

MINOOTEENI PARK AT ACIIPHKAHKIONKI

R I V E R S A R E L I F E

Siipiiwa (rivers) were (and still are) very important to the Miami as well as other indigenous peoples of the area. Rivers provided a source of water, transportation, and fishing. Two major rivers in the area, the White and Wabash Rivers, were both named from Myaamia (Miami) words.

Wabash River: Waapaahšiki in the Myaamia language refers to the white rock along the bottom of the waapaahšiki siipiiwi (Wabash River).

White River: Waapikamiiki means “clear water or white water” and refers to the pristine clear water of the waapikamiiki siipiiwi (White River).

Rivers form a large part of the Miami Nation creation story. Long ago, near the beginning of memory, the first Myaamia people pulled themselves out of a river by grabbing onto tree branches and emerging near modern-day South Bend.



To listen to audio recordings of the signs in the Myaamia and English languages, use the QR code.

mihtami myaamiaki nipinkonci saakaciweeciki
(At first the Miamis came out of the water.)

seekaahkwiaanki anaahkapa
(We held on to the tree limbs.)

nipi keekiihtanki
(Water is flowing with life.)

