



Inkpaduta Canoe Trail



The Inkpaduta Canoe Trail, one of Iowa's most scenic and wild waterways, is rich in history and natural resources. The trail stretches from Spencer, in Clay County, Iowa, to Smithland, in southern Woodbury County, a span of approximately 134 miles. The portion illustrated here presents options for paddlers to begin or end their float in Ida County via safe, convenient access areas.

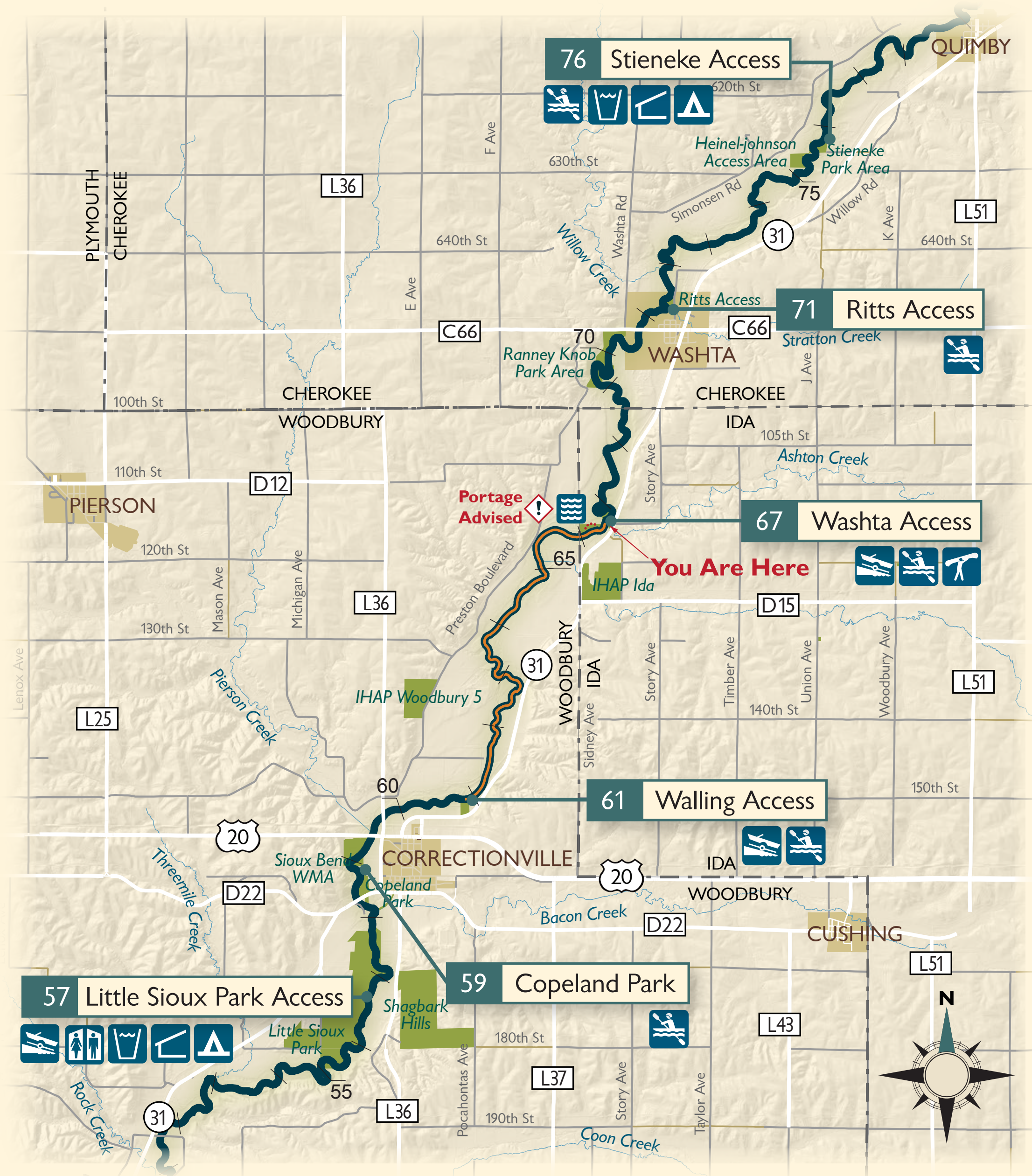
Safety Tips to enjoy an awesome paddle trip!

- Know the weather forecast before you decide to launch the boat. Know the upstream and downstream weather – consistently be aware of a changing environment!
- Dress appropriately for weather conditions (including air and water temperatures), and avoid environmental conditions beyond your skill level.
- Contact your friends and family to share your paddle trip details. Examples: entry and exit points, estimated time of arrive back home, and when you'll have available cellphone service.
- **ALWAYS** wear a properly-sized life jacket.
- Expect overhanging trees (called rakers), logjams, and other in-stream obstacles. Examples: bridge abutments or big rocks.
- **ALWAYS** portage around low-head dams.
- Don't forget, **PLAN AHEAD** to maximize your trip's safety, to have an **AWESOME** paddle trip!

KEY

- Beginner Level
- Intermediate Level
- Advanced Level
- City/Town
- Public Land
- Paved Roadways
- Gravel Roadways
- Portage Trail
- Boat Ramp
- Carry Down Access
- Restrooms
- Water
- Shelter
- Camping
- Rapids/Rock Dam
- Portage

MILES 0 1 2 3 4
KILOMETERS 0 1 2 3 4 5 6



This postcard, postmarked in 1915, depicts one of a succession of bridges over the Little Sioux River at Washta. Bridges across the river were crucial for daily life and commerce and were often victims of floods and freshets (ice-outs in spring). As you paddle, you may come across remnants of past infrastructure that graced the Little Sioux in historic times.



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