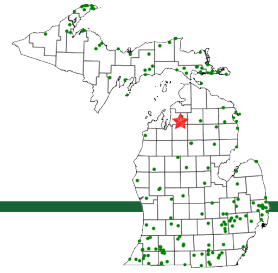


Michigan Nature Association Cedar River Nature Sanctuary



Sanctuary at a Glance:

Location: Antrim County

Size: 80 acres

History: Acquired during four transactions between 1971 and 2001

About MNA:

The Michigan Nature Association is a nonprofit conservation organization working to protect Michigan's rare, threatened and endangered species by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

Established in 1952, MNA's members, donors, and volunteers have built a remarkable network of more than 170 nature sanctuaries across the state - the largest network of natural areas established and maintained by a nonprofit conservation organization in Michigan.



Michigan Nature Association

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Photo: Natalie Kent-Norkowski

Cedar River Nature Sanctuary, MNA's second sanctuary in Antrim County, contains two forested community types - conifer swamp, and northern mesic forest. This peaceful sanctuary is accessible in all parts.

The Cedar River Sanctuary totals 80 acres and was acquired in four transactions over 30 years. Dora S. and Ramona Lee Morgan made the initial donation of 77 acres in 1971. A 0.9-acre addition was purchased in 1974, a 1-acre parcel was donated in 1997 by Donald and Mona Graham, and a 1.1-acre parcel was donated by the estate of Edward Kussaba in 2001.

The sanctuary's namesake, the Cedar River, and the surrounding wetlands form the main hydrological feature of the sanctuary. The Cedar River is a high-quality classic cold water stream which flows into the Intermediate River, which in turn is part of the Elk River Chain of Lakes watershed in the northwestern Lower Peninsula. The sanctuary is also on the edge of the Jordan River Wilderness Valley, owned by the State of Michigan.

Cedar River Nature Sanctuary is also one of the few places where both species of spring beauties can be found; the northern variety is taller with broader leaves. Another highlight of the sanctuary is a hiking hill on the western side, which provides a nice overlook in the winter.

Cedar River Nature Sanctuary | Michigan Nature Association

The American mink

The American mink (*Neovison vison*) is a carnivore which feeds on rodents, fish, crustaceans, frogs, and birds. Minks, part of the weasel family, are small mammals and most often nocturnal. They live in close proximity to water, as they are semi-aquatic and hunt prey in and around the water. Mink move into the huts and burrows of muskrats and other occupants if empty. They also reside in the cavities made by streams or found in trees.



Stock image

The Cedar River

The Cedar River is one of Michigan's remaining small trout streams. It runs a quarter mile through the sanctuary, with clear-as-glass water reaching no warmer than 52 degrees. The river flows briskly along, babbling in some places and quiet in others. The Cedar River flows into Intermediate River, which is part of the Elk River Chain of Lakes Watershed, a 75 mile long waterway flowing across the northwest counties of Antrim, Charlevoix, Kalkaska, and Grand Traverse.



Photo: Jeremy Emmi

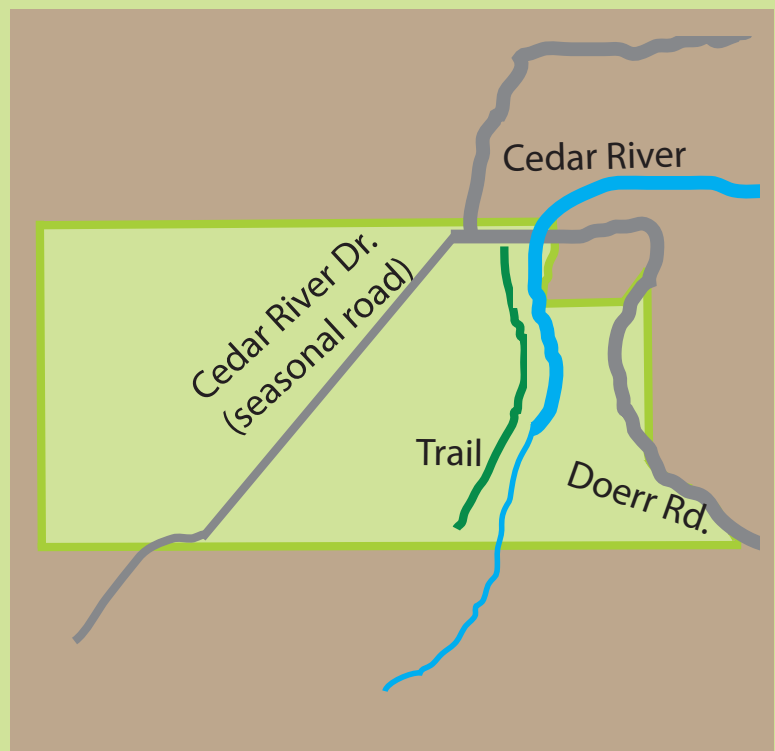
Planning Your Visit:

The sanctuary is beautiful during all seasons, with wildflowers in spring, beautiful fall colors, and a lovely winter overlook.

Please note that fishing is not permitted at Cedar River Nature Sanctuary.

How to Get There:

The sanctuary is located in Antrim County, off Cedar River Dr, northwest of Mancelona.



Trail Map