

Grant River Recreation Area

South of Potosi and located on the banks of the Mississippi is the Grant River Recreation Area camping facility owned by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In late winter and early spring when the ice is breaking up it is an excellent spot for viewing Eagles. During the migrating seasons a variety of ducks can be observed, including Teal, Wood Duck, Canvas Back, Widgeon, Mallard, Ruddy, and others.

This facility is considered by many to be the jewel of the Upper Mississippi River. Whether a tent camper or in an RV, this class "A" campground has a site to accommodate anyone.

The Grant River Recreation Area offers summer interpretive programs and activities for visitors every weekend between Memorial Day and Labor Day. For more information please visit:

<http://www.missriver.org>.



For More Information Contact

Cassville Tourism

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www.cassville.org

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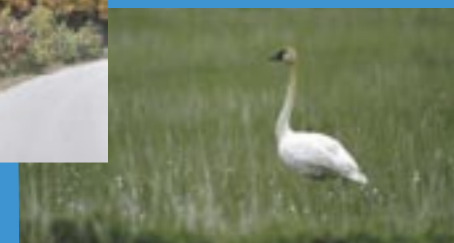
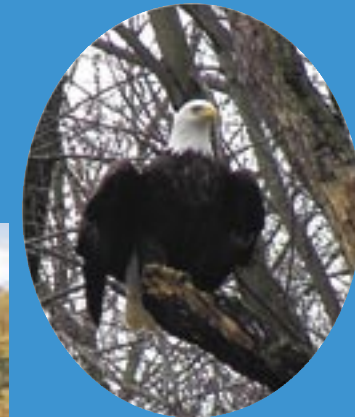
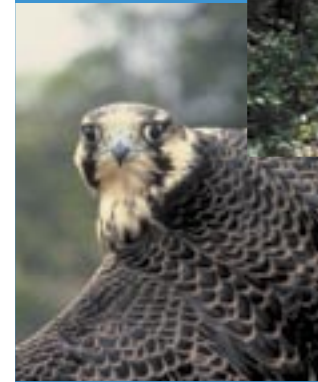
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P.O. Box 576
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Cassville & Potosi/Tennyson Area Birdwatching & Nature Guide





EXPLORE NATURE IN EVERY SEASON


Bald Eagle Watch December to Late February

Cassville, WI is one of the nation's finest eagle viewing sites. Featured in National Wildlife magazine & on WGN news in Chicago, our area provides shelter in its secluded valleys and plentiful supply of food from the Mississippi River which does not completely freeze due to the power generating stations in the area from mid-December to late February.

Eagle Etiquette

 Observe eagles from about a football field away or from your car.

 Do not enter roost sites or walk along the river.

 Eagles are easily frightened by humans on foot. Frightening eagles to the point where they fly away wastes precious energy needed during the winter and threatens their survival.



The Return of the Songbirds April through August



Bird watching is at its best along the bluffs and the river bottoms of the Mississippi River. Over 200 species of birds including various types of warblers, finches, thrushes, tanagers, woodpeckers, swallows, and wrens.

In the spring and summer the Mississippi River Valley provides an important nesting habit for many species of birds.

The Closing Dam Road area north of Cassville is excellent for viewing spring warblers. This gravel road runs parallel to the Mississippi River and is a good spot to observe Prothonotary Warblers, Warbling Vireos, Pileated Woodpeckers and a variety of other warblers and waterfowl.

Nelson Dewey State Park has a wide variety of warblers, vireos and other songbirds. The park has a birding checklist available for the visitors to the park. Spring and summer are wonderful times of year to hike, bike, canoe, and fish in the Cassville area. Bird watch by day and watch the millions of stars come out to light our night-time sky.

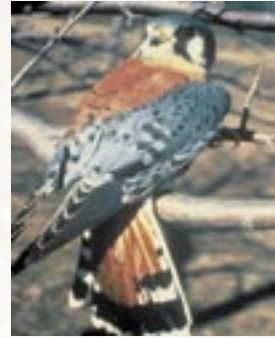


Fall Hawk Watch September through October

During the autumn, the Mississippi flyway is the place to view hawks of many different species.

Ideal spots can be found in Nelson Dewey State Park or at the Roe Preserve where blufftop views of the Mississippi River Valley offer a fine view of raptors traveling along the flyway.

Tundra swans also head down along the Mississippi in autumn often resting in backwater sloughs along the way.



Nelson Dewey State Park



Nelson Dewey State Park is known for its fabulous overlooks above the Mississippi River near Cassville. This park's fascinating past includes the

remains of Wisconsin's first governor's estate named Stonefield. Old stone walls can be found on the ground as well as ancient mounds built thousands of years ago preserved as reminders of the Native Americans that once inhabited these woodland areas of the Upper Mississippi.

The park has 756 wooded acres with a wide variety of plant and animal life that can be seen on the three miles of hiking trails which wind through the park and along the bluffs.

The native prairie area has a variety of wild flowers & plants. Hawks soar over head and a bald eagle roost can be observed with spotting scopes from the overlook. Campers and visitors can enjoy the night filled with millions of stars since light pollution is not a problem in our rural area.



Periodic nature lectures are given at the park as well as special programs for children. For more info contact the park office (608) 725-5374.

THE ROE PRESERVE

Through the donation of their bluff land farm by Lawrence and Kathryn Roe and the purchase of land by the Wisconsin DNR and the Mississippi Valley Conservancy; 244 acres of beautiful Mississippi River valley is now left as a real legacy for the public.



This bluffland farm could have faced the fate of many of large farms along the river which are purchased for development because of their incredible scenic views.

The land's beautiful view of the Mississippi River, its rare savanna and goat prairie habitats and its exciting cultural features made it ideal for conservation.

Now residents and visitors will have a wonderful area to hike, birdwatch, explore and hunt along the Mississippi River.

Located off Highway 133 South at the end of Sand Lake Road.

Upper Mississippi River Wildlife and Fish Refuge

The upper Mississippi Refuge consists of about 195,000 acres of wooded islands, sandbars, waters and marshes extending 284 miles south-ward along the river bottoms from Wabasha, Minnesota to Rock Island, Illinois. The Cassville/Potosi area lies along the refuge which remains largely untouched by modern civilization.



Although the refuge is primarily managed for wildlife, it also offers unsurpassed opportunities for sightseeing, outdoor recreation and nature study. Visitors to the Cassville/Potosi area enjoy such activities as wildlife observation, fishing, hunting, picnicking and boating on the refuge.

The refuge has 270 species of birds, 50 species of mammals, 45 species of amphibians and reptiles and 113 species of fish. The Cassville/Potosi area also has 26 different species of mussels with many rare species found in only one or two other locations in the country.



Year-round fishing for walleye, sauger, bass, perch, crappies, sunfish and catfish is popular below dams, in sloughs and in channels between islands. A state fishing license is required and state laws apply.

The riverside Park boat landing has plenty of parking and easy access to the river. A wildlife observation deck and permanent spotting scope is located at the northwestern end of Riverside Park near the car ferry landing.



The Potosi Point

The Potosi Point, off Highway 133, is designated a National Wildlife Refuge and is visited annually by 270 species of birds. It is particularly attractive in the spring when Herons and Egrets can be seen wading in the shallows. During the migrating season, in addition to ducks, American Pelican and Swan make use of the marsh area as they move north or south. Yellow-headed Blackbirds have been spotted, and on warm summer evenings, swarms of Bank Swallows can be seen dancing low on the horizon as they feed on insects. The entire river Corridor, from Potosi to Cassville, is a virtual paradise for bird watchers.



The Potosi Point

Cassville/Potosi Area Birdwatching & Nature Guide Map



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