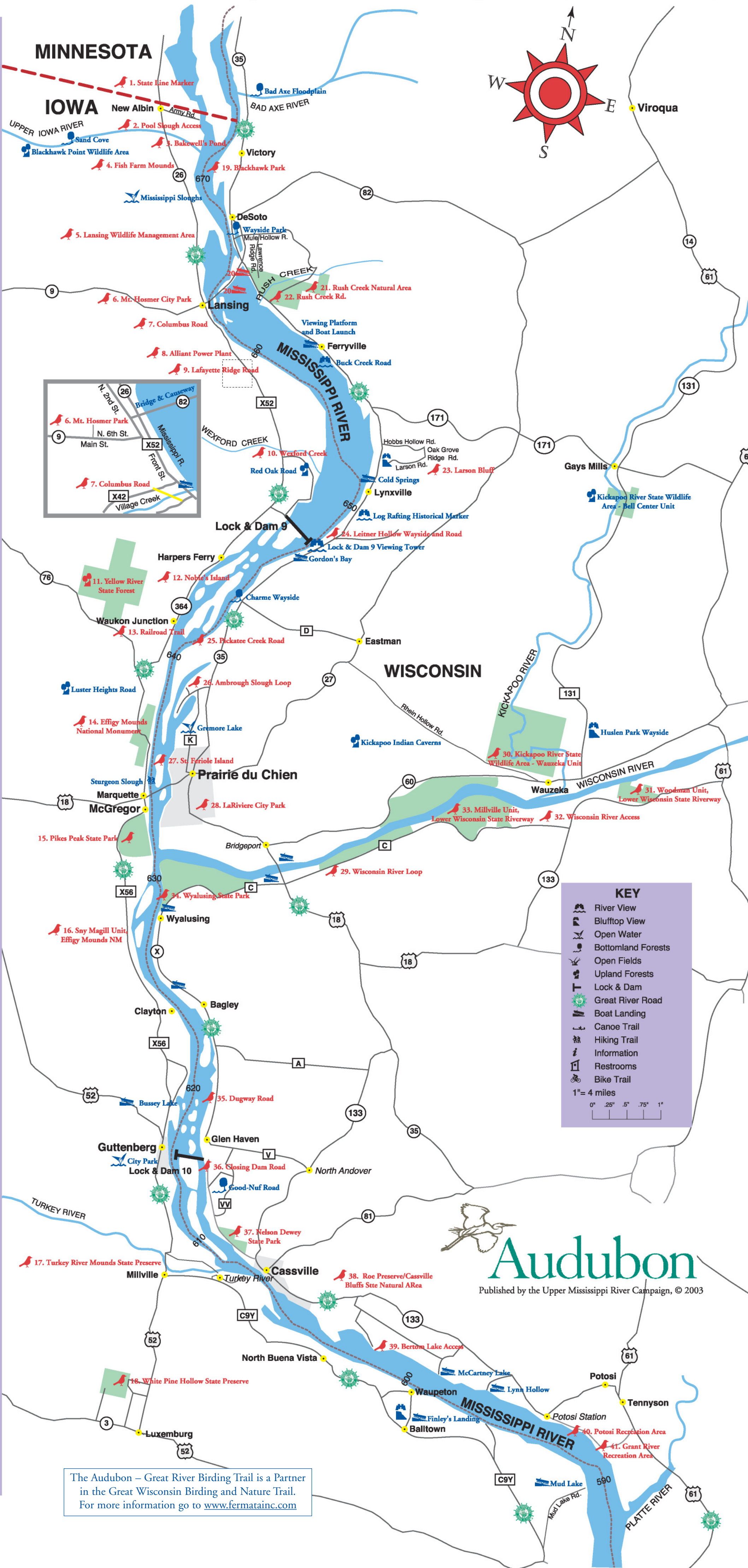


Great River Birding Trail

Prairie du Chien, Wis., Map — from New Albin, Iowa, to Sageville, Iowa (River Mile 674 to 586)



- 1. Minnesota/Iowa State Line Marker** 🦅 🦅
Where: Hwy. 26 at the State Line area on the north edge of New Albin.
Birds: Eastern Bluebirds and waterfowl during spring migration with a Sandhill Crane and Bald Eagle nesting area to the east. Drive about 300 yards straight east by crossing the railroad tracks via a gravel road (just to the north).
- 2. Pool Slough Access** 🦅 🦅
Where: About 0.3 of a mile south of the state-line marker on Hwy. 26 turn east on the street across from the new Community Center. Continue east through town on Elm St. to Army Rd., which will take you onto the Mississippi River floodplain.
Birds: Marsh Wrens, Yellow-headed Blackbirds, Prothonotary Warblers, Rails, wading birds, waterfowl, shorebirds and a variety of passerines. Warblers and sparrows frequent the shrub areas, and both Northern Harriers and Short-eared Owls utilize the grasslands. Look for Sandhill Cranes in the area 0.2 of a mile east of New Albin. Bald Eagles have nested north of this road. Rough-legged Hawks in winter, Ospreys during warmer months and Red-tailed Hawks in any season.
- 3. Bakewell's Pond** 🦅 🦅
Where: One mile south of Blackhawk Point on Hwy. 26.
Birds: Waterfowl during migration, Sandhill Cranes, egrets, Bald Eagles, Nesting Moorhens and a large nesting colony of Yellow-headed Blackbirds.
Note: Off-highway parking is safest at the far south end of the marsh, on the east side of highway.
- 4. Fish Farm Mounds State Preserve** 🦅 🦅
Where: Go 1.3 miles south of Blackhawk Point on Hwy. 26.
Birds: American Woodcocks during spring, Whip-poor-wills, Barred and Great-horned Owls, Wild Turkeys, a variety of warblers, vireos and other song birds.
Note: Indian Burial Mounds from the Onondaga Culture and unique mosses, lichens and wildflowers. IDNR area, 576 acres.
- 5. Lansing Wildlife Management Area** 🦅 🦅
Where: Four miles north of Lansing follow Spring Valley Rd. to west, use small road to left at 0.25 mile, or continue to parking lot at the top of the hill.
Birds: Thrushes, flycatchers, warblers and vireos.
Note: Iowa DNR, 1,955 acres.
- 6. Mt. Hosmer City Park** 🦅 🦅
Where: In Lansing on Main St., 4 blocks west of the main intersection in town. Turn north on 6th St.
Birds: Warblers, vireos and thrushes.
Note: A great view of the river, open April to October.
- 7. Columbus Road & Village Creek Loop** 🦅 🦅
Where: West on Cty. X42 for 2.5 miles until you cross Village Creek, then turn left (east) on Columbus Rd. and follow Village Creek back to Cty. X52.
Birds: Belted Kingfishers, Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, woodpeckers, warblers, flycatchers and other song birds.
- 8. Alliant Power Plant** 🦅 🦅
Where: Two miles south of Lansing on Cty. X52.
Birds: A Peregrine Falcon nest box is attached to the bluff just south of the power plant. Birds can be seen in the spring and summer. During the winter, Bald Eagles and waterfowl utilize the warm water discharge near the highway, on the north side of the power plant.
- 9. Lafayette Ridge Road** 🦅 🦅
Where: Approximately 4.5 miles south of Lansing on Cty. X52. Turn east on the gravel road and stay right at the fork at about 1.8 miles and continue to River View Rd., which parallels the Mississippi, then dead ends.
Birds: Great view of the river and islands constructed to provide resting areas for White Pelicans, Double-crested Cormorants, gulls and other birds. Tundra Swans, Canvasbacks and other diving ducks in November.
- 10. Wexford Creek** 🦅 🦅
Where: Off of Cty. X52, north of Harpers Ferry.
Birds: A trout stream where Orchard Orioles are usually found.
- 11. Yellow River State Forest** 🦅 🦅
Where: Several entrances. One is approximately 0.3 of a mile south of the Paint Creek bridge on Hwy. 364. Turn right onto a gravel road. Another entrance is north off of Hwy. 76, approximately 5 miles west of the intersection with Hwy. 364.
Birds: Excellent variety of songbirds, Whip-poor-wills, American Woodcocks and woodpeckers. Good area for nesting hawks and owls.
Note: Administered by the IDNR. For maps and information on camping, hiking, etc., phone (563) 586-2548. Several thousand acres of hardwood timber, blufftop vistas and trout streams.
- 12. Noble's Island** 🦅 🦅
Where: Go 2.3 miles south of Harpers Ferry on Hwy. 364.
Birds: Shorebirds may be on the mudflats and herons and egrets in the shallows. Turkey Vultures roost and nest on this bluff.
- 13. Railroad Trail - Paint Creek Unit, Yellow River Forest** 🦅 🦅
Where: At Waukon Junction on the north side of the bridge, a nice walking trail maintained by the IDNR leads to the west. Park just off Hwy. 364 and hike upstream (west) to enjoy a trail that was once a thriving railroad.
Birds: Red-shouldered Hawks, Northern and Louisiana Water Thrushes, Prothonotary Warblers and a variety of other songbirds.
- 14. Effigy Mounds National Monument** 🦅 🦅
Where: Two miles north of Marquette on Hwy. 76.
Birds: Excellent birding for warblers, vireos and other forest birds. Waterfowl can be found in the backwater ponds.
Note: Special events include HawkWatch Weekend in late September. Call (563) 873-3491 for information.
- 15. Pike's Peak State Park** 🦅 🦅
Where: One mile south of McGregor on Cty. X56.
Birds: Broad-winged Hawks, Barred Owls, Bald Eagles, American Redstarts and a variety of woodpeckers, vireos, warblers and thrushes.
Note: One of the best views of the Mississippi River and a boardwalk trail that leads to a waterfall.
- 16. Sny Magill Unit, Effigy Mounds Nat. Monument** 🦅 🦅
Where: Two miles south of Pike's Peak.
Birds: Red-shouldered Hawks, Pileated Woodpeckers, Prothonotary Warblers and American Redstarts.
Note: Native American burial mounds within the Sny Magill Unit.
- 17. Turkey River Mounds State Preserve** 🦅 🦅
Where: Turn east on gravel road 1 mile north of Millville and 0.4 miles north of the Turkey River.
Birds: Vireos, warblers and a variety of songbirds.
Note: A steep hike and an excellent view of the Mississippi River.
- 18. White Pine Hollow State Preserve** 🦅 🦅
Where: Two entrances, one west of Hwy. 52 and one north of Hwy. 3.
Birds: Pileated Woodpeckers, Cooper's Hawks, Wood Thrushes, Ovenbirds, Louisiana Waterthrush, Cerulean Warbler, Winter Wren, Ruffed Grouse and an excellent variety of warblers, vireos and other songbirds.
- 19. Blackhawk Memorial Park** 🦅 🦅
Where: One mile south of the town of Victory. Turn off of Hwy 35.
Birds: Prothonotary Warblers, American Redstarts, Warbling Vireos, Tree Swallows, Great Blue Herons, Egrets, Bald Eagles, Belted Kingfishers and migrating waterfowl.
- 20. Highway 35 & 82 Bridge and Causeway** 🦅 🦅
Where: Two landings between bridge spans just east of Lansing.
Birds: Heron rookery just south of the highway, also Bald Eagles, warblers, vireos and water birds.

The Audubon – Great River Birding Trail is a Partner in the Great Wisconsin Birding and Nature Trail. For more information go to www.fermatainc.com

- 21. Rush Creek State Natural Area** 🦅 🦅
Where: Two miles south of the intersection of 35 and 82 and 2.4 miles north of Ferryville.
Birds: Wood Ducks, Hooded Mergansers, Ruffed Grouse, Scarlet Tanagers, warblers, thrushes and vireos. A strenuous hike leads to the blufftop prairie, which affords excellent views of migrating raptors and the Mississippi River.
- 22. Rush Creek Road - Upper Unit** 🦅 🦅
Where: East on Rush Creek Rd. (gravel) 2.5 miles south of the Hwy. 35/82 bridge and 1.7 miles north of Ferryville, with several parking spots along the road.
Birds: Waterfowl, marsh birds, Common Yellowthroats, swallows, Belted Kingfishers, warblers, thrushes and vireos.
- 23. Larson Bluff Loop** 🦅 🦅
Where: East on Hobbs Hollow Rd., go to the hilltop, turn right on Oak Grove Ridge Rd., drive 0.5 of a mile, turn right on Lucky Ln., go to the end of the road for a spectacular view of Pool 9 from the blufftop.
Birds: Horned Larks, Savannah Sparrows, Eastern Bluebirds, Meadowlarks and Wild Turkeys.
Note: The land along the road is privately owned.
- 24. Leitner Hollow Road** 🦅 🦅
Where: Two miles south of Lynxville and north of Lock & Dam 9.
Birds: Wild Turkey, Eastern Bluebird, cuckoos, warblers, vireos and an excellent variety of woodland birds.
Note: This narrow, 2-mile, dead-end road is not recommended for winter travel, but excellent for walking.
- 25. Picatee Creek Road and Hwy 35** 🦅 🦅
Where: Picatee Creek Rd. is approximately 5 miles north of Prairie du Chien on Hwy. 35. Cross the railroad tracks (fast trains, double tracks) and follow the paths.
Birds: Waterfowl during spring migration, Yellow Warblers, Common Yellowthroats, Swamp Sparrows and Red-shouldered Hawks.
- 26. Ambrough Slough Loop** 🦅 🦅
Where: North on Cty. K then follow Ambrough Rd. along sloughs and backwaters for 2 miles.
Birds: In spring, migrating waterfowl, shorebirds, gulls, Sandhill Cranes, Egrets, herons, Pileated Woodpeckers, American Redstarts, Prothonotary Warblers and Warbling Vireos.
- 27. St. Feriole Island** 🦅 🦅
Birds: Warblers, Snow Buntings in winter, vireos, gulls, shorebirds, Wood Ducks, Bald Eagles, Great Blue Herons and Savannah Sparrows.
- 28. LaRiviere City Park** 🦅 🦅
Where: At the south edge of Prairie du Chien turn east on Vineyard Rd. (across from Walmart) and go 1 mile.
Birds: Resident warblers include Blue-wings, Ceruleans, Common Yellowthroats, Ovenbirds and American Redstarts. Also Wood Thrushes, Rufous-sided Towhees, Red-eyed and Yellow-throated Vireos, Black and Yellow-billed Cuckoos, Scarlet Tanagers and Carolina Wrens. On Toboggan Slope and Dan LaRiviere Trails look for species such as: Lark Sparrows, Eastern Meadowlarks, Wild Turkeys, Ruffed Grouse, Ring-necked Pheasants and several species of woodpeckers.
- 29. Wisconsin River Loop** 🦅 🦅
Where: Begin at the intersection of Hwys. 18 and 60, 4 miles southeast of Prairie du Chien and continue east to Boscobel and return west and south on Hwy. 133 and Cty. C.
Birds: Excellent variety of wetland and upland habitats, egrets, Bald Eagles, songbirds, rails, herons, waterfowl and shorebirds (depending on the water levels and season).
- 30. Kickapoo River State Wildlife Area, Waukeza Unit** 🦅 🦅
Where: East and north of Waukeza along Hwy. 60 and Hwy. 131.
Birds: Waterfowl, herons, egrets, warblers, vireos, thrushes and woodpeckers.
Note: 1,900 acres.
- 31. Woodman Unit, Lower Wisconsin State Riverway** 🦅 🦅
Where: North and east of Woodman.
Birds: Watch for Great Egrets, waterfowl, Grasshopper Sparrows, Indigo Buntings, Black-billed Cuckoos, Tree Swallows, Catbirds and a good variety of other songbirds.
Note: Oxbows, native grass, pine plantations and reconstructed prairie.
- 32. Wisconsin River Access** 🦅 🦅
Where: Go 2.3 miles west of Woodman on Hwy. 133.
Birds: American Redstarts and Tree Swallows.
- 33. Millville Unit, Lower Wisconsin State Riverway** 🦅 🦅
Where: Three miles west of Hwy. 133 on Cty. C.
Birds: Songbirds, grassland birds, Catbirds, Rufous-sided Towhees, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Dickcissels and Wild Turkeys.
Note: 3,500 acres.
- 34. Wyalusing State Park** 🦅 🦅
Where: Five miles west of Hwy. 18 on Cty. C and X.
Birds: Perhaps the best place in Wisconsin for Kentucky, Cerulean and Yellow-throated Warblers. Also Prothonotary Warblers, Bell's Vireos, Henslow's Sparrows, Wild Turkeys, Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks, Turkey Vultures and Bald Eagles.
Note: Vehicle admission sticker required. Stop at the park office for current birding information and directions to the Passenger Pigeon Monument. This park overlooks the confluence of the Wisconsin and Mississippi rivers through a variety of habitats.
- 35. Dugway Road** 🦅 🦅
Where: On Cty. A, 2 miles south of Bagley, turn south on Dugway Rd. and follow it to Glen Haven.
Birds: Several good views of the river, including active Bald Eagle nests, waterfowl and herons.
Note: Not a good road for wide or tall vehicles.
- 36. Closing Dam Road** 🦅 🦅
Where: West off of Cty. VV.
Birds: Bald Eagles, Red-shouldered Hawks, Prothonotary Warblers, Warbling Vireos, Pileated Woodpeckers and a variety of other songbirds and waterfowl during fall, winter and spring. Excellent site for spring warblers.
- 37. Nelson Dewey State Park** 🦅 🦅
Where: Go 1.5 miles north of Cassville on Cty. VV.
Birds: Wide variety of warblers, vireos and other songbirds, with raptors during fall migration and Bald Eagles year round, but especially in winter.
Notes: Vehicle admission sticker required.
- 38. Roe Preserve/Cassville Bluffs State Natural Area** 🦅 🦅
Where: Located at the end of Sand Lake Road south of Cassville. Go south on Hwy 133, about two miles. Turn right onto Sandlake Rd and drive to the end at the gate. Park along the east side of Sandlake Rd.
Birds: Wide variety of warblers such as Nashville, Tennessee, Yellow-rumped, Magnolia, Cape May, Blue-winged and Golden-winged warbler; and several types of raptors, and bald eagles.
Note: Be aware that this preserve is actively hunted throughout the year (turkey, small game, deer) and is closed to hiking during gun deer season (usually late November/early December).
- 39. Bertom Lake Access** 🦅 🦅
Where: South on Far Nuff Rd. off Hwy. 133, 3.5 miles east of Cassville.
Birds: American Redstarts, Warbling Vireos, Red-shouldered Hawks, Bald Eagles, waterfowl, warblers, vireos and other songbirds.
- 40. Potosi Recreation Area** 🦅 🦅
Where: One mile south of Potosi, just off Hwy. 133.
Birds: Song Sparrows, Common Yellowthroats, American Redstarts, shorebirds and waterfowl during migration.
- 41. Grant River Recreation Area** 🦅 🦅
Where: Two miles east of Potosi along county river road.
Birds: Waterfowl during migration, Great Blue Herons, Bald Eagles, Baltimore Orioles and vireos.