

**Flambeau River - Bruce to the Chippewa River (18 miles)**  
*Easy paddling through slow-moving waters*  
 A century ago, this mighty river was the main transport route for timber coming out of the Northwoods. This trip offers dependable water levels year-round. It takes nine hours of easy paddling to get from the put-in near the bridge in Bruce to the take-out just above the confluence with the Flambeau river. Along the way, enjoy great fishing for smallmouth, musky, walleye and even catfish. The river flows in several places into giant oxbows, offering some deep pools that attract fish throughout the year. In many places, beautiful high banks rise up on both sides of the river. Birdwatchers should keep an eye out for common loons, wood ducks, mergansers and heron.

**Map Key**

- Canoe Rental
- Warning
- Dam
- Rapids
- Rapids Rating
- Landing
- Camping
- Put In/ Take Out

**Map on reverse side**

**F5 to F8 on Rusk Co. map on reverse side**

**Chippewa River - Bruce to the Flambeau River (18 miles)**

**Map Key**

- Canoe Rental
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**Map on reverse side**

**F5 to F8 on Rusk Co. map on reverse side**

**Flambeau River - Big Falls Dam to Ladysmith (12 miles)**  
*Great trip for families and beginner paddlers*  
 This stretch of the Flambeau river is one of the most relaxing and scenic. The journey from the Big Falls Dam to Ladysmith takes seven hours. The slow current and great fishing make this a day trip for anglers and paddlers of all ability levels. Josie Creek County Park, located just two miles downstream from the put-in, offers camping, complete with electric, showers and pit toilets. A portage is necessary at the Dairyland Dam, and you'll find a campground there as well. The trip ends at Memorial Park in Ladysmith.

**Map Key**

- Canoe Rental
- Warning
- Dam
- Rapids
- Rapids Rating
- Landing
- Camping
- Put In/ Take Out

**Map on reverse side**

**K3 to K4 on Rusk Co. map on reverse side**

**Flambeau River - Hervas Camp to Big Falls (10 miles)**  
*Very challenging paddling with great whitewater*  
 Whitewater canoeists and kayakers will love this five-hour trip from the Hervas Camp Landing to Big Falls Dam. Highlights of the trip include the four exhilarating pitches of the Cedar Rapids, followed by Beaver Dam Rapids, which begins with a hazardous drop at either end of the Big Falls Dam. If you choose to paddle further downstream, a portage over the dike is located on the left bank. Rustic camping is available at both the start and end of this exciting Flambeau River trip.

**Map Key**

- Canoe Rental
- Warning
- Dam
- Rapids
- Rapids Rating
- Landing
- Camping
- Put In/ Take Out

**Map on reverse side**

**M1 to K2 on Rusk Co. map on reverse side**

**HAZARDOUS**

**Thornapple River - Hwy 27 to Bruce (12 miles)**  
*The best paddling secret in the Midwest*  
 Rusk County's little known Thornapple River winds its way through miles of wild lands. The undeveloped banks are full of wildlife - the river's backwaters support nesting wood ducks and mergansers, and a timber wolf pack live in the area. The Thornapple is also one of the most important sturgeon spawning areas in the region. The best paddle is from the put-in at Hwy 27 to the Town of Bruce, located just below the confluence with the Chippewa River. This stretch can be dangerous during spring floods and difficult during low-water periods. But, when the water levels are just right, this stretch offers six hours of extraordinary paddling.

**Map Key**

- Canoe Rental
- Warning
- Dam
- Rapids
- Rapids Rating
- Landing
- Camping
- Put In/ Take Out

**Map on reverse side**

**H2 & G2 to F4 on Rusk Co. map on reverse side**

**Chippewa River - Imalone to Bruce (9 miles)**  
*Swift current, high banks and a wilderness setting*  
 The five-hour paddle from the put-in at the bridge in Imalone to the take-out near the bridge in Bruce offers a dozen rapids and unique scenery. Fishing is also great along this stretch of the Chippewa.

**Chippewa River - Hwy D to Imalone (11 miles)**  
*A rollicking ride with dozens of rapids*  
 This is one of the best river stretches in Wisconsin, offering more than two dozen rapids in this five-hour trip. Put-in is at the Hwy D bridge located about three miles east of Exeland. Though there are rapids to be enjoyed along the entire route, only a few sets of rapids carry a hazard rating. The first is just below a high bank known as Rock Ledge. The next is Otter Slide Rapids, just downstream. Later in the trip, just upstream from the railroad bridge, the Soo Line Rapids pose a challenge to paddlers. All through the route, paddlers should be aware of rocks, sudden rapids and hidden boulders.

**Map Key**

- Canoe Rental
- Warning
- Dam
- Rapids
- Rapids Rating
- Landing
- Camping
- Put In/ Take Out

**Map on reverse side**

**G1 to F2 on Rusk Co. map on reverse side**

# Rusk County Rivers

Northwest Wisconsin Waterproof Map  
 1st Edition

Jump River • Chippewa River  
 Flambeau River • Thornapple River

## Unwind Your Mind

[www.ruskcountywi.com](http://www.ruskcountywi.com)

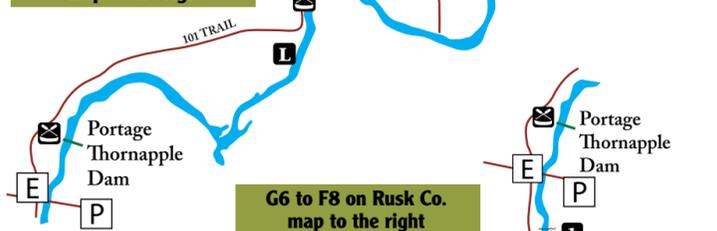
WISCONSIN Department of Tourism

### Flambeau River – Ladysmith to Thornapple Dam (11 miles)

*Easy paddling trip*

Variety of scenery and fantastic fishing characterize this five-hour trip downstream from Memorial Park in Ladysmith to the take-out at the Thornapple Dam. Trip includes a portage around the dam in Ladysmith.

I4 to G6 on Rusk Co. map to the right



G6 to F8 on Rusk Co. map to the right

### Flambeau River – Thornapple Dam to Chippewa River (8.5 miles)

*Quick, three-hour trip perfect for beginners*

The put-in is the Thornapple Dam. A small rapids in the first mile gives way to two miles of calm water. Upstream of Pine Island, you'll find a small set of rapids. Take the left channel around the island and enjoy five more miles of calm water as you paddle downstream towards the confluence and the take-out at Flater's Resort, just upstream from the Forks.



Chippewa River

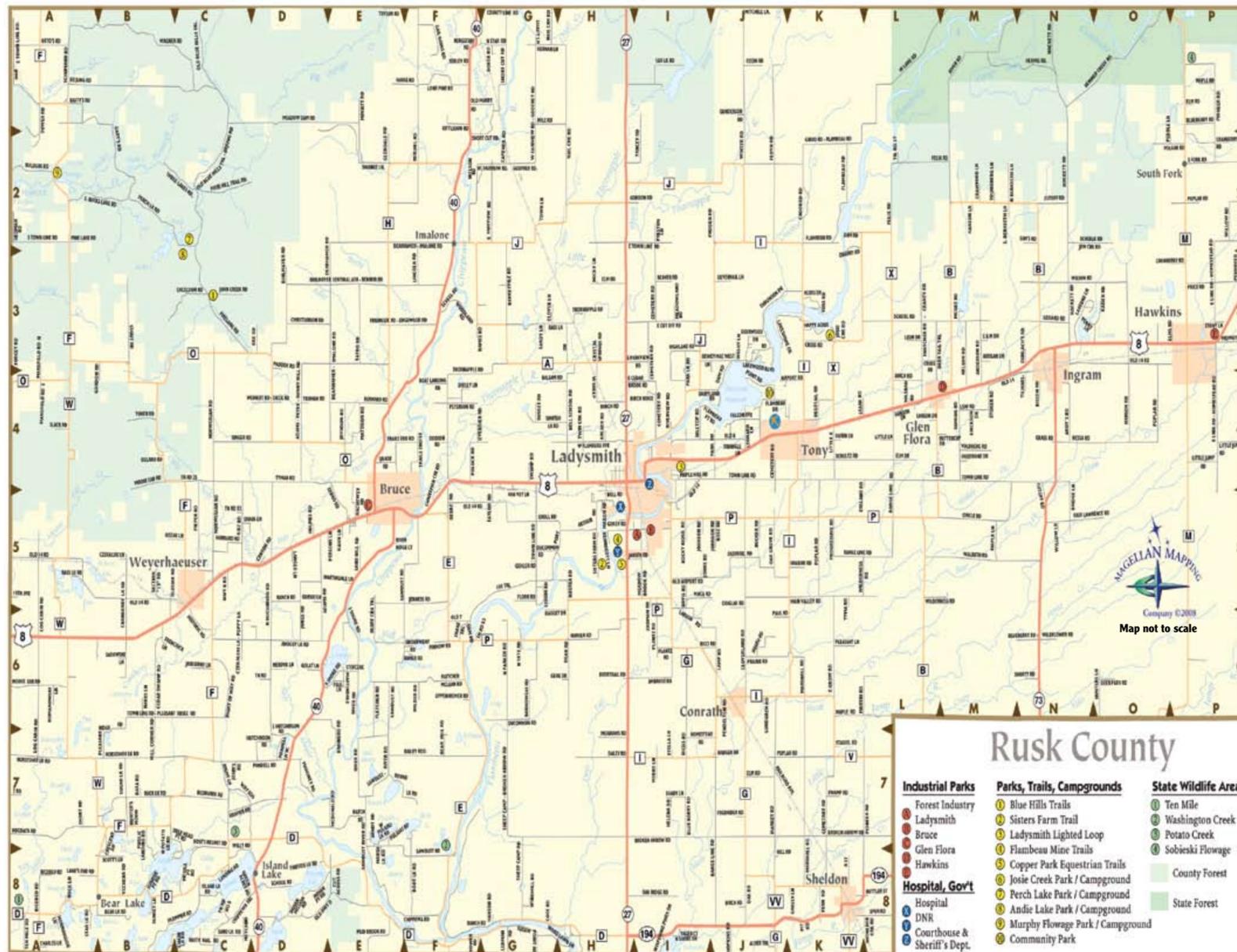


Photo courtesy Pure Water Paddlers



L8 to K8 on Rusk Co. map above

### Jump River - Sheldon to Lake Holcombe (8 miles)

*A variety of water, including some fun rapids and fast water*  
Paddlers will find a variety of water in this quick trip from Sheldon down to sprawling Lake Holcombe. Put in at the park in Sheldon. Several rapids along this route provide challenging paddling at several points. The high water during spring provides the best paddling on this stretch of the Jump River. Low water periods during the summer can make the trip much more challenging. The take-out is at the Hwy D landing on Lake Holcombe. Bring your fishing rod – muskies, walleye and smallmouth are plentiful in the river and on Lake Holcombe. Plan on between four and five hours for this excursion.



Photo courtesy Wisconsin Department of Tourism

## Outfitters in Rusk County

### Flambeau Adventures LLC

N7788 Flambeau Rd., Ladysmith, WI 54848  
715-532-7733 • [www.flambeauadventures.com](http://www.flambeauadventures.com) • [jason@flambeauadventures.com](mailto:jason@flambeauadventures.com)  
Located on Big Falls Flowage (3 miles below Beaver Dam Rapids), offering rental, shuttle & guide service for canoeing & kayaking the North & South Forks down to where the Flambeau meets the Chippewa. Also available for Chippewa River trips. Contact us about renting our waterfront cabin.

### Flambeau River Lodge & Campground

N7870 Flambeau Rd., Ladysmith, WI 54848  
715-532-5392  
Located on the Big Falls Flowage, about 1.5 miles above the Big Falls Dam, offering rental, shuttle & guide service for canoeing & kayaking the North & South Forks.

### Flambeau River Outfitters

304 Miner Ave E, Ladysmith, WI 54848  
715-532-0485  
**Flater's Resort**  
N270 County Rd. E, Holcombe, WI 54754  
715-595-4771 • [www.flatersresort.net](http://www.flatersresort.net)  
Located on the Flambeau River where it meets the Chippewa River and enters Lake Holcombe, offering rental & shuttle service for canoeing the Flambeau River from the Ladysmith Bridge to Lake Holcombe. Also available for Chippewa River trips.

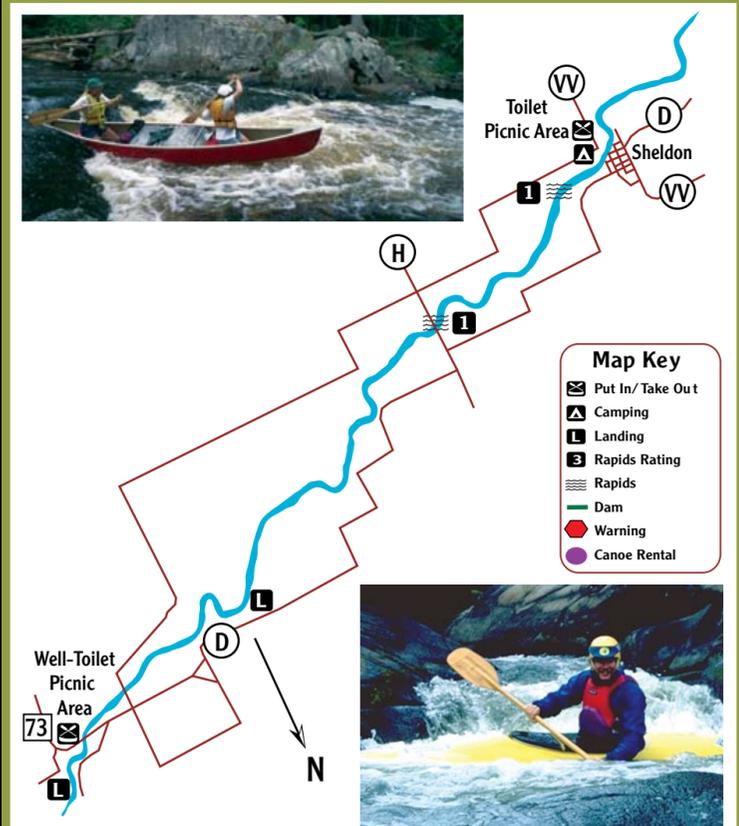
### Mi Zi Zak Kayaks

29588 State Rd. 40, Long Lake - New Auburn, WI 54757  
715-967-2301 • [www.mizizakkayak.com](http://www.mizizakkayak.com) • [info@mizizakkayak.com](mailto:info@mizizakkayak.com)  
Located on State Hwy 40 near the Rusk & Chippewa County line, offering rental, shuttle & guide service for canoeing & kayaking the North Fork. Kayak clinics and wilderness medicine & outdoor environmental education available.

### Rivers Edge Resort

N2396 County Rd. E, Bruce, WI 54819  
715-868-5255 • [www.riversedgecamping.com](http://www.riversedgecamping.com)  
River's Edge rents tubes and provides lunch for a day of family fun tubing down the Flambeau River!

For complete information on Rusk County lodging, dining and attractions, visit [www.ruskcountywi.com](http://www.ruskcountywi.com) or call 1-800-535-RUSK



**Map Key**

### Jump River - Hwy 73 to Sheldon (9 miles)

*Short leisurely trip with no major rapids and great fishing along the way*  
The put-in for this trip is a boat launch off Hwy 73, just east of the Village of Jump River. The pristine Jump River receives little fishing pressure. The free-running waters are loaded with musky, sucker, walleye and smallmouth bass. Concentrate your fishing efforts on the heads of some of the larger pools – this little river can get surprisingly deep in places. This is also an ideal stretch of the river for seeing wildlife. Forested sections are great places to see pileated woodpeckers, kingfishers and other woodland birds. Larger pools are ideal places to see eagles and osprey. If you paddle straight through from put-in to the take-out in Sheldon, the trip takes less than three hours.

L7 on Rusk Co. map above