

Free

Resident and Visitor Guide



Fillmore, Houston
and Olmsted
Counties, MN

- Hunting Seasons
- Fishing Seasons
- Recreation Trails
- DNR License Centers
- Residential Services
- Local Attractions
- Parks & Rec. Info
- Area History
- Local Events

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Fillmore County



Houston County



Olmsted County



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JANUARY

Coffee & Conversation at the Preston Library (3rd Wed of each month) | Preston
 Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration | Rochester
 Historic Maywood Mansion Tour (Recurring April-Oct, Weekends) | Rochester
 Pine Island Winterfest

FEBRUARY

Chillfest | Chatfield
 Whalan Candlelight Ski | Whalan
 SocialICE | Rochester
 Polar Plunge | Rochester
 Economic Summit | Rochester
 Stewartville Winterfest
 Houston Area Cancer Auction

MARCH

Hesper-Mabel Historical Society Pancake Breakfast | Mable
 International Festival of Owls | Houston
 Timeless Creations Spring Event | Houston
 International Women's Day Celebration | Stewartville
 Cabin Fever Craft & Vendor Show | Stewartville

APRIL

Preston Pride Clean Up Day
 Annual Swing into Spring Benefit | Harmony
 Easter Egg Hunt | Houston
 City Wide Garage Sales | Pine Island & Houston
 Stewartville Job Fair
 Trout Classic | Chatfield
 Annual Byron Community Foundation Event
 Eggnormas Easter Event | Rochester
 Pine Island City Wide Garage Sales

MAY

Trout Classic | Chatfield
 SEMBA's Annual Spring Bluegrass Festival | Houston
 Annual Youth Fishing Derby | Houston
 Houston Fire & Rescue Annual Pancake Breakfast
 Root River Triathlon | Houston
 Mystery Cave Opens for the Season | Preston

Trout Days | Preston

Root River Triathlon
 Syttende Mai | Spring Grove
 Farmers Market (May-Oct, Saturdays) | Lanesboro
 Bluff Country Gathering | Lanesboro
 Spring Boutique & Business Crawl | Lanesboro
 Memorial Day Program | Lanesboro
 Runin' with my Gnomies 5k | Spring Grove
 Farmers Market (May-Oct) | Caledonia
 City Wide Garage Sales | Eyota & Stewartville
 Evergreen Cemetery Breakfast Fundraiser | Dover
 Olmsted County Gold Rush Antique Show & Market | Rochester
 Mothers Day Bake & Craft Sale | Rochester
 Rochester Craft Beer Week
 GrillFest | Rochester

JUNE

Gammel Dag Fest | Peterson
 Friendship Wagon Train | Preston
 Rhubarb Festival | Lanesboro
 Founder's Day Celebration | Caledonia
 Rhythm By The River (June-Aug, 2nd or 3rd Thurs) | Preston
 Pine Island Farmers Market (June-Oct, Thursdays)
 Pine Island Cheese Festival
 Pine Island Ribbon Run/Walk
 Hoot on the Root (June-Aug, Weds) | Houston
 Art in the Park | Lanesboro
 Rochesterfest | Rochester
 Chamber Golf Outing | Rochester
 Art 4 Trails | Rochester
 Lemonade Day | Rochester

JULY

4th of July Celebration | Harmony
 Back Hally Jam Serier | Harmony
 Independence Day | Forestville
 Rhythm by the River | Preston
 Fillmore County Fair | Preston
 Annual Veteran Golf Tournament | Preston
 Houston Hoedown Days | Houston
 Root River Engine & Tractor Show | Spring Valley
 Fun Fest | Eitzen

Eyota Days | Eyota
 Good Neighbor Days | Byron
 4th of July Celebration | Oronoco



Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks | Rochester
 Olmsted County Fair | Rochester
 Down by the Riverside (July-Aug) | Rochester
 Pine Island Classic Motor Show
 Summerfest | Stewartville

AUGUST

Houston County Fair | Caledonia
 Buffalo Bill Days | Lanesboro
 Lanesboro Area Art Trail (Aug-Oct)
 Western Days | Chatfield
 Ag Days | Spring Valley
 50's & 60's Days | Mable
 Oronoco Goldrush Days | Oronoco
 Days of Yesteryear | Rochester
 Rochester Greek Fest | Rochester
 Olmsted County Gold Rush Antique Show & Market | Rochester
 Annual Chamber Golf Tournament | Harmony
 Fly-in Drive-in Breakfast at the Airport | Preston

SEPTEMBER

Apple Fest Celebration & 5K | La Crescent
 Hesper-Mabel Steam Engine Days | Mabel
 Fall Fest | Wykoff
 Rendezvous Days | Fort Atkinson
 Farmers Market (May-Oct, 2nd or 3rd Sats) | Preston
 City Wide Garage Sales | Preston
 Taste of the Trail | Preston
 60 Mile Garage Sale | Preston
 Fall For Harmony
 Fall Foliage Fest | Harmony
 The Fall Craft Beer & Wine Fest | Lanesboro

Fall Boutique & Business Crawl | Lanesboro
 Labor Day Celebration & Parade | Rochester
 Quarry Hill Fall Festival | Rochester
 Craft & Gift Show | Rochester
 Arts & Living History Festival | Chatfield

OCTOBER

Haunted Harmony
 Monster Bash | Harmony
 UffDa Fest | Spring Grove
 Annual St. Mary's Parish Holiday Bazaar | Caledonia
 Wild Turkey Fest & Balloon Rally | Caledonia
 Fall into Lanesboro
 FallaPalooza | Chatfield
 Fright Night at the Farm | Rochester
 Trunk or Treat | Rochester
 Brains Together for a Cure | Rochester
 Creatures of the Night | Rochester
 Stewartville Fall Festival

NOVEMBER

Small Business Saturday | Area Wide
 Festival of Trees (Nov-Dec) | Spring Grove
 Light up Caledonia | Caledonia
 Experience the Magic of Lanesboro
 Mansion Christmas Tour (Nov-Dec) | Rochester
 Festival of Trees (Nov-Dec) | Rochester
 Winona Art Walk & Tour | Rochester

DECEMBER

Houston Hollidazzle
 Christmas on Historic Broadway | Spring Valley
 Lighted Christmas Parade | Caledonia
 Winter Wonderland | Caledonia
 Christmas in the Village | Spring Grove
 Christmas in Peterson
 Holiday Dinner Dance | Lanesboro
 Jolly Trolley Holiday Lights Tour | Rochester
 Art at Hidden River | Rochester
 Holly Days of Christmas | Stewartville
 Breakfast with Santa & Tree Lighting Ceremony | Harmony
 Hoildays in Harmony
 Mistletoe Market | Preston
 Breakfast With Santa | Preston

**Events are Subject to Change.*

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES



FILLMORE COUNTY

Administration	(507) 765-4566
Assessor	765-3868
Attorney	765-2530
Auditor	765-3811
Economic Development	765-4566
Emergency Management	765-2830
Highway Department	765-3854
MN Extension	765-3896
Recorder	765-3852
Sheriff	765-3874
Social Services	765-2175
Soil & Water Conservation	887-0240
Surveyor	765-3205
Treasurer	765-4701
Veterans Services	765-4937

HOUSTON COUNTY

Administration	(507) 725-5825
Assessor	725-5801
Attorney	725-5802
Auditor / Treasurer.....	725-5803
Economic Development	725-5836
Emergency Management	725-5834
Highway Department	725-3925
Human Services	725-5811
Information Systems	725-5809
Maintenance	725-5804
MN Extension	725-5807
Recorder	725-5813
Sheriff	725-3379 Ext. 4124
Soil & Water Conservation.....	724-5261 Ext.#3
Surveyor	725-5814
Veterans Services	725-5805

OLMSTED COUNTY

Administration	(507) 328-6001
Child Support	328-6550
Community Corrections	328-7200
Community Services	328-6500
County Attorney	328-6001
Emergency Management	328-6100
Extension	(800) 854-1678
Family Support & Assistance.....	328-6000
Garbage & Recycling	328-7070
Human Resources	328-7700
Property Tax Records	328-7636
Public Health Services	328-6000
Recording/Abstracting.....	328-7635
Sheriff	328-6750
Non-Emergency.....	328-6800
Soil & Water Conservation District.....	328-7070
Veterans Services	328-6355
Vital Records	328-7630

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Fillmore County History

Fillmore County Communities



Fillmore County was established in 1853 and named in honor of President Millard Fillmore. Chatfield was the original county seat in 1855 until it was moved to Carimona. In 1856 Preston was selected as the county seat and a courthouse was built in 1863. As rail lines were built in southern Minnesota, Fillmore County began to grow and communities were established near railway junctions. Early industry included lumbering, milling, mining and agriculture. Today Fillmore County is home to approximately 20,850 residents.

CITIES:

CANTON – pop. 323
 CHATFIELD – pop. 2,518
 FOUNTAIN – pop. 340
 HARMONY – pop. 1,076
 LANESBORO – pop. 728
 MABEL – pop. 709
 OSTRANDER – pop. 199
 PETERSON – pop. 254
 PRESTON (COUNTY SEAT) – pop. 1,324
 RUSHFORD – pop. 1,727
 RUSHFORD VILLAGE – pop. 771
 SPRING VALLEY – pop. 2,355
 WHALAN – pop. 60
 WYKOFF – pop. 433

TOWNSHIPS:

AMHERST – pop. 411
 ARENDAHL – pop. 339
 BEAVER – pop. 255
 BLOOMFIELD – pop. 418
 BRISTOL – pop. 498
 CANTON – pop. 674
 CARIMONA – pop. 279
 CARROLTON – pop. 329
 CHATFIELD – pop. 489
 CHERRY GROVE – pop. 472
 FILLMORE – pop. 481
 FORESTVILLE – pop. 388
 FOUNTAIN – pop. 321
 HARMONY – pop. 400

HOLT – pop. 311
 JORDAN – pop. 417
 NEWBURG – pop. 442
 NORWAY – pop. 341
 PILOT MOUND – pop. 369
 PREBLE – pop. 281
 PRESTON – pop. 381
 SPRING VALLEY – pop. 580
 SUMNER – pop. 441
 YORK – pop. 410

*Populations are approximate.

CANTON

The Canton area was settled in 1851 and originally known as Boomer. In 1879 Canton was platted and a post office was founded. The community was incorporated in 1887 and as the railroad arrived in 1903, Canton continued to develop. Today Canton is home to approximately 323 residents.

CHATFIELD

Settled in 1853 by Thomas Twiford, the community was named in honor of Judge Chatfield. By 1900 Chatfield housed a sawmill, hotel, newspaper, specialty shops and a variety of manufacturing centers. The community was incorporated in 1857 and originally selected as the county seat. Today Chatfield is home to approximately 2,518 residents.

FOUNTAIN

Fountain was settled in 1853 and platted in 1858. The community was named after a large fountain spring that was the village water supply. As the railroad was constructed in 1870, a post office was established. Fountain was incorporated in 1876 and has continued to grow. Today Fountain is home to approximately 340 residents.

HARMONY

Settled in 1884, Harmony was first known as Greenfield. The community was organized in 1858 and a post office was built in 1862. Harmony was incorporated in 1896 and businesses were established. With construction of the railroad in 1903, Harmony continued to thrive and is now the center of a large Amish community. Today Harmony is home to approximately 1,076 residents.

LANESBORO

Located in Carrolton and Holt Townships, Lanesboro was platted in 1868. The community was incorporated in 1869 and as the railroad arrived in 1870, Lanesboro continued to grow. Mills, churches, general stores, lumberyards and factories were built and Lanesboro now is recognized as the "Rhubarb Capital of the World." Today Lanesboro is home to approximately 728 residents.

MABEL

Settled in the 1850s, Mabel was first known as Bellville. A post office was established in 1855 and the community was incorporated in 1893. With construction of the railroad, Mabel grew dramatically and is now known as "Rural America's Steam Engine Capital." Today Mabel is home to approximately 709 residents.

OSTRANDER

Ostrander was named in honor of early settlers William and Charles Ostrander. The community was platted as a railway village in 1890 and in 1891 a post office was constructed. It was later the site of an iron mining operation during World War II. Today Ostrander is home to approximately 199 residents.

Fillmore County Communities

PETERSON

Peterson was settled in 1853 and founded in 1867. The community was named in honor of Peter Peterson Haslerud, who donated land for the construction of the railroad. The community was incorporated in 1909 and has continued to grow. One of Minnesota's first trout hatcheries was established here. Today Peterson is home to approximately 254 residents.

PRESTON (COUNTY SEAT)

Preston was settled in 1853 and was named in honor of Luther Preston, a mill worker and the community's first postmaster. In 1855 streets were platted by John Kaercher and in 1856 Preston was selected as the county seat. In 1871 the community was incorporated and has continued to develop, becoming the county seat. Due to the high concentration of trout found here, Preston is recognized as "Minnesota's Trout Capital." Today Preston is home to approximately 1,324 residents.

RUSHFORD

Named after Rush Creek, Rushford was founded in 1854. A post office was established in 1856 and a variety of businesses were founded. Because of intersecting Indian foot paths, Rushford was known as the "Trail City" and was incorporated in 1868. As the railroad was constructed, the community became an important shipping and trade center. Today Rushford is home to approximately 1,727 residents.

RUSHFORD VILLAGE

Established in 1854, Rushford Village was originally part of Rushford until 1869. Located east of Rushford, the community was incorporated in 1885. Early settlers were attracted to the ample resources and fertile soil. Today Rushford Village is home to approximately 771 residents.

SPRING VALLEY

Spring Valley was settled in 1852 and named after the large local springs found in the area. The community was organized in 1858 with a post office, and incorporated in 1872. Because of its proximity to a junction of railway lines, Spring Valley grew quickly. Today Spring Valley is home to approximately 2,355 residents.

WHALAN

Settled in 1868, Whalan was named in honor of local landowner John Whalan. A post office was built in 1869 and residents donated over 200 acres of land to the railroad. The community was incorporated in 1876 and by 1900 Whalan housed a church, school, social hall and general stores. Today Whalan is home to approximately 60 residents.

WYKOFF

First known as Free Soil Prairie, Wykoff was platted in 1871. As the community grew, Wykoff was incorporated in 1876 and named in honor of Cyrus G. Wykoff, a railroad surveyor and community leader. Today Wykoff is home to approximately 433 residents.

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The advertisement features a large background image of the Country Trails Inn & Suites building, a two-story structure with a prominent brick chimney and a covered porch area. The scene is decorated with various autumn leaves in shades of orange, yellow, and brown. In the top left corner, there is a logo of a tree with colorful leaves and the text 'Country Trails Inn & Suites Preston MN'. Below the logo, it says 'WELCOME Autumn' in a decorative font. The main text describes the hotel as a modern two-story hotel on Highway 52 in Preston, Minnesota, featuring 40 guest rooms and whirlpool suites. At the bottom, the website 'www.countrytrailsinn.com' and phone numbers are listed. A small strip at the very bottom shows four smaller images: a swimming pool, a lounge area with a sofa, a bathroom with a tub, and a dining area.

Houston County History

Houston County Communities



Houston County was established in 1854 and named after Sam Houston of Texas. Caledonia was selected as the county seat and a courthouse was built in 1874. Early industry included lumbering, milling, mining and agriculture. As the railroad was established, Houston County continued to grow and by 1900 its population had reached 15,400. These old railway lines have since been redeveloped into hiking and biking trails, attracting many outdoor recreation enthusiasts. Today Houston County is home to approximately 19,245 residents.

CITIES:

- BROWNSVILLE – pop. 518
- CALEDONIA (COUNTY SEAT) – pop. 2,821
- EITZEN – pop. 228
- HOKAH – pop. 561
- HOUSTON – pop. 956
- LA CRESCENT – pop. 4,912
- SPRING GROVE – pop. 1,239

TOWNSHIPS:

- BLACK HAMMER – pop. 325
- BROWNSVILLE – pop. 449
- CALEDONIA – pop. 610
- CROOKED CREEK – pop. 322
- HOKAH – pop. 531
- HOUSTON – pop. 430
- JEFFERSON – pop. 138
- LA CRESCENT – pop. 1,446
- MAYVILLE – pop. 423

- MONEY CREEK – pop. 536
- MOUND PRAIRIE – pop. 646
- SHELDON – pop. 289
- SPRING GROVE – pop. 417
- UNION – pop. 379
- WILMINGTON – pop. 464
- WINNEBAGO – pop. 260
- YUCATAN – pop. 354

**Populations are approximate.*

BROWNSVILLE

First known as Wild Cat Bluff, Brownsville was settled in 1848 and named in honor of local surveyors job and Charles Brown. Located near the Mississippi River, the community was platted in 1854 by the Browns. As the railroad arrived in 1871, Brownsville continued to grow and churches and schools were established. Today Brownsville is home to approximately 518 residents.

CALEDONIA (COUNTY SEAT)

Located in Caledonia and Mayville Townships, the community was settled in 1851 and a post office was established in 1855. Platted by Samuel McPhail in 1858, Caledonia was incorporated in 1870 and named after an ancient Roman word for Scotland. Selected as the county seat, Caledonia continued to develop as the railroad was built in 1879. It is widely known as the “Wild Turkey Capital of Minnesota,” attracting a variety of outdoor enthusiasts. Today Caledonia is home to approximately 2,821 residents.

EITZEN

Settled in 1866, Eitzen was named after a German town. Located in Winnebago Township, Eitzen housed a blacksmith shop, mill, general store, saloon and post office, with C. Bunge Jr. serving as the area’s first postmaster. Today Eitzen is home to approximately 228 residents.

HOKAH

Hokah was first settled by Edward Thompson in 1851. The community was named in honor of Indian Chief Wecheschatope Hokah and by 1870 mills, shops and a brewery were established. As the railroad was constructed, Hokah’s population grew dramatically from 100 to 1,500 in 1875. Today Hokah is home to approximately 561 residents.

HOUSTON

Platted by William McSpadden in 1852, Houston was named after Sam Houston of Texas. By 1858 the community was organized with businesses and a school established. In 1874 Houston was incorporated and as railway lines were built, the area continued to thrive. Today Houston is home to approximately 956 residents.

LA CRESCENT

Established by Peter Cameron in 1851, La Crescent was first known as Camerons. The community was then renamed La Crescent after the crescent shape of the Mississippi River. John S. Harris established apple orchards throughout the area and La Crescent has been known as the “Apple Capital of Minnesota” since 1856. Today La Crescent is home to approximately 4,912 residents.

SPRING GROVE

Attracted to the abundant natural resources of the area, Spring Grove was settled in 1852 by James Smith. Smith established a post office in 1854 and named the community after its proximity to a spring and a grove. Today Spring Grove is home to approximately 1,239 residents.

Olmsted County History

Olmsted County Communities



Originally home to Ojibway, Winnebago and Dakota Sioux Indians, Olmsted County was opened for settlement in 1853 after a treaty was signed. Townships were organized in 1854 and the county was named in honor of David Olmsted, the first mayor of St. Paul. Lush prairies, fertile soil, and ample natural resources brought settlers to the area and the arrival of the railroad sparked dramatic growth. Rochester was selected as the county seat and the area continued to develop. After a devastating tornado swept through the region in 1883, Dr. William Worrall Mayo along with the Sisters of St. Francis established the first hospital in the area which has since become one of the most well respected medical centers worldwide. By 1950 the population of Olmsted County had doubled to 48,228 residents and diversified industry aided its growth. Today Olmsted County is home to approximately 143,962 residents.

- CITIES:**
 BYRON – pop. 4,550
 CHATFIELD – pop. 2,518
 DOVER – pop. 637
 EYOTA – pop. 1,765
 ORONOCO – pop. 949
 PINE ISLAND – pop. 3,326
 ROCHESTER (COUNTY SEAT) – pop. 100,413
 STEWARTVILLE – pop. 5,553

- TOWNSHIPS:**
 CASCADE – pop. 2,944
 DOVER – pop. 724
 ELMIRA – pop. 400
 FARMINGTON – pop. 512
 HAVERHILL – pop. 1,088
 HIGH FOREST – pop. 4,550
 KALMAR – pop. 1,194
 MARION – pop. 6,165
 NEW HAVEN – pop. 1,313

- ORION – pop. 643
 ORONOCO – pop. 2,444
 PLEASANT GROVE – pop. 833
 QUINCY – pop. 600
 ROCHESTER – pop. 2,351
 ROCK DELL – pop. 686
 SALEM – pop. 1,130
 VIOLA – pop. 794
 *Populations are approximate.

BYRON
 The first settlers arrived to the Byron area in 1854 and as the railroad was constructed in 1856, the area began to develop. Streets were platted in 1864 and the community was named by S.W. VanDusen who was a landowner and businessman. VanDusen suggested Byron after Byron, New York, his birthplace and the area quickly grew. Early businesses included general stores, bank, saloon, hotel and spe-shops. Today Byron is home to approximately 4,550 residents.

CHATFIELD
 Settled in 1853 by Thomas Twiford, the community was named in honor of Judge Andrew Gould Chatfield, an associate justice of the supreme court of the Minnesota Territory. The community was platted in 1854 and incorporated in 1857. Chatfield was originally selected as the county seat until it was moved to Rochester. By 1900 Chatfield housed a sawmill, hotel, newspaper office, and a variety of manufacturing centers. Today Chatfield is home to approximately 2,518 residents.

DOVER
 Dover was originally known as Dover Center due to its central location in its township and its name was derived from Dover, New Hampshire, where many settlers originated. The community was organized in 1859 as pioneers arrived seeking fertile farmland and ample timber. Streets were platted in 1869 and as the railroad arrived, the area continued to develop. Dover was incorporated in 1908 and in 2008 residents celebrated its centennial celebration. Today Dover is home to approximately 637 residents.

EYOTA
 First known as Springfield, Eyota was organized in 1858. The name Eyota was derived from a Dakota Indian word meaning, “superior or highest.” The community began as a railway village and was platted in 1864. Dover developed quickly as it was a stopping place for travelers and shipping point for goods in the area. In 1875 the community was incorporated and by 1900 its population had reached 400. Today Eyota is home to approximately 1,765 residents.

ORONOCO
 Oronoco was founded in 1854 and named after the Oronoco River in South America. The “Oronoco Courier,” published in 1856, was the first newspaper in Olmsted County. The area was organized in 1858 as settlers arrived to establish homes and pan for gold. Businesses including a hotel, grist mill, sawmill and general store were founded to meet the growing needs of the community and the area continued to thrive. Today Oronoco is home to approximately 949 residents.

PINE ISLAND
 Located in Goodhue and Olmsted Counties, Pine Island was surveyed and platted in 1856. Settlers were attracted to the land that was ideal for agricultural plots and farm land. Early on Pine Island was known for being one of the better cheese and butter producers in Minnesota. At one point there was more than 40 dairy producers in the area. Pine Island’s population grew steadily as the railroads expanded and after Highway 52 was established in 1921. Today Pine Island is home to approximately 3,326 residents.

ROCHESTER (COUNTY SEAT)
 In 1854 the first permanent residence in the area was built by William Head and soon settlers arrived to stake land claims. Head named the settlement after his hometown of Rochester, New York, and assisted with the layout of the community. Rochester’s proximity to the Dubuque Trail attracted many travelers and the area began to develop dramatically upon the arrival of the railroad in 1864. The community was selected as the county seat and early industry was dominated by agriculture as goods were easily transported. A variety of businesses were established including manufacturing shops, mills, food processing factories and many specialty shops. A devastating tornado hit the area in 1883 and Rochester was nearly destroyed. With efforts from Dr. William Worrall Mayo and fellow members of the community, homes were rebuilt and businesses re-established. A hospital was constructed and Rochester became world renown for its exceptional health care which attracted many new residents. Construction of an airport in 1928 allowed for the continued growth of the community and Rochester has now grown to be one of the leading medical centers in the world. Today Rochester is home to approximately 100,413 residents.

STEWARTVILLE
 Located in High Forest Township, Stewartville was first settled in 1857. The community was named in honor of Charles Stewart, a local resident who established a mill and assisted with surveying the area. Streets were platted in 1891 and the area grew dramatically due to its proximity to Lake Florence and Rochester. Stewartville is widely known as the birthplace of Richard Sears, the founder of Sears, Roebuck and Company. Today Stewartville is home to approximately 5,553 residents.

BEAVER CREEK VALLEY STATE PARK

15954 Co. Rd. 1 | Caledonia | (507) 724-2107
 Located on 1,187 acres, the Beaver Creek Valley State Park features a campground, hiking trails, picnic areas and fishing opportunities.

BOB BOTCHER PARK

9497 County 10 | Houston
 Bob Botcher Park features a hiking trail and picnic area.

CARLEY STATE PARK

50366 Wabasha County Rd. 4 | Plainview | (507) 312-2300
 Located on 209 acres near Plainview, Carley State Park features nature trails, fishing opportunities, and picnic and camping areas.

CHESTER WOODS PARK

8378 14 Hwy. SE | Eyota | (507) 328-7350
 Located near Bear Creek, Chester Woods Park features a campground, handicapped accessible fishing pier, fish cleaning house, swimming beach, scenic overlook, picnic shelters, canoe/paddle boat rentals and recreational trails. A daily or annual park pass is required for all vehicles entering the park.



DORER MEMORIAL HARDWOOD FOREST

Fillmore & Houston Counties | (651) 296-6157
 Located on over 1 million acres, the Dorer Memorial Hardwood Forest features a campground, recreational trails, picnic areas, hunting areas and fishing opportunities.

DOUGLAS TRAIL

Pine Island | (651) 296-6157
 The Douglas Trail extends 13 miles from Pine Island to Northwest Rochester. The trail offers, hiking, biking, horseback riding, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing.

FORESTVILLE / MYSTERY CAVE STATE PARK

21071 Co. Rd. 118 | Preston | (507) 352-5111
 Mystery Cave | (507) 808-8000
 Located on 3,170 acres, the Forestville State Park features a campground, hiking trails, equestrian trails, picnic areas, fishing opportunities and tours of Mystery Cave.



GRAHAM PARK

112 Arena Dr. SE | Rochester | (507) 328-6000
 Located on 60 acres in Rochester, Graham Park features a campground, grand stand, picnic areas, park buildings for rentals, hockey arena and hosts the Olmsted County Fair annually.

GREAT RIVER BLUFFS STATE PARK

43605 Kipp Dr. | Winona | (507) 312-2650
 Located on 3,067 acres, the Great River Bluffs State Park features a campground, hiking trails and picnic areas.

LAKE LOUISE STATE PARK

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

Located on 1,186 acres, the Lake Louise State Park is one of Minnesota's oldest recreation areas and features a campground, hiking trails, equestrian trails, biking trails, picnic areas, fishing opportunities and a swimming beach.



LAKE ZUMBRO PARK

4 Fisherman Dr. NW | Oronoco | (507) 328-7070
 The park features a fishing pier, picnic area, public restrooms, and a public boat launch. Dogs are allowed, but a leash is required.

NERSTRAND-BIG WOODS STATE PARK

9700 170th St. E | Nerstrand | (507) 384-6140
 Located on 2,882 acres near Faribault, Nerstrand-Big Woods State Park features 11 miles of hiking and nature trails. Snowmobile and cross-country ski trails are open during the winter months. Other amenities include picnic areas, a visitor center and restroom facilities.

OXBOW COUNTY PARK & ZOLLMAN ZOO

5731 County Rd. 105 NW | Byron | (507) 328-7340
 Located in Byron, Oxbow County Park features hiking trails, snowmobile trails, cross-country ski trails, a campground, picnic areas, baseball fields, playground equipment, fishing opportunities, a nature center and the Zollman Zoo.

RICE LAKE STATE PARK

8485 Rose St. | Owatonna | (507) 414-6190
 Located 7 miles East of Owatonna, Rice Lake St. Park features excellent wildlife watching opportunities.

ROOT RIVER PARK

4012 80th St. SE | Rochester | (507) 328-7070
 This 125 acre park offers many secluded areas to relax and enjoy the beautiful outdoors. Amenities include picnic tables, restroom, fire pits, fishing and hiking. Leashed dogs allowed in designated areas.



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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, Toll Free: 1 (888) 665-4236.

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

HUNTING

Bear

08/15/25 Baiting start date - Permit areas & no-quota area
09/1/25 - 10/19/25 Permit areas & no-quota area

Deer

09/13/25 - 12/31/25 Archery - Statewide
10/16/25 - 10/19/25 Early Antlerless
10/16/25 - 10/19/25 Youth - Statewide
11/8/25 - 11/23/25 Firearm (Season A) 100 Series permit areas
11/8/25 - 11/16/25 Firearm (Season A) 200 & 300 Series permit areas
11/22/25 - 11/30/25 Firearm (Season B) 300 Series permit areas
11/29/25 - 12/14/25 Muzzleloader - Statewide

Badger

10/18/25 - 03/15/26 North furbearer zone
10/25/25 - 03/15/26 South furbearer zone

Bobcat

01/4/25 - 01/19/25 South Furbearer Zone
12/20/25 - 01/17/26 North Furbearer Zone



Fox, Gray & Red

10/18/25 - 03/15/26 North furbearer zone
10/25/25 - 03/15/26 South furbearer zone

Opossum

10/18/25 - 03/15/26 North furbearer zone
10/25/25 - 03/15/26 South furbearer zone

Rabbit

09/13/25 - 02/28/26 Jack - Statewide
09/13/25 - 02/28/26 Cottontail & Snowshoe Hare - Statewide

Raccoon

10/18/25 - 03/15/26 North furbearer zone
10/25/25 - 03/15/26 South furbearer zone

Squirrel, Gray & Fox

09/20/25 - 02/28/26 Gray & Fox - Statewide

Grouse

09/13/25 - 11/30/25 Sharp-Tailed - Northwest zone
09/13/25 - 01/4/26 Ruffed & Spruce - Statewide

Pheasant

10/11/25 - 01/4/26 Ring-Necked - Statewide

Wild Turkey

04/16/25 - 05/31/25 Spring - Youth - Statewide
04/16/25 - 05/31/25 Spring - Archery - Statewide
04/16/25 - 04/22/25 Spring - A season - Statewide
04/23/25 - 04/29/25 Spring - B season - Statewide
04/30/25 - 05/6/25 Spring - C season - Statewide
05/7/25 - 05/13/25 Spring - D season - Statewide
05/14/25 - 05/20/25 Spring - E season - Statewide
05/21/25 - 05/31/25 Spring - F season - Statewide
10/4/25 - 11/2/25 Fall - Statewide

TRAPPING

Badger

10/18/25 - 03/15/26 North furbearer zone
10/25/25 - 03/15/26 South furbearer zone

Bobcat

01/4/25 - 01/19/25 South Furbearer Zone
12/20/25 - 01/17/26 North Furbearer Zone

Fox

10/18/25 - 03/15/26 Gray & Red - North furbearer zone
10/25/25 - 03/15/26 Gray & Red - South furbearer zone

Opossum

10/18/25 - 03/15/26 North furbearer zone
10/25/25 - 03/15/26 South furbearer zone

Rabbit

09/13/25 - 02/28/26 Jack - Statewide
09/13/25 - 02/28/26 Cottontail & Snowshoe Hare - Statewide

Raccoon

10/18/25 - 03/15/26 North furbearer zone
10/25/25 - 03/15/26 South furbearer zone

Squirrel

09/20/25 - 02/28/26 Gray & Fox - Statewide



*Check the MN DNR website for updates.
<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us>
or scan the QR code



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, Toll Free: 1 (888) 646-6367
Or visit one of the ELS agents available throughout the area:

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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

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 2025-26 license year is effective until Feb. 28, 2026.)



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Do **NOT**

Transport Invasive:

- Fish
- Invertebrates
- Aquatic Plants



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KNOW THE LAW! YOU MAY NOT...

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- 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.

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AREA ATTRACTIONS



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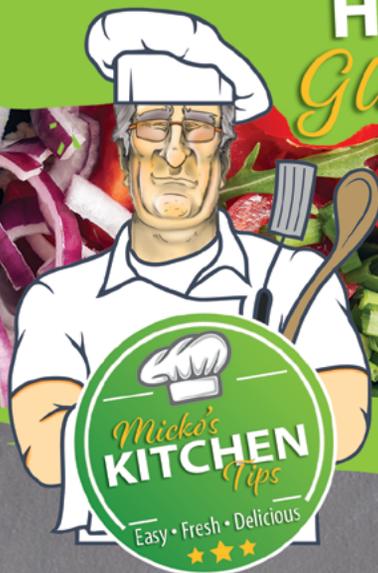
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HONEY Glazed CHICKEN



Simple meal with a *Gourmet* Feel

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Preheat the oven to 375°F (190°C).
- 2 In a small bowl, whisk together the honey, soy sauce, olive oil, apple cider vinegar, garlic, salt, and pepper.
- 3 Place the chicken breasts in a baking dish and pour the honey glaze over the chicken, making sure it's evenly coated.
- 4 Bake in the preheated oven for 25-30 minutes, or until the chicken is cooked through and no longer pink in the center.
- 5 After 15 minutes of baking, remove the chicken from the oven and brush the remaining honey glaze over the chicken. Return the chicken to the oven and continue baking.
- 6 Once done, remove from the oven and let rest for a few minutes before serving.
- 7 You can garnish with sesame seeds and chopped green onions if you like.

INGREDIENTS

- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts
- 1/2 cup honey
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- Salt and pepper to taste

Enjoy your delicious
honey glazed chicken!

PREP: 10 MIN • TOTAL: 40 MIN

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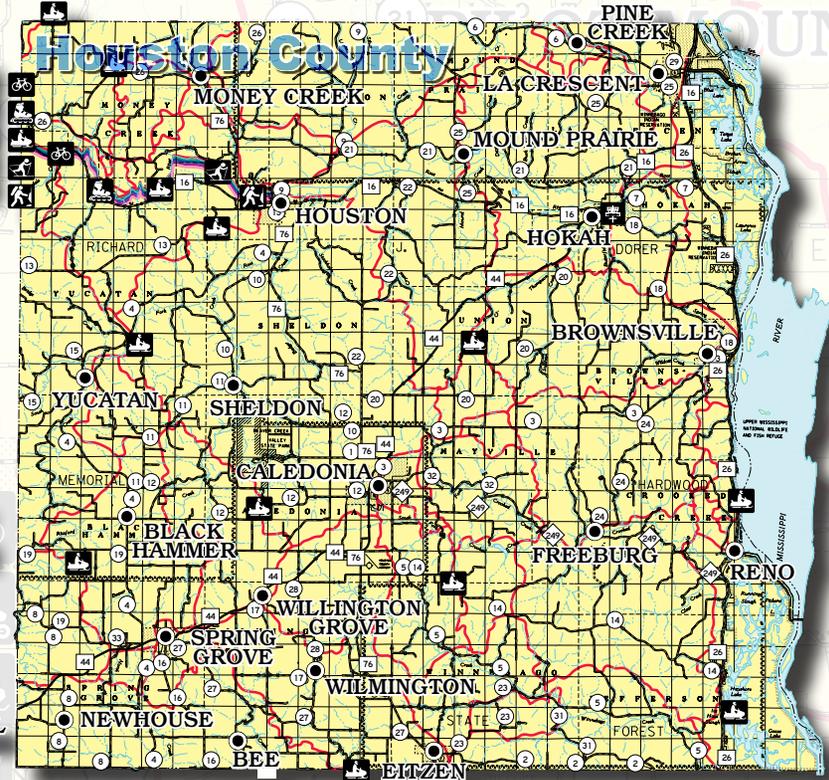
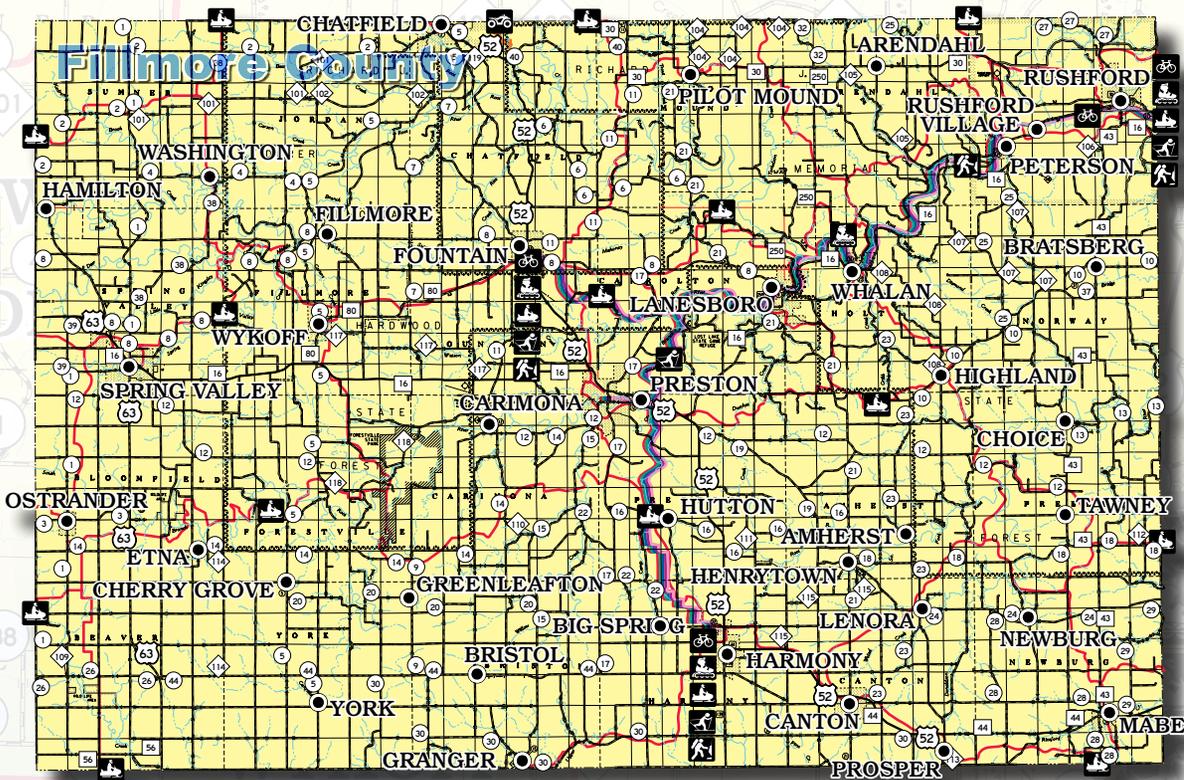


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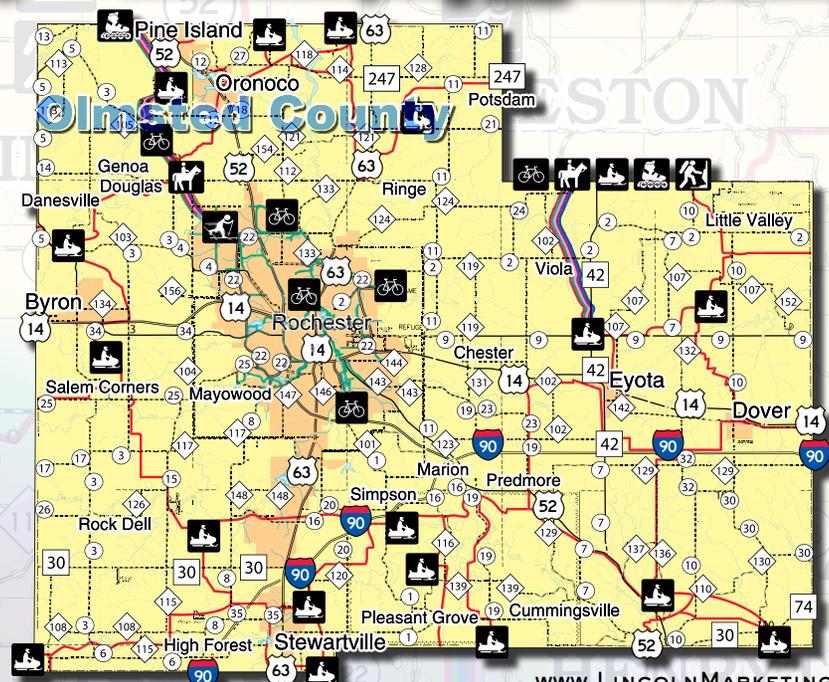
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MATERNUWUN GRAZIE OBRIGADO DANKE MERCIGRAZIE DANKE WELALIN

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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?

PARKS (DOG FRIENDLY)

BEAVER CREEK VALLEY STATE PARK

(Dog Friendly, Leash Req.)
15954 Co. Rd. 1 | Caledonia | (507) 724-2107

CHESTER WOODS PARK

8378 Hwy. 14 E | Eyota | (507) -328-7350

FORESTVILLE/MYSTERY CAVE STATE PARK

(Dog Friendly, Leash Req.)
21071 Co. Rd. 118 | Preston | (507) 352-5111

HARMONY-PRESTON VALLEY STATE TRAIL

(Dog Friendly, Leash Req.)
301 Filmore St. E | Preston | (507) 765-2153

JEAN & CARL FRANK CANINE PARK

1839 Pinewood Rd. SE | Rochester | (507) 328-2525

KARST BREWING (Dog Friendly, Leash Req.)

315 1st St. | Fountain | (612) 747-6367

RIVER ROAD DOG PARK

5701-5899 W River Rd. NW | Rochester | (507) 328-2528

ROOT RIVER STATE TRAIL

(Dog Friendly, Leash Req.)
Lanesboro | (507) 467-2696

STEWARTVILLE DOG PARK

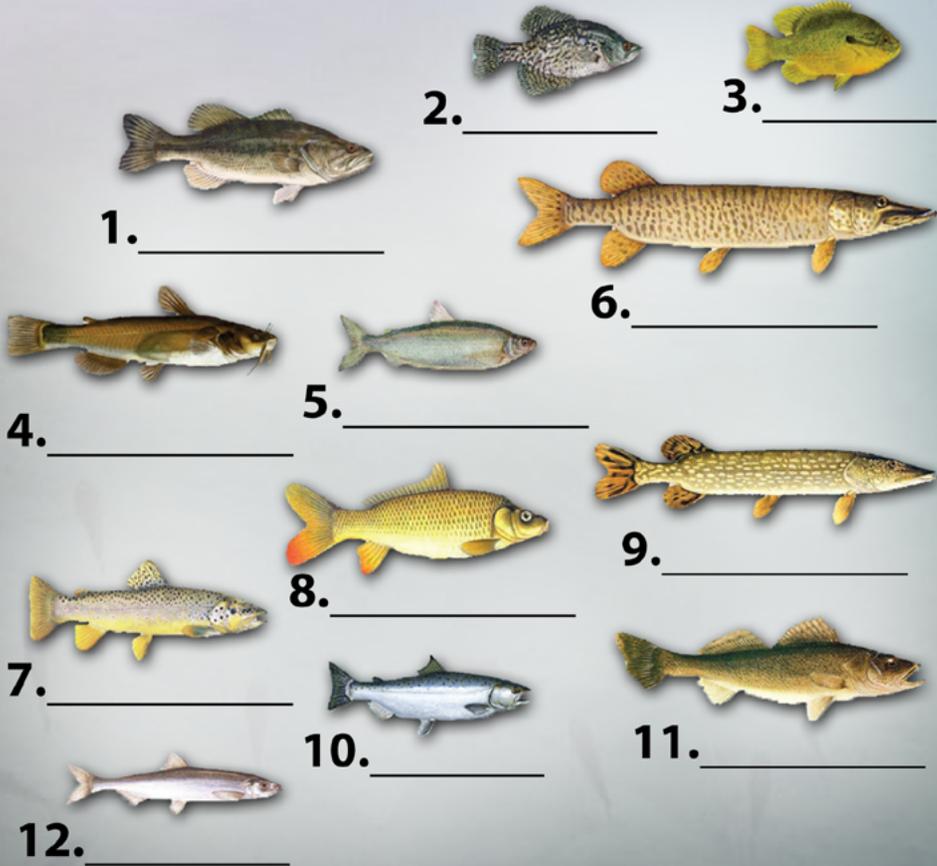
20th St. NE | Stewartville





MIDWEST FISH QUIZ

Do you know the Midwest fish species?
Identify the fish below.



Answers: 1. Bass 2. Crappie 3. Sunfish 4. Catfish 5. Herring 6. Muskellung 7. Trout 8. Carp 9. Northern Pike 10. Salmon 11. Walleye 12. Smelt



• Shop • Dine
• Play
• Stay

LOCALLY



...and support the community you live in!