

This is the introduction to an article that ran in *Wisconsin Trails*

Wisconsin's 10 Natural Wonders

By Eric Hansen

Take a moment to think about this place we call Wisconsin. Not the architecture, highways, and other human-made structures that represent a relatively recent blip in the land's history, but the enduring natural aspects. Ask yourself what is outstanding and perhaps unique about our landscape our bioregion.

Then consider this: If someone were to ask you to list the 10 natural wonders of Wisconsin, how would you go about it? Would you lean toward visual beauty, give points for attributes of continental or global significance, or focus on flora and fauna?

I settled on this criterion: If an item jolted my curiosity, and restored my childhood sense of wonder, I added it to the list. Over time, some items lost their luster, while others remained compelling. If I felt comfortable defending one of those choices around a campfire or dinner table, it made the final cut.

