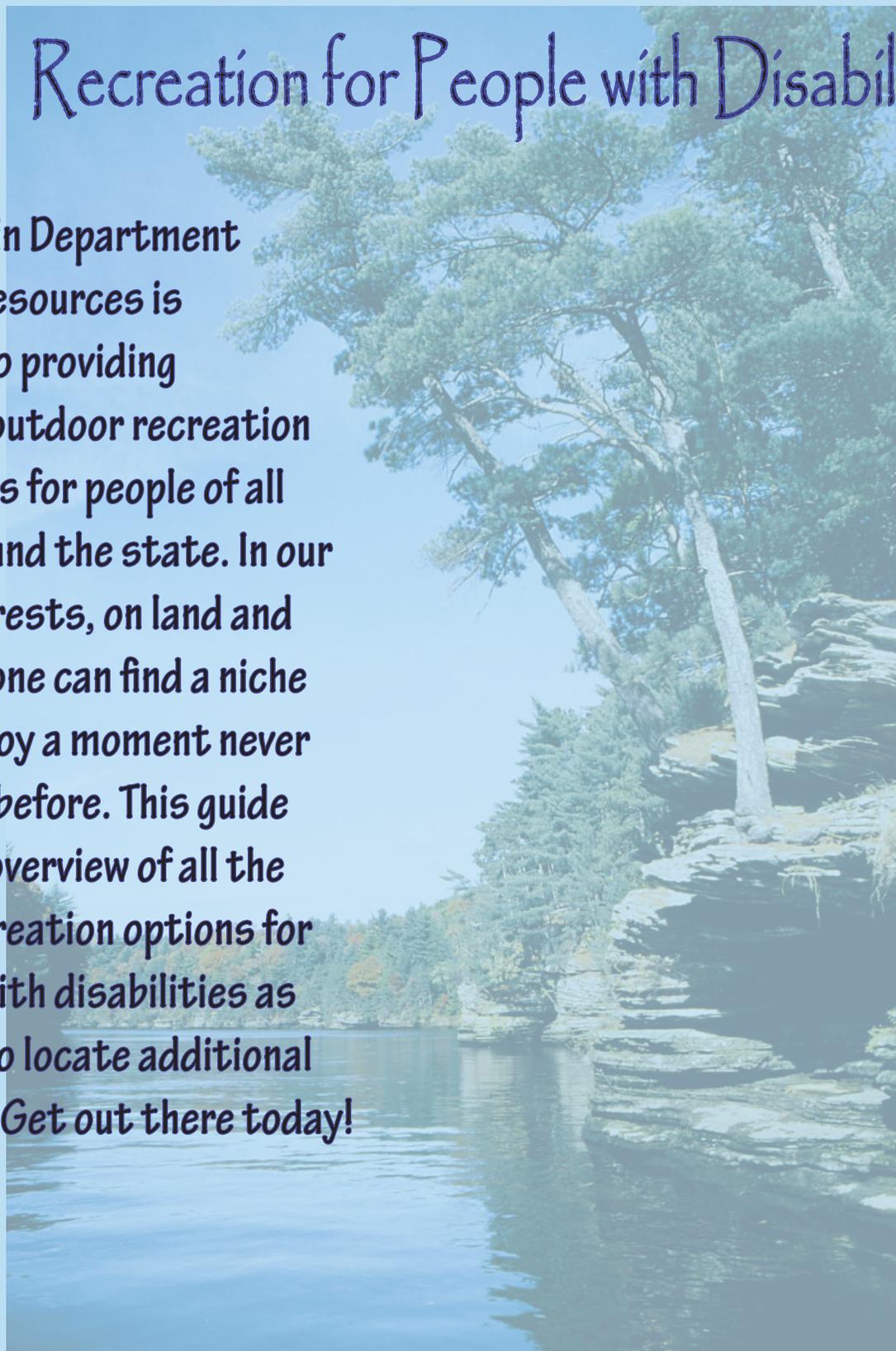


Open the Outdoors

Recreation for People with Disabilities

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources is committed to providing exceptional outdoor recreation opportunities for people of all abilities around the state. In our parks and forests, on land and water, everyone can find a niche or simply enjoy a moment never experienced before. This guide provides an overview of all the available recreation options for individuals with disabilities as well as how to locate additional information. Get out there today!



Accessible Cabins

There are nine accessible cabins located within our state parks and forests, reservable only by people with disabilities and their guests. Seven of these cabins feature amenities such as lowered counter tops in the kitchen for individuals in wheelchairs, adjustable hospital beds and Hoyer lifts, and bathrooms with roll-in showers and commode chairs. There are also two small rustic cabins. See our website for more information and availability.



Campsites

For those who would rather camp in a tent or RV we also have accessible campsites in all of our state parks and forests. These sites provide a firm base surface that connects all of the main elements, including a tent pad, raised fire pit and accessible table. Each of these campsites has an electric hook-up for individuals with battery-powered mobility devices and are located near a restroom facility.



Adaptive Kayaks

Adaptive kayaks are equipped with outriggers which provide incredible stability on the water and a raised back with side supports that offer the user a comfortable and secure seat while paddling. A paddle with hand adaptations for people with limited grip is also provided. All of these elements can be adjusted or removed depending on the user's level of function. There are currently five kayaks within our state parks.



Beach Access



Sand is possibly the least accessible terrain for anyone with a mobility impairment, but we have ways to get you there. Some of our parks have specialized beach wheelchairs which have large inflatable tires that roll easily on sand and into water. Other parks utilize beach mats which create an accessible trail for people in wheelchairs or anyone who has difficulty walking. Find a location and come get wet!

Trails



There are over 650 miles of accessible trails throughout Wisconsin to accommodate people with a range of varying abilities. From pavement to granite to limestone surfaces, these trails will lead you to some of the state's most beautiful natural features and through many state parks and forests. To find locations, trail distances and levels of difficulty check our website.

Cross Country Sit Skis

Winter in Wisconsin is a difficult time of year for many people with disabilities, not only to enjoy the outdoors but just to complete simple tasks outside of the home. We now have sit skis powered by short poles available for free use at six of our state parks and forests. If you can handle the cold this is a great way to get out in the snow and peace that winter brings. Check our website for locations.



To find out about more accessible outdoor recreation and upcoming events offered by the DNR check out the Open the Outdoors website at dnr.wi.gov/org/at/af/open/

To request this pamphlet in alternative format or with any other inquiries contact DNR accessibility coordinator Andy Janicki at (608) 267-7490

