

ELKHART RIVER

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three foot dam is put in place across the river to maintain the water level of the upstream lakes for the summer. You can pull over this structure on either the left or right sides, but plan for wet feet. If the river is up, you will paddle in calm water over the dam.

If you are prepared for a one way, down river trip, one of about two hours or so begins at Woodlawn Park in Ligonier (off Lincolnway West, just past Bridge Street). Turn right and drive between the stone posts and down to the river. The park has ample parking. This trip can end at the county line where the bridge is missing at County Road 1175 W. There is some parking area on the south, now closed bridge approach.

Several groups have been actively working to improve the quality of the Elkhart River watershed by sponsoring cleanup events, water quality monitoring, educational opportunities and river related projects such as the planned new Riverwalk in the town of Ligonier. The following web sites are good places to begin looking for more information: elkhartriveralliance.org, futureligonier.org, and elkhartriver.org. We invite you to take time to enjoy this tranquil and underutilized part of Noble County, and consider getting involved in its restoration and preservation.

Geocaching

Treasure-hunting with a GPS

The Noble County Convention and Visitors Bureau is a proud supporter of this family-friendly hobby/sport and is pleased to promote Noble County as a “geocache-friendly destination”! Pronounced “geo-cash”, there are currently over 45 caches in Noble County, with more being added all the time!

Geocache enthusiasts use hand-held GPS systems to hunt for stashes, or a “cache”, that has been placed by other geocachers. Individuals/organizations set up caches all over the world and share the location coordinates of their caches on the official international website, www.geocaching.com. Using posted coordinates, geocachers use their GPS systems to find the cache. Once located, the cache may provide the visitor with a wide variety of treasures from tiny toys, health or social-awareness issues, lapel pins, or tiny flags as reminders to pray for our military personnel and veterans. All the visitor is asked to do is to leave something for the cache if they take something from it, and often to sign a logbook indicating that they were there and when. “Travel bugs” are unique treasures that are tracked on-line as they are found and relocated from cache to cache. The “hunt” takes you to places you may not have visited otherwise, encourages you to get outside and walk, and promotes generational togetherness. Welcome to the world of high-tech treasure hunting!



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