

# Free LOCAL AREA Guide

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Dodge, Faribault, Freeborn & Mower Counties, Minnesota



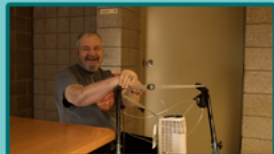
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Scan a QR Code to go to the individual county page.



Dodge County



Faribault County



Freeborn County



Mower County

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# LOCAL AREA EVENTS

## JANUARY

Gourmet Food Auction | Albert Lea

## FEBRUARY

The Big Freeze | Albert Lea

Farm Toy & Truck Collectibles Show | Albert Lea

## MARCH

MN-IA Arabian Horse Show | Albert Lea

Dodge County Expo | Mantorville

Saint Patrick's Day Parade | Easton

Spring Craft Fair | Albert Lea

## APRIL

Easter Egg Hunt | Mantorville

Art Rocks Jam Session | Austin

Stepping out for Autism | Austin

City Wide Clean Up | Blue Earth

City Wide Garage Sales | Blue Earth

Spring Fling | Mantorville

## MAY

I-90 Speedway Race (May-July) | Blue Earth

Bella Music Fest | Geneva

Taste of Nations Dinner | Austin

Cinco de Mayo Celebration | Albert Lea

## JUNE

Eddie Cochran Car Club Weekend | Albert Lea

Alden Morin Lake Days

I-90 Speedway Race | Blue Earth

Freedom Run & Ride | Minnesota Lake

Mantorville Stagecoach Days | Mantorville

Pride Festival | Albert Lea

Dodger Days | Mantorville

## JULY

Freedom Fest | Austin

Parade & Fireworks | Albert Lea

I-90 Speedway Race | Blue Earth

Giant Days Festival | Blue Earth

Faribault County Fair | Blue Earth

City Wide Rummage Sales | Hayward

Festag | Minnesota Lake

## JULY (CONTD)

Dodge County Free Fair | Kasson

Briceyn Fourth of July Celebration

Freeborn County Fair (July-Aug) | Albert Lea

## AUGUST

Glenville Days

Kernel Days | Wells

National Night Out

Austin Art Works Festival | Austin

Kasson Festival In The Park | Mantorville

## SEPTEMBER

Annual Big Iron Truck Show | Mantorville

Annual Marigold Days | Mantorville

Annual Fall Harvest | Austin

Regional Highland Cattle Show | Austin

Halloween Warm-Up | Austin

## OCTOBER

Big Island Rendezvous & Festival | Albert Lea

Halloween Spooktacular | Albert Lea

Boo Bash | Easton

Fall Festival | Mantorville

Annual Darren Dash | Austin

Mantorville Soup & Pie Supper

## NOVEMBER

Green Giant Scarfing | Blue Earth

Shop Small Saturday in Mantorville

Christmas Tree Lighting (Nov-Dec) | Albert Lea

## DECEMBER

Old Fashioned Christmas | Mantorville

Christmas in Wasioja | Mantorville

A Christmas Gathering | Albert Lea

Live Drive-Through Nativity | Albert Lea

Merry Tuba Christmas | Austin

Holiday Craft Fair | Albert Lea

A Holiday Bazaar | Albert Lea

*\* Events are subject to change*



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# RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

## DODGE COUNTY

Administration.....	(507) 635-6239
Assessor .....	635-6245
Attorney .....	635-6275
Court Administration.....	624-7010
Emergency Management.....	635-6132
Environmental Services.....	635-6273
Fairview Care Center.....	374-2578
Minnesota Prairie County Alliance.....	923-2900
Public Health/Service Center.....	635-6150
Recycling Center/Transfer Station.....	634-7875
Sheriff's Office.....	635-6200
Soil & Water Conservation District.....	374-6364
Veteran Services.....	635-6140
Victim Services.....	635-6266
Vital Records.....	635-6250

## FARIBAULT COUNTY

Assessor.....	(507) 526-6201
Attorney .....	526-4564
Auditor .....	526-6211
Central Services .....	526-6225
Court Administration .....	526-6273
Drivers License Bureau .....	526-6234
Extension Service .....	526-6240
Human Services .....	526-3265
Planning & Zoning .....	526-2388
Probation Office .....	618-5581
Recorder .....	526-6252
Sheriff.....	526-5148
Soil & Water/SWCD.....	526-2388
Transit.....	(800) 382-7433
Treasurer.....	526-6260
Veterans Services .....	526-6268

## FREEBORN COUNTY

Assessor.....	(507) 377-5176
Attorney .....	377-5192
Auditor/Treasurer.....	377-5121
Building & Grounds/Public Works.....	377-5188
Administration.....	377-5116
Drivers License Bureau .....	377-5126
Emergency .....	911
Environmental Health .....	377-5186
Extension Service .....	(612) 624-1222
Highway Department/Public Works.....	377-5188
Human Services .....	377-5401
Probation Office .....	377-5138
Recorder .....	377-5130
Sheriff.....	377-5205
Transit .....	379-1111
Veterans Services .....	377-5184

## MOWER COUNTY

Assessor.....	(507) 437-9440
Attorneys.....	437-9428
Auditor/Treasurers.....	437-9535
Board of Commissioners/Administration.....	437-9549
Correctional Services.....	437-9454
Court Administration.....	509-7013
Emergency Management.....	437-9549
Extension.....	(612) 624-1222
Health & Human Services.....	437-9701
Human Resources.....	437-9533
Police Department.....	437-9400
Public Works.....	437-7718
Recorders Office.....	437-9446
Recycling & Household Haz Waste.....	437-9551
Sheriffs Office.....	437-9400
Veterans Services Office.....	434-2712



Dodge county is around 24 miles long and 18 miles wide, located in the Southeastern part of Minnesota. It is home to around 20,000 residents and its county seat is Mantorville. The Northern part of the state is rolling hills with loose soil, making it a good area for growing grain. The Southern part of the county is flat with wet lands making it good for raising cattle. Dodge county is one of the seven counties in southern Minnesota with no forest ecosystems. It has the oldest working court house in Minnesota, built out of locally quarried limestone in 1865. Originally the area was inhabited by American Indians and was a common area for hunting and battles between the Sioux, Sauk and Fox Indians. The first non-native settler to the area is unknown. The original founders were mainly settlers from New England in the early 1800's. By 1857 the population was around 4000 people. Dodge County was named after Henry Dodge, the twice governor of Wisconsin.

- |                                      |                                |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <b>CITIES:</b>                       | seat)– pop. 1,197              | <b>HAYFIELD</b> – pop. 445           |
| <b>BLOOMING PRAIRIE</b> – pop. 1,996 | <b>WEST CONCORD</b> – pop. 861 | <b>MANTORVILLE</b> – pop. 1,610      |
| <b>CLAREMONT</b> – pop. 548          | <b>TOWNSHIPS:</b>              | <b>MILTON</b> – pop. 692             |
| <b>DODGE CENTER</b> – pop. 2,670     | <b>ASHLAND</b> – pop. 367      | <b>RIPLEY</b> – pop. 212             |
| <b>HAYFIELD</b> – pop. 1,340         | <b>CANISTEO</b> – pop. 662     | <b>VERNON</b> – pop. 567             |
| <b>KASSON</b> – pop. 6,851           | <b>CLAREMONT</b> – pop. 468    | <b>WASIOJA</b> – pop. 963            |
| <b>MANTORVILLE</b> (county           | <b>CONCORD</b> – pop. 587      | <b>WESTFIELD</b> – pop. 421          |
|                                      | <b>ELLINGTON</b> – pop. 278    | <i>*Populations are approximate.</i> |

## BLOOMING PRAIRIE

Located in the southeastern corner of Steele County. Blooming Prairie began as a railroad town for the Minnesota Central Railroad. It's name came from a railroad official's wife who used the term blooming prairie to describe the surrounding landscape. The first rail station was built in the 1860's, with businesses following shortly after. Blooming Prairie was officially incorporated as an independent village in 1874. Blooming Prairie now has roughly 1,996 residents.

## DODGE CENTER

Named for its central location within Dodge County, Dodge Center saw its first settlers in the 1850's. The town name was briefly changed to Silas for one day, and was quickly reconsidered. Dodge Center was officially incorporated in February 1872. Expansion of the town coincided with the arrival of the Minnesota and Northwestern Railroad in 1885. Dodge Center is home to roughly 2,670 residents.

## MANTORVILLE (COUNTY SEAT)

The county seat, Mantorville was founded in 1854. Mantorville is known for its source of limestone, known as Mantorville limestone, which was used in buildings across the expanding United States. Mantorville was named for Peter and Riley Mantor, brothers who came to the settlement in 1853. Today it is home to roughly 1,197 residents.

## KASSON

Named for Jabes Hyde Kasson, owner of the original townsite, the City of Kasson was incorporated in 1870. A few years earlier in 1866, Kasson got a station for the Chicago and North Western Transportation Company and the town post office. Kasson's current public school building was first used in 1918 and is still in use today. The school was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2007, 89 years and 1 day after it was first used. Kasson is now home to approximately 6,851 residents.

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Faribault County was established in 1855 and named in honor of fur trader Jean Baptiste Faribault. Early industry was led by agriculture as settlers arrived to farm the fertile soil and raise cattle. Blue Earth was selected as the county seat and communities were founded near railways and waterways. Schools, churches and businesses were established to meet the growing needs of its residents and by 1900 its population had reached 22,055. Today Faribault County is home to approximately 13,921 residents.

**CITIES:**  
**BLUE EARTH (COUNTY SEAT)**

- pop. 3,174
- BRICELYN** – pop. 365
- DELANAN** – pop. 179
- EASTON** – pop. 199
- ELMORE** – pop. 663
- FROST** – pop. 215
- KIESTER** – pop. 501
- MINNESOTA LAKE** – pop. 661
- WALTERS** – pop. 73
- WELLS** – pop. 2,343
- WINNEBAGO** – pop. 1,391

**TOWNSHIPS:**

- BARBER** – pop. 278
- BLUE EARTH CITY** – pop. 454
- BRUSH CREEK** – pop. 241
- CLARK** – pop. 459
- DELANAN** – pop. 275
- DUNBAR** – pop. 312
- ELMORE** – pop. 203
- EMERALD** – pop. 228
- FOSTER** – pop. 314
- JO DAVIESS** – pop. 281
- KIESTER** – pop. 320
- LURA** – pop. 217

- MINNESOTA LAKE** – pop. 237
- PILOT GROVE** – pop. 182
- PRESCOTT** – pop. 222
- ROME** – pop. 172
- SEELY** – pop. 210
- VERONA** – pop. 391
- WALNUT LAKE** – pop. 251
- WINNEBAGO CITY** – pop. 221

*\*Populations are approximate.*

**BLUE EARTH (COUNTY SEAT)**

Settled in 1855, Blue Earth was platted in 1856 and named for the Blue Earth River. In 1872 Blue Earth was incorporated and the area quickly developed. The community was selected as the county seat and a court house was constructed in 1892. Early industry was dominated by agriculture and the area is now home to the world’s largest Jolly Green Giant statue, built in 1979 which attracts over 10,000 yearly visitors. Today Blue Earth is home to approximately 3,174 residents.

**BRICELYN**

Bricelyn was platted by John Brice in the 1890s and the community was named in his honor. The first post office was established in 1899 and development of the railroad allowed for growth. Businesses and churches were established and Bricelyn was incorporated in 1903. Today Bricelyn is home to approximately 365 residents.

**DELANAN**

Delavan was settled in 1856 and first known as Guthrie. In 1870 streets were platted, the railroad arrived and a post office was established. In 1872 the community was renamed in honor of chief railroad engineer Oren Delavan Brown and Delavan was incorporated in 1877. Today Delavan is home to approximately 179 residents.

**EASTON**

Easton was first known as Lura Station and community was renamed after Jason Clark Easton, an early landowner. Streets were platted in 1873 and the following year a post office was established and Easton was incorporated. As rail lines were constructed Easton continued to grow and industry was dominated by agriculture. Today Easton is home to approximately 199 residents.

**ELMORE**

First settled in 1855, Elmore was originally known as Dobson. In 1862 its name was changed to Elmore in honor of Andrew E. Elmore and a post office was established in 1863. In 1891 Elmore was incorporated and a school, churches and businesses were founded to meet the growing needs of the community. Today Elmore is home to approximately 663 residents.

**FROST**

Frost was platted in 1899 and named after architect Charles S. Frost. A post office was established and the community was incorporated in 1903. Businesses included a hotel, hardware store, general store and a variety of specialty shops. Early industry was dominated by agriculture as many farmers raised sugar beets. Today Frost is home to approximately 215 residents.





Freeborn County was established in 1855 and named in honor of territorial representative William Freeborn. Early industry was led by agriculture as pioneers arrived to farm the fertile soil and raise cattle. Albert Lea was selected as the county seat and communities were founded near railway stops, lakes and rivers. Businesses, churches and schools were established to meet the growing needs of its residents and by 1900 its population had reached 21,838 and the area continued to prosper. Today Freeborn County is home to approximately 30,895 residents.

#### CITIES:

**ALBERT LEA (COUNTY SEAT)**—

pop. 18,492

**ALDEN**—pop. 661

**CLARKS GROVE**—pop. 706

**CONGER**—pop. 146

**EMMONS**—pop. 391

**FREEBORN**—pop. 264

**GENEVA**—pop. 555

**GLENVILLE**—pop. 643

**HARTLAND**—pop. 315

**HAYWARD**—pop. 250

**HOLLANDALE**—pop. 303

**MANCHESTER**—pop. 57

**MYRTLE**—pop. 48

**TWIN LAKES**—pop. 134

#### TOWNSHIPS:

**ALBERT LEA**—pop. 808

**ALDEN**—pop. 338

**BANCROFT**—pop. 1,065

**BATH**—pop. 479

**CARLSTON**—pop. 332

**FREEBORN**—pop. 327

**FREEMAN**—pop. 528

**GENEVA**—pop. 439

**HARTLAND**—pop. 298

**HAYWARD**—pop. 438

**LONDON**—pop. 334

**MANCHESTER**—pop. 469

**MANSFIELD**—pop. 289

**MOSCOW**—pop. 605

**NEWRY**—pop. 500

**NUNDA**—pop. 318

**OAKLAND**—pop. 430

**PICKEREL LAKE**—pop. 746

**RICELAND**—pop. 489

**SHELL ROCK**—pop. 430

*\*Populations are approximate.*

## ALBERT LEA (COUNTY SEAT)

Once part of Dodge County, Albert Lea was first settled by Lorenzo Merry in 1855. Access to water attracted many settlers and the community was named in honor of explorer and topographer Lieutenant Albert Miller Lea. Streets were platted in 1856 by Charles C. Colby and railroad construction allowed for dramatic growth. Its population grew from 262 in 1860 to nearly 2,000 in 1880 and Albert Lea was selected as the county seat. Today Albert Lea is home to approximately 18,492 residents.

## ALDEN

Alden was settled in 1855 as pioneers were attracted to the ample natural resources and fertile soil. Streets were platted in 1856 and in 1866 the first post office was founded. As the railroad was constructed in 1870 the area continued to develop and by 1879 Alden was incorporated. Today Alden is home to approximately 661 residents.

## CLARKS GROVE

The first post office in the Clarks Grove area was established in 1857 with John Mead Clark serving as its first postmaster. The community was named in his honor and Clarks Grove was founded in 1890. As rail lines were built the area continued to thrive. Today Clarks Grove is home to approximately 706 residents.

## CONGER

Conger was named in honor of Edwin Hurd Conger, a congressman from Iowa. A post office was established in 1901 and the area grew slowly until the development of the railroad. Early businesses included stockyards, a creamery, grain elevator, lumberyard and in 1934 Conger was incorporated. Today Conger is home to approximately 146 residents.

## EMMONS

Emmons was first settled in 1856 by Henry G. Emmons and the community was named in his honor. Mr. Emmons also served as the area's first postmaster in 1899 and assisted with the construction of the first store. As a rail station was built, the area continued to grow as goods and passengers were easily transported. Today Emmons is home to approximately 391 residents.

## FREEBORN

Settled in 1856, Freeborn was named in honor of William Freeborn and platted in 1857 as settlers were attracted to the ample natural resources and access to water. Ludwig T. Carlson served as the area's first postmaster and Freeborn was incorporated in 1949. Today Freeborn is home to approximately 264 residents.





Mower County was named after John Edward Mower who was a member of the Minnesota Territorial Legislature in the 1850s. The first house built was a log cabin in 1853 by Hunter Clarke. Around 1855 the population started booming and gained close to 500 residents that year. There was an abundance of stone for building through out the county making it easy for new settlers starting over in a new area. In 1856 Mower County had enough residents and was established as a county. By 1859 the county had reached nearly 4,000 residents mainly consisting of Norwegians. The county has 708 square miles of mainly prairie land with many streams running through it. The current population is around 40,029 people and the county seat is Austin.

- CITIES:**  
**ADAMS** – pop. 683  
**AUSTIN (COUNTY SEAT)** – pop. 26,174  
**BROWNSDALE** – pop. 633  
**DEXTER** – pop. 324  
**ELKTON** – pop. 130  
**GRAND MEADOW** – pop. 1,127  
**LE ROY** – pop. 957  
**LYLE** – pop. 522  
**MAPLEVIEW** – pop. 144  
**RACINE** – pop. 458  
**ROSE CREEK** – pop. 397  
**SARGEANT** – pop. 63  
**TAOPI** – pop. 61

- WALTHAM** – pop. 164  
**CENSUS-DESIGNATED PLACE:**  
**LANSING** – pop. 132  
**TOWNSHIPS:**  
**ADAMS** – pop. 475  
**AUSTIN** – pop. 1,396  
**BENNINGTON** – pop. 178  
**CLAYTON** – pop. 178  
**DEXTER** – pop. 333  
**FRANKFORD** – pop. 358  
**GRAND MEADOW** – pop. 1,127  
**LANSING** – pop. 1,292

- LE ROY** – pop. 396  
**LODI** – pop. 249  
**LYLE** – pop. 566  
**MARSHALL** – pop. 382  
**NEVADA** – pop. 535  
**PLEASANT VALLEY** – pop. 308  
**RACINE** – pop. 445  
**RED ROCK** – pop. 715  
**SARGEANT** – pop. 316  
**UDOLPHO** – pop. 458  
**WALTHAM** – pop. 416  
**WINDOM** – pop. 640  
*\*Populations are approximate.*

**AUSTIN (COUNTY SEAT)**  
 Austin was platted in 1853 and incorporated two years later in 1855 with a population of about 20 families. It was founded by a trapper named Austin Nichols for which the city is named. That same year the first hotel and doctor's opened in Austin. Today, Austin is home to the Hormel Foods Corporation and the Spam Museum, because of this Austin is often referred to as "Spam Town USA". Austin was also the birthplace of Football Hall of Famer John Madden. The city is approximately 11.9 square miles with 11.79 square miles of land and 0.11 square miles of water. The population today is approximately 26,174 people.

**GRAND MEADOW**  
 Grand Meadow was established in 1862, four years after the statehood of Minnesota and platted in 1870 when the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad line was built through the city. Grand Meadow was incorporated in 1876 and again in 1906. The story goes a settler looked out over the prairie and said "What a grand meadow!" and the town's name was born. The city is approximately 0.67 square miles of all land. The population today is approximately 1,127 people.

**LE ROY**  
 Le Roy was platted in 1857 and incorporated 19 years later in 1876 when the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad extended to the area. The Lake Louise State Park is located just outside the town and is named after the person who built Le Roy's first mill. The city is approximately 0.69 square miles of all land. The population today is approximately 957 people.

**ADAMS**  
 Selah Chamberlain, a railroad developer from Vermont, charted out the village of Adams just north of the Iowan border early in 1868. On March 2nd, 1887, the town was officially incorporated. Its namesake is commonly believed to be the surname of a friend of one of the area's first settlers, William Madden, though others suggest it was either President John Adams or John Quincy Adams. The town spans just under 35 sq. and is home to nearly 700 residents today. It is the birthplace of former Wisconsin U.S. Representative and National Guard Captain Hubert H. Peavey (1881 - 1937).

**BROWNSDALE**  
 Brownsdale's first European settlers came from Norway in 1855, just over one year before the village was formally established. Founded by the Connecticut-born Brown Brothers Andrew and Hosmer, the village began when they acquired land in the area using a Land Warrant their father had received for his service in the War of 1812. Today, the city spans just under half of a square mile of land.



## ARROWHEAD POINT COUNTY PARK

267th St. | Alden

Arrowhead County Park features a boat launch, fishing opportunities, swimming beach and picnic areas.

## FORESTVILLE/MYSTERY CAVE STATE PARK

21071 Co. Hwy. 118 | Preston |  
(507) 352-5111

Forestville/Mystery Cave State Park features an underground geological area, fishing & horse trails.

## JOHN A. LATSCH STATE PARK

US-61 | Minnesota City | (507) 312-2300

John A. Latsch State Park features hiking and fishing.

## LAKE LOUISE STATE PARK

12385 766th Ave. | Le Roy | (507) 352-5111

Lake Louise State Park features paved trails for biking, running and walking, horseback trails, swimming, fishing and picnic areas.

## MYRE BIG ISLAND STATE PARK

19499 780th Ave. | Albert Lea |  
(507) 668-7060

Myre Big Island State Park features a campground, boat launch, fishing opportunities, recreational trails, picnic areas and rentals for canoes, kayaks, boats, life jackets and snowshoes.

## PIHL'S COUNTY PARK

10757 570th Ave. | Wells | (507) 525-3114

Pihl's County Park features a campground, boat launch, fishing opportunities, playground equipment, horseshoe pits, disc golf course, mini-golf course and picnic areas.

## PILOT KNOB STATE PARK

2148 340th St. | Forest City, IA |  
(641) 581-4835

Pilot Knob State Park features picnic areas, hiking, horseback riding, cross country skiing, fishing, ice skating and snowmobile trails.

## RICE LAKE STATE PARK

8485 Rose St. | Owatonna | (507) 414-6191

Rice Lake State Park features camping, picnic areas, hiking, cross country skiing and snowmobile trails.

## ST. NICHOLAS COUNTY PARK

180th St. | Albert Lea

Nicholas County Park features fishing opportunities and picnic areas.

## WHITewater STATE PARK

19041 MN-74 | Altura | (507) 312-2300

Whitewater State Park features hiking, swimming, fishing and cross country skiing.

## WHITE WOODS COUNTY PARK

Hwy. 69 | Albert Lea

White Woods County Park features a carry-in canoe access, fishing opportunities and picnic areas.

## WOODS LAKE COUNTY PARK

3451 380th Ave. | Elmore | (507) 525-2780

Woods Lake County Park features a campground, fishing opportunities, swimming beach and picnic areas.

## DISC GOLF

Disc golf or frisbee golf is played a lot like traditional ball golf but instead of hitting a ball with a club into a hole the player throws a frisbee into a basket. Disc golf can be played by just about anyone at any age. It's also an inexpensive sport to get into. Specialized frisbees for disc golf cost around \$10-\$15 and a lot of courses are free. Playing disc golf is a great way to get out for some exercise, enjoy nature and have some fun.





**AL BATT'S BIRDING GUIDE SERVICE**

71622 325th St. | Hartland | (507) 845-2836

**ALBERT LEA ART CENTER**

101 S Broadway Ave. | Albert Lea |  
(507) 373-5665

**ALBERT LEA AUDUBON SOCIETY  
PRESERVE**

Oregon St. | Albert Lea

**ALBERT LEA CITY ARENA**

701 Lake Chapeau Dr. | Albert Lea |  
(507) 377-4374

**ALBERT LEA COMMUNITY THEATRE**

147 N Broadway Ave. | Albert Lea |  
(507) 377-4371

**ALBERT LEA FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER**

321 James Ave. | Albert Lea | (507) 373-3328

**ALBERT LEA FAMILY YMCA**

2021 W Main St. | Albert Lea |  
(507) 373-8228

**BIG ISLAND RENDEZVOUS & FESTIVAL**

303 W Hammer Rd. | Albert Lea |  
(800) 658-2526

**BUFFY THE COW**

700 12th St. SW | Austin

**CHATEAU SPEEDWAY**

54219 266 St. | Lansing | (507) 573-6032

**DEER CREEK SPEEDWAY &  
CAMPGROUND**

25262 US Hwy 63 | Spring Valley |  
(507) 346-2342

**ECHO LANES**

1600 10th Dr. SE | Austin | (507) 437-8241

**ELMORE MUSEUM**

108 S Henry St. | Elmore | (507) 943-3279

**ETTA C. ROSS HISTORICAL MUSEUM &  
VILLAGE**

324 E 6th St. | Blue Earth | (507) 526-2505

**FARIBAUT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

405 E. Sixth St. | Blue Earth | (507) 526-5421

**FILLMORE COUNTY HISTORY CENTER**

202 Co. Rd. 8 | Fountain | (507) 268-4449

**FREEBORN COUNTY ARTS INITIATIVE**

224 S Broadway Ave. | Albert Lea |  
(507) 721-1285

**FREEBORN COUNTY HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM, LIBRARY & VILLAGE**

1031 N Bridge Ave. | Albert Lea |  
(507) 373-8003

**GREEN GIANT MUSEUM**

1134 Giant Dr. | Blue Earth | (507) 526-2916

**GREEN GIANT STATUE PARK**

1126 Green Giant Ln. | Blue Earth |  
(507) 526-2916

**GREIBROK FARMS**

Austin | (507) 320-8960

**HISTORIC FORESTVILLE MUSEUM**

21899 Co. Rd. 118 | Preston | (507) 765-2785

**INTERNATIONAL OWL CENTER**

126 E Cedar St. | Houston | (507) 896-6957

**JAMES B. WAKEFIELD HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM**

405 E 6th St. | Blue Earth | (507) 526-5421

**JAY C HORMEL NATURE CENTER**

1304 21st St. NE | Austin | (507) 437-7519

**KIESTER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Kiester | (507) 338-0079

**LAURA INGALLS WILDER PARK AND  
MUSEUM**

3603 236th Ave. | Decorah, IA |  
(563) 735-5916

**MALL CINEMA 7 THEATRE**

2550 Bridge Ave. | Albert Lea |  
(507) 373-7933

**MARION ROSS PERFORMING  
ARTS CENTER**

147 N. Broadway | Albert Lea |  
(507) 377-4371

**MOWER COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

1303 6th Ave. SW | Austin | (507) 437-6082

**NIAGARA CAVE**

29842 Co. Rd. 30 | Harmony | (507) 886-6606

**NORTHBRIDGE MALL**

2610 Bridge Ave. | Albert Lea |  
(507) 377-3185

**PELICAN BREEZE II**

Albert Lea Lake | Albert Lea | (507) 383-7273

**ROCK GYM & BROOKSIDE BOATHOUSE**

211 W Richway Dr. | Albert Lea |  
(507) 379-4834

**SPAM® MUSEUM**

101 3rd Ave. NE | Austin | (800) 588-7726

**ST. CASIMIR'S CHURCH STONE HOME**

60659 200th St. | Wells | (507) 553-5505

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73505 225th St. | Albert Lea |  
(507) 383-1273

**WILD INDIGO PRAIRIE SCIENTIFIC AND  
NATURAL AREA**

580th Ave. | Austin | (507) 831-2900

**WINNEBAGO AREA MUSEUM**

16 S Main St. | Winnebago | (507) 893-4660

**WYKOFF BALSAM FIR SCIENTIFIC AND  
NATURAL AREA**

County Hwy. 8 | Spring Valley |  
(651) 259-5800



# 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/dates:

Online: [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://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

### Bear

08/16/24 Baiting start date - Permit areas & no-quota area  
09/1/24 - 10/13/24 Permit areas & no-quota area

### Deer

09/14/24 - 12/31/24 Archery - Statewide  
10/17/24 - 10/20/24 Early Antlerless  
10/17/24 - 10/20/24 Youth - Statewide  
11/9/24 - 11/24/24 Firearm (Season A) 100 Series permit areas  
11/9/24 - 11/17/24 Firearm (Season A) 200 & 300 Series permit areas  
11/23/24 - 12/1/24 Firearm (Season B) 300 Series permit areas  
11/30/24 - 12/15/24 Muzzleloader - Statewide

### Badger

10/19/24 - 03/16/25 North furbearer zone  
10/26/24 - 03/16/25 South furbearer zone

### Bobcat

12/14/24 - 01/19/25  
North of I-94 & U.S. Highway 10

### Fox, Gray & Red

10/19/24 - 03/15/25 North furbearer zone  
10/19/24 - 03/15/25 South furbearer zone

### Opossum

10/19/24 - 03/15/25 North furbearer zone  
10/19/24 - 03/15/25 South furbearer zone

### Rabbit

09/14/24 - 02/28/25 Jack - Statewide  
09/14/24 - 02/28/25 Cottontail & Snowshoe Hare - Statewide

### Raccoon

10/19/24 - 03/15/25 North furbearer zone  
10/19/24 - 03/15/25 South furbearer zone

### Squirrel, Gray & Fox

09/14/24 - 02/28/25 Gray & Fox - Statewide

### Grouse

09/14/24 - 01/1/25 Ruffed & Spruce - Statewide  
09/21/24 - 12/4/24 Sharp-Tailed - Northwest zone

### Pheasant

10/12/24 - 01/1/25 Ring-Necked - Statewide

### Wild Turkey

04/17/24 - 05/31/24 Spring - Youth - Statewide  
04/17/24 - 05/31/24 Spring - Archery - Statewide  
04/17/24 - 04/23/24 Spring - A season - Statewide  
04/24/24 - 04/30/24 Spring - B season - Statewide  
05/1/24 - 05/7/24 Spring - C season - Statewide  
05/8/24 - 05/14/24 Spring - D season - Statewide  
05/15/24 - 05/21/24 Spring - E season - Statewide  
05/22/24 - 05/31/24 Spring - F season - Statewide  
09/28/24 - 10/27/24 Fall - Statewide

## TRAPPING

### Badger

10/19/24 - 03/16/25 North furbearer zone  
10/26/24 - 03/16/25 South furbearer zone

### Bobcat

12/14/24 - 01/19/25 North of I-94 & U.S. Highway 10

### Fox

10/19/24 - 03/15/25 Gray & Red - North furbearer zone  
10/19/24 - 03/15/25 Gray & Red - South furbearer zone

### Opossum

10/19/24 - 03/15/25 North furbearer zone  
10/19/24 - 03/15/25 South furbearer zone

### Rabbit

09/14/24 - 02/28/25 Jack - Statewide  
09/14/24 - 02/28/25 Cottontail & Snowshoe Hare - Statewide

### Raccoon

10/19/24 - 03/15/25 North furbearer zone  
10/19/24 - 03/15/25 South furbearer zone

### Squirrel

09/14/24 - 02/28/25 Gray & Fox - Statewide

\*Check the MN DNR website for updates.

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us>

or scan the QR code



- ◆ **Wear Blaze Orange!** Being mistaken for a deer, can be deadly
- ◆ **Scout the Area:** Before the hunting season begins, spend time scouting the hunting area. Look for deer signs such as tracks, droppings, rubs, and scrapes
- ◆ **Practice Stealth and Scent Control:** Deer have an excellent sense of smell and can be easily spooked by human scent
- ◆ **Know the Local Regulations and Laws:** Before you head out on your hunting trip, familiarize yourself with the local hunting regulations and laws.

Remember that ethical hunting practices, respect for wildlife, and safety should always be paramount while participating in any hunting activity. Additionally, always make sure to follow local hunting guidelines and regulations to protect the environment and wildlife populations.  **HAPPY HUNTING!**



You can purchase hunting and fishing licenses, cross-country ski passes and snowmobile trail stickers through the Electronic License System. Online [www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us), Toll Free: 1 (888) 646-6367  
Or visit one of the ELS agents available throughout the area:

## **DODGE COUNTY**

### **DODGE CENTER**

#### **D C HARDWARE**

14 3RD AVE SW | DODGE CENTER | (507) 374-6344

### **KASSON**

#### **KASSON HARDWARE HANK**

11 4TH ST SE | KASSON | (507) 634-2771

### **KASSON LIC BUR DEPUTY REGISTRAR #95**

13 W MAIN ST | KASSON | (507) 634-2061

## **FARIBAULT COUNTY**

### **BLUE EARTH**

#### **BREEN'S TRUE VALUE**

115 S MAIN ST | BLUE EARTH | (507) 526-2876

### **WELLS**

#### **GOEMANN'S STATION**

10998 STATE HWY 22 | WELLS | (507) 294-3118

### **WELLS TRUE VALUE**

33 S BROADWAY | WELLS | (507) 553-3713

## **FREEBORN COUNTY**

### **ALBERT LEA**

#### **HYVEE FOOD STORE #1019**

2708 N BRIDGE AVE | ALBERT LEA | (507) 377-2257

### **STOP & GO FOODMART**

701 S BROADWAY AVE | ALBERT LEA | (507) 377-1481

### **WAL-MART SUPERCENTER #1020**

1550 BLAKE AVE | ALBERT LEA | (507) 377-2998

### **CLARKS GROVE**

#### **CLARKS GROVE MARKET & LIQUOR**

498 MAIN ST E | CLARKS GROVE | (507) 256-4444

## **MOWER COUNTY**

### **ADAMS**

#### **ADAMS BUILDERS SUPPLY**

205 COMMERCE ST SW | ADAMS | (507) 582-3210

### **AUSTIN**

#### **ACE HARDWARE**

1417 1ST AVE SW | AUSTIN | (507) 437-8261

### **ANKENY'S MINI MART #5**

1400 14TH ST NW | AUSTIN | (507) 433-5510

### **RUNNINGS #32**

1400 18TH AVE NW | AUSTIN | (507) 433-7437

### **WALMART SUPERCENTER #4257**

1000 18TH AVE NE | AUSTIN | (507) 434-8159

### **LEROY**

#### **LEROY CLASSIC STOP**

230 W MAIN | LEROY | (507) 324-5402

# FIREWOOD

**Burn it where you get it!**



Invasive pests like the Emerald Ash Borer and Gypsy Moth have devastated millions of trees in the United States. Where these pests come from, the population stays in control because they have natural predators. The United States does not have these natural predators so the populations have the chance to grow to extreme numbers.



**Emerald Ash Borer**

**Gypsy Moth Caterpillar**

## **Preventing the Spread**

- Buy local firewood.
- Burn all firewood completely at each destination.
- Move only Certified firewood out of a quarantine county or across state boundaries.
- Use firewood from nearby sources to heat your home or cabin.
- Tell your friends and family about the importance of not moving firewood.
- Don't move hardwood firewood out of a quarantine county, unless it is state or USDA certified.
- Don't move opened firewood bundles.
- Don't move firewood long distances to or from your lake home or cabin.

***Invasive Pests are a Problem!***



## INLAND WATERS

### Lake Trout

12/30/23 - 03/31/24

Lakes entirely within the BWCA

### Lake Trout

01/13/24 - 03/31/24

Lakes partially or completely outside the BWCA

### Bullhead

03/01/24 - 02/28/25

### Burbot (eelpout)

03/01/24 - 02/28/25

### Channel Catfish

03/01/24 - 02/28/25

### Cisco (tullibee), whitefish

03/01/24 - 02/28/25

### Crappie

03/01/24 - 02/28/25

### Gar

03/01/24 - 02/28/25

### Other

03/01/24 - 02/28/25

### Perch

03/01/24 - 02/28/25

### Rock Bass

03/01/24 - 02/28/25

### Smelt

03/01/24 - 02/28/25

### Sunfish

03/01/24 - 02/28/25

### White Bass

03/01/24 - 02/28/25

### Flathead Catfish

04/01/24 - 11/30/24

### Largemouth Bass

05/11/24 - 02/23/25

Northeastern Minnesota

### Northern Pike

05/11/24 - 02/23/25

### Sauger

05/11/24 - 02/23/25

### Smallmouth Bass

05/11/24 - 02/23/25

Northeastern Minnesota

### Walleye

05/11/24 - 02/23/25

### Largemouth Bass

05/25/24 - 02/28/25,

Statewide except the northeast

### Smallmouth Bass

05/25/24 - 09/08/24,

Statewide except the northeast

### Sturgeon - catch-and-release

06/16/24 - 04/14/25

### Smallmouth Bass - catch-and-release

09/09/24 - 02/23/25,

Statewide except the northeast

*\*Contact the MN DNR for specific zone information/dates:*

1 (888) 646-6367

[www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)

scan the QR code



(Fishing licenses are effective from March 1 to the last day of February of the following year. A fishing license for the current 2024-25 license year is effective until Feb. 29, 2025.)

# DE

## EHLENFELDT'S PAINTING & DRYWALL

**FREE ESTIMATES**

- Commercial • Residential
- Interior/Exterior
- Taping
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*Experience a Plus*

**507-421-2665**

[ehlenfeldtpainting@gmail.com](mailto:ehlenfeldtpainting@gmail.com)



**Boating safety is critical for anyone who operates a boat or spends time on the water. Here are some general boating safety tips to keep in mind:**

• **Wear a life jacket:** Always wear a life jacket while boating. Make sure the life jacket is appropriate for your weight and is U.S. Coast Guard approved. • **Know the weather:** Check the weather forecast before you go boating and keep an eye on changing conditions. If you notice darkening clouds, rough winds or sudden drops in temperature, get off the water. • **Use navigation aids:** Use navigation aids like buoys and beacons to help you navigate safely. • **Maintain your boat:** Keep your boat well-maintained and in good working condition. Make sure all safety equipment is in good condition and functioning properly. • **Avoid alcohol:** Do not drink alcohol while operating a boat. It is illegal and increases the likelihood of accidents. • **Watch your speed:** Observe speed limits and maintain a safe speed based on conditions. Remember, slower speeds may be necessary in crowded areas or in inclement weather. • **Be aware of other boats:** Watch for other boats and be aware of their movements. Always assume other boaters may not see you. • **Know the rules:** Learn and follow boating safety laws and regulations. This includes rules for navigation, safety equipment, and right-of-way. • **File a float plan:** Always let someone know where you are going and when you plan to return. File a float plan with a trusted person or a marina. • **Take a boating safety course:** Consider taking a boating safety course to improve your skills and knowledge.



**By following these general boating safety tips, you can reduce the likelihood of accidents and enjoy a safe and enjoyable time on the water.**

# YOUR Help is NEEDED!

Do  
**NOT**  
Transport  
Invasive:  
• Fish  
• Invertebrates  
• Aquatic Plants



# CLEAN. DRAIN. DISPOSE.

## KNOW THE LAW! YOU MAY NOT...

- TRANSPORT WATERCRAFT WITHOUT REMOVING THE DRAIN PLUG.
- ARRIVE AT LAKE ACCESS WITH DRAIN PLUG IN PLACE.
- TRANSPORT AQUATIC PLANTS, ZEBRA MUSSELS, OR OTHER PROHIBITED SPECIES ON ANY ROADWAY.
- LAUNCH A WATERCRAFT WITH PROHIBITED SPECIES ATTACHED.
- TRANSPORT WATER FROM LAKES OR RIVERS.
- RELEASE BAIT INTO THE WATER.



# BUTTERED-UP *Steak*



Simple meal with a *Gourmet Feel*

## INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Take the steaks out of the refrigerator and let them come to room temperature for about 30 minutes. This helps the steak cook more evenly.
- 2 Preheat your oven to 400°F.
- 3 Season the steaks generously with salt and pepper on both sides.
- 4 Heat a large skillet over high heat until very hot. Add the steaks and cook for about 2-3 minutes per side, until nicely browned.
- 5 Remove the steaks from the skillet and place them on a baking sheet.
- 6 In the same skillet, add the butter and garlic. Cook for about 30 seconds, stirring constantly, until the garlic is fragrant.
- 7 Pour the garlic butter over the steaks on the baking sheet.
- 8 Place the baking sheet in the oven and cook for about 5-7 minutes for medium-rare doneness, or longer if you prefer your steak more well-done.
- 9 Remove the steaks from the oven and let them rest for a few minutes before slicing.
- 10 Serve the steak with any remaining butter from the baking sheet and fresh herbs if desired.

## INGREDIENTS

- 2 steaks (ribeye or sirloin are good choices)
- Salt and pepper
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- Fresh herbs (optional)

*Enjoy your delicious  
buttered-up steak!*

PREP: 35 MIN • TOTAL: 50 MIN

# Send in YOUR Favorite Recipe

For a chance to  
be published in our  
next guide!

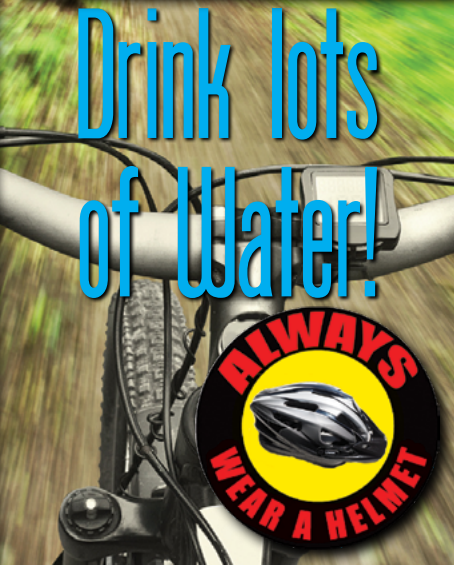
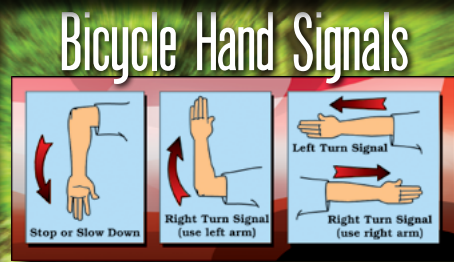
[info@lincolnmarketing.us](mailto:info@lincolnmarketing.us)





# Be Aware of your Surroundings

- 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.



## Drink lots of Water!

# Know Your ATV

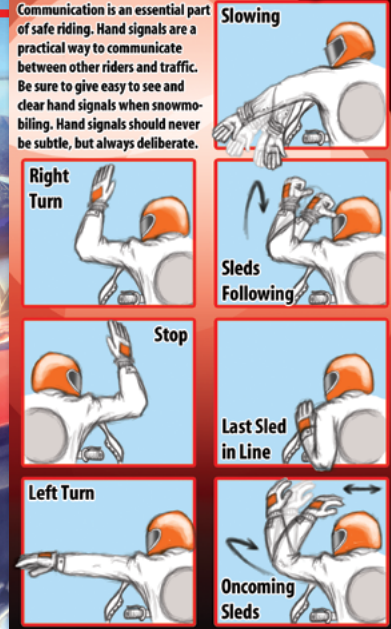
### Read the owner's manual

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.

- 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.

## Snowmobile Hand Signals

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.

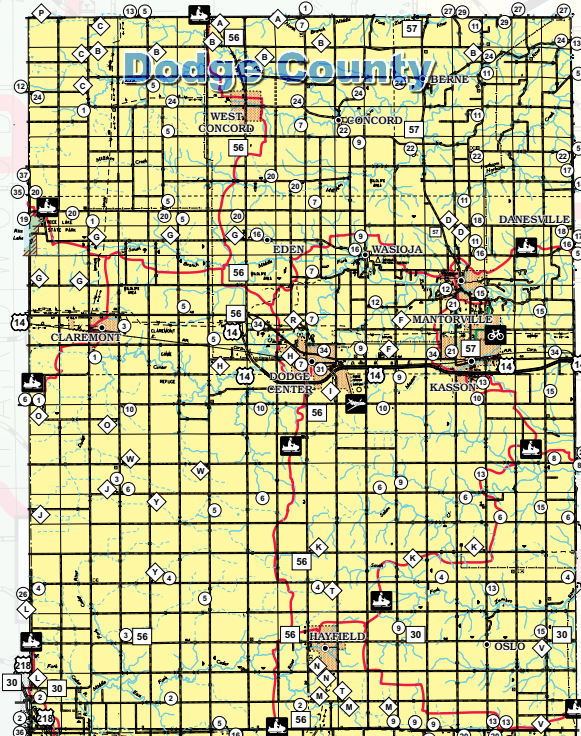








**PRIVATE PROPERTY**  
NO TRESPASSING

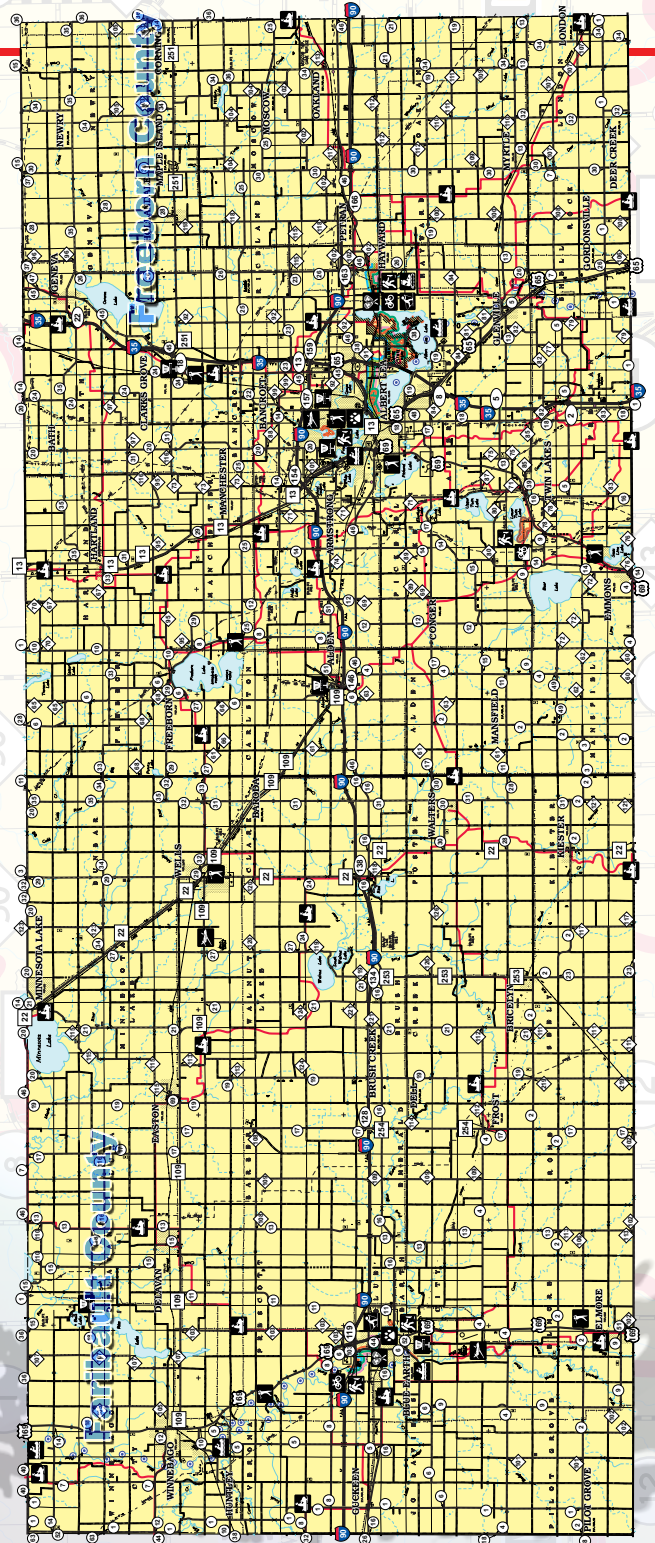
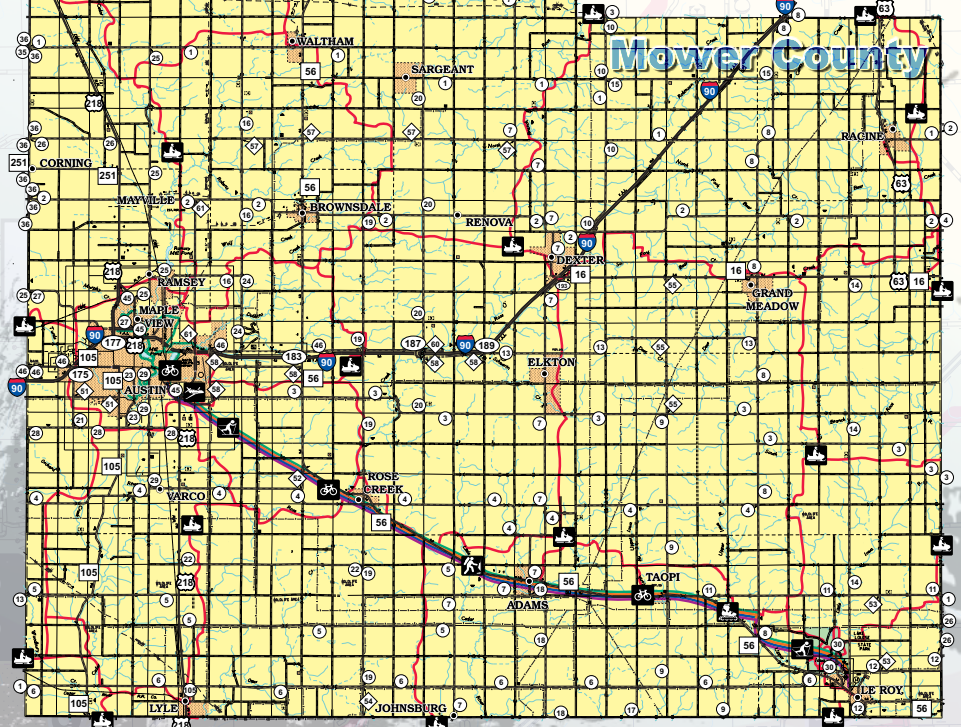
Please respect private property and no trespassing signs. Stay on trails. Exercise extreme caution on all lakes and streams. Obey all state and local laws and ordinances. Do not operate snowmobiles/ATVs on county roads or state highways.



# LOCAL AREA TRAILS



-  Snowmobile Trail
-  Bicycle Trail/Route
-  Equestrian Trail
-  Hiking/Walking Trail
-  Cross-Country Ski Trail
-  Airport Locator



Fishing is a good way to get out and relax. It can also be a time to bond with family or friends. Fishing is healthy as well, being outside and active is good for the body and eating fish can be beneficial. There's also the excitement of never knowing what kind of fish is going to be. Plus fishing helps support wild life management.



-  Snowmobile Trail
-  Bicycle Trail/Route
-  Equestrian Trail
-  Hiking/Walking Trail
-  Cross-Country Ski Trail
-  Airport Locator



# GO GREEN



Reduce, Reuse,  
Recycle

reduce waste, reuse materials & recycle properly



Cut back on single-use plastics, conserve water, drive less



EVERY DAY is EARTH DAY



**Community/Home Gardens:** Really good at absorbing carbon dioxide. Cuts down on pesticides/fertilizers. Also benefits mental health and provides fresh food.

**Composting:** Decreases the amount of trash in landfills and reduces carbon emissions.

**Plant Trees:** Planting trees is a classic Earth Day activity.

**Local Food:** Buy local sustainable food.

**Clean-Up Events:** Organize or participate in local clean-up efforts.

**Upcycle Crafts:** Get creative by turning old items into new useful objects.



# Healthy & Environmentally Friendly Lawn

Choose a type of grass that thrives in your area. 3" is the optimal height for most grasses, it allows the roots to become strong and healthy. It also helps to absorb more water. Don't bag the lawn clippings, it's a natural fertilizer. Keep your mower blades sharp.



Don't water every day. Give your lawn a good soaking once or twice a week. Your lawn should get about an inch of water each week, whether it be from rain fall or a sprinkler. Water your lawn in the early morning, preferably before 10am. Watering at night time can create fungus growth.



Don't use pesticides. Correctly identify what the problem is and try a non-chemical method first. If you have to use a chemical based pesticide, try spot treating the problem area. All pesticides are toxic to some degree. Make sure to read all labels.



Fertilizers can harm the environment. Use natural organic or slow-release fertilizers. The best time to fertilize your lawn is in the fall.





# So, You have decided to get a pet... NOW WHAT??

**Commitment and Time:** Owning a pet is a long-term commitment. Before bringing a pet home, consider your lifestyle and ensure you have enough time to spend with your pet. Dogs, cats, and many other animals require attention, exercise, and mental stimulation.

**Choose the Right Pet for Your Lifestyle:** Different pets have varying needs, temperaments, and activity levels. Research and select a pet that fits well with your lifestyle, living situation, and family dynamics. Whether you choose a dog, cat, bird, fish, or any other animal, make sure you can provide for its specific needs.

**Proper Nutrition:** Feed your pet a balanced and nutritious diet suitable for their species and age. Consult with a veterinarian to determine the best food options for your pet's health and well-being.

**Regular Exercise:** Most pets need regular physical activity to stay healthy and happy. Engage in playtime and exercise with your pet daily, as it helps prevent obesity and provides mental stimulation.

**Routine Veterinary Care:** Schedule regular check-ups with a veterinarian to monitor your pet's health, get necessary vaccinations, and address any concerns. Early detection of health issues can often lead to better outcomes.

**Spaying/Neutering:** Consider spaying or neutering your pet if you don't plan on breeding. This helps control the pet population and can have health benefits for your pet.

**Training and Socialization:** Properly train your pet to follow basic commands and have good manners. Socialize them with other animals and people from a young age to prevent behavioral issues later on.

**Provide a Safe Environment:** Ensure that your home and yard are safe for your pet. Remove hazards, keep toxic substances out of reach, and provide appropriate shelter from extreme weather conditions.

**Grooming:** Regular grooming is essential for most pets. Brush their fur, trim nails, and clean their ears as needed to keep them comfortable and healthy.

**Identification and Microchipping:** Keep identification tags with your current contact information on your pet's collar. Consider microchipping your pet as an extra measure to ensure they can be identified if lost.

**Love and Attention:** Pets thrive on love and attention from their owners. Spend quality time with your pet, provide affection, and build a strong bond.

**Respect and Understanding:** Learn to understand your pet's body language and behavior. Respect their boundaries and feelings, and avoid forcing them into uncomfortable situations.



**Patience and Forgiveness:** Pets, especially young ones, can be mischievous or have accidents. Be patient with them during the training process and forgive any mistakes they make along the way.

**Emergency Preparedness:** Have a plan in place for emergencies, including natural disasters. Know how to evacuate with your pet safely if needed.

**If you have just rescued / adopted a new fur baby, please it is important to remember the 3-3-3 RULE:**

### 3 Days:

In the first 3 days being in its new home, they will be feeling overwhelmed, scared & unsure of what is going on. They may also be uncomfortable being "themselves", and may not want to eat or drink. They may want to "shut down" or hide under a bed or in a crate, and they will test boundaries.

### 3 Weeks:

At this point, they may be a lot more comfortable & settling in. Learning a new routine can be overwhelming, so please be patient. By now they may have figured out the new environment & accepted that this may be their FURever home. Their personality traits will start to show, as well as any behavior issue that may be present.

### 3 Months:

For most fur babies, 3 months is enough time to finally be comfortable and begin to build trust and a true bond. A sense of security may be present & a set routine will help this process.

Please know that this is not the rule with every rescued or adopted pet, as some may need 6 months to a year to adjust & adapt, depending on MANY factors. Age of animal, what type of an environment did they come from?

### Austin Dog Park

1900 2nd Ave. SE | Austin

### Blue Earth Dog Park

700 Block of East 2nd St. |  
Blue Earth

### K-M Dog Park

412 10th St. E | Mantorville

### Leash Required

### John A. Latsch State Park

US-61 | Minnesota City |  
(507) 312-2300

### Lake Louise State Park

12385 766th Ave. | Le Roy |  
(507) 352-5111

## DOG PARKS





# Be smart...



## Take good care of your skin

*The skin is an organ and helps protect against heat, sunlight, injury, and infections. This is why it is important to always protect it. Overexposure to the sun can be linked to some skin cancers. Ultraviolet rays from the sun or sunlamps can also cause eye problems, weakened immune system, age spots, wrinkles, and leathery skin.*

### • Protect your skin

Wear proper clothing like long-sleeved shirts and pants. Also protect your head and eyes with a hat and UV-resistant sunglasses.

Remember that you can also fall victim to the sun on a cloudy day as well as in the winter.

Sunburns increase the risk of developing skin cancer. It is especially important that children don't get a sunburns.

Peak burning hours, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization, are between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Reflective surfaces, like water, snow, and sand can reflect sun rays and make them more intense.

You experience more UV exposure at higher altitudes, because there is less atmosphere to absorb UV radiation.

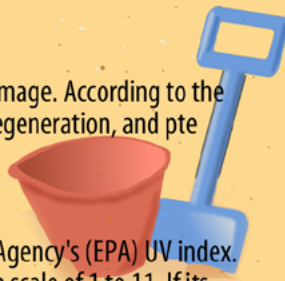
Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen to cover all exposed skin. The FDA recommends using sunscreens that are broad spectrum and have a sun protection factor (SPF) value of at least 15. Re-apply sunscreen throughout the day.

### • Protect your eyes

UV rays can penetrate the structures of your eyes and cause cell damage. According to the CDC, some sun-related vision problems cause cataracts, macular degeneration, and pterygium.

### • UV index

Before going outside you can check the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) UV index. To see the intensity of UV rays for the day. The index measures on a scale of 1 to 11. If its low on the UV index you will require less protection and a high UV index will require a lot more protection.



• Shop • Dine  
• Play  
• Stay

**LOCALLY**



*...and support the community you live in!*