Our mission
to create, support and protect a thousand-mile footpath tracing Ice Age formations across Wisconsin – the Ice Age National Scenic Trail.

Express your love for healthy watersheds

Explore

Start your next paddle adventure here at the Schuette Park accessible kayak launch

Restore

Lend a hand at the next habitat restoration project

Advocate

Join us for river and beach clean up days

Celebrate!

Celebrate life along the river

Friends of the

Manitowoc River Watershed

Providing a unified voice to enhance the Manitowoc River and its watershed

Our Vision

Connect people to the river: individuals, businesses, organizations, and government.

Increase awareness of the river's history and ecosystem,

Show that people care about the river and desire to enhance the watershed.

Join Us

Become a Friends Member Today!

- Give your time
- Share your talents
- Donate toward special projects
- Participate in river events

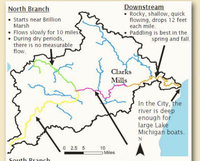
WHAT IS A WATERSHED?

An area of land and its network of rivers, streams and groundwater that drain to a common outlet

How we maintain our cities, towns, roads, farmland, and parkland all determine the quality of this watershed.

Your Manitowoc River Watershed | by the numbers

542 square miles, 7 rivers, 13 lakes across 4 counties
4 main sub-watersheds; the Lower Manitowoc River, North Branch of the Manitowoc River, South Branch of the Manitowoc River and the Branch River.



Learn More!

Join us in the protection and stewardship of this dynamic and beautiful river system

FMRWINFO@GMAIL.COM
HTTP://LWRF.ORG/FRIENDS-OF-THE-MANITOWOC-RIVER-WATERSHED/

1975 Manitowoc Savings Bank

1849 & 1929 Schuette Bros. Co. Store

1878 Schuette Oriental Mills

THE SCHUETTE LEGACY

A FAMILY HISTORY DEEPLY ROOTED IN THE GROWTH AND SUCCESS OF MANITOWOC

HENRY SCHUETTE (1903-1981)

Henry's great grandfather John Schuette, a German immigrant, opened the first company store in 1849 when Manitowoc county was just being settled and Wisconsin had recently received statehood.

The small store was "built between stumps and surrounded by virgin forests of stately pines". The business kept pace with the growth and advancement of the city so was handed down from father to sons to grandsons.

Henry was the grandson of John Schuette Jr. – who sold his interest in the company store in 1884 to found the Manitowoc Savings Bank and the Oriental Mills.

After his father's retirement, Henry became president of the bank in 1947 at the age of 44.

AT A GLANCE

- 6 miles of hiking trails
- Scenic views of the river
- ADA kayak launch
- River access
- Ice Age Trail segment

In 1978 the Schuette family donated this land to the city of Manitowoc; 65 acres of rolling hills and forests along the river. Today, we know it as Henry Schuette Park.

Early RIVER HISTORY

GEOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES Influence Early Settlement *and shape the economy of Manitowoc*

A protected bay and natural river harbors created the ideal setting

THE EARLIEST PEOPLE thrived along these waterways, pursuing ways of life only made possible by birch bark canoes.

A scene from Manitowoc in 1859

TREES AND FISH ABOUND
A tremendous fishery and abundant forest lands gave the first European settlers an early foothold in the economy of the day. Homesteads are built, stores open, industries are developed.

SHIPS AND SUBS
DEPRESSION TO WARTIME BOOM
With a deep river and reliable harbor on the Great Lakes, Manitowoc would become a major shipbuilding center.

On April 30, 1942 the first submarine built for the Navy on the Great Lakes, The PETO, was successfully launched into the Manitowoc River.

Explore!

WWW.MANITOWOC.ORG

Ice Age Trail Alliance

Join the Lakeshore Chapter

We promote, plan, build and maintain the Ice Age Trail from Fond du Lac County to the Eastern Terminus in Sturgeon Bay.

WALK THE TRAIL ALONG OUTCROPPINGS OF THE NIAGARA ESCARPMENT
present and former Lake Michigan shorelines, the crest of eskers, and the edges of bogs, rolling uplands, river valleys and marshes, hilltop remnants of prairie oak, maple beech forest and the occasional urban stretch of trail that passes through many vibrant communities.

Explore a Landscape
SCULPTED BY ICE AND WATER

THE STORY BEGINS WITH THE GLACIERS
More than 12,000 years ago, an immense flow of glacial ice sculpted a landscape of remarkable beauty

Some of the best evidence of this glacier is found right here in Wisconsin! The route of the Ice Age National Scenic Trail traces the glaciers edge, meandering for one thousand miles through unique glacial features, forests, prairies, lakes and rivers.

The Ice Age Trail began in the 1950's with an idea by the late Ray Zilmer of Milwaukee; to develop an Ice Age Glacier National Forest Park in Wisconsin that would follow along the entire edge of the last glacier.

Ray's idea led to the creation of a nine unit Ice Age National Scientific Reserve in 1964 and National Scenic Trail designation in 1980.

Be a Trail Volunteer

Behind the scenes, a strong community of volunteers across the state work to build and maintain the Trail, making it one of the country's best hiking experiences.

ICE AGE TRAIL
MANITOWOC SEGMENT

TAKE A HIKE
The City of Manitowoc segment
Provides scenic views of the Manitowoc river, highlights the rich maritime history of the area and includes a lengthy stretch of Lake Michigan shoreline.

LAKESHORE CHAPTER PROJECTS IN THE REGION INCLUDE
Having a great time while fixing erosion issues on gravel trails, re-routing trails to switchback, cordwalk and boardwalk work along the lake and river. Bird hikes, Tyke hikes, Cold Cache hikes and more!

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?
Join the Ice Age Trail Alliance

THERE ARE MANY MILES LEFT TO GO
Help build and maintain the Trail

WWW.ICEAGETRAIL.ORG

Join Us!

DRAFT

2018 | Schuette Park Kiosk Rendering | Manitowoc, Wisconsin

Lake Ledge Naturalist, LLC explore the elements of place