

About us

The Pine River Nature Center provides programs to enhance local schools' science, mathematics, ecology, and environmental education studies with outdoor-based field studies correlated with state standards. It also offers outdoor recreation and environmental education opportunities for all.



Into the woods

The Pine River Nature Center covers 80 acres. Mature hardwood forest, wetlands, and prairie are some of the many habitats that can be explored through a system of trails that extend over three miles. The meandering Pine River has cut deep ravines that afford dramatic views of the floodplain.



Flora and fauna

The forest floor is filled with a spectacular wildflower display that includes trillium, mayapple, and wild geranium in spring. Wildlife at the nature center includes deer and mink. More than 70 species of birds have been sighted on the nature center property, including warblers, great blue herons, and wood ducks.



Explore the trails

Hover your smartphone camera over this code for our self-guided trail booklet. The guide will help you identify and learn about various flowers, birds, trees, and shrubs as you tour the 80-acre property.



2585 Castor Road, Goodells, MI 48027
Adjacent to Goodells County Park
(810) 364-5477

Driving directions are available on the RESA website at www.sccresa.org. Click on the Pine River Nature Center button on the homepage.

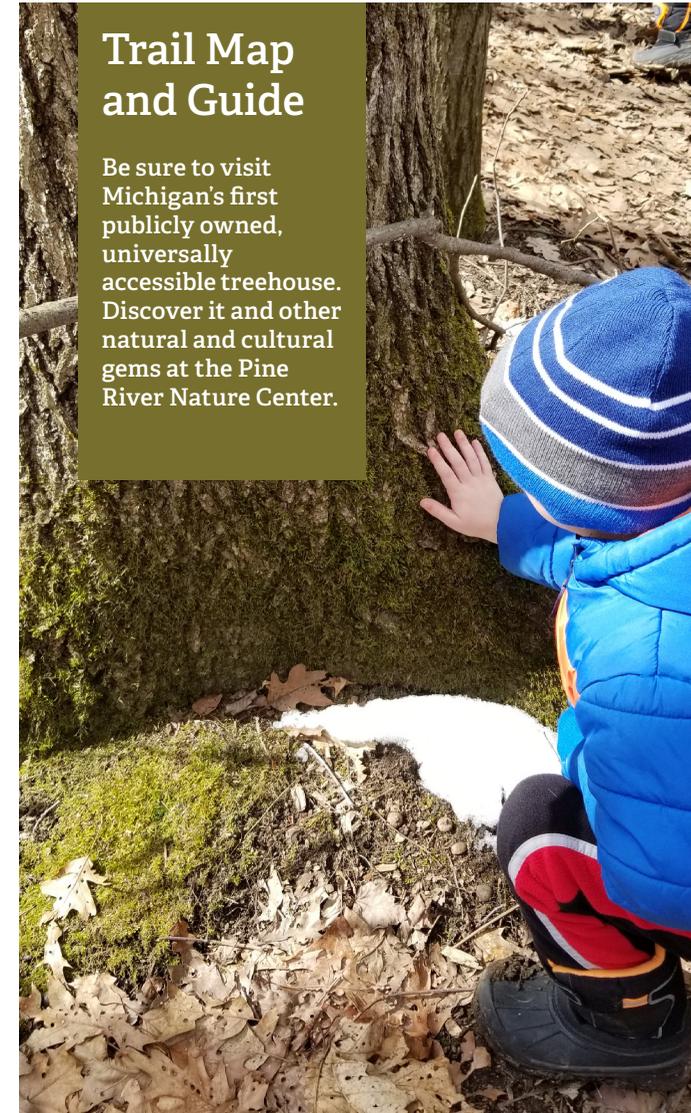
The Pine River Nature Center building is open Monday–Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The trails are open daily from dawn to dusk.

The Pine River Nature Center is owned and operated by:



Trail Map and Guide

Be sure to visit Michigan's first publicly owned, universally accessible treehouse. Discover it and other natural and cultural gems at the Pine River Nature Center.



Planning your visit to the nature center

Long pants are recommended year-round to protect against insects, brush, and poison ivy. Boots should be worn during the winter and spring when some trails are wet and muddy. Mosquito repellent should be applied during June, July, and August. Bring a water bottle to prevent dehydration.

THINGS TO DO



Hike, learn about nature, explore the exhibits, bird-watch, take photographs, ski, jog, fish, and relax. The nature center facilities can be used for school field trips, Scout programs, meetings and retreats, and training seminars and workshops.

PROTECT OUR TRAILS

No motorized vehicles or bikes are allowed on the trails. Dogs and horses are not permitted on the nature center property, and hunting on the nature center property is strictly limited.



Universal access

The nature center has more than a mile of scenic, barrier-free trails. The compacted trails can accommodate wheelchairs or strollers, although some places may be challenging to maneuver. Near the center of the property is a universally accessible treehouse offering everyone a towering view of the forest and floodplain.

Distances to the universally accessible treehouse

- Nature center building to treehouse via Pine River Way — **0.44 miles**
- Building to treehouse via Club Moss to Deer Run — **0.25 miles**
- Building to treehouse via North Ridge to Hickory — **0.37 miles**



Please help protect our trails. Take only pictures, leave only footprints.

