

# ICE AGE TRAIL ALLIANCE



The old saying, “save a little of your best for last,” rang true at Hartman Creek State Park to bring the 2015 Mobile Skills Crew season to a resounding, successful close.

**Thank you** to the 260 volunteers who donated more than 4,600 hours helping build a mile and half of new and greatly improved Ice Age Trail.

Any unused tool was quickly snatched up and put to work throughout the week. Together, we crafted over 7,000 feet of sustainable tread, built 33 drainage dips, painted hundreds of sharp, crisp yellow blazes, washed dishes in frosty pre-dawn 25-degree temperatures, prepared and served over a thousand hot, healthy meals. Whether this was your first project or your 50th, thank you for your selfless giving. Your tireless effort keeps us “focused forward” and makes the Ice Age National Scenic Trail the treasure it is.

**We’d like to extend a special thanks to:**

- Debbie Krogwold, Julie Schneider, Butch Siegel, Ruth Sommers, Phil Peterson and Waupaca and Portage County Chapter members for leading pre-project workdays, proactively anticipating needs and cooperative problem solving.

- Mike Bergum and Hartman Creek State Park DNR staff for their hospitality and for providing base camp and park services.
- Students and staff from 5 UW-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources activity clubs, the “10-4 ready for more” UW-Madison Hooper Outing Club, Middleton and Waupaca High Schools and BSA Troop 44 of Kimberly, WI for your can-do enthusiasm and fresh eyes.
- Gail Piotrowski, Bob Kaspar, John Barker and Dolly McNulty for project team leadership and to all IATA MSC Crew Leaders – we couldn’t do it without you!
- The many individuals who donated online, REI, Jim Abert, the IATA Waupaca and Portage chapters and the National Environmental Education Foundation/Toyota Motor Sales for your generous financial assistance.
- Steve Clemens for donating two kegs of homebrew.



**NEXT UP on the MSC calendar:**

Please join us February 6 for the Winter Rendezvous, this year at [Treehaven](#), near Tomahawk, WI. Bring your skis, snowshoes and an appetite for camaraderie and positive change as we explore 2016 project details, celebrate 2015 accomplishments and more.

**A few final notes:**

- Vote daily through October 31 to help win a \$25k grant for the Ice Age Trail: [superiortrails.michelobultra.com](http://superiortrails.michelobultra.com)
- To help keep every volunteer's experience memorable and rewarding, please take a short [post-project survey](#). Your feedback and comments are welcome and will help continue to improve IATA Mobile Skills Crew events.
- We encourage you to share your experience and invite your friends and family to join us for future events. And we welcome those of you who are not yet IATA members to help support our efforts by becoming a member. Please visit our [membership page](#) for more information.

Once again, thank you for all you do for the Ice Age Trail! As a volunteer-based organization, the Ice Age Trail Alliance and its partners at the National Park Service and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources rely on volunteers like you to continue to be the driving force in our efforts to create, support and protect the Ice Age National Scenic Trail.

Happy Trails,  
The IATA Mobile Skills Crew Hartman Creek Project Team



*Photos by Dave Caliebe*

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