

Have you seen a Robin or Red Winged Black Bird yet? This is the time of year that Mother Nature demonstrates her struggle between keeping Winter or allowing Spring to arrive. Warmer days, still cold nights, and a slippery driveway keeps us on our toes not knowing what to expect from our wonderful Michigan weather. With that being said, this is also the time of year when we begin making our Spring plans to get out of the house, shake off those cabin blues, and enjoy the great outdoors again.



Please join us March 30 & 31 for the Michigan Maple Syrup weekend. As you travel through the heart of Ogemaw County, you will see the trees, taps & buckets and the hustle & bustle of some of the hardest working people collecting, reducing and producing nature's pride. Please visit one of local producers - Reetz Family Sugar Bush or Ron's Pure Maple Syrup to bring home a taste of the West Branch Area. For more information about this delicious natural resource, please visit michiganmaple.org



As outdoor enthusiasts, we also look forward to Spring fishing. As the ice begins to break up, our Rifle River becomes a premier destination. We usually start with a sucker run, followed by the ever sought after steelhead trout, and then finally as the water temperature rises, the walleye will enter the river system. On the Great Lakes, brown trout move closer to shore and what is left of the smelt will also approach the shoreline. For more information or rules and regulations please visit the [Department of Natural Resources](#)

While in the West Branch area, stop at our many local eateries, wine tasting rooms and/or take in a dinner show. Please explore our website for things to do in West Branch and experience Small Town America and what our area Up North is all about.

Emil Rousseau, Visitors Bureau President

Introduction to West Branch from Great Getaways' Heart of Michigan Circle Tour

A unique turn-of-the-century Downtown Victorian West Branch is the the cultural focal point for Ogemaw County. The heritage of this area is evident in the architecture with the century old Victorian buildings, the towns pride is reflected in the pleasing atmosphere and the vitality that is displayed in the variety of unique shops, personal services and free convenient parking.

GREAT GETAWAYS:

Heart of Michigan Circle Tour

With its abundant lakes, scenic hills and trails Ogemaw County is considered the Gateway to the North. Ogemaw County sits right in the heart of Michigan and is filled with history, beauty and great events. The online travel planner for this episode of Great Getaways collects information and web links related to the area, combined with photos and video clips from the show in what they hope will be a helpful guide as you plan your trip.



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