



Sunrise
Photo by Loretta Kuse

Be a Meteorologist in Summer

Summer Solstice

- The sun is highest in the sky and daylight hours are the longest on that day. Think about the length of a day when you walk the trail in summer.

Sky, Air, Weather, Sunshine and Shadows

Recording What You See and Feel

- Use a camera as a tool to help you record weather changes or events.
- Keep a record of weather events for this area. Compare the record with reports for other areas. Note changes as we move from month to month.

Temperature

- Check the temperature before taking a summer walk. Note how it changes from day to day.
- Watch for birds and mammals on your walk. How do they respond to weather and temperature?

Clouds

- What kinds of clouds are in the sky in summer? What can you predict will happen by looking at the clouds?
- Learn to identify various kinds of clouds. (Altostratus, altostratus, cirrostratus, cirrus, contrails, cumulonimbus, cumulous, mammatus, nimbostratus, nimbus, stratus, etc.)

Light and Shadows

- Watch for shadows. Why are they longer at some times than others? Observe the shape of shadows and the shape of the objects that form them. Why are they more visible on some days than others?
- Where in the sky are sunrises and sunsets located in summer? How do these locations differ from other seasons? Why?
- People walking a trail during working hours may not have an opportunity to observe sunrises or sunsets or different hours of darkness and daylight, but they can compare what they observe about sunlight and shadow during a walk with what they see in the morning or evening at home.
- Learn to use a sun dial to tell time.

Precipitation

- Keep a record of types and amounts of precipitation.
- Take photos of various kinds of precipitation.

Severe Weather

- Check weather reports. Avoid walking the trail when storms are predicted to happen. This saying is helpful to remember. "When thunder roars go indoors."
- Learn about the effects of severe weather in this area in the past. Read the news article about the Billings family in 1878.
Taylor County Star and News. Star, Vol. III, No. 6, News, Vol. IV, No. 45. Medford, Wisconsin, April 27, 1878.

A paper has been circulated this week and considerable money raised, for the relief of **Mr. Billings**, whose clearing was blown full of trees, and house partially destroyed during the tornado of Saturday.

- Learn about how to be safe in severe weather.