



Rob's Sugar River Ramble Event Day Guide Sunday June 4, 2017

Thank you for being part of the 3rd annual Rob's Sugar River Ramble, benefiting the Upper Sugar River Watershed Association. We've had an unbelievable response in our first two years with 327 people registering, so thank you for helping us build our event in year three.

Where to go:

If using your own boat, drop your boat at the parking lot where Valley Road crosses the Sugar River. (7401 Valley Rd, Verona WI 53593) You will be given a numbered wristband matched to your entry number. Attach the wristband to your boat and leave your boat and gear in the designated area toward the river from the parking lot. We will be ready to check in your boat between 7:00-8:15 am. From there proceed to the event start at Grundahl Park in Mount Horeb. (400 Blue Mound St. Mount Horeb, WI 53572) Travel time from Valley Rd. to Grundahl Park is approximately 20 minutes.

If you are renting a boat, you can go directly to the event start at Grundahl Park in Mount Horeb (400 Blue Mound St., Mount Horeb, WI 53572) to check in between 7:15-8:30 am. Your reserved boat along with lifejackets and paddles will be waiting at Valley Road when you arrive on bicycle.

All entrants will need to check in at Grundahl Park to receive their packets. Check in is at the main shelter up the hill from Blue Mound Street. Check in will begin at 7:15, and there is no advance check in. Each entrant's packet will contain two numbered wristbands, one for your wrist and one to be attached to your bicycle. Monitors will be matching worn wristband numbers to those on your boat and bicycle when you go to pick them up after the event.

Coffee, water, and first aid station will be available at Grundahl Park during check in.

Bicycle Routes:

The Trail Route (14.4 miles) follows the tributaries of the Sugar River as you head "downstream" through the watershed, many of which are naturally spring fed. From a little west of Riley to the edge of Verona the trail follows the main branch of the Sugar River.

The Route departs Grundahl Park to the right (north) up Blue Mound Street to the Military Ridge Bike Trail where you turn right onto the trail. **Trail passes are not needed, as the Ramble is scheduled on the DNR's free trail weekend.** The Trail Route will be marked and signed with road chalk using the initials "RR" for Rob's Ramble. Follow the bike trail to Nine Mound Road in Verona. Main road crossings will be marked to indicate that the route follows the trail until it enters Verona. At Nine Mound Road you will leave the bike trail and follow the marked streets and roads to the parking lot where Valley Road crosses the Sugar River. The total length of this route is 14.4 miles.

The Hills Route (19.8 miles) is an incredibly scenic ride that follows the West Branch Sugar River through the first third of the route, and then crosses several tributaries that feed into the West Branch. Being that we are in the "Driftless Area" and glaciers did not have an impact on the landscape, this route exhibits the hilliness found in southwestern Wisconsin.

The Hills Route departs Grundahl Park to the left (south) down Blue Mound Street and will be marked with road chalk using the initials "RR" for Rob's Ramble. When you get to Mount Horeb, there is a water fountain in the pavilion at Forest of Fame Park just off of Highway 92. The route will lead directly to the parking lot where Valley Road crosses the Sugar River for the start of your paddling trip. The total length of this route is 19.8 miles.

The Watershed Route (31.9 miles) literally straddles the boundary between the Sugar River and Pecatonica River watersheds at various points in the beginning. Ultimately, the majority of this route is in the Sugar River watershed as it criss-crosses many of the creeks that feed into the West Branch Sugar River.

The Watershed Route departs Grundahl Park to the left (south) down Blue Mound Street and will be marked with road chalk using the initials "RR" for Rob's Ramble. When you get to Mount Horeb, there is a water fountain in the pavilion at Forest of Fame Park just off of Highway 92. The route will lead directly to the parking lot where Valley Road crosses the Sugar River for the start of your paddling trip. The total length of this route is 31.9 miles.

Paddling:

When you arrive at Valley Road to begin your paddle, place your bike on the bicycle racks provided. You may leave your helmet and other cycling gear with your bike. Plastic grocery bags will be available if desired. USRWA is not responsible for valuables left anywhere on the course. Do not move or alter another person's bike when placing your bike on the rack. Water will be provided for participants. From here you will launch your boat and paddle down the river to the take out at the Bruce Company Sunset Farm (1479 State Hwy 69, Verona WI 53593).

When you arrive at the take out, volunteers will assist in landing your boat. If using your own boat, you will be directed to the designated boat parking area. Rented boats will be loaded onto the appropriate trailer. Water will be provided for participants while you wait for the bus shuttle at Bruce Farm, which will be picking people up every 20 minutes.

The bus shuttle will return you to Grundahl Park in Mount Horeb to enjoy pizza, pulled pork sandwiches, salads, chips, cookies and more along with a beer and cider tasting. Many great raffle prizes will be available as well, so be sure to purchase some raffle tickets while you're there.

After the event:

All participants will return to Valley Road (7401 Valley Rd, Verona WI 53593) to pick up your bicycle. Monitors will be on hand to check that the worn wristband numbers match those on the bike when it is picked up. If you used your own boat, you will also need to pick it up at the Bruce Company Sunset Farm (1548 State Hwy 69, Verona WI 53593). Those that rented boats do not need to return to Bruce Farm.

We ask that all bicycles and boats be picked up by 2:30 pm.

Other Details:

Maps of the routes and their directions can be downloaded from the Rob's Sugar River Ramble web page. Maps and que sheets will also be available at the check-in.

Bicycle helmets are required for all participants in the bicycle portion of the event.

Restrooms are available at Grundahl Park and on the **Hills Route & Watershed Route** at Forest of

Fame Park in Mount Vernon. The **Trail Route** has restrooms at the Military Ridge Trail Parking lot downtown Mt. Horeb and at Waltz Park on the east side of Mt. Horeb. There is also a portable toilet in the Riley trail parking lot about 6 miles into your route. Potable toilets will be available for everyone at the Valley Road transition area and at the paddling end point at Bruce Farm.

Water is available at Grundahl Park. On the **Hills Route & Watershed Route** there is a water pump at Forest of Fame Park in Mount Vernon. On the **Trail Route** water is available at the Military Ridge Trail Parking lot downtown Mt. Horeb and at Waltz Park. We will also provide water at the Valley Road bicycle to boat transition and the paddling end point at Bruce Farm.

First Aid: Volunteers at the bicycle to boat transition area, and at the finish area will have the ability to communicate with event officials and all emergency services. If an issue arises on the bicycle or paddling trip you can contact the Event Director Wade Moder at (920) 850-6902. **For medical emergencies please call 911.**

Bike Maintenance: One of our volunteers will be on hand at Grundahl Park to assist with any bicycle set up problems.

Photos: Participation in this event allows for photographs to be taken of participants for use by USRWA in publications and promotional materials. Participants can elect not to have identifiable photos taken of themselves when they check in for the Event.

Weather: Rob's Sugar River Ramble will proceed rain or shine. If weather is questionable (thunder, lightning), event officials in tandem with local authorities will decide if the event will go on. Information as to necessary changes will be posted on the Sugar River Ramble web site and Upper Sugar River Watershed Association's Facebook page. If we are forced to cancel the event, there are no refunds.

A Post Event Survey will be sent out via email to help us evaluate ways to improve on future events. Please provide us with your thoughts and suggestions.

Thank you for your participation, and we hope everyone has an enjoyable experience. Please remember to thank the many volunteers who make this event possible.