



Mark McCauley photo.

The “Mighty Pine” River of Richland County.

The Pine River originates from springs in southern Vernon County. It is currently classified as a Class II trout stream for seventeen miles. The remaining portion of the river is considered a warm water sport fishery. The Pine River has been hydrologically modified as a part of a flood control project. Canoeing, kayaking and fishing are great fun on the Pine River as it winds through valleys, under a natural bridge and boasts scenic views of bluffs and lowlands. Nestled through the county, the scenic views and breathtaking out-croppings give a quiet family -oriented trip of just a couple hours or a complete day of fun as you journey through nature and the breathtaking beauty that Rural Richland County provides. The river is maintained jointly by the Parks, Recreation and Grounds staff and the Friends of the Pine.

The Friends came together out of an interest and love for one of the gems of Richland County, ordinary people with a passion for an extraordinary natural, stunning waterway and its surroundings, the Pine River, and to promote kayaking and canoeing on the Pine. A walking trail was developed along the edges of the Pine River beginning at Bowen’s Cemetery and ending at Industrial Road and from Krouskop Park to Wedgewood N. Park. The trail features spectacular views of the Pine River, 5 canoe ports and fishing piers. For more information, Call 647 -8108 Ex 2. If you are looking for a place to rent canoes, kayaks or tubes...look to the Pine River Paddle & Tube LLC (608)475 -2199.



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The 188.5 square mile Upper Pine River watershed lies mostly in north central Richland County with a small portion in Vernon County. Streams in the watershed have a high gradient and water quality is generally good. Nearly all of the streams in the watershed are cold water streams and can support trout and other cold water species.

Like other watersheds in the Lower Wisconsin Basin, agriculture is the dominant land use in the watershed. Currently, the overall trend in Richland County is from intensive agriculture to hobby farming. The exception to this transition in land use is near the upper end of the Pine River. There are few wetland complexes in the watershed. Many of them are wet meadows or adjacent streams that have been degraded by grazing or cultivation. One exception to this is a northern bog wetland complex near Hub City. This type of wetland is very rare in this part of the state. Overall, the watershed is estimated to have a population of around 4,975 people. The Village of Yuba is the largest municipality in the watershed and experienced 19.5% growth in the last decade from 77 people to 92.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2XsD2WmG9_Y

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