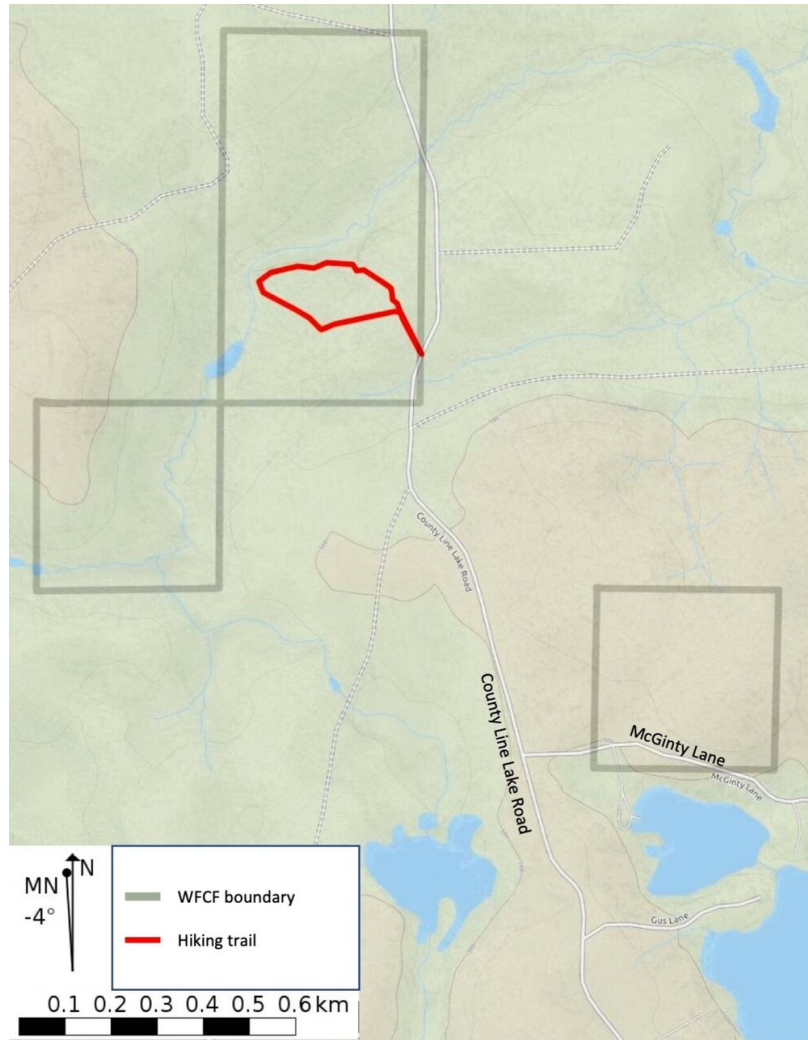


A VISIT TO WILDCAT FALLS COMMUNITY FOREST



Driving directions: From Watersmeet, Michigan, drive north on US Highway 45 to County Road 206 (Sucker Lake Road) located on left. Go west to County Line Lake Road, where you will turn north. You will see McGinty Lane on the right; if you take McGinty Lane less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile you will be on the parcel of the WFCF that overlooks the County Line Lake. To visit the waterfall segment of the forest, proceed north on County Line Lake Road $\frac{6}{10}$ s of a mile past McGinty Lane. As you reach a small hilltop, look for the trail sign on the left that marks the head of the waterfall trail segment. This trail is located south of Scott and Howe Creek.

You may park along County Line Lake Road or McGinty Lane. For more parking area or access to County Line Lake, there is a MDNR boat landing-public access area just south of McGinty on Merganser Lane.

Visitor highlights: The waterfall trail is well marked in yellow and traverses a very scenic $\frac{3}{4}$ mile, which will feel longer because of the topography and uneven ground conditions. Hikers will be among old growth cedar & hemlock, and will experience numerous rock outcrops and unique geology, visit a splendid waterfall, and view the panorama of the canyon overlooking the creek. At the SE corner of the waterfall parcel there is an artesian spring captured in an old barrel. We do not recommend drinking this without sanitation, based on directives from the health department.

The segment near the lake is separated from the waterfall segment by $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, but offers a worthy hike on its own. Situated on a drumlin hill, with steep slopes to the southeast and southwest corners where there are small wetlands. This 40 -acre parcel is heavily stocked with large diameter northern hardwoods with occasional hemlock and pine offering diversity. For wildflower lovers, the spring ephemerals in this part of the forest is a sight to behold. The borders of this portion are clearly marked as this was recently surveyed.



In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the Community Forest is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, and reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible State or local Agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information is also available in languages other than English.





Visitor guidelines: Please be respectful of neighboring property, as well as other visitors of the community forest. Other than the roads identified in the directions, no motor vehicle use is approved. It is your responsibility to keep pets from disturbing others, leaving waste, or disrupting wildlife. Please practice leave no trace, and leave the natural features undisturbed so that they may enhance future visits as well. You are most welcome to enjoy this community forest, and hunting and fishing are allowed in season with proper license; please let us know if you catch a nice trout! You may sustainably and carefully harvest berries or edible fungi, but there are strict rules in the Wildcat Falls Community Forest Plan to prohibit removal of minerals, stone, plants or wood products. Fires are prohibited. Thank you for your cooperation, to assure future generations the pleasure of a visit here.