surface.

Summer 2018

The Main Trailhead will have the parking lot and a trail connecting the parking lot to the pedestrian underpass completed by July 4th. Please note that the rest of the trailhead will not be completed by July 4th, and trail users must stay on the paved trail and obey all signs and guidance.

The trailheads and off-road trails will be constructed starting in early- to mid-summer 2018. Several of the local roadways will be reconfigured and resurfaced. All landscaping elements will be added to the entire project.

Fall 2018

Construction is complete by the end of October and the Loop Trail is open except for the hill to the Lift Bridge. The Lift Bridge conversion project will be ongoing; access down the hill will not be allowed for security and safety reasons. Old County E will have the road core removed west of the State Street/Rainbow Street intersection and vehicular traffic will be prohibited.

Summer 2019

The Lift Bridge Conversion project will be completed; the entire Loop Trail will be fully opened.

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WisDOT Website:
<http://projects.511wi.gov/stcroixcrossing/>

MnDOT Website:
<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/liftbridge/>

Q: How will WisDOT communicate the trail closures and other project information?

A: WisDOT will be updating the Wisconsin 511 website weekly, at <https://projects.511wi.gov/stcroixcrossing/>, with the three-week look-ahead construction schedule. This rolling schedule will show anticipated trail closure times. Users should expect times when the trail is closed due to construction activities occurring directly on, or directly adjacent to the trail. If the trail is temporarily closed during working hours, WisDOT will ensure the Loop Trail is open during the evenings as much as practicable. The Loop Trail will be open on the weekends. Construction of the trails is expected to be complete by the end of October, 2018.

In addition, WisDOT will have information included in the MnDOT Lift Bridge conversion project emails. You may sign up for those emails at <http://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/liftbridge/>.

WisDOT will be posting information on Twitter periodically, so please “follow” WisDOT Northwest Region for more information.

Q: Why will the trails be closed?

A: The Loop Trail will need to be closed at times to ensure the safety of both the trail users and the construction workers when work operations are adjacent to or on the Loop Trail.

Spring 2018 – Fall 2018

There will be temporary closures of the trail to allow for construction of multiple resting areas, installing landscaping, installing interpretive panel bases, and installing safety railing, among other required activities.

Q: What services will be available on the Wisconsin side of the Loop Trail?

A: No water or restroom facilities will be available until the project completion in the fall, 2018. The Park and Ride lot will be paved and have lighting installed by summer 2018. Loop Trail users are responsible for removing their garbage and recycling as no receptacles will be available until the trail is completed.



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