

FREE RESIDENT GUIDE

*What's Inside:
Businesses
Directory
History
Events
And More*



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Traverse &
Swift Counties,
Minnesota**



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2013 CALENDAR

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							
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THIS GUIDE





Local Area Events

JANUARY

Sno-Rider Fun Run | Ortonville

FEBRUARY

Winterfest | Ortonville

Arctic Open | Ortonville

Whetstone Snowmobile Poker Run | Ortonville

MARCH

St. Patrick's Day Parade | Benson

Farm, Home & Sports Show | Benson

Sports & Leisure Show | Ortonville

APRIL

Easter Egg Hunt | Benson

Health Gala | Ortonville

Border Walleye Challenge | Ortonville

MAY

Community Wide Rummage Sales | Benson

Syttende Mai | Benson

Golf Invitational | Benson

Health Fair | Ortonville

MTT MN Tournament Trail | Ortonville

Local Area Events

JUNE

Chalk the Walk & Bike Rodeo | Benson

Relay for Life | Benson

All School Reunion | Benson

Clinton Day

Bonanza Quilt Show | Ortonville

Ride Around the Lake for Parkinson's | Ortonville

JULY

Crazy Days | Benson

Kid Day | Benson

Hospice Motorcycle Ride | Benson

Fly-In Breakfast | Benson

Duck Race | Benson

Graceville Toquatenial Days

Fireman Appreciation Day | Ortonville

Senior Golf Tournament | Ortonville

Crazy Days | Ortonville

Ortonville Couples Golf Tournament

A+ School Golf Tournament | Ortonville

Dumont Days

Ag Golf Tournament | Ortonville

AUGUST

Swift County Fair | Appleton

Threshing Show | Benson

Rib Fest | Benson

Big Stone County Fair | Clinton

Cornfest | Ortonville

Flower Shower | Ortonville

Riverside Trail Ride | Ortonville

Traverse County Fair | Wheaton

SEPTEMBER

All School Reunion | Appleton

Applefest | Appleton

Oak Tree Classic | Ortonville

OCTOBER

Holiday Expo | Benson

Fall Craft Fair | Benson

Norwegian Smorgasbord | Benson

Big Stone Lake Harvest Festival | Clinton

Fall Country Market | Clinton

Old Settlers Supper | Ortonville

Treat Street | Ortonville

NOVEMBER

Holiday Extravaganza | Appleton

Silent Auction | Benson

November Holidaze | Benson

Holiday Stroll | Benson

Holiday Boutique | Benson

Scandinavian Food Fair | Ortonville

BBQ Supper | Ortonville

Holiday Kickoff | Ortonville

Craft Show | Ortonville

DECEMBER

Holiday Craft Show | Appleton

Santa Visits | Benson

Kids Against Hunger | Ortonville

Santa Days | Ortonville

Residential Services

BIG STONE COUNTY

Administrator	(320) 839-2536
Assessor	839-6360
Attorney	839-6197
Auditor	839-6366
Environmental Services	839-6376
Highway	596-2114
Recorder	839-6390
Sheriff.....	839-3558
U of M Extension	839-6380
Veterans Services	839-6376

TRAVERSE COUNTY

Administrator	(320) 231-6507
Assessor	563-4113
Attorney	762-0259
Auditor	563-4242
Environmental Services	563-8218
Highway	563-4848
Recorder	563-4622
Sheriff.....	563-8700
U of M Extension	563-4515
Veterans Services	563-4411

SWIFT COUNTY

Administrator	(320) 843-2744
Assessor.....	842-5891
Attorney	843-2134
Auditor	843-4069
Environmental Services	843-2356
Highway	842-5251
Recorder	843-3377
Sheriff.....	843-3133
U of M Extension	843-3796
Veterans Services	842-5271



Big Stone County History (Ortonville, County Seat)

Once home to Indian tribes, Big Stone County was established in 1862 and its name was derived from the Indian phrase “inyan tankinyan” meaning “Big Stone.” Settlers were attracted to the prairie and ample natural resources and Ortonville was selected as the county seat in 1881. By 1900 its population had reached 8,731 and had grown to 9,607 by 1950. As industry began to slow, its population had begun to decline. The area has now become a popular region for recreational enthusiasts with its many snowmobile trails, hunting land and fishable lakes. Today Big Stone County is home to approximately 5,251 residents.

CITIES:

- BARRY** – pop. 22
- BEARDSLEY** – pop. 224
- CLINTON** – pop. 391
- CORRELL** – pop. 43
- GRACEVILLE** – pop. 585
- JOHNSON** – pop. 28
- ODESSA** – pop. 101
- ORTONVILLE (COUNTY SEAT)** – pop. 1,931

TOWNSHIPS:

- AKRON** – pop. 180
- ALMOND** – pop. 178
- ARTICHOKE** – pop. 78
- BIG STONE** – pop. 227
- BROWNS VALLEY** – pop. 390
- FOSTER** – pop. 111
- GRACEVILLE** – pop. 193
- MALTA** – pop. 88
- MOONSHINE** – pop. 141
- ODESSA** – pop. 136
- ORTONVILLE** – pop. 2,046
- OTREY** – pop. 98
- PRIOR** – pop. 200
- TOQUA** – pop. 85

*Populations are approximate.

Big Stone County Communities

BARRY

In 1879 the Barry brothers arrived to the area and first called the community Lowell after their hometown in Massachusetts. A general store was constructed the following year and a post office was established in 1881. Maria M. Barry served as its first postmaster and Lowell was renamed in honor of the Barry family who were influential in the community. By 1891 Barry housed a blacksmith shop, lumberyard, grain elevator and a bowling alley. Today Barry is home to approximately 22 residents.

BEARDSLEY

Beardsley was named after W. W. Beardsley who platted its streets in 1880. A post office was established in 1881 and Henry Stonebraker constructed the first business. In 1891 Beardsley was incorporated and the community continued to develop with the arrival of the railroad. Today Beardsley is home to approximately 224 residents.

CLINTON

First known as Central, Clinton was settled in 1877 as a farming community. A post office was established in 1878 with Peter McCormick serving as its first postmaster. McCormick also founded the first store and lumberyard and in 1885 the community was platted and renamed Clinton. The area was comprised of a variety of businesses including grain elevators, general stores, feed mills, a plow factory and a creamery and in 1907 Clinton held the first county fair. Today Clinton is home to approximately 391 residents.

Big Stone County Communities

CORRELL

Located in Akron Township, Correll was named in honor of D. N. Correll who platted streets in 1879. Henry L. Holmes served as its first postmaster in 1880 and a railway station was constructed the following year. In 1890 the land in the area was purchased by the Thomas F. Koch Land Company who sold it to Charles F. Woods. In 1893 Woods established the Farmers Elevator and industry was led by agriculture. Today Correll is home to approximately 43 residents.

GRACEVILLE

Graceville was founded in 1877 and named for Bishop Thomas Langdon Grace of St. Paul. The community was incorporated in 1881 and over 200 acres were purchased by Bishop John Ireland. By 1890 Graceville housed grain elevators, roller and flour mills, livestock and horse breeders, a railway station, Catholic convent and a school. Today Graceville is home to approximately 585 residents.

JOHNSON

Named after a railway worker, Johnson was settled in 1880 and its first post office was established in 1883. By 1895 the area boasted several grain elevators, general stores, a lumberyard, livery stable, railway station, hotel, school, bank, creamery and a blacksmith shop and in 1903 Johnson was incorporated. Today Johnson is home to approximately 28 residents.

ODESSA

Odessa was first settled by A. D. Beardsley in 1870. Beardsley was influential in the community who served as a railroad agent, lumberman, postmaster and a store owner. Streets were platted in 1879 and by 1895 Odessa was incorporated and housed several grain and flour mills. Today Odessa is home to approximately 101 residents.

ORTONVILLE (COUNTY SEAT)

Ortonville was first settled in 1871 by Cornelius Knute Orton and the community was named in his honor. Orton platted streets in 1872 and established a post office in 1875. The proximity to Big Stone Lake attracted many residents and by 1881 Orton was organized as a village and selected as the county seat. A courthouse was built in 1902 and by 1915 Ortonville housed a variety of businesses including a hotel, hospital, library and a movie theatre. Today Ortonville is home to approximately 1,931 residents.

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Traverse County History *(Wheaton, County Seat)*

Once home to Indian tribes, Traverse County was established in 1862 and its name was derived from Lake Traverse. Settlers were attracted to the lush prairie and access to water and Browns Valley was selected as the county seat in 1878 until it was moved by voters in 1886 to Wheaton where it remains. By 1900 its population had reached 7,573 and had grown to 8,053 by 1950. As industry began to slow, its population had begun to decline and is now the least populated county in Minnesota. Today Traverse County is home to approximately 3,573 residents.

CITIES:

BROWNS VALLEY – pop. 588

DUMONT – pop. 102

TINTAH – pop. 66

WHEATON (COUNTY SEAT) – pop. 1,383

TOWNSHIPS:

ARTHUR – pop. 96

CLIFTON – pop. 81

CROKE – pop. 74

DOLLYMOUNT – pop. 74

FOLSOM – pop. 131

LAKE VALLEY – pop. 239

LEONARDSVILLE – pop. 133

MONSON – pop. 143

PARNELL – pop. 55

REDPATH – pop. 32

TARA – pop. 111

TAYLOR – pop. 97

TINTAH – pop. 48

WALLS – pop. 72

WINDSOR – pop. 48

**Populations are approximate.*

Traverse County Communities

BROWNS VALLEY

Browns Valley, the oldest community in Traverse County, was first known as Lake Traverse as it was founded by Joseph R. Brown in 1866 and was selected as the first county seat. Brown's son Samuel served as the area's first postmaster in 1867 and the community was renamed after the death of his father in 1870. Streets were platted in 1878 and Browns Valley was incorporated in 1881 and the county seat was moved to Wheaton in 1886. Today Browns Valley is home to approximately 588 residents.

DUMONT

Dumont was established in 1884 as rail lines were laid by the Fargo and Southern Railroad. Streets were platted the following year and the first post office was founded in 1886. In 1898 Dumont was incorporated and recently celebrated 125 years of history in 2010. Today Dumont is home to approximately 102 residents.

TINTAH

Tintah, Indian for "prairie," was established as a railway station was constructed in 1872. In 1880 Charles Smith served as the area's first postmaster and the community was organized the following year. In 1887 streets were platted and by 1889 Tintah was incorporated. Today Tintah is home to approximately 66 residents.

WHEATON (COUNTY SEAT)

First known as Lake Valley, Wheaton was settled in 1879. A post office was established and the community was renamed Wheaton after surveyor Daniel Thompson Wheaton of the Fargo and Southern Railroad. Streets were platted in 1884 and by 1887 Wheaton was incorporated and selected as the county seat. Industry was dominated by agriculture and early businesses included general stores, a flour mill, church, school and a hotel. Today Wheaton is home to approximately 1,383 residents.

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Swift County History *(Benson, County Seat)*

Once home to Indian tribes, Swift County was established in 1870 and named in honor of Minnesota Governor Henry A. Swift. Settlers were attracted to the fertile farmland and Benson was selected as the county seat. A courthouse was constructed in 1897 that was declared a national historic site in 1976. By 1900 Swift County's population had reached 13,503 and had grown to 15,837 by 1950. As industry began to slow, development began to slow. Today Swift County is home to approximately 10,823 residents.

CITIES:

APPLETON – pop. 2,920

BENSON (COUNTY SEAT) – pop. 2,969

CLONTARF – pop. 149

DANVERS – pop. 88

DE GRAFF – pop. 112

HOLLOWAY – pop. 94

KERKHOVEN – pop. 658

MURDOCK – pop. 265

TOWNSHIPS:

APPLETON – pop. 201

BENSON – pop. 318

CAMP LAKE – pop. 191

CASHEL – pop. 125

CLONTARF – pop. 72

DUBLIN – pop. 136

EDISON – pop. 115

FAIRFIELD – pop. 148

HAYES – pop. 191

HEGBERT – pop. 103

KERKHOVEN – pop. 248

KILDARE – pop. 167

MARYSLAND – pop. 90

MOYER – pop. 109

PILLSBURY – pop. 260

SHIBLE – pop. 100

SIX MILE GROVE – pop. 150

SWENODA – pop. 140

TARA – pop. 108

TORNING – pop. 421

WEST BANK – pop. 175

**Populations are approximate.*

Swift County Communities

APPLETON

Settled by Addison Phelps in 1868, Appleton was first known as Phelps and later Clarksfield. The community was founded in 1871 and renamed Appleton for Samuel Appleton of Wisconsin. The first post office was established in 1872 and streets were platted on a former Indian camp site. Railroad development allowed for growth and in 1881 Appleton was incorporated. Today Appleton is home to approximately 2,920 residents.

BENSON (COUNTY SEAT)

The Benson area was settled in 1866 and the first store was constructed by A. W. and W. V. Lathrop in 1869. Streets were platted by Charles A. F. Morris and the community was named in honor of Anoka politician Benjamin H. Benson in 1870. The community was selected as the county seat and railroad development allowed for growth. Benson quickly became a trade center for the area and businesses included hotels, saloons, pharmacies, general stores, factories, a bank, library and hospital. Today Benson is home to approximately 2,969 residents.

CLONTARF

Clontarf was settled and platted in 1876 by the Catholic Colonization Bureau in an effort to attract Irish-Catholic immigrants. A post office was established with Dominick F. McDermott serving as its first postmaster and the community was named by Bishop John Ireland after a village in Ireland. In 1904 Clontarf was incorporated and housed a bank, grain elevator, general store and variety shops. Today Clontarf is home to approximately 149 residents.

DANVERS

The first post office in the Danvers area was established in 1892. The community was named after Danvers, Massachusetts, from where many settlers originated. As a railway station was constructed Danvers began to grow and the community was incorporated in 1900. Today Danvers is home to approximately 88 residents.

DE GRAFF

The Catholic Colonization Bureau established and platted streets in the De Graff area in 1875. The community was named for Andrew De Graff, a railway officer of St. Paul and a post office was established. In 1881 De Graff was incorporated and industry was led by agriculture. Today De Graff is home to approximately 112 residents.

Swift County Communities

HOLLOWAY

Located in Edison and Moyer Townships, Holloway was first known as Norton. A post office was established in 1889 and as the railroad arrived the community was renamed Holloway after a local farmer. In 1903 Holloway was incorporated and businesses were established. Today Holloway is home to approximately 94 residents.

KERKHOVEN

Kerkhoven was settled in 1865 and first recognized as Pillsbury. Streets were platted in 1870 and a post office was established the following year. The community was renamed in 1883 in honor of Johannes Kerkhoven, a stockholder of the Great Northern Railroad. Today Kerkhoven is home to approximately 658 residents.

MURDOCK

Murdock was founded and platted in 1878 by Samuel Sabin Murdock, a local landowner and railway commissioner. A post office was established that same year with George Botham serving as its first postmaster. In 1881 Murdock was incorporated and businesses were constructed. Today Murdock is home to approximately 265 residents.



Minnesota

The 10 Largest Lakes in Minnesota

Red Lake

Mille Lacs Lake

Leech Lake

Lake Winnibig-
oshish

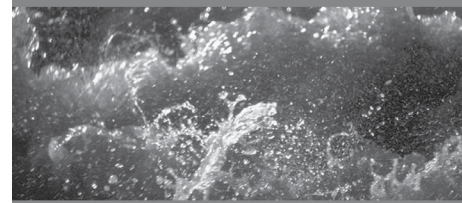
Lake Kabetogama

Mud Lake

Cass Lake

Lake Minnetonka

Otter Tail Lake



Local Area Attractions

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35445 Hwy. 7 | Clinton | (320) 839-2048

BIG STONE CAMP FOR CHRIST

378974 Hwy. 7 | Ortonville | (320) 839-3001

BIG STONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

985 Hwy. 12 | Ortonville | (320) 839-3359

DEMARCE THEATRE

1320 Atlantic Ave. | Benson | (320) 842-6871

GOPHER THEATRE

907 Broadway | Wheaton | (320) 563-0315

GRACEVILLE GOLF CLUB

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GRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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PINE HILLS GOLF CLUB

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SWIFT COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

2135 Minnesota Ave. | Benson | (320) 843-4467

TRAVERSE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

Hwy. 27 & Trail St. | Wheaton | (320) 563-8520

VALLEY VIEW ANTIQUES

1192 Hwy. 12 | Ortonville | (320) 839-3138

WHEATON COUNTRY CLUB

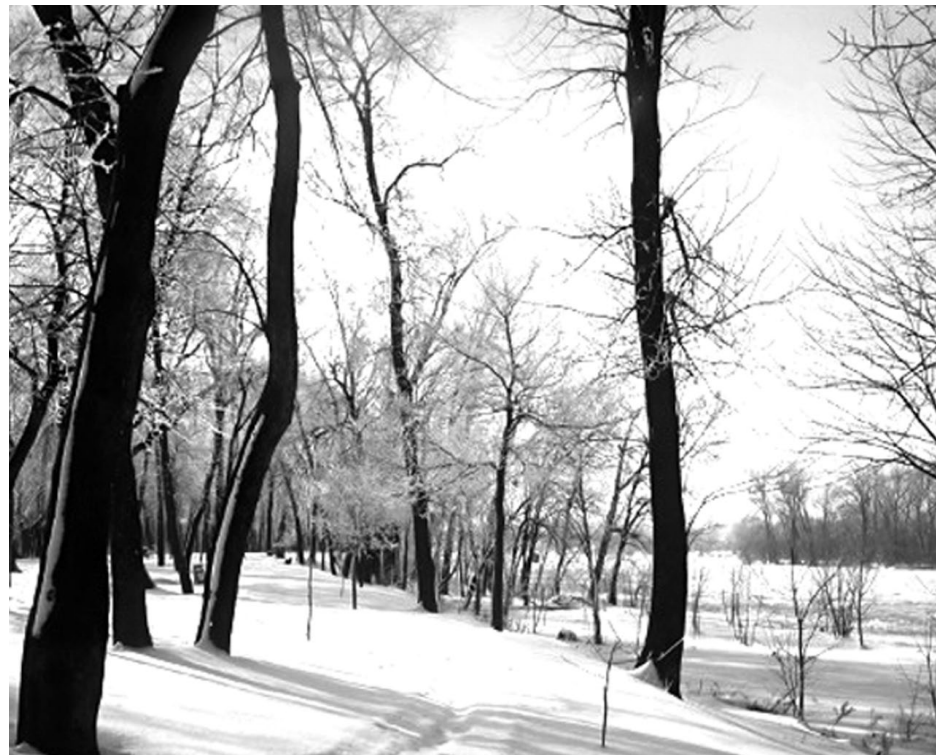
P.O. Box 885 | Wheaton | (320) 563-4079

WHEATON SWIMMING POOL

S 16th St. & S 2nd Ave. | Wheaton | (320) 563-0649

WHEATON LANES

401 N 5th St. | Wheaton | (320) 563-4333



Parks & Recreation

APPLETON AREA RECREATION PARK

Hwy. 59 | Appleton | (320) 843-5341

Located near Appleton Lake, the Appleton Area Recreation Park features ATV and OHM trails, a practice track, snowmobile trails, motorcycle trails, hiking trails, play areas and picnic areas.

BIG STONE COUNTY TOQUA PARK

1122 6th St. | Graceville | (320) 748-7413

Located near East and West Toqua Lakes, Big Stone County Park features a campground, boat launch, swimming beach, ball fields, golf course, playground equipment, recreational trails and picnic areas.

BIG STONE LAKE STATE PARK

35889 Meadowbrk Rd. | Ortonville | (320) 839-3663

Located on 986 acres, Big Stone Lake State Park features a campground, swimming beach, golf course, playground equipment, horseshoe pits, recreational trails and picnic areas.

SWIFT FALLS COUNTY PARK

70th St. NE | Swift Falls | (320) 842-5920

Located near the Chippewa River, Swift Falls County Park features a campground, dam, fishing opportunities, recreational trails and picnic areas.

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428 BIRD SPECIES

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BROWNS VALLEY

BROWNS VALLEY HARDWARE HANK

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TRI-COUNTY CO-OP OIL

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HOLIDAY STATIONSTORE #105

624 SE 2nd St. | Ortonville | (320) 839-2120

KJ'S KOUNTRY STORE, LLC

34761 760th Ave. | Ortonville | (320) 325-5467

KRUEGER LICENSE BUREAU

229 NW 2nd St. | Ortonville | (320) 839-6112

WHEATON

HOMER'S MINI-MART

105 N Hwy. 75 | Wheaton | (320) 563-8300

MARK'S CONVENIENCE STORE

101 S 5th St. | Wheaton | (320) 563-0691

SAG'S HARDWARE HANK, INC.

404 N Hwy. 75 | Wheaton | (320) 563-4255

Minnesota Hunting Seasons

For general information on firearm safety training call: 1 (888) 646-6367 or (651) 296-6157.

Contact the MN DNR for specific zone areas:

Online: www.dnr.state.mn.us, Toll Free: 1 (888) 665-4236.

You can purchase hunting and fishing licenses by phone: 1 (888) 665-4236.

HUNTING

RABBIT & SQUIRREL

09/15/12 - 02/28/13; 09/14/13 - 02/28/14

GRAY & RED FOX, BADGER, OPOSSUM & RACCOON

(North) 10/20/12 - 03/15/13; 10/19/13 - 03/13/14
(South) 10/20/12 - 03/15/13; 10/19/13 - 03/15/14

GOOSE

(Spring Light Goose) 03/01/13 - 04/30/13
(Early Canada Goose) 09/01/13 - 09/20/13

CROW

03/01/13 - 03/31/13; 07/15/13 - 10/15/13

BEAR

09/01/13 - 10/13/13

MOURNING DOVE

09/01/13 - 10/30/13

SNIFE & RAIL

09/01/13 - 11/04/13

DEER

(Archery) 09/14/13 - 12/31/13
(Youth) 10/17/13 - 10/20/13
(Camp Ripley Archery) 10/17/13 - 10/18/13
(Firearm 2A & 3A) 11/09/13 - 11/17/13
(Firearm 1A) 11/09/13 - 11/24/13
(Firearm 3B) 11/23/13 - 12/01/13
(Muzzleloader) 11/30/13 - 12/15/13

SHARPTAILED GROUSE

09/14/13 - 11/30/13

HUNTING, CONTD.

GROUSE & GRAY PARTRIDGE

09/15/12 - 01/01/13; 09/14/13 - 01/01/14

MOOSE

(Northeast Zone) 09/28/13 - 10/13/13

TURKEY

09/28/13 - 10/27/13

PHEASANT

10/12/13 - 01/01/14

PRAIRIE CHICKEN

10/19/13 - 10/23/13

FISHER & PINE MARTEN

11/30/13 - 12/05/13

FURBEARER TRAPPING

BEAVER

(North) 10/26/13 - 04/30/14
(South) 11/02/13 - 04/30/14

MINK & MUSKRAT

(North) 10/26/13 - 02/28/14
(South) 11/02/13 - 02/28/14

OTTER

(North Zone) 10/26/13 - 01/05/14
(South Zone) 11/02/13 - 01/05/14

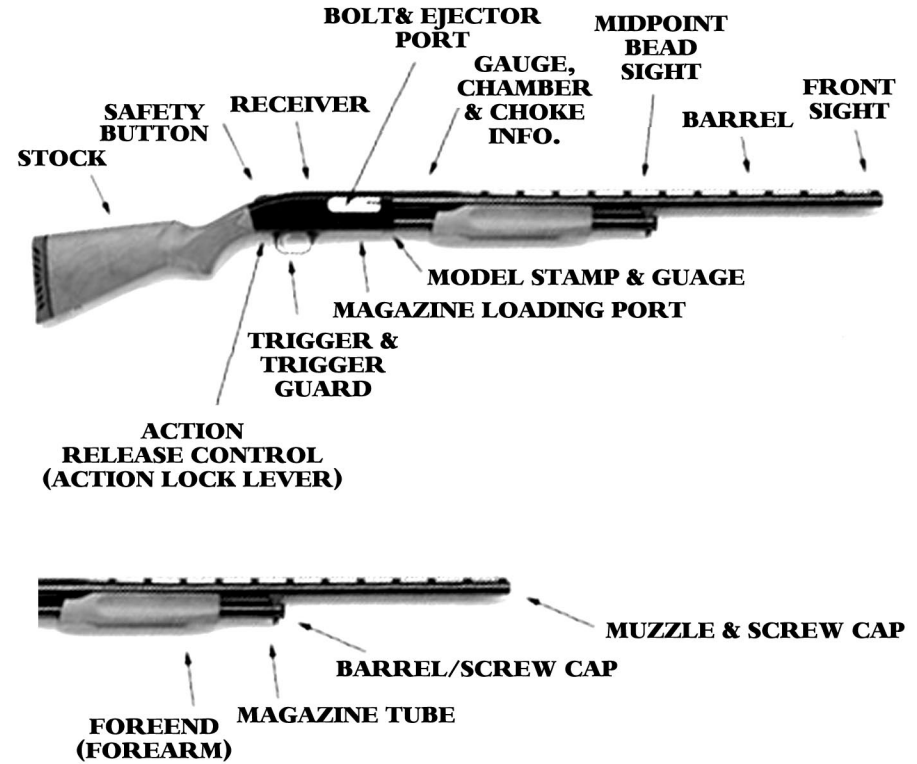
BOBCAT

11/24/12 - 01/05/13; 11/30/13 - 12/05/13

**At the time of publication not all of the 2013-2014 Minnesota Hunting Seasons were available.*

Contact www.dnr.state.mn.us for more information

Hunting Safety



All hunters should consider taking an advanced hunter education class to learn the latest hunting techniques along with tips on coming home alive.

Here are five suggestions for a safe and successful hunting experience:

1. Get a detailed map of the area you are hunting, review it before you leave, and carry it with you in the field.
2. Carry a compass and know how to use it. Decide ahead of time the direction to head for if you get lost or disoriented.
3. Weather can change quickly, so hunters should carry a simple survival kit and be prepared for an unexpected overnight stay in the field. The survival kit should contain a rope, a knife, water, waterproof matches, an emergency shelter, and first aid supplies.
4. If you are on the water, make sure to wear a personal flotation device (life preserver).
5. Know your hunting partners' physical and emotional limitations, as well as your own, and don't push your partners or yourself beyond those limits.

Minnesota Fishing Seasons

BOWFISHING

05/01/13 - 02/23/14

WALLEYE, SAUGER & NORTHERN PIKE

05/11/13 - 02/23/14

LARGEMOUTH BASS*

05/11/13 - 02/23/14

SMALLMOUTH BASS*

(Catch & Release) 09/09/13 - 02/23/14

LAKE TROUT*

(BWCA) 12/29/12 - 03/31/13

(Outside BWCA) 01/12/13 - 03/31/13

05/11/13 - 09/30/14

STREAM TROUT*

(Southeast) 01/01/13 - 03/31/13

(Catch & Release) Spring: 04/01/13 - 04/12/13

Summer: 05/11/13 - 10/31/13

Fall: 09/15/13 - 09/30/13

(All Lakes) 05/11/13 - 10/31/13

Muskie

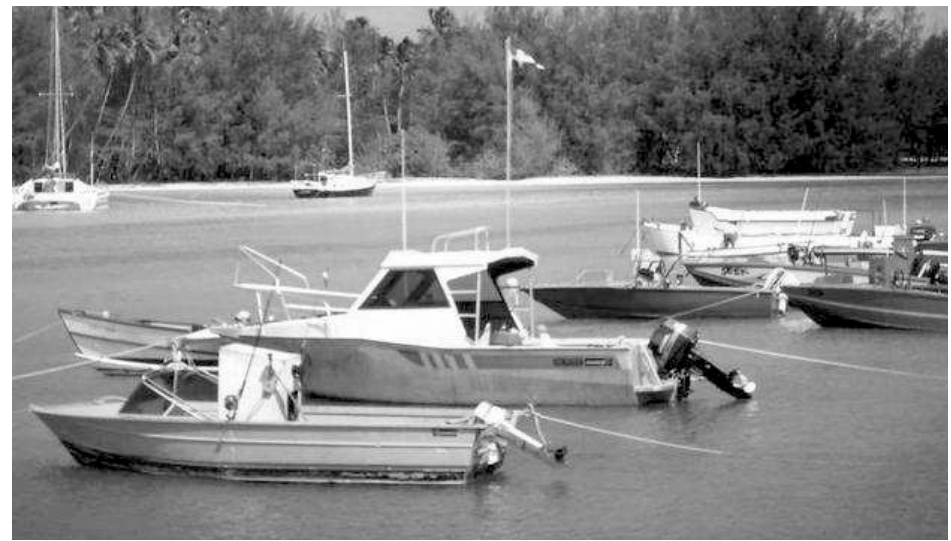
06/01/13 - 12/01/13

Take-a-kid fishing weekend

06/07/13 - 06/09/13

• At time of publication, not all 2013 seasons were posted.

*Contact the MN DNR for specific zone information by calling: 1 (888) 646-6367.



Boating Safety

Operating Watercraft

Follow these guidelines to help prevent and prepare for capsizing, swamping, or someone falling overboard.

Make sure that you and your passengers are wearing life jackets while the boat is moving.

Attach the ignition safety lanyard to your wrist, clothes, or life jacket.

Don't allow anyone to sit on the gunwale, bow, seat backs, motor cover, or areas not designed for seating. Also, don't let anyone sit on pedestal seats when craft is not in idle.

Don't overload your boat. Balance the load of passengers and gear stored on-board.

Keep your center of gravity low by not allowing people to stand up or move around while craft is in motion.













In small boats, don't allow anyone to lean beyond the gunwale.

Turn boat at slow rates of speed.

Secure the anchor line to the bow, never to the stern.

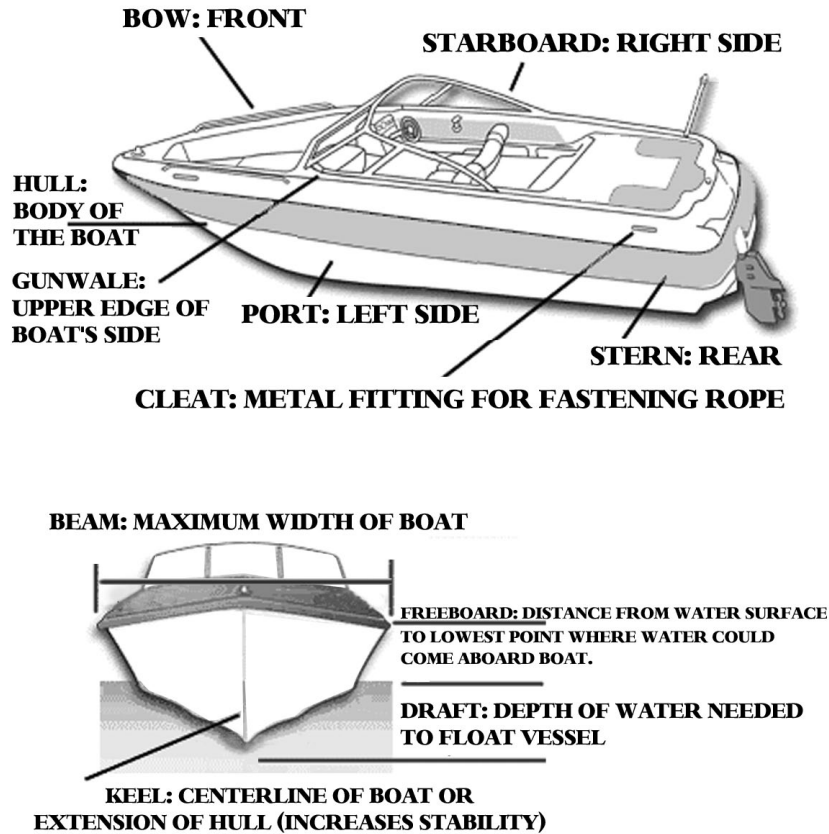
Don't risk operating water craft in rough conditions or bad weather.

Common Fish Species

 Bass	 Crappie	 Smelt
 Catfish	 Muskellunge	 Sunfish
 Carp	 Northern Pike	 Trout
 Cisco-Tullibee-Herring	 Salmon	 Walleye

Boating Safety

Know Your Craft



Who May Operate a Motorboat (Other Than a Personal Watercraft)

For engines 25 horsepower or less:

Those under age 12 may operate without restrictions.

For engines over 25 horsepower through 75 horsepower:

Those under age 12 must have someone 21 years of age or older on board within reach of the controls.

For engines over 75 horsepower:

No children under age 12 may operate, even with an adult on board.

Other restrictions apply to boat operators 12 to 17 years old:

Operators from 12 to 17 years of age may operate engines of 25 horsepower or lower with no restrictions.

For engines over 25 horsepower:

Operators 12 to 17 years of age must have:

A watercraft operator's permit, or someone age 21 years or older on board within reach of the controls.

Boating Safety

Flotation Devices



Offshore Life Jackets - Type 1:

For rough or remote waters where rescue may take awhile. Provide the most buoyancy, excellent for flotation, turns most unconscious persons face up in the water.



Near-Shore Vests - Type 2:

Good for calm waters when quick assistance or rescue is likely. Turns some unconscious wearers face up in the water, but not as efficiently as offshore life jackets.



Flotation Aids - Type 3:

Vests or full-sleeved jackets good for calm waters when quick assistance is likely. Not for rough waters. They will not turn most unconscious persons face up. Used for sports, such as water-skiing. Some inflate in water.



Unwearable / Throwable Devices - Type 4:

Cushions and ring buoys designed to be thrown to someone in trouble. Type 4 is not designed to be worn. Not for rough waters - not for anyone unable to hold on to it.



Special Use - Type 5:

Vests, hybrids/others designed for specific activities, for example windsurfing, kayaking, water-skiing. Some Type 5 devices inflate when entering the water. To be acceptable, Type 5 must be used in compliance with their label instructions.

All watercraft must have at least one Coast Guard Approved Type 1, 2, 3 or 5 flotation device that is the proper size for each person on board or being towed.

All devices must be in good condition and easily accessible.

Children under age 10 must wear a device when on board a boat that is underway unless: in an enclosed cabin or below deck or on an anchored boat that is being used for swimming or diving or passenger craft with a licensed captain.

Along with the above at least one approved Type 4 must be on board boats 16 ft. or longer (except canoes and kayaks) and immediately available.

A Coast Guard approved Type 5 device may be substituted for any other Coast Guard approved device if it meets the same requirements and is noted on the label.

Anyone riding a jet ski or other Personal Water Craft must wear an approved -non inflating flotation device, as well as anyone being towed by a water craft.

ATV Safety

- Read the owner's manual and know your vehicle thoroughly.
- Check your vehicle before you ride.
- Wear protective equipment and clothing.
- Don't lend your vehicle to unskilled riders.
- Supervise young or inexperienced riders.
- Never carry a passenger on vehicles meant for one rider.
- Do not operate under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Drive at speeds that are appropriate to trail conditions.
- Stay to the right on trails.
- Stay away from thin ice, open water and wetlands
- Know the weather forecast.
- Make sure headlights and taillights work properly.
- Maintain safe distances between other riders.
- Reduce your speed when riding at night.
- Yield to other motor vehicles and trail users.
- Young or beginning riders are encouraged to take a safety training course.

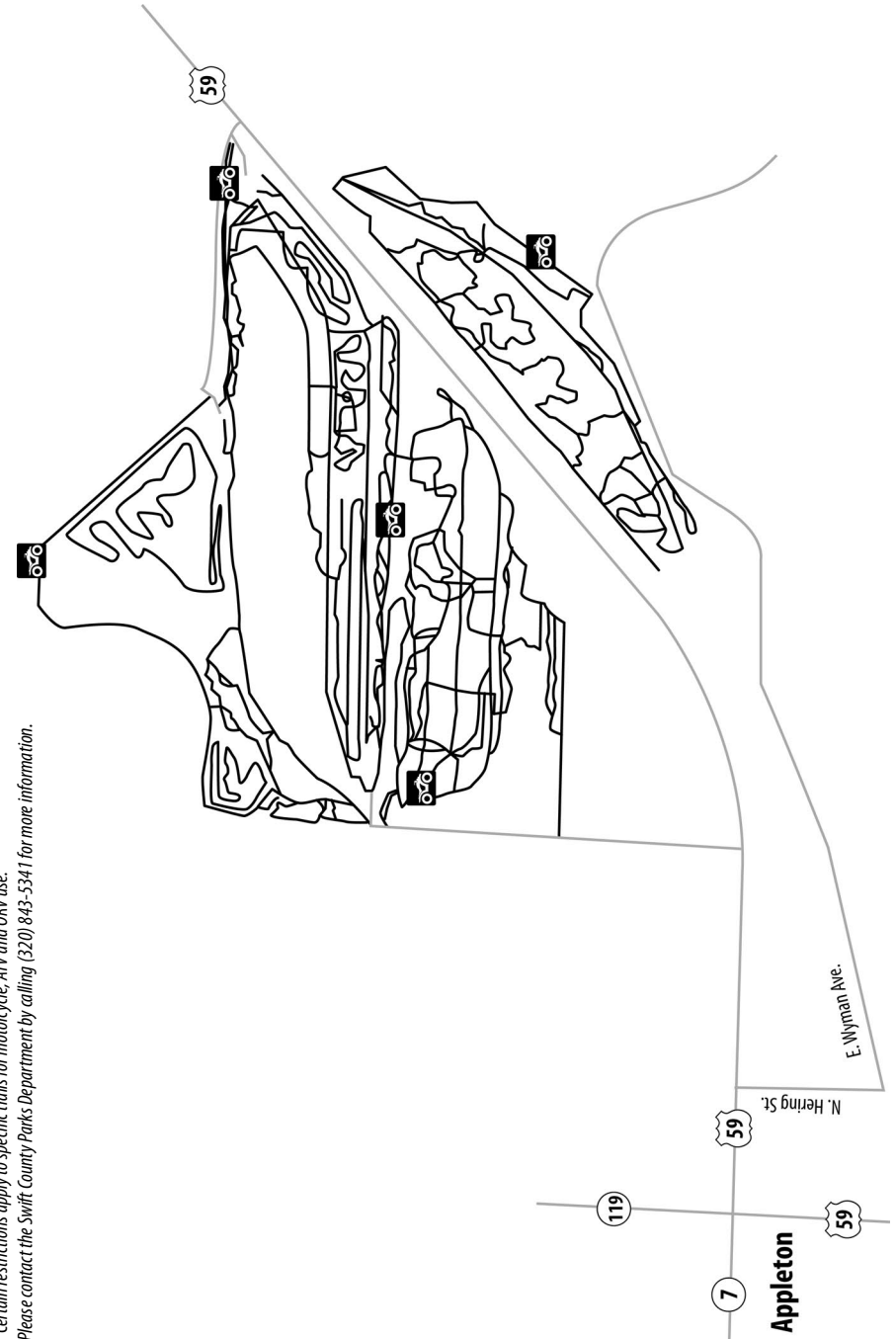
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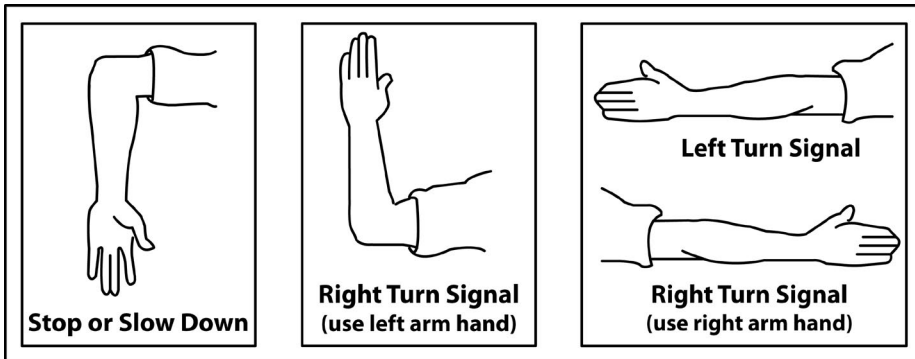
Appleton Recreation Park ATV Trails



**Certain restrictions apply to specific trails for motorcycle, ATV and ORV use.
Please contact the Swift County Parks Department by calling (320) 843-5341 for more information.*

Bicycle Safety

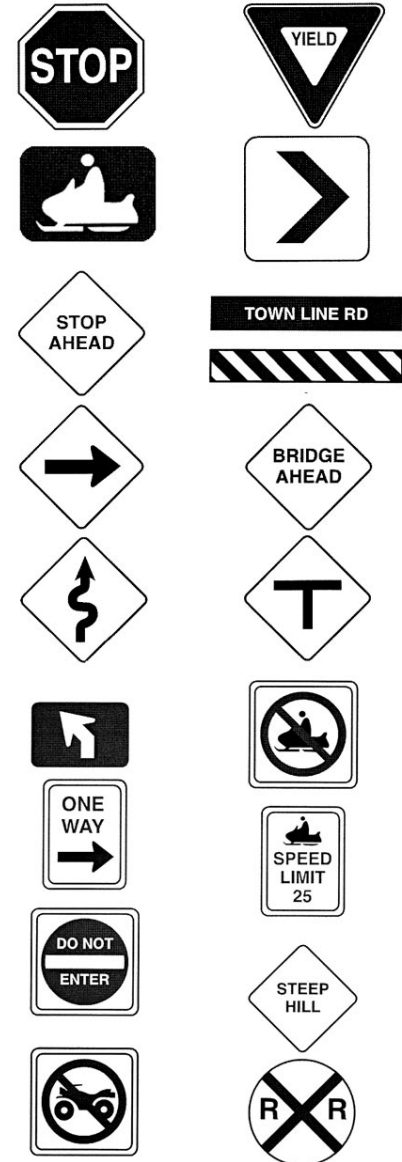
- Always wear a properly fitting bike helmet as most serious injuries are to the head.
- Be sure your handlebars, seat and wheels fit snugly.
- Keep your bike in good shape by checking and oiling your chain, making sure your brakes work properly and maintaining your tire pressure.
- Always ride with both hands on the handlebars except when doing turn signals.
- When leaving a driveway, curb or alleyway always stop and check for traffic in both directions.
- Cross only at intersections.
- Use the crosswalk to walk your bike across busy intersections and follow the traffic signals.
- Never ride against traffic. Travel in the same direction as the cars.
- Whenever you can, use bike routes and avoid busy streets.
- Don't ride near parked cars as doors can open and cause accidents.
- Obey all traffic signs and traffic lights.
- When biking with friends, ride in a single file.
- Always pass other bikers or pedestrians on the left and say "On your left!" to make your presence known.
- Always use bicycle hand signals to alert traffic of your changing direction.



Snowmobile Safety

- Do not consume alcohol or take drugs prior to or during your snowmobile trip. Doing so increases your chances of injury or death.
- Slow down and don't cut to the inside of the trail corners. It's dangerous and illegal.
- If you snowmobile at night, don't override your lights.
- Always use the buddy system. Never ride off alone.
- Drowning is one of the causes of many snowmobile fatalities. Whenever possible, avoid the ice.
- Wear sensible, protective clothing designed for operating a snowmobile.
- Use a full size helmet, goggles, or visor to prevent injuries from twigs, stones, ice chips and other debris.
- Avoid wearing long scarves. They may get caught in moving parts of the snowmobile.
- Know the terrain you are going to ride. If unfamiliar to you, ask someone who has traveled over it before.
- Know the weather forecast, especially the ice and snow conditions.
- Be sure your snowmobile is in top-notch mechanical condition throughout the months of use.
- Familiarize yourself with the snowmobile you are driving. Thoroughly read the manual that accompanies the snowmobile.
- Do not pursue domestic or wild animals. That is not the conduct of a sportsman. Report such violations to the nearest law enforcement officer.

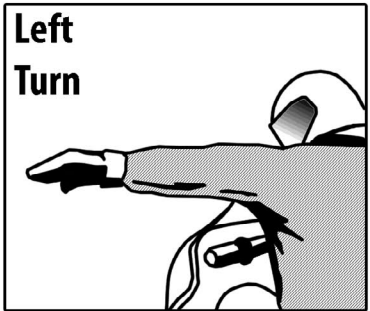
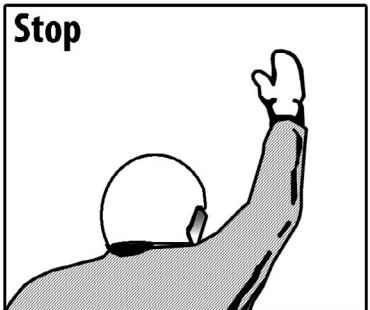
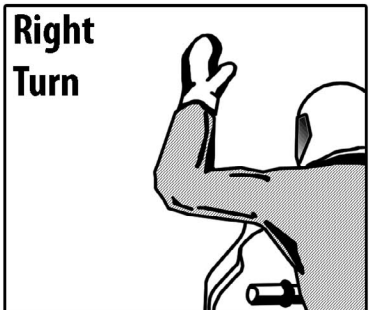
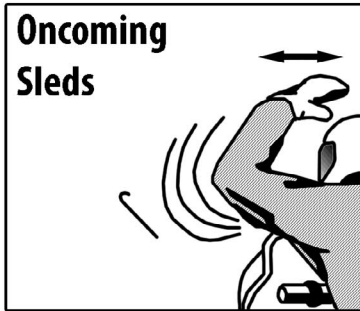
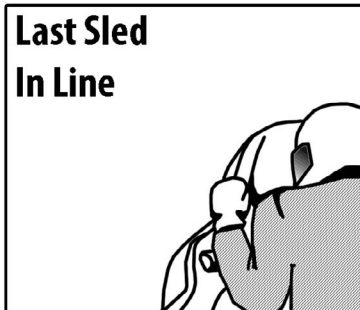
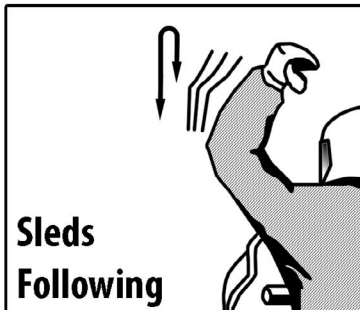
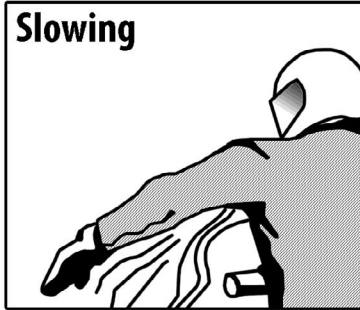
Common Trail Signs



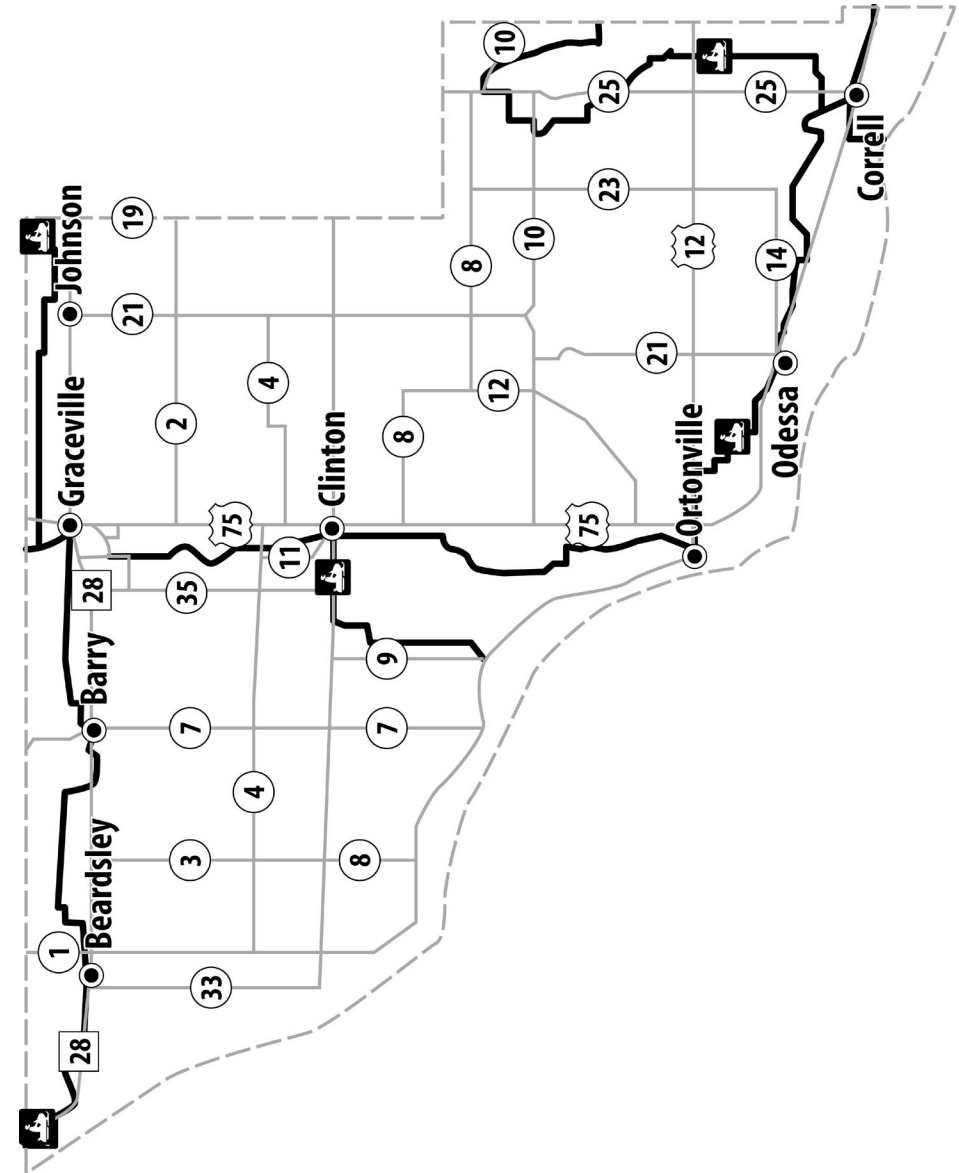
Snowmobile Safety

Communication is an essential part of safe riding. Hand signals are a practical way to communicate between other riders and traffic.

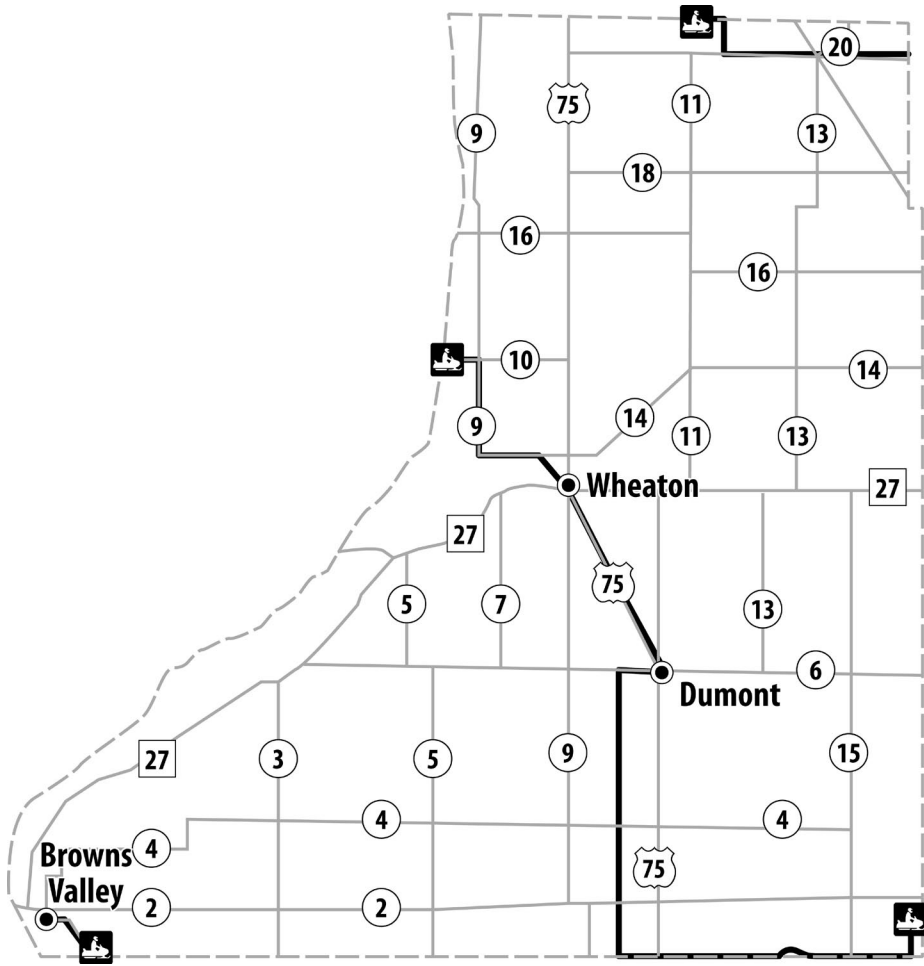
Be sure to give easy to see and clear hand signals when snowmobiling. Hand signals should never be subtle, but always deliberate.



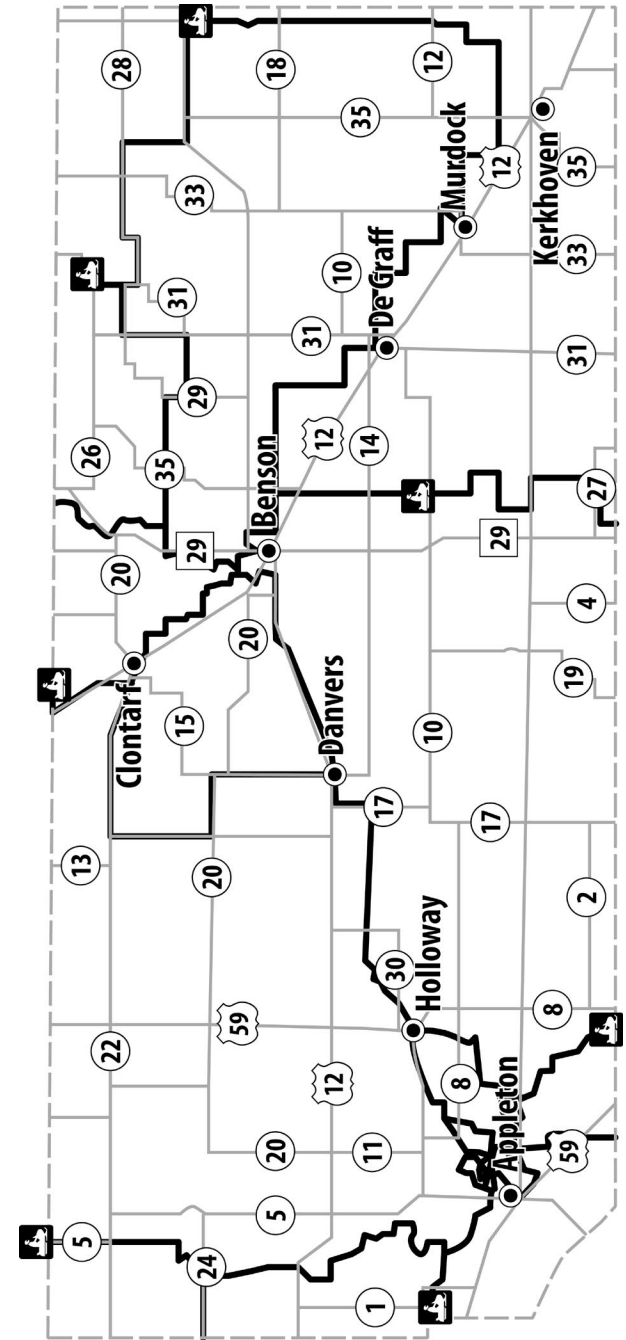
Big Stone County Snowmobile Trails



Traverse County Snowmobile Trails



Swift County Snowmobile Trails





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Home Safety

- Keep the outside of your home well-lit. Motion sensors and timers help deter burglars.
- Dead-bolts and peep-holes should be placed on all outside doors.
- Windows and sliding glass doors should have locks and be in good working order.
- Keep your garage door closed.
- Use an engraver to mark computers, cameras, stereos, TV's, tools, yard equipment, etc.
- Never leave valuables, expensive jewelry, or large amounts of cash at home. If you must, keep a list of your valuables with serial numbers to assist in insurance claims.
- Keep your car locked at all times and store all valuables out of sight.
- Guns should always be stored unloaded and with a gunlock.
- Become part of a neighborhood watch or program that is similar.
- Be suspicious of unusual people or vehicles in your neighborhood. Document the date, time, description and license plate number to give to law enforcement if needed.
- When on vacation, do not advertise your absence. Stop mail and newspaper delivery. Have a trusted friend or neighbor to give the impression you are home by stopping by to take out trash, shovel snow, mow the lawn, etc.



Emergency Planning

ESCAPE ROUTES

Everyone in your family should know the best ways to exit the house in case of a disaster. Teach your young children how to open sliding doors, windows and other exits. Designate a meeting place where the family can gather after escaping from the house.

FLASHLIGHTS

The whole family needs to know where to find flashlights. Periodically check the batteries.

FULLY CHARGED CELL PHONES

All family members should keep their cell phones charged. Make a habit of charging them, while everyone is asleep. Cell phones can be lifesavers in emergencies.

LIST OF VALUABLES

Keep this document listing your possessions (and if possible, a video of your home interior) in a fireproof safe, or in a safe deposit box at a bank.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLANS

Familiarize yourself with community evacuation plans and neighborhood escape routes. Post a copy of them in a highly visible place in your home.



THUNDERSTORM/TORNADO

- Remove dead branches from trees beforehand to avoid injury or damage.
- After seeing lightning, if you hear thunder in less than 30 seconds, it is recommended that you stay inside for 30 minutes after the thunder has ceased.
- The inside of a car is safer than the outside, as a lightning strike will simply pass through the car as long as you aren't in contact with any metal.
- Unplug all major appliances, as a power surge can cause serious damage.
- Avoid all tall structures and elevated areas as well as large amounts of metal.



FIRES

- Make sure that every level of your house has a smoke detector, and be sure to test them once a month. Have the family plan an emergency exit route.
- Always keep track of any stoves or high-temperature/high-voltage appliances that are running. Be sure to never leave any cooking unattended.
- Keep lighters and matches away from children.
- If a burn occurs, soak the skin in cool water. If the skin blisters, seek medical assistance.

⊕ Emergency First-Aid Tips ⊕

FIRST AID FOR CPR & HEART ATTACK

CPR

CPR is to be administered when a person is not breathing or has no pulse. Be quick to act by remembering the A,B,C's: Airway, Breathing & Circulation.

Airway:

Place the person on a firm surface, on their back. Kneel next to the person's neck and shoulders. Open the person's airway by tilting back the head and lifting the chin.

Breathing:

With the head tilted and chin lifted, pinch the nostrils shut and cover the person's mouth with yours. Give two slow breaths.

Circulation:

Find the hand position on the center of the breastbone. Place the heel of your hand on that position, with your other hand on top of the first hand. Use your upper body weight to push down. Give two compressions per second. Compress the chest at a rate equal to 100/minute. Perform 30 compressions at this rate. Repeat until an ambulance arrives.

HEART ATTACK

Symptoms of a heart attack may include any of the following:

- Uncomfortable pressure, fullness or squeezing pain in the center of the chest.
- Expanded pain in the upper abdomen.
- Shortness of breath.
- Pain or numbness in either arms, shoulders, neck, jaw or teeth.
- Dizziness or fainting.
- Nausea and sweating.

If you or someone else may be having a heart attack - follow these steps immediately:

- **DIAL 911**
- **Chew and swallow Aspirin (unless you are allergic/not allowed to)**
- **Take Nitroglycerin (only if prescribed)**
- **Begin CPR if the person is unconscious**

IN AN EMERGENCY, DIAL 911

⊕ *Emergency First-Aid Tips* ⊕

FIRST AID FOR BURNS & CHOKING

BURNS

For minor 1st and 2nd degree burns smaller than 3" in diameter: Cool the Burn. Run cool water over the burned area for 5 minutes, or until the pain diminishes. Never put ice on a burn!

Bandage the burn with sterile gauze:

It is important to use loosely wrapped gauze. This will avoid pressure and the bandage protects blisters. NEVER put lotions, vaseline, ointments or butter on burn. Do not break any blisters, which can cause infection.

Take Aspirin, Ibuprofen, Naproxen or Acetaminophen to relieve pain:

Minor burns usually heal with these basic treatments. Be aware for signs of infection which may include: increased pain, redness, fever, swelling or oozing. If symptoms develop, seek medical help. Avoid tanning the burned area for at least a year. Protect the area with sunscreen outdoors. Avoid giving aspirin to children.

For 3rd degree burns/all major burns - DIAL 911

DO NOT run cold water over large severe burns - this can cause shock.

DO NOT remove burnt clothing.

Check for signs of breathing/coughing/movement.

If there are no signs of breathing begin CPR.

Elevate burned areas above heart level, if possible.

Cover the burn(s) with cool, sterile, moist bandages, towels or cloth.

CHOKING

Most people clutch at their throats when choking, an obvious symbol for help. However, if a person isn't giving that signal, be alert for these indications. Inability to talk, difficulty breathing or noisy breathing, inability to cough forcefully, skin/lips/nails turning blue, loss of consciousness.

The Red Cross recommends a "five-and-five" method for first aid: First give five blows between the person's shoulders with the heel of your hand. Second, perform the Heimlich maneuver (abdominal thrusts) five times. Alternate between five back blows and five abdominal thrusts until the blockage is dislodged.

IN AN EMERGENCY, DIAL 911

⊕ *Emergency First-Aid Tips* ⊕

FIRST AID FOR INSECT BITES/ANAPHYLAXIS & POISON SAFETY

INSECT BITES/ANAPHYLAXIS

Anaphylaxis is a severe allergic reaction from insect bites (latex, food and drug allergies can also cause Anaphylaxis). Typical symptoms include hives, the swelling of lips or eyes, swollen throat, drop in blood pressure, light headedness, confusion, nausea or diarrhea. If someone is having an allergic reaction from an insect bite with these symptoms:

CALL 911.

Administer emergency prescription medication. See if the person is carrying special emergency allergy medicine and give it to them according to the directions.

Loosen tight clothing.

Lay the person down. The person should lay down on their back with feet elevated. Turn them on their side if they are vomiting or bleeding from their mouth to prevent them from choking.

If they are not breathing - administer CPR. Most insect bite reactions are mild and cause no allergic reaction. If stung by a bee, use a straight edged object, like a credit card, to scrape away the stinger. Don't use tweezers - they can pinch more venom out of the stinger. Apply an ice pack to the area and take an over the counter pain reliever.

POISON PREVENTION

Teach your children about poison and how it can look like a food or drink. They should always ask an adult before eating or drinking anything. Have them learn the poison control phone number: 1-800-222-1222 and keep it programmed or posted near all your phones. Here are some prevention tips.

Lock up your poisons and medications. Keep them out of the reach of children, lock them up if possible. Make sure your children understand that medicine is not candy.

Follow directions carefully. Read your labels. Be sure to use and store all poisons and medications properly according to recommendations.

Keep your pets safe from household chemicals, too. Don't allow pets near areas that have just been cleaned with chemicals, such as freshly mopped floors or bleached bathtubs and sinks. Clean up any antifreeze/coolant spills. Pets like the flavor but they can die if they ingest it. Store poisonous foods or plants in areas that your pets cannot access. Call your local emergency veterinary hospital if you believe your pet has been poisoned.

IN AN EMERGENCY, DIAL 911

Safety Tips for Parents & For Kids

PARENTS:

- Teach your kids that an emergency is when you need help from a doctor, a police officer or a firefighter.
- Designate a safe place by your house that a child can go to if they need help right away.
- Have your kids memorize your address and phone numbers. They should also know your full name and where you work.

KIDS:

FIRE SAFETY

- If you or someone else is on fire - remember to STOP, DROP and ROLL. Wrap a blanket on the person to help put out the fire.
- If there is a fire, leave the house as fast as you can! Crawl on the floor to avoid smoke and if the door is hot, don't open it - find another way out.
- Learn all the fire exits in your house. Assign a safe place outside for everyone to meet in case of a fire emergency.

HOME ALONE

- Never tell anyone that you are home alone.
- If someone calls and ask for your mom and dad, tell them "They cannot come to the phone right now, can you please call back later?"
- Do not answer the door, unless it is someone that you know your parents have okay'd them to come over.

Emergency Numbers For Kids

KEEP A COPY OF THIS LIST NEAR EACH PHONE IN YOUR HOUSE

MY ADDRESS: _____

MY PHONE NUMBER: _____

MOM AT WORK: _____

MOM CELL PHONE: _____

DAD AT WORK: _____

DAD CELL PHONE: _____

NEIGHBOR: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____

POISON CONTROL: 1-800-222-1222

EMERGENCY DIAL

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