*A weekly column written by the staff of* [*Discover Wisconsin*](http://discoverwisconsin.com/) *highlights things to do and see throughout the State of Wisconsin, and is made available for publication to members of the Wisconsin Newspaper Association. The column is accompanied by photos for use in print and online. The Discover Wisconsin logo can be* [*downloaded here*](https://www.wnanews.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/DiscoverWi-Logo_300dpi.jpg)*.*

As the snow melts, Wisconsinites are eager to get back to their outdoor activities. From scenic lake loops to rugged trails, here are some of the best hikes to embrace Wisconsin’s springtime charm.

Oconomowoc Lake LoopLocated in Waukesha County, the Oconomowoc Lake Loop is a hidden gem perfect for a nice spring stroll. This scenic trail goes around Fowler Lake, offering stunning views of the water, historic homes, and a vibrant downtown. The relatively flat terrain makes it an excellent choice for all skill levels, whether you’re looking for a leisurely stroll or a light morning workout.

Devil’s Lake State ParkConsidered a crown jewel of Wisconsin’s state park system, Devil’s Lake State Park in Baraboo is a must-visit destination in the spring. With over 29 miles of trails, the park offers hikes for people of all skill levels. The East Bluff and West Bluff trails provide breathtaking views of the over 300-acre lake, surrounded by quartzite bluffs. For those seeking a moderate challenge with rewarding scenery, the Balanced Rock Trail and Devil’s Doorway offer unforgettable views, the perfect way to kick off spring.

Pattison State ParkFor waterfall enthusiasts, Pattison State Park in Douglas County is the place to be. Home to Big Manitou Falls—the tallest waterfall in Wisconsin at 165 feet—this park offers some of the most breathtaking views, especially after the snowmelt. The park’s hiking trails lead visitors through a lush forest, perfect for watching the spring bloom. The Little Manitou Falls Trail is a perfect option for those wanting a shorter yet equally stunning experience. These waterfalls and fresh spring foliage make Pattison State Park an ideal spring destination in Wisconsin.

Ice Age National Scenic TrailStretching over 1,200 miles across Wisconsin, the Ice Age National Scenic Trail offers endless opportunities for spring adventures. As a result of a trail of glaciers from thousands of years ago, the trail winds through diverse landscapes, from prairies to dense woodlands. One particularly beautiful part of this trail is the Kettle Moraine State Forest, where hikers can see the new blooms of wildflowers in the forest during the spring. The trail’s varied terrain and beauty make it a top pick for those looking to spend some more time outdoors this spring.

These trails offer the ideal way to shake off the winter blues and welcome the warmer months ahead. So grab your hiking gear and hit the trails—Wisconsin’s natural beauty is waiting to be discovered!

*Megan Christian hosts the nation’s longest-running tourism TV show, Discover Wisconsin. Watch the show online at DiscoverWisconsin.com. Follow Discover Wisconsin on Facebook (*[*facebook.com/discoverwisconsin*](http://facebook.com/discoverwisconsin)*), Instagram (*[*instagram.com/discoverwisconsin*](http://instagram.com/discoverwisconsin)*), and TikTok (*[*tiktok.com/discoverwisconsin*](http://tiktok.com/discoverwisconsin)*).*