

Rock River Water Trail Section D
Watertown to Jefferson 22 Miles (Jefferson County)

The City of Watertown has several beautiful river parks, including Tivoli Island Park just downstream of the Upper Watertown Dam. Both dams in Watertown are hydroelectric dams. Portages are marked. Rest stops at Fanny Lewis Park and the Riverwalk at South First Street are within a short walk of food, restrooms and amenities in downtown Watertown. Portage around the Lower Watertown Dam is part of the riverfront walkway and is marked. Downstream of the dam just after the STH 26 Bridge is a large island owned by the US Bureau of Land Management that is available for public use. A mile downstream are remnants of the old Boomers dam. The urban landscape fades a mile or so from the island and opens into a wilderness segment through scenic, marshy natural areas including the Arkin Marsh Public Hunting Grounds and Hahns Lake. The trail from Riverview Road in Watertown to Resort Drive in Johnson Creek is a distance of 10 miles with no public access sites except for the alternate site at Arkin Marsh. A fully-developed boat launch at Rock River County Park is 14 miles downstream of Watertown and near the Village of Johnson Creek.

A little over 3 miles west of Rock River County Park on CTH B is Aztalan State Park, an important archaeological site and a National Historic Landmark. The river continues from CTH B through rural, farmland landscapes about 5 miles to Jefferson, the Gemuetlichkeit City. There are several access sites in the city for paddlers wanting a leisurely paddle in the urban environment. Take out for portage of the Milwaukee Street Dam is at Rotary Waterfront Park, a carry-in access site within a short walk of food, restrooms and amenities in downtown Jefferson. A fish ladder is in operation at the dam. The river through Jefferson County and portions of Dodge and Rock counties is within the state Glacial Heritage Area, a series of parks, preserves, wildlife and natural areas linked together and to nearby cities and village with different types of trails. The Glacial Drumlin State Trail for biking and hiking crosses the river just north of Jefferson.

	Length of Segment	Segment Skill Level	Segment Type	Access Sites
Between Watertown Dams	2 miles	Gateway	Urban	3
To Schaller Park Riverview Lane	1 mile	Recreational	Urban	4
To Johnson Creek - Rock River Park	13 miles	Recreational	Wilderness	4
To Rotary Waterfront Park - Jefferson	6 miles	Gateway	Rural	5