

*2015 10th Annual
River Road Ramble
Hwy 87*

Historical and Ramble Stop Guide

Saturday, September 26th

Make a stop at the SELHS Memory
Room in the Cushing Community
Center

*Sponsored by the Sterling, Eureka,
Laketown Historical Society*

www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wiselhs

Historical Stops

A Spangler's Landing -located on the River Road; watch for Nat'l Riverway signs

The Spangler family settled right on the river and provided a stopping place for travelers heading north on the River Road from St. Croix Falls, It is said the there was a pause in the rapids on the river at this spot, so boats trying to run the rapids could rest too. The rapids have been gone for 100 years since the power dam in St. Croix Falls flooded them all the way to Wolf Creek.

B Nevers Dam -located on the River Road; watch for National Riverway signs

There is access to the wild river at this spot. You may be able to see some remaining parts of the Nevers Dam that once stood here. In 1890, Charlie Nevers had a stopping place along the river. Loggers sent millions of logs down the St. Croix and found them getting jammed on the rapids, especially at St. Croix Falls. To solve the problem, they build a huge wooden dam where Charlie had lived. They stopped the logs there, built up a great head of water and then let them go with a rush that took them all the way through St. Croix Falls, and sped them on their way to the sawmills at Stillwater.

C Wolf Creek Methodist Church and Cemetery -2417 River Road

This is the site of the first Wolf Creek School that was built in 1882. The school burned down in 1922 and was replaced by the current building that is now used as the Methodist Church. Wolf Creek was an early Indian trading post by 1831, and as loggers moved through, farmers and other settlers followed them and Wolf Creek became a "blooming community." By 1860 there was a dam and mill on Wolf Creek, a Post Office, General Store [the proprietor's records are at the SEL HS Memory Room] Doctors office, a school and church congregation. With the Homestead Law of 1862 allowing people to claim up to 160 acres of US land and get it for free after 5 years of improving it, settlers rushed in. Take a walk through the cemetery, there are family graves dating back to 1859 or earlier.

Monthly events are: January and February fishing contests, March Doc Squirt Day (Motorcycle Show) and Cushing Fun Days. Open on Holidays.

22. Multi-family Garage Sale – 2505 Pickeral Lake Ln.

3 miles East of Cushing off of N.

Clothes, infant to adult. Household, furniture, Horse Tack, Trampolining, tools, toys. Antique bed set, school desks-late 1800's. BUNNIES AND KITTENS!!

23. Garage Sale- 2723 240th Ave.

Sportng goods-lawn and garden-hand tools-shabby decor-antique toys-refrigerator-furniture and household items.

24. Garage Sale-2135 State Rd 87

Full line of AVON products!! Garage sale with misc. items.

EUREKA Hwy 87 MAP AND GUIDE BOOK PICK-UP.

25. Eureka Town Hall Open House- 2395 210th Ave.

We are proud of our New Town Hall and we'd like to invite you to our Open House.

Stop in between 9 to 5 for refreshments and cookies. View Eureka history and see what makes us unique. Sign up for a chance to win cool door prizes.

26. Eureka Baptist Church – 2398 210th Ave.

Established in 1881

Apple Cider making demo @ 1:00 – weather permitting Serving Homemade pie and coffee all Day!! FREE

27. K.J.'s Eureka Tavern- 2396 210th Ave.

A popular spot for "locals." You should stop too! The building sits on the original site of the 1904 creamery. Walls from the 1915 creamery are visible in the current tavern and dining area. Stop in and visit awhile.

16. Bass Lake School Sale- 2509 270th St.

Open House and Sale! Were you a student at Bass Lake School or just always wondered what it is like inside? Stop by during the Ramble and come on in!! We want to hear your stories and memories. We are also have a sale with a variety of items.

17. Garage Sale- 2535 270th Ave.

Household and misc, Antiques, furniture, glassware, clothes, tools, Vintage SNOWMOBILES AND GARDEN TRACTORS, collectibles, large Budweiser mirror, Carousel Horse and more!

18. Indoor Sale 2544 Hwy 87

Sale Rain or Shine. Household and Sporting goods. BULLET molds and different kinds of Lead plus casting equipment and other misc. items.

19. Cushing- 240th Ave, Cty Rd N Choose any of the three exits.

“The Small Town With a Big Heart” MAP SITE PICK-UP
SEL HS Historical “Memory Room” and Museum- Located at the Cushing Community Center 2nd floor on east side of the building {follow Yellow signs}. Large collection of area photos and info. Displays include Post Office items, church and school materials, farming items, everyday living items. SELHS PUBLICATIONS OF RURAL HISTORY ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE HERE!

20. Dugout Bar and Grill

Great sports bar famous for delicious burgers! Always serving daily specials. Sponsor fo 13 are teams – Fast pitch softball, pool, bowling leagues, trap shooting and more.
RAMBLE SPECIAL \$1.00 off a burger basket on September 26th.

21. Suzy Q's Snowshoe Tavern

A great place for breakfast, lunch of dinner. Daily specials. We have whatever you are hungry for. Ask for the RAMBLE SPECIAL.

D Ivers Stopping Place/Pioneer Cemetery -a few miles North of Wolf Creek

Site of one of many stopping places used by the early settlers who traveled along the “road to the pineries.” The oxen in the woods at the logging camps could live on wild hay, but the horses used by the settlers traveling up the River Road, needed better food. Creating the necessity for stopping places along the way.

E Bush Bakke/Settlers Cemetery -Evergreen Ave. west of the River Road

This cemetery was used 1880-1920. There are many families that settled in the 400 acres of Sterling Township forest on the barrens that are buried here. The church built in 1879 was constructed of logs with white pine boards covering it. Today a memorial church stands on the original site. Some of the grave sites have raised rectangles of dirt around them, some grave markers are partially hidden, and there are also depressions where the pine boxes have given way. This past spring new landscaping was done around the flag pole and the Memorial Chapel by a handfull of Sterling Homemakers [HCE] and one male volunteer. [not really sure if he volunteered] Plants purchased at Sunshine Gardens.

F Trade River -you will cross this river several times while traveling the “loop”

This river was used by the logging camps in the 1850's. Huge white pine floated down river to the St. Croix. The Trade, however, was much too small to get logs all the way, so a series of dams were built. In the spring the logs and water built up behind one dam, which was then released, and the logs roared on to the next, until they reached the St. Croix.

G Grettum Flowage -cross over the Trade River and Head north into Burnett Co.

Hwy 87 and the River Road both cross the Trade River. At one time two roads joined together at the river and headed north as one. Take the River Road north until it seems to dead end in a lake. This is the Grettum Flowage.

H & I Trade River and Trade River School -a town located on one of the dam sites.

Turn east off Hwy 87 at the new Trade River Evangelical Church, and you will enter what was once the thriving community of Trade River. Stores, mill, telephone and electrical company, old church, sawmill, furniture factory...all that remains is the cemetery and a few houses. The Trade River School, with a merry-go-round in the yard, was closed in the 1940's.

J Orr School -another "county School" along Hwy 87 located at 285th

This is the 4th Orr School, it was closed in 1950 and remodeled into a homeK Bass Lake School -near Wolf Lake on the east and the beginning of Wolf Creek. Just west of Hwy 87. This stone school house was closed in the 1940's. A large collection of photographs, school records, class pictures and lots of information about all the Country Schools are on display in the SEL HS Memory Room in Cushing, located in the Community Center.

K Bass Lake School

Near Wolf Lake on the east and the beginning of Wold Creek. Just west of Hwy 87 this stone school, now a residence, was closed in the 1940'.

L Cushing

Cushing was named after an eastern speculator, Caleb Cushing, who bought thousands of acres of land nearby and then sold it to the settlers. The Cushing area was settled by Danes to the East, Swedes to the West, Norwegians to the North and Yankees to the South. Cushing had a church and a Post Office in the 1870's but did not have a store or other businesses until 1890. Then it rapidly grew and thrived through the 60's.

**12. Great Sale!! 2973 River Road
MAP AND GUIDE BOOK PICK-UP**

Extended hours-- 7am to 7pm.

Some of the usual and some of the unusual. Antiques, 3inch thick pine slabs for tables and bars, pumpkins, tools, old wrenches, cow skulls, fisher fire place insert. Horse stall sliding doors and bar windows, saddle, set of skid steer tires, hunting supplies, guns, barn tin, wine corks, furniture, wood chairs, old brass blade GE restored fan, lots of items still being unpacked from an Amery estate.

**13. Grantsburg Area Historical Society. 133 W. Wisconsin Ave.
MAP & GUIDE BOOK PICKUP**

Museum, Jail and Emma's House

Come and enjoy free root beer floats at our museum and wander through our sesquicentennial display. You can pose for a photo on a replica of our parade float [we even have a crown for you]. Take an Old Tyme Photo with a souvenir postcard of the day! Our museum is in the original Norwegian Methodist Church built in 1897. Located on School property is our 1800's One Room Reed School House that you can also tour

14. Holmes Lake Orchard- 20338 Range Line Rd.

This U/pick/Self Serve Apple Orchard has several varieties plus the best prices around!! OPEN 24/7

Nine miles south of Grantsburg on Hwy 87, then one mile east on Co. Rd. Z.

15. Atlas Antiques- 2137 295th St.

Antiques, gifts, collectibles, wonderful "old fashioned" gardens. Don't miss this Ramble stop! You'll be telling your friends about this one of a kind shop. Located in the old general store and living quarters.

5. Garage sale- 2481 Sunny Acres

Great items for men-fishing rods, tools, bows. Women-Glassware, Baskets, cookie jars along with pictures, movies and books. No clothing. Cash only.

6. Garage Sale- 2785 River Road.

Usual items, lotsof horse tack and harness, bells,etc.

Weather permitting will have our horse dawn buggys,surreys, cutters and sleighs on display.

7. Hanson Family Farm- 2558 Evergreen Ave.

Farmers Market with apples, squash, pumpkins and a garage sale.

8. FUN STUFF SALE – 2747 Evergreen Ave.

Friday and Saturday 9 to 5- Lots of stuff including; JD Riding Lawn Tractor,21 x 42' Greenhouse, tools, electronics, HH items, gardening item of all sorts, gently used Teen Girl clothing and much more!! Stop in and find your treasure.

9. Garage Sale- 2711 Evergreen Ave.

Bells, Boat cover and even a 3foot TALL GORILLA.

10. Retirement Sale – 2912 River Road

Retired and down sizing!! LOTS OF STUFF

11. Yard and Craft Sale – 20556 Bucktail Dr.

Great sale!! Several family-good variety to pick from.

PRODUCE-Pumpkins, Squash etc.

Check out the stories of Dr. Squirt and pick-up an old fashion post card when you stop at the SEL HS Memory Room, located on the 2nd floor of the Community Center, former school that was built when the one room school west of town was closed in the 50's. There you will find many pictures and memorabilia from Cushing and the surrounding area on display. Relax, read, share your memories and stories.

M Brenholt Memorial Park-Cty Rd N East side of Cushing

Located across the street from the First Lutheran Church, Brenholt Park has a shelter with 12 picnic tables, a refrigerator and water. A shuffle board court is available and lots of lawn for other games. The park can be reserved for family reunions or other group events. Call Mark Johnson 715-648-5213

N Cushing Cemetery – Cty Rd N East side of Cushing

Located across the street from the First Lutheran Church, the Cemetery sits on the hill on the southeast corner of Cushing adjacent to the Park. It was started in the 1870's by Danish immigrants who built their first Church there, a small log building, in1881. There are over 750 burials there.

O Eureka Center -Hwy and 210th

Eureka Center has almost disappeared. In the early 1900's there was a population to support and enjoy a grocery mercantile, a barbershop and blacksmith, two service garages, four gas stations, a creamery and a church. When Hwy 87 was widened many years ago, it took out several businesses at the crossroads.

P New Home Cemetery -2252 220th Ave.

The cemetery was established on Dec. 4th 1877 and the first burial was in 1879. This cemetery was founded as a community Cemetery by members of the surrounding churches. Recent information on the cemetery will be available on sight. Go 1 mile East of Eureka on 210th then left on 230th and right on 220

Q Pleasant Hill Cemetery/Harper Methodist Church

Also known as Harper's Cemetery because of its close proximity to the Harper's Methodist Church[now a home] to the south of the cemetery. Besides services school as also held there known as Harper School #1. Sites go back to a Tuttle in 1849 and Mary E.Thomas in 1858. The Cemetery Association was founded in 1877, there were 25 lot owner at a cost of \$5 per lot with a \$1 a year upkeep fee.

R -Lone Maple School - 235th St.

This country school was built in 1912 and was closed in 1942 and celebrating 100 years. It was purchased for \$1.00 from the school district in the early 50's by a Community Club until 2011 and is currently owned by Elroy and Arlys Petzel.

S St. Croix National Scenic Riverway Visitor Center – 401 Hamilton St.

Croix Falls

The St. Croix scenic riverway is 150 miles. Flowing from Gordon WI to its confluence with the Mississippi River System. It is one of the last undisturbed, large floodplain rivers in the upper Midwest. The river is an unrivaled combination of exceptional natural and cultural resources and scenic, aesthetic and recreational value. The Visitors Center is open daily from 8am to 4:30pm. A large variety of brochures and maps are available.

T Festival Theatre – 210 Washington Street, St. Croix Falls

In the late 1880's St. Croix Falls was a bustling river town, and as it continued to grow, citizens interested in cultural endeavors wanted to build an auditorium. Construction began in 1916 and continued throughout the year and in 1917, while WWI raged overseas, citizens of St. Croix Falls gathered to the silent film – The Battle Cry of Peace. The history of the building is very interesting. Originally designed to have a civic community center on the first floor and auditorium on the second floor, which was changed to a movie theater. Read all about the changes and growth of this remarkable building and the people who have kept theatre in the valley for over 90 years. www.festivaltheatre.org

Ramble Steps

1. 136 Vintage- 136 Washington St.

MAP AND GUIDE BOOK PICK-UP

Antiques, Collectables, Painted and Refurbished Furniture. Great place to explore and browse for good deals and unique items. With 25 plus vendors your selections are endless.

RIVER RAMBLE SPECIAL Outdoor Market Fri. 25th and Sat. 26th.

PUMPKINS

Open weekly Thursday thru Sunday 10 to 5

Wolf Creek

2. Yard Sale-2385 River Road next to Wolf Creek Bar

Boys clothes [toddler to size 5] like new shoes. Area oriental rugs, tv stand, 4 piece sectional sofa, Horse hay, Horse collars and more.

3. Wolf Creek Bar- 2387 River Road

This famous bar has continuously served liquor to locals and travelers since 1832. Photos and history of area on display. Mention the "Ramble" to receive a Special discount off your food order. [Sept. 26th only].

4. Wolf Creek Methodist Church - 2417 River Road

MAP AND GUIDE BOOK PICK-UP

Thrift Sale, Bake Sale and coffee and cookies 8 to 3

LUNCH Served 10:00 until gone. Sloppy joes-Hot dogs and soup.