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Thursday Night Swing Dance

The Lost Souls Tour

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## Events



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215 Wabasha St. S Saint Paul, MN 55107

**FREE** Hennepin County, MN





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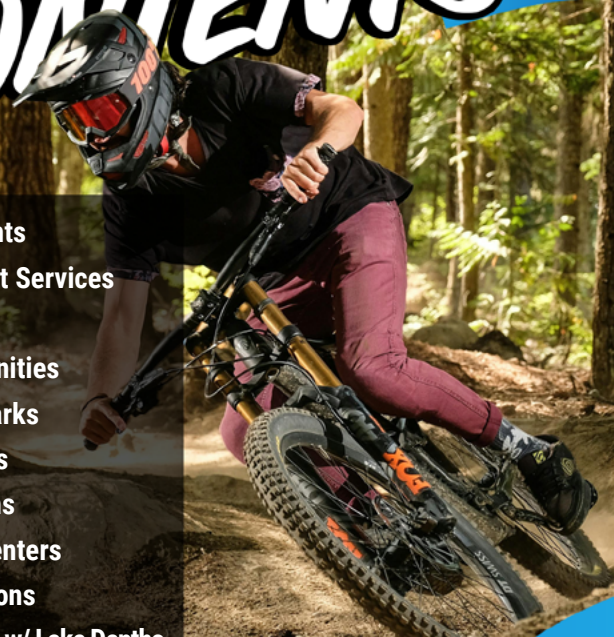
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**Jordan**  
**(952) 417-6133**  
415 Broadway St S Unit  
140, Jordan, MN 55352

**Carver**  
**(952) 600-7595**  
300 Broadway St,  
Carver, MN 55315

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Hennepin County



Scan the QR Codes to go to the individual county pages.

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# LOCAL AREA EVENTS

## JANUARY

Winter Fete (Jan-Mar) | Bloomington  
Annual Ice Harvesting Day | Bloomington  
Arctic Fever | Excelsior, Shorewood & Tonka Bay  
Art Shanty Festival (Jan-Feb) | Medicine Lake  
Twins Fest | Minneapolis  
Back to Hack | Hackensack  
Home Improvement & Design Expo (Jan-Feb) | Minneapolis  
Home & Modern Living Show (Jan-Feb) | Minneapolis

## FEBRUARY

City of the Lakes Loppet | Golden Valley  
Fire & Ice Festival | Plymouth  
Chilly Open | Wayzata  
Lions Club Snowball Open | Orono  
Annual Dog Days of Winter (Feb-Mar) | Minneapolis  
Winter Bluegrass Weekend | Plymouth  
Ice Fishing Tournament | Minnetonka

## MARCH

Home Improvement & Design Expo | Maple Grove  
Minnesota State Polka Festival | Medina  
Annual Minneapolis Tattoo Arts Convention  
Minneapolis Home and Garden Show  
Minicon | Minneapolis

## APRIL

Arbor Day | Deephaven  
Spring Time Art Celebration | Plymouth  
HCA Members' Spring Show (April 26 - May 7) | Hopkins  
Art in Bloom | Minneapolis  
Kramarczuk's Kielbasa Festival | Minneapolis  
VGM Con | Plymouth  
Black Gown Gala | Minnetonka

## MAY

Memorial Day Parade | Excelsior  
Main Street Days | Hopkins  
May Day Festival & Parade | Minneapolis  
Art-A-Whirl | Minneapolis  
Trista Day | Minnetrista

## MAY (CONTD)

Wayzata Art Experience  
Steps for Autism in Minnesota | Edina  
Cinco de Mayo at the Midtown Global Market | Minneapolis  
Women Run the Cities 5K & 10 Mile | Minneapolis

## JUNE

Arts in the Park (June-Aug) | Bloomington  
Tater Daze | Brooklyn Park  
Father Hennepin Festival | Champlin  
Hennepin County Fair | Corcoran  
Art on the Lake | Excelsior, Minnetonka  
Pride Rainbow Run | Minneapolis  
Twin Cities Pride Festival | Minneapolis  
Twin Cities Improv Festival | Minneapolis  
Svenskarnas Dag Swedish Heritage Day | Minneapolis  
Stone Arch Bridge Festival | Minneapolis  
Bike & Bite | Minneapolis  
Minnetonka Summer Fest  
Wayzata Art Experience  
Parktacular | St. Louis Park  
Sommerfest (June-Aug) | Minneapolis

## JULY

4th of July Celebration | Throughout Hennepin County  
Bloomington Summer Fete  
Air Expo | Eden Prairie  
Hopkins Raspberry Festival  
Life Time Minneapolis Triathlon  
Freedom From Pants Bike Ride | Minneapolis  
Minneapolis Aquatennial Festival  
Twin Cities Carifest | Minneapolis  
Minneapolis Red, White & Boom  
Dragon Festival | Minneapolis  
CONvergence | Minneapolis  
Roots, Rock & Deep-Blues Festival | Minneapolis  
Riverside Art in the Park | Minneapolis  
Spirit of the Lakes Festival | Mound  
Duk Duk Daze | New Hope  
Whiz Bang Days | Robbinsdale  
Hamel Rodeo & Bull Ridin' Bonanza | Rogers  
Wayzata Crazy Days

## JULY (CONTD)

Sweetheart Days | Hackensack  
SummerFest | Long Lake  
Maple Grove Days  
Loring Park Art Festival | Minneapolis  
Minnesota Fringe Festival (July-Aug) | Minneapolis  
Urban Wildlife 1/2 Marathon & 5K | Richfield  
Elk Riverfest | Orono  
Excelsior Firecracker Run  
Excelsior Crazy Days

## AUGUST

Corcoran Country Daze  
Antique Car Run | Crystal  
Tour de Tonka Miles of Smiles | Excelsior & Minnetonka  
Twin City Polo Classic | Independence  
Corn Days | Long Lake  
Maple Grove Triathlon  
Powderhorn Art Fair | Minneapolis  
Uptown Art Fair | Minneapolis  
Twin Cities Lung Run & Walk | Minneapolis  
VillageFest | St. Anthony Village  
Hanover Harvest Festival  
Eco-Fair (Aug-Sept) | Minnetonka  
Lake Hiawatha Neighborhood Festival | Minneapolis  
Wet & Wild Water Fun Day | Crystal  
Beaches, Bands & Brews | Medicine Lake  
Kids Fest | Plymouth

## SEPTEMBER

Harvest Festival & Maze (Sept-Oct) | Brooklyn Park  
Fall Into the Arts Festival | Edina  
Apple Days | Excelsior  
Annual Chainsaw Event | Hackensack  
Classic Boat Rendezvous | Excelsior  
Maple Grove Autumn Arts Festival  
American Pottery Festival | Minneapolis  
Nordic Roots Festival | Minneapolis

## SEPTEMBER (CONTD)

Twin Cities Pagan Pride | Minneapolis  
Incredible Festival | Mound  
James J. Hill Celebration | Wayzata  
Golden Valley Days Art & Music Festival  
St. Vincent de Paul Harvest Festival | Minneapolis  
Harvest Festival & Maze (Sept-Oct) | Brooklyn Park  
Oktoberfest Festival | Deephaven

## OCTOBER

World's Largest Indoor Trick or Treat | Bloomington  
Anime Fusion | Plymouth  
Twin Cities Marathon | Minneapolis  
Zombie Pub Crawl | Minneapolis  
Half Haunted Halloween Celebration | Richfield  
Boo Blast | Wayzata  
Orono Autumn Craft & Gift Show  
Spooky Sprint | Excelsior  
Witches Night Out | Excelsior  
Trick or Treat on the Street | Excelsior

## NOVEMBER

No Events to List at the time of publication

## DECEMBER

Christmas Events & Community Show | Excelsior  
Holidazzle Fireworks | Minneapolis  
Holidazzle Parade | Minneapolis  
Annual Reindeer Run | Minneapolis  
Candlelight & Ice | Richfield  
Holiday Celebration | Wayzata  
Lioness Art & Craft Show | Eden Prairie  
Spring Park Tree Lighting  
Arts of the Holiday Show & Sale | Wayzata

*\*Events are subject to change*

# RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

|  |              |  |              |
|--|--------------|--|--------------|
| Administration County Attorney   | 612-348-7574 | Maple Grove Library  | 612-543-6450 |
| Augsburg Park Library  | 612-543-6200 | Maple Plain Library  | 612-543-5700 |
| Board of Appeals and Equalization  | 612-348-7050 | Medical Examiner's Office  | 612-215-6300 |
| Brookdale Library  | 612-543-5600 | Minneapolis Central Library  | 612-543-8000 |
| Brooklyn Park Library  | 612-543-6225 | Minnetonka Library   | 612-543-5725 |
| Building Information   | 612-596-6949 | Nokomis Library  | 612-543-6800 |
| Champlin Library   | 612-543-6250 | North Regional Library   | 612-543-8450 |
| Chemical Health Human Services and<br>Public Health Department             | 612-879-3501 | Northeast Library  | 612-543-6775 |
| Child Care Assistance  | 612-348-5937 | Osseo Library  | 612-543-5750 |
| CHS Community Corrections  | 612-348-6180 | Oxboro Library   | 612-543-5775 |
| Citizen Information  | 612-348-2146 | Penn Lake Library  | 612-543-5800 |
| County Assessor  | 612-348-3046 | Pierre Bottineau Library   | 612-543-6850 |
| Disability Services, Human Services, Aging and<br>Public Health Department | 612-348-4111 | Plymouth Library   | 612-543-5825 |
| Domestic Abuse   | 612-348-5073 | Property Management  | 612-596-9484 |
| East Lake Library  | 612-543-8425 | Property Tax Information   | 612-348-3011 |
| Eden Prairie Library   | 612-543-6275 | Public Affairs   | 612-348-3848 |
| Edina Library  | 612-543-6325 | Public Defender General Information                                      | 612-348-7530 |
| Elections/Voter Registration   | 612-348-5151 | Public Health Clinic   | 612-543-5555 |
| Taxpayer Services  | 612-348-5151 | Purchasing and Contract Services   | 612-348-3181 |
| Emergency Management   | 612-596-0250 | Richfield Clinic   | 612-873-6963 |
| General Number   | 612-348-3530 | Ridgedale Library  | 612-543-8800 |
| Employee Benefits  | 612-543-5200 | Rockford Road Library  | 612-543-5875 |
| Environmental Health   | 612-543-6350 | Rogers Library   | 612-543-6050 |
| Excelsior Library  | 612-543-6925 | Roosevelt Library  | 612-543-6700 |
| Franklin Library   | 612-543-6925 | Social Services  | 612-348-4111 |
| Golden Valley Library  | 612-543-6375 | Southdale Library  | 612-543-5900 |
| Government Center  | 612-348-8240 | Southeast Library  | 612-543-6725 |
| Health Care Programs   | 612-596-1300 | St. Anthony Library  | 612-543-6075 |
| Hennepin County Medical<br>Center - Red Building                           | 612-873-3000 | St. Bonifacius Library   | 612-543-6100 |
| Hopkins Library  | 612-543-6400 | St. Louis Park Library   | 612-543-6125 |
| Hosmer Library   | 612-543-6900 | Sumner Library   | 612-543-6875 |
| Human Resources  | 612-348-7855 | Veterans' Service  | 612-348-3300 |
| Law Library  | 612-348-3022 | Walker Library   | 612-543-8400 |
| Linden Hills Library   | 612-543-6825 | Washburn Library   | 612-543-8375 |
| Long Lake Library  | 612-543-6425 | Wayzata Library  | 612-543-6150 |
|  |              | Westonka Library   | 612-543-6175 |
|  |              | WIC - Supplemental Nutrition Program for<br>Women, Infants, and Children | 612-348-6100 |

# TENDERTIME

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*H*ennepin County was established on March 6th, 1852. The county commemorates Louis Hennepin, a Franciscan missionary, explorer and author. Father Hennepin relocated to Canada in the early 1600's. It was not until 1678 that Father Hennepin joined the La Salle's expedition for exploration of the Great Lakes and the Mississippi. While on the Mississippi River, their expedition was captured by a band of Sioux Indians. While it was frightening for the explorers, they were soon rescued and returned to Canada. In 1683 Louis Hennepin published a book about his explorations. The name Snelling County was introduced by Colonel John H. Stevens, but the name was rejected and the name Hennepin County was retained. Minneapolis was selected as the county seat and it is now the largest city in Minnesota with 382,578 residents. Today Hennepin County is home to approximately 1,152,425 residents.

- BLOOMINGTON** – pop. 82,893
- BROOKLYN CENTER** – pop. 30,104
- BROOKLYN PARK** – pop. 75,781
- CHAMPLIN** – pop. 23,089
- CORCORAN** – pop. 5,379
- CRYSTAL** – pop. 22,151
- DAYTON** – pop. 4,671
- DEEPHAVEN** – pop. 3,642
- EDEN PRAIRIE** – pop. 60,797
- EDINA** – pop. 47,941
- EXCELSIOR** – pop. 2,188
- GOLDEN VALLEY** – pop. 20,371
- GREENFIELD** – pop. 2,777
- GREENWOOD** – pop. 688
- HOPKINS** – pop. 17,591
- INDEPENDENCE** – pop. 3,504
- LONG LAKE** – pop. 1,768
- LORETTO** – pop. 650
- MAPLE GROVE** – pop. 61,567
- MAPLE PLAIN** – pop. 1,768
- MEDICINE LAKE** – pop. 371
- MEDINA** – pop. 4,892
- MINNEAPOLIS (COUNTY SEAT)** – pop. 382,578
- MINNETONKA** – pop. 49,734
- MINNETONKA BEACH** – pop. 539
- MINNETRISTA** – pop. 6,384
- MOUND** – pop. 9,052
- NEW HOPE** – pop. 20,339
- ORONO** – pop. 7,437
- OSSEO** – pop. 2,430
- PLYMOUTH** – pop. 70,576
- RICHFIELD** – pop. 35,228
- ROBBINSDALE** – pop. 13,953
- ROGERS** – pop. 8,597
- SHOREWOOD** – pop. 7,307
- SPRING PARK** – pop. 1,669
- ST. ANTHONY VILLAGE** – pop. 8,226
- ST. BONIFACIUS** – pop. 2,283
- ST. LOUIS PARK** – pop. 45,250
- TONKA BAY** – pop. 1,475
- WAYZATA** – pop. 3,688
- WOODLAND** – pop. 437

*\*Populations are approximate.*

## **BLOOMINGTON**

In the spring of 1843 Gideon Pond built the first log home in Oak Grove, what Bloomington was originally named. He established the Oak Grove Mission and welcomed the first settlers, Peter and Louisa Quinn to the area. In 1851 the Bloomington area was open to settlers and in 1858 the first town meeting was held. The community was then renamed Bloomington after Bloomington, Illinois in honor of where many settlers originated. Today Bloomington is home to approximately 82,893 residents.

## **BROOKLYN CENTER**

Brooklyn Center was opened up to settlement in 1851 and in the summer of 1852 the first families began moving into the area, clearing land for farming and building homes. The city was originally located in the southeastern portion of Brooklyn Township; today it is located in the Crystal Lake Township after the town lines were moved. Brooklyn Center was essentially an agricultural settlement and it was not until 1911 that the citizens of Brooklyn Center took legal action to create the Village of Brooklyn Center. Elections were held later that year and 83 votes were cast to elect P.W. Reidhead as the first elected president of the Village Council. Today Brooklyn Center is home to approximately 30,104 residents.

## **BROOKLYN PARK**

The area known as Brooklyn Park was once part of the Missouri Territory in the early 19th century, which was under a treaty with the Dakota Indians. By 1852, the territory that would become the Brooklyn Township was claimed. In the beginning, trails originated by the Ojibwa were the only means of transportation in and out of the area. By early 1854, the first settlers from Michigan claimed the township, which they named after their home area in Brooklyn, Michigan. Today Brooklyn Park is home to approximately 75,781 residents.

## CHAMPLIN

In 1852 Charles Miles arrived to the Champlin area and established a settlement. Streets were platted the following year and the community was named in honor of U.S. Navy Commodore Stephen Champlin who fought during the War of 1812. The area grew quickly and in 1947 Champlin was incorporated as a village and as a city in 1971. Today Champlin is home to approximately 23,089 residents.

## CRYSTAL

In 1852 John W. Dow arrived to the Crystal area and was the first settler. The community was organized in 1860 and named for the crystal clear waters of the nearby lakes. By 1887 Crystal was incorporated and businesses included a blacksmith shop, grocery store, hotel, post office and specialty shops. Land annexations from Minneapolis and surrounding communities resulted in boundary adjustments and in 1911 Crystal was reorganized to prevent further appropriation. Today Crystal is home to approximately 22,151 residents.

## EDEN PRAIRIE

Eden Prairie was settled in 1852 and officially organized in 1858. It was named after a beautiful natural prairie in its southern portion. It was named by Elizabeth Fries Ellet, who gave the name "Eden" as an expression of her admiration for its beauty. On May 11, 1858 the first town meeting was held, on that same day Minnesota was also officially a state. In the 1880's until the 1960's the population of the city barely changed with only a 1,300 person increase. It wasn't until 2000 that the population swelled and Eden Prairie became a thriving business community. Today Eden Prairie is home to approximately 60,797 residents.

## EDINA

Edina was incorporated in 1888 and was originally called Richfield until it was renamed after the Edina Flouring Mill, owned by Andrew and John Craik. They named the mill in memory of their boyhood home of Edinburgh, Scotland. The city retains the name as well as the rich heritage. Edina was once a civil war milling crossroads and currently has many homes listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Today Edina is home to approximately 47,941 residents.

## GOLDEN VALLEY

Golden Valley was incorporated in 1886 and was an agricultural community of only a few hundred at the time. William Varner, one of the first settlers to the area named the city for its beautiful valley which encloses a small lake that was covered in daffodils. The story says that Varner headed west to find a home site and he came across a hill so high he thought it was a mountain. He climbed it and looked down upon a lush valley, dotted with golden daffodils and a small lake shining in the sunlight. The community was then named Golden Valley. Today

Golden Valley is home to approximately 20,371 residents.

## HOPKINS

Hopkins was settled in the late 1800's as a quaint railway village and was first recognized as West Minneapolis. In 1893 the community was incorporated and the area began to develop. In 1928 West Minneapolis was renamed after Harley Hopkins, the community's original postmaster. His son Chester Hopkins served as its first mayor. Today Hopkins is home to approximately 17,591 residents.

## MAPLE GROVE

The first inhabitants of the Maple Grove area were the Winnebago Indians, but in 1851 Louis Gervais settled in the area. The community was named for the abundance of sugar maple forests that were found near the town site. By 1855 the growth of new settlers was so fast, the city was abundant in farms, homes, churches, the first town hall and by 1860 the first school was constructed. In 1954 the city was incorporated as a village and then in 1974 Maple Grove became a statutory city. Today Maple Grove is home to approximately 61,567 residents.

## MINNEAPOLIS (COUNTY SEAT)

Minneapolis was founded in 1849 by Col. John H. Stevens. Stevens built the first known house on the west side of the Mississippi and organized a township eight years later. The earliest announcement and recommendation of Minneapolis' name came in 1852 from Charles Hoag. Hoag wrote to the editor of the St. Anthony Express and called the city "Minneapolis," a conjunction of Minnehaha and the Greek word for city "polis." Other names, including All Saints, Hennepin, Lowell, Brooklyn, Albion and others were refused. Minneapolis made dramatic changes to combat discrimination in as early as 1886 and in 1968 was the birthplace of the American Indian Movement. Now Minneapolis is a vibrant recreational and cultural metropolis with many notable lakes including Lake Calhoun, Lake Harriet and Lake of the Isles. Today Minneapolis is home to approximately 382,578 residents.

## MINNETONKA

Minnetonka was first settled by Simon Stephens and Calvin Tuttle along Minnehaha Creek in 1852. Pioneers were attracted to the lush forests and ample water power, and a mill was established. Factories were then built and the area was one of the largest commercial centers in Hennepin County at the time. The community was named after the nearby lake and soon was a popular summer vacation spot. In 1960 the population of Minnetonka reached 25,000 and in 1968 the city was incorporated. Today Minnetonka is home to approximately 49,734 residents.

## NEW HOPE

New Hope was established in the early 1900's as a small farming community. The area was originally settled as a part of Crystal Lake Township and soon became home to many family farms. In 1936 Crystal was incorporated, forming a small city and township, but many rural residents in the western half of the township were upset about paying taxes for projects like streets, lighting and sewer systems that they did not use and the community of New Hope was established. Today New Hope is home to approximately 20,339 residents.

## OSSEO

Osseo, first recognized as Bottineau Prairie, was settled in 1852 and streets were platted in 1856 by Warren Sampson and Isaac LaBissoniere. The community was renamed Osseo and by 1873 the community housed general stores, blacksmith shops and lumberyards. Emil Lefebvre served as the first postmaster and Osseo was incorporated in 1875. Today Osseo is home to approximately 2,430 residents.

## PLYMOUTH

Plymouth was first settled by Antoine LeCounte in 1852 and the community was organized and named in 1858. By 1863 Plymouth was home to schools, churches, hotels and a post office. Its population reached 1,074 by 1880 and as roads were built, Plymouth grew dramatically as transportation improved. Today Plymouth is home to approximately 70,576 residents.

## RICHFIELD

Richfield was settled in 1849 as fertile soil attracted many settlers. The area was originally known as Richland and was later renamed Richfield in honor of the rich farming fields. In 1858 Richfield was organized and the community began to flourish. Between 1940 and 1950 its population soared from 3,778 to 17,502 as World War II veterans settled to raise families outside the Twin Cities. Today Richfield is home to approximately 35,228 residents.

## ROBBINSDALE

In 1852 Robbinsdale was settled and in 1869 the community was organized and named after Andrew B. Robbins, a local prominent land owner. As rail lines were constructed, the community began to grow. In 1919 Fawcett Publications was established which published Captain Billy's Whiz Bang that was distributed to wounded veterans and local residents. The annual Whiz Bang Days celebration commemorates the publication which circulated for almost 30 years. Today Robbinsdale is home to approximately 13,953 residents.

## ST. LOUIS PARK

St. Louis Park was originally included in the Minneapolis area. It was incorporated as its own city in 1886 after current land owners, with the help of five Minneapolis businessmen, created the St. Louis Park and Land Improvement Company. They named their business for the up and coming St. Louis Railway. In 1899, it became the home to the world's first ever concrete, tubular grain elevator. The former grain elevator is still visible near Highway 7 and 100. Today St. Louis Park is home to approximately 45,250 residents.

## WAYZATA

Settled in 1852, Wayzata was platted in 1854 and incorporated in 1884. The name Wayzata was derived from the Dakota word, "Wazyata," meaning at the pines, the north. The area began as a summer retreat as tourists were attracted to the pristine landscape of Lake Minnetonka. The historic Lady of the Lake steamer carried passengers across Lake Minnetonka and the Wayzata dock once boasted over 90 various steamboats. Today Wayzata is home to approximately 3,688 residents.

## WOODLAND

Originally home to the Native American landmark Spirit Knob, Woodland was settled in 1855 and organized in 1858. The area first consisted of the village of Maplewoods and the Groveland Homeowners Association, which sought to improve the land. The area remained a summer community until 1882 when permanent residences replaced summer cottages. In 1948 Maplewoods residents united with the Groveland Homeowners Association to incorporate the city of Woodland, its name a combination of both areas. Today Woodland is home to approximately 437 residents.

# 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



# Health Benefits of the Outdoors



**Spending time in nature offers numerous benefits for physical, mental, and emotional well-being.**

**Stress Reduction:** Nature has a calming effect on the mind and body, helping to reduce stress levels. The peaceful surroundings, fresh air, and natural beauty can lower cortisol levels, decrease heart rate, and promote relaxation.

**Improved Mental Health:** Being in nature is associated with improved mood and mental health. Studies have shown that spending time outdoors can reduce symptoms of anxiety, depression, and other mental health disorders. Nature provides a sense of tranquility and perspective, which can help alleviate negative thoughts and emotions.

**Increased Physical Activity:** Nature encourages physical activity, whether it's hiking, biking, walking, or simply exploring outdoor spaces. Engaging in outdoor activities promotes exercise, which is essential for maintaining physical health and fitness. Additionally, being in nature often involves exposure to sunlight, which helps the body produce vitamin D and supports overall well-being.

**Enhanced Creativity & Cognitive Function:** Nature stimulates creativity and cognitive function. Research suggests that spending time in natural environments can improve problem-solving skills, boost creativity, and enhance concentration and focus. Nature provides a rich sensory experience that activates different parts of the brain, fostering cognitive development and innovation.

**Connection with the Environment:** Spending time in nature fosters a deeper connection with the environment and promotes environmental stewardship. When people experience the beauty and wonder of nature firsthand, they are more likely to develop a sense of appreciation and respect for the natural world. This connection can lead to greater awareness of environmental issues and a desire to protect and preserve natural habitats for future generations.

**Overall, being in nature offers a multitude of benefits for both physical and mental well-being, making it essential for maintaining a healthy and balanced lifestyle.**

# TICKS



## Diseases & Prevention

You can get a tickborne disease if you are bitten by a tick that is infected • Tickborne diseases are increasing throughout the United States. • Personal protection methods can help reduce the odds of a tick bite while enjoying the outdoors

### Some symptoms of a tickborne disease

- Many tickborne diseases have similar symptoms
- Symptoms usually show up within 2-4 weeks of being bitten



Watch for symptoms like:

- Rash
- Fever
- Headache
- Fatigue
- Muscle or joint aches



### Tick Removal

Prompt tick removal is important. Use tweezers to grasp the tick close to its mouth. Gently and slowly pull the tick straight outward. Do not squeeze the ticks' body. Wash the area and apply an antiseptic to the bite. Watch for early signs and symptoms of a tickborne disease. Don't use folk remedies like Petroleum Jelly or a burnt match.



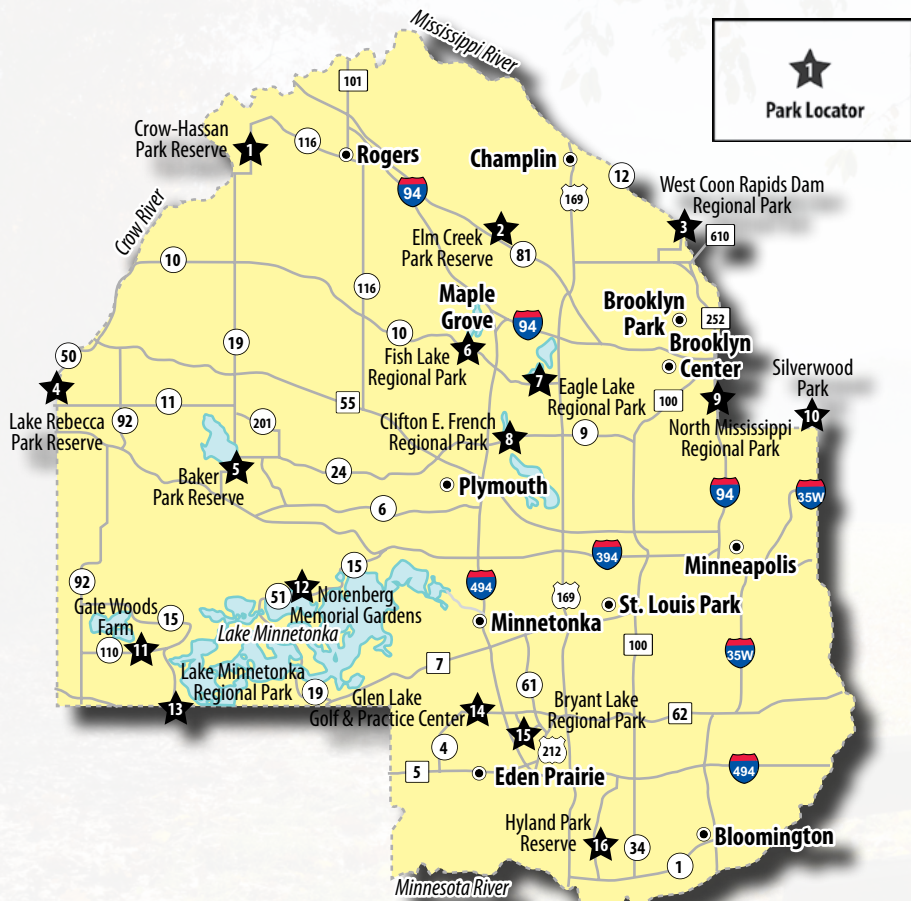
|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Blacklegged (Deer) Tick</b><br>Lyme disease<br>Anaplasmosis<br>Babesiosis<br>Ehrlichiosis<br>Powassan virus disease | <b>American Dog (Wood) Tick</b><br>Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever<br>Tularemia | <b>Lone Star Tick</b><br>Ehrlichiosis<br>Tularemia<br>Heartland virus disease<br>Southern Tick-Associated Rash Illness (STARI) |
|--|--|--|

### Protect Yourself from Tickborne Diseases

- 1-Know when and where you're at risk
  - Primarily Mid-May through Mid-July
  - Wooded and brushy areas – Blacklegged Tick
  - Grassy or wooded areas – American Dog Tick
- 2-Wear EPA-registered tick repellent
  - DEET 20-30% on skin or clothing
  - Permethrin 0.5% on clothing
- 3-Check yourself for ticks
  - Shower after being outdoors
  - Check at least once a day
  - Remove ticks ASAP!



# THREE RIVERS PARKS



**THREE RIVERS PARKS OFFICE**  
 3000 Xenium Ln. N | Plymouth | (763) 559-9000  
[www.threeriversparks.org](http://www.threeriversparks.org)

All parks are open from 5:00AM to 10:00PM unless noted. For more information on parks throughout Hennepin County, call (612) 348-3000.

- |                   |                   |               |                  |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Archery           | Disc Golf Course  | Golf Course   | Sledding         |
| Bike Trails/Route | Dog Park/Trails   | Hiking Trails | Snowmobiling     |
| Boating           | Equestrian Trails | Paddling      | Snowshoeing      |
| Campground        | Fishing           | Picnic Areas  | Swimming         |
| Cross-Country Ski | Geocaching        | Playground    | Wildlife Viewing |

- |                                    |   |  |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| Crow-Hassan Park Reserve           | ★ |  |
| Elm Creek Park Reserve             | ★ |  |
| West Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park | ★ |  |
| Lake Rebecca Park Reserve          | ★ |  |
| Baker Park Reserve                 | ★ |  |
| Fish Lake Regional Park            | ★ |  |
| Eagle Lake Regional Park           | ★ |  |
| Clifton E. French Regional Park    | ★ |  |
| *North Mississippi Regional Park   | ★ |  |
| Silverwood Park                    | ★ |  |
| Gale Woods Farm                    | ★ |  |
| *Norenberg Memorial Gardens        | ★ |  |
| *Lake Minnetonka Regional Park     | ★ |  |
| *Glen Lake Golf & Practice Center  | ★ |  |
| Bryant Lake Regional Park          | ★ |  |
| Hyland Park Reserve                | ★ |  |

\*Hours are seasonal. Contact the parks department for hours.

# FISHING SEASONS

## 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.)

# 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.



# 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

08/15/25 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





# AREA ATTRACTIONS

## 318 CAFE

318 Water St. | Excelsior | (952) 401-7902

## 3RD LAIR SKATE PARK & SKATE SHOP

850 Florida Ave. S | Golden Valley | (763) 797-5283

## AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE

2600 Park Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 871-4907

## AMF SOUTHTOWN BOWLING CENTER

7941 Southtown Center | Bloomington | (952) 888-9248

## ARD GODFREY HOUSE

28 University Ave. SE | Minneapolis | (612) 813-5300

## BAKKEN LIBRARY & MUSEUM

3537 S Zenith Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 926-3878

## BASILICA OF ST. MARY

88 N 17th St. | Minneapolis | (612) 333-1381

## BIG THRILL FACTORY

17585 Hwy. 7 | Minnetonka | (952) 698-7700

## BILL'S GUN SHOP & RANGE

4080 W Broadway Ave. | Robbinsdale | (763) 533-9594

## BRAVE NEW WORKSHOP

824 S Hennepin Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 332-6620

## BRYANT FOUNDATION

3039 Shadyside Dr. | Stoughton, WI | (608) 873-7567

## BRYANT LAKE BOWL & THEATER

810 W Lake St. | Minneapolis | (612) 825-3737

## BRUNSWICK ZONE

7545 Brooklyn Blvd. | Brooklyn Park | (763) 503-2695

## CEDAR CULTURAL CENTER

416 S Cedar Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 338-2674

## CHILDREN'S THEATRE CO.

2400 S 3rd Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 874-0400

## CRAYOLA EXPERIENCE

300 South Ave. | Bloomington | (952) 883-8800

## EDINA AQUATIC CENTER

4300 W 66th St. | Edina | (952) 833-9560

## EDINBOROUGH PARK

7700 York Ave. S | Edina | (952) 833-9540

## ESCAPE FRENZY

5585 W 78th St. | Edina | (952) 941-9999

## FIREFIGHTERS HALL & MUSEUM

664 22nd Ave. NE | Minneapolis | (612) 623-3817

## FOSHAY TOWER

821 S Marquette Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 215-3700

## GALE WOODS FARM

7210 W Co. Rd. 110 | Minnetrista | (763) 694-2001

## GREAT WOLF LODGE WATER PARK

1700 E American Blvd. | Bloomington | (952) 851-9653

## GUTHRIE THEATER

818 S 2nd St. | Minneapolis | Admin (612) 225-6000  
Box Office (612) 377-2224

## HEART OF THE BEAST PUPPET & MASK THEATER

1500 E Lake St. | Minneapolis | (612) 721-2535

## HENNEPIN CENTER FOR THE ARTS

528 Hennepin Ave. #100 | Minneapolis | (612) 332-4478

## HENNEPIN HISTORY MUSEUM

2303 3rd Ave. S | Minneapolis | (612) 870-1329

## HENNEPIN MEDICAL HISTORY CENTER

701 Park Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 873-6485

## HENNEPIN OVERLAND MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM

2501 E 38th St. | Minneapolis | (612) 276-9034

## HISTORIC EIDEM FARM

4345 101st Ave. N | Brooklyn Park | (763) 493-4604

## HISTORIC STATE THEATRE

805 Hennepin Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 339-7007

## HUNTINGTON BANK STADIUM

420 SE 23rd Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 624-8080

## HYLAND HILLS SKI AREA

8800 Chalet Rd. | Bloomington | (763) 694-7800

## JIM LUPIENT WATER PARK

1520 Johnson St. NE | Minneapolis | (612) 370-4937

## KROENING INTERPRETIVE CENTER

4900 Mississippi Court | Minneapolis | (612) 370-4844

## LAKE MINNETONKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

305 Water St. | Wayzata | (952) 474-2115

## LANDMARK'S LAGOON CINEMA

1320 Lagoon Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 823-3020

## LONGFELLOW HOUSE

4800 S Minnehaha Dr. | Minneapolis | (612) 230-6540

## LOWRY NATURE CENTER

7025 Nature Center Dr. | Victoria | (763) 694-7650

## MALL OF AMERICA

60 E Broadway | Bloomington | (952) 883-8800

## MILL CITY MUSEUM

704 S 2nd St. | Minneapolis | (612) 341-7555

## MINNEAPOLIS INSTITUTE OF ARTS

2400 S 3rd Ave. | Minneapolis | (888) 642-2787

## MINNEHAHA DEPOT/PARK

Hwy 55 & Minnehaha Pkwy. | Minneapolis | (651) 228-0263

## MINNESOTA AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MUSEUM AND GALLERY

1256 N Penn Ave., Fourth Floor | Minneapolis

## MINNESOTA ORCHESTRA

1111 Nicollet Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 371-5656

## MINNETONKA CENTER FOR THE ARTS

2240 N Shore Dr. | Wayzata | (952) 473-7361

## MUSEUM OF ILLUSIONS

281 Central Pkwy. | Bloomington | (651) 348-8119

## MUSEUM OF RUSSIAN ART

5500 Stevens Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 821-9045

## NICKELODEON UNIVERSE

5000 Center Ct. | Bloomington | (952) 883-8800

## NICOLLET MALL

555 Nicollet Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 767-8000

## NORMANDE JAPANESE GARDEN

West Lot, 9700 France Ave. S | Bloomington | (952) 358-8145

## NORTHWEST AIRLINES HISTORY CENTER

3 Appletree Square | Bloomington | (952) 876-8677

## ORPHEUM THEATRE

910 Hennepin Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 339-7007

## PARADISE CHARTER CRUISES

2 Water St. | Excelsior | (952) 474-8058

## PAVEK MUSEUM

3517 Raleigh Ave. | St Louis Park | (952) 926-8198

## PROKART INDOORS

11700 Troy Ln. N | Maple Grove | (763) 428-1333

## QUEEN OF EXCELSIOR

2 Water St. | Excelsior | (952) 470-8439

## RICHFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

6901 Lyndale Ave. S | Richfield | (612) 798-6140

## RIDDLE ROOM

507 E Hennepin Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 787-2462

## RIDGEDALE SHOPPING CENTER

12401 Wayzata Blvd. | Minnetonka | (952) 252-2801

## RIVERVIEW THEATER

3800 S 42nd Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 729-7369

# AREA ATTRACTIONS

## SHEELS EDEN PRAIRIE

8301 Flying Cloud Dr. | Eden Prairie | (952) 826-0067

## SEA LIFE AT MALL OF AMERICA

120 E Broadway East Side, Level One | Bloomington | (952) 883-0202

## SPLATBALL

2921 N 2nd St. | Minneapolis | (612) 378-0385

## ST. ANTHONY MAIN THEATER

115 SE Main St. | Minneapolis | (612) 395-4444

## STEAMBOAT MINNEHAHA

140 George St. | Excelsior | (952) 474-2115

## TARGET FIELD

1 Twins Way | Minneapolis | (612) 659-3400

## THEATRE IN THE ROUND PLAYERS INC.

245 S Cedar Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 333-2919

## THE ESCAPE GAME

300 East Broadway | Bloomington | (952) 856-3374

## THE SOUTHERN THEATER

1420 S Washington Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 340-0155

## THE STONE ARCH BRIDGE

100 Portland Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 230-6400

## THE WORKS MUSEUM

9740 Grand Ave. S | Bloomington | (952) 888-4262

## TOPGOLF

6420 Camden Ave. N | Brooklyn Center | (763) 201-9636

## UPPER ST. ANTHONY FALLS LOCK & DAM

1 Portland Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 333-5336

## US BANK STADIUM

401 Chicago Ave. | Minneapolis | (612) 777-8700

## VARSIITY THEATER

1308 SE 4th St. | Minneapolis | (612) 217-7701

## VINTAGE SPEEDBOAT GALLERY

927 E Lake St. | Wayzata | (952) 495-0007

## WALKER ART MUSEUM & SCULPTURE GARDEN

725 Vineland Pl. | Minneapolis | (612) 375-7600

## WEST HENNEPIN HISTORY CENTER

1953 Wayzata Blvd. #332 | Long Lake | (952) 473-6557

## WHIRLYBALL

13644 80th Circle N | Maple Grove | (763) 657-1555

*\*Call ahead for seasonal hours*

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 a cheap 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.

## Disc Golf



**Judd Frost Clothiers**

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(952) 473-4633 • juddfrost.com

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ARIGATO  
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GRAZIE

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## A Brief History of Lake Minnetonka

Lake Minnetonka, located just west of Minneapolis, has a rich and fascinating history that dates back thousands of years. Long before European settlers arrived, the area was home to the Dakota and Ojibwe tribes, who revered the lake for its abundant resources and spiritual significance. The name “Minnetonka” itself is derived from the Dakota language, meaning “big water,” a fitting description for this expansive lake, which covers over 14,000 acres and boasts more than 100 miles of shoreline. In the mid-19th century, Lake Minnetonka began to attract the attention of settlers and tourists alike. The arrival of the Minneapolis & St. Louis Railway in the 1860s transformed the lake into a popular summer destination, leading to the establishment of resorts and cottages along its shores. One of the most notable resorts was the Excelsior Amusement Park, which opened in 1906 and became a hub of entertainment for families seeking fun and leisure in the picturesque setting. As the years progressed, Lake Minnetonka evolved into a vibrant community, blending its rich Native American heritage with the influences of European settlers. By the early 20th century, the area was bustling with boaters, fishermen, and vacationers, all drawn to the lake’s natural beauty and recreational opportunities. Today, remnants of this historical transformation can still be seen in the charming towns that dot the shoreline, each with its own unique character and story to tell. In addition to its recreational allure, Lake Minnetonka has played a significant role in the cultural and economic development of the surrounding region. It has been a backdrop for countless events, from summer regattas to winter festivals, and continues to serve as a vital resource for the local economy. With its storied past and vibrant present, Lake Minnetonka remains an essential part of Minnesota’s identity, inviting residents and visitors alike to explore its depths and discover the stories woven into its shores.

## Lake Minnetonka’s Size and Geography

Lake Minnetonka is a vast and stunning body of water, sprawling across an impressive 14,528 acres, making it one of the largest lakes in Minnesota. Its size is rivaled only by a few other lakes in the state, but what truly sets Lake Minnetonka apart is its intricate geography. The lake features over 100 miles of shoreline, dotted with a mix of charming residential areas, lush parks, and picturesque islands, each with its own unique character and stories to tell. The lake is broken into several bays, including the popular Crystal Bay, Excelsior Bay, and St. Alban’s Bay, each offering different recreational opportunities. With its numerous inlets and peninsulas, Lake Minnetonka is a boater’s paradise, providing ample space for sailing, kayaking, and paddleboarding. The varied topography also creates a rich habitat for diverse wildlife, including migratory birds, deer, and the occasional sighting of eagles soaring above. Moreover, the lake’s depth varies, with some areas plunging over 100 feet, which adds to its ecological diversity. The unique combination of its size, geography, and depth not only supports a variety of aquatic life but also makes it a popular destination for fishing enthusiasts. Whether you’re angling for bass, northern pike, or panfish, the rich waters of Lake Minnetonka offer a pleasant surprise for many anglers. As you explore the lake, you’ll notice its charm is amplified by the picturesque towns lining its shores, such as Excelsior, Wayzata, and Minnetonka Beach. These quaint communities are not just gateways to the lake; they are hubs of activity, culture, and history, adding another layer to the rich tapestry that is Lake Minnetonka. So, whether you’re boating through its serene waters or simply taking a leisurely stroll along the shoreline, the size and geography of Lake Minnetonka provide a backdrop that captivates and invites exploration at every turn.

## The Origins of Its Name

The name “Minnetonka” carries with it a rich tapestry of history and significance, derived from the Dakota language, where it translates to “great water.” This evocative name hints at the vastness and beauty of the lake, which spans over 14,000 acres and boasts an intricate shoreline dotted with charming bays and islands. The origins of its name are steeped in Native American heritage, reflecting the deep connection the Dakota people had with the land long before European settlers arrived. The lake’s waters were not only a vital resource for fishing and transportation but also a spiritual sanctuary, woven into the cultural fabric of the region. As settlers began to explore and inhabit the area in the mid-19th century, they were captivated by the lake’s stunning vistas and abundant natural resources. In 1852, the name “Minnetonka” was officially recorded, cementing its place in history and preserving the legacy of the indigenous people who revered the water long before it became a

recreational paradise. Today, Lake Minnetonka is celebrated not just for its breathtaking scenery and recreational opportunities but also for the stories it holds within its depths—stories of the past that continue to resonate with the communities that thrive around its shores. So, the next time you visit this beautiful lake, take a moment to reflect on the meaning behind its name and the rich history that has shaped it into the beloved destination it is today.

## Unique Wildlife and Ecosystems

Lake Minnetonka is not just a picturesque body of water; it is also a thriving hub of unique wildlife and diverse ecosystems that contribute to its charm and allure. As one of Minnesota’s largest lakes, covering approximately 14,528 acres, it provides a rich habitat for various species, both aquatic and terrestrial. One of the most fascinating aspects of Lake Minnetonka is its variety of fish species. Anglers often flock to its waters to catch everything from bass and walleye to northern pike and crappies. However, it’s not just the fish that call the lake home; the lake is also a sanctuary for numerous bird species. The majestic bald eagle can frequently be spotted soaring overhead, while the shores are often lined with herons and ospreys searching for their next meal. Beyond birds and fish, the lake’s wetlands and marshes support an array of amphibians, reptiles, and other wildlife. The surrounding areas are rich with flora, including native wildflowers and dense forests, which provide shelter and food for local fauna. This biodiversity plays a crucial role in maintaining the ecological balance of the area, making Lake Minnetonka a true natural treasure. Moreover, the lake’s unique ecosystems also contribute to its water quality. The presence of aquatic plants helps filter nutrients, while the rich biodiversity supports a balanced food web, which is essential for the health of the lake. This interplay between wildlife and their environment is a testament to the importance of preserving such ecosystems, ensuring that future generations can enjoy the natural beauty of Lake Minnetonka and its vibrant wildlife. Whether you’re a nature enthusiast looking to explore the trails or an avid birdwatcher hoping to catch a glimpse of a rare species, Lake Minnetonka offers a unique opportunity to connect with the natural world in a way that few places can.

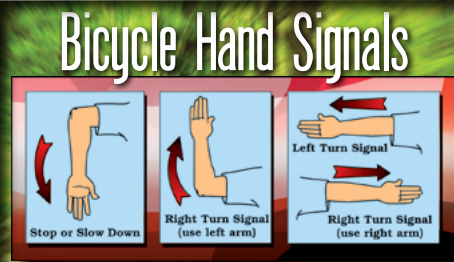
## Tips for Exploring Lake Minnetonka Like a Local

Exploring Lake Minnetonka like a local is all about immersing yourself in the natural beauty, rich history, and vibrant culture that make this area so special. To truly appreciate the lake, consider starting your adventure at one of the many public parks that dot its shoreline. Parks like Big Island Park and Minnetonka Beach offer stunning views, picnic spots, and trails that wind through lush landscapes. Bring a blanket, pack a lunch, and soak in the serene surroundings while watching the boats glide across the water. For a more intimate experience with the lake, consider renting a kayak or paddleboard. This allows you to navigate the quieter coves and discover hidden gems that larger boats often overlook. As you paddle, keep an eye out for local wildlife—beavers, herons, and even the occasional bald eagle can often be spotted along the shoreline. If you’re looking for adventure, join one of the local fishing charters. Lake Minnetonka is renowned for its excellent fishing opportunities, providing a chance to catch everything from bass to northern pike. The guides are not only knowledgeable about the best spots but can also share fascinating stories about the lake’s history and ecology. Don’t forget to explore the charming towns that surround Lake Minnetonka. Places like Wayzata and Excelsior are filled with quaint shops, delightful cafes, and rich history. Stop by a local eatery to savor fresh, lake-caught fish or enjoy a locally crafted beer while soaking in the lakeside atmosphere. Finally, embrace the local culture by participating in one of the many community events that take place throughout the year. From summer concerts on the beach to winter ice fishing contests, there’s always something happening on and around the lake. By engaging with the community, you’ll make memories that go beyond the scenery and truly experience Lake Minnetonka like a local.



# 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!



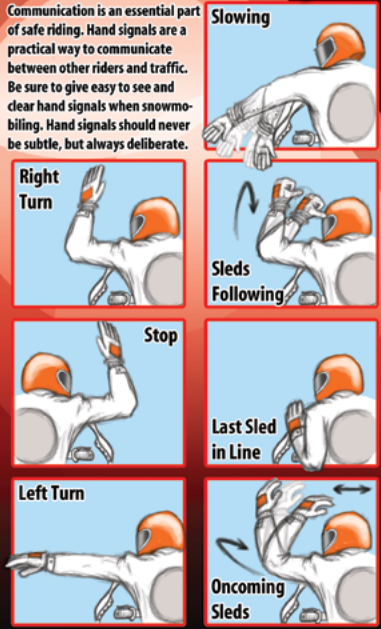
# Know Your ATV

## 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.

## 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.

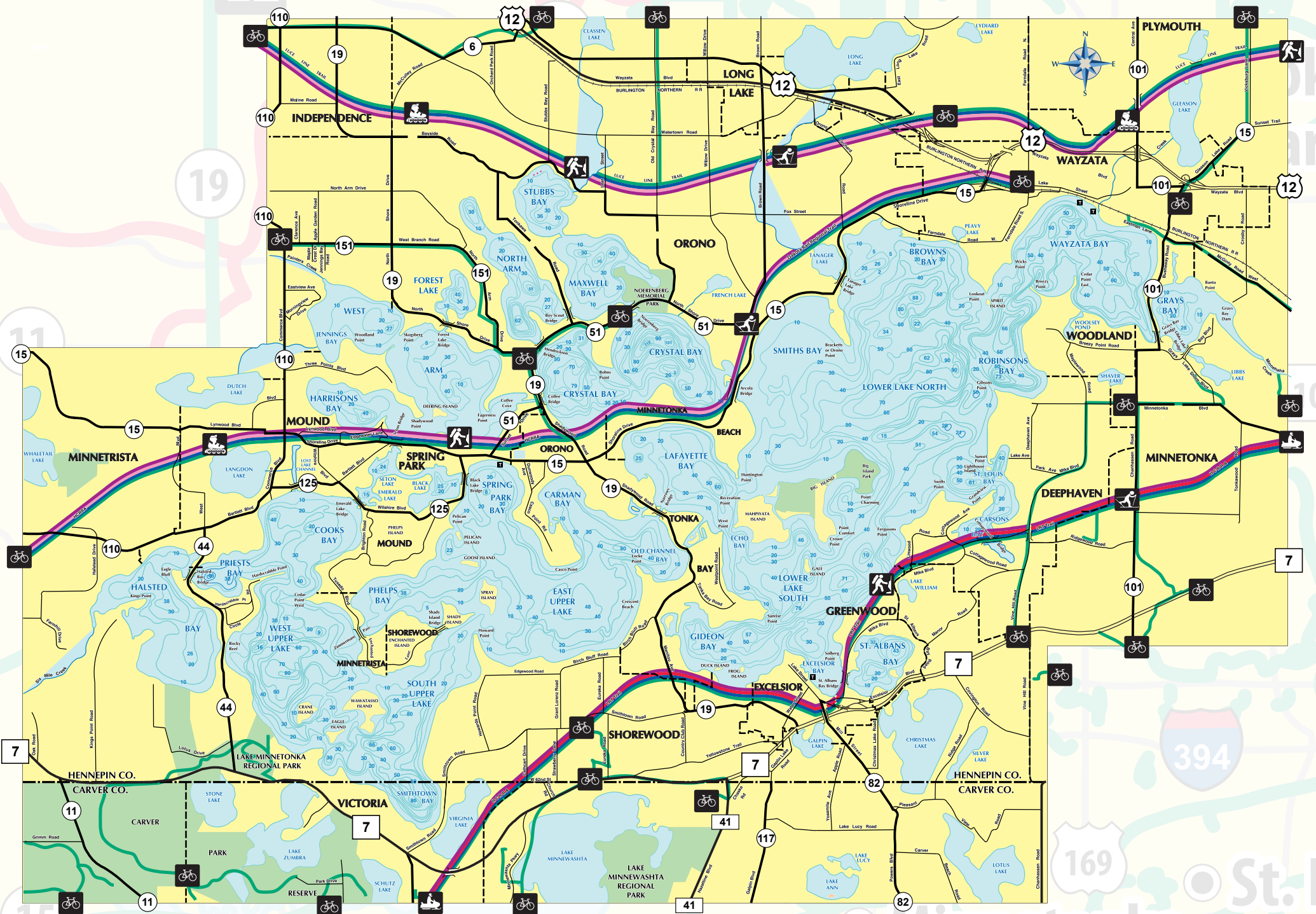


- Do not consume alcohol or take drugs prior to or during your snowmobile trip. Doing so increases your chances of injury or death.
- Slow down and don't cut to the inside of the trail corners. It's dangerous and illegal.
- If you snowmobile at night, don't override your lights.
- Always use the buddy 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.

**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.

# LAKE MINNETONKA W/ LAKE DEPTHS & TRAILS

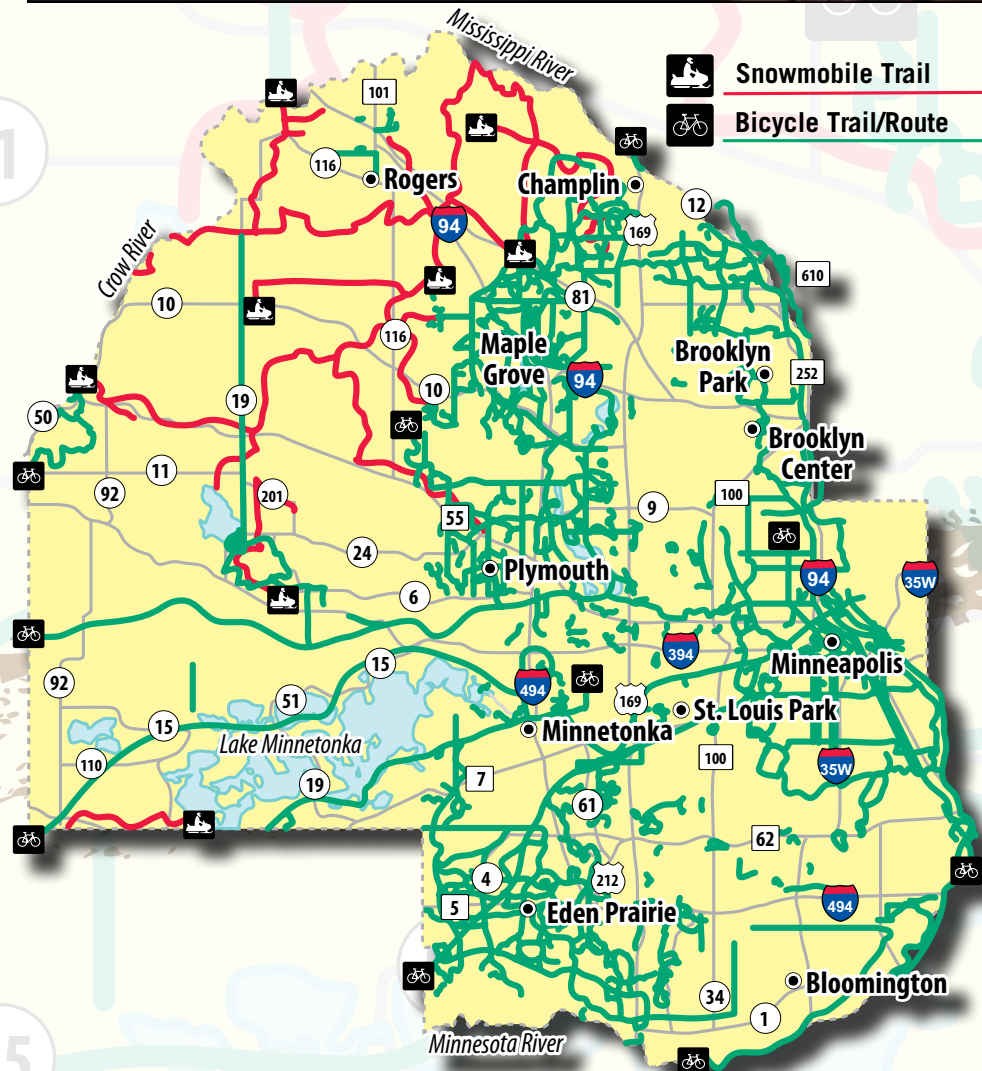


## Richards Liquor

952-935-6661

22 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. N • Hopkins

Mon-Sat: 9am-9pm • Sunday: 11am-5pm



Snowmobile Trail



Bicycle Trail/Route

# SINGLETRACK MOUNTAIN BIKING



### HAVE FUN & BE

**RESPECTFUL:** Singletrack mountain biking is an exciting and rewarding activity. Remember to enjoy the ride, take in the scenery, and respect nature. Stay positive, be patient with yourself as you learn and improve, and have fun exploring new trails and pushing your limits. **EXPERIENCE:** Singletrack trails are often more challenging than regular trails. It's important to have some experience and proficiency on your bike. **TRAIL DIFFICULTY RATING:** Singletrack trails are often graded on their difficulty level, usually using a color-coded system. Start with trails that match your skill level. **TRAIL ETIQUETTE:** Respect other trail users, yield to uphill riders, and follow any posted signs or guidelines. Don't litter and stay on designated trails. **PROTECTIVE GEAR:** Wear appropriate gear, most important a helmet. Other helpful choices are gloves, knee and elbow pads, and sturdy shoes. **BIKE MAINTENANCE:** Check tire pressure, brakes, gears, and suspension. Carry essential tools, such as a multi-tool, spare tube, and a pump, to handle any minor repairs or adjustments on the trail. **HYDRATION & NUTRITION:** Singletrack mountain biking can be physically demanding. Carry enough water and pack some energy-rich snacks. **RIDE WITH A BUDDY:** It can make the experience more enjoyable, but it also enhances safety in case of any issues. **TRAIL RESEARCH:** Look for trail maps, reviews, and any relevant information about the area before heading out. **PACE YOURSELF:** Start at a comfortable pace and gradually increase your speed and difficulty level as you gain more experience and confidence.

# 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?

## DOG PARKS

### Bloomington Off-leash Dog Park

Nesbitt Ave. & West 111th St. | Bloomington | (952) 563-8877

### Bryant Lake Dog Off-Leash Area

6402 Rowland Rd. | Eden Prairie | 763-694-7764

### Dog Park at Bassett Creek Park

6029 32nd Ave. N | Crystal | 763-531-1000

### Dog Park at Brookdale Park

7650 June Ave. N | Brooklyn Park | 763-493-8344

### Dog Park at Cedar Knoll Park

2541 Nevada Ave. | St. Louis Park | 952-924-2500

### Dog Park at Crestwood Park

9780 Dell Rd. | Eden Prairie | 952-949-8333

### Dog Park at Dakota Park

2643 Dakota Ave. S | St. Louis Park | 952-924-2500

### Dog Park at Edenvale Park

7200 Edenvale Blvd, Eden Prairie | 952-949-8333

### Dog Park at Holbrook Park

310 Harrington Dr. | Long Lake | 763-559-9000

### Dog Park at Homeward Hills Park

12000 Silverwood Dr, Eden Prairie | 952-949-8333

### Dog Park at Staring Lake Park

13800 Pioneer Trl. | Eden Prairie | 952-949-8333

### Dog Park at Welcome Park

4630 Welcome Ave. N | Crystal | 763-531-1000

### Elm Creek Park Reserve Dog Off-Leash Area

11750 Zachary Ln. N | Champlin | (763) 694-7894

### Fish Lake Regional Park Dog Off-Leash Area

14900 Bass Lake Rd. | Maple Grove | 763-694-7818

### Flying Cloud Drive Dog Park

7171 Flying Cloud Dr. | Eden Prairie | 952-949-8442

### Franklin Terrace Off-Leash Dog Park

925 Franklin Terrace | Minneapolis | 612-230-6400

### Gateway Off-Leash Dog Park

1099 4th Ave S. | Minneapolis | 612-230-6400

### Indoor Zoomies

(dogs under 30 pounds only)  
10924 Greenbrier Rd. | Minnetonka

### Lake Minnewashta Off-Leash Dog Area

6730 Ches Mar Dr. | Excelsior | 952-466-5250

### Lake of the Isles Off-Leash Dog Park

2845 W Lake of the Isles Parkway | Minneapolis | 612-230-6400

### Loring Park Off-Leash Dog Park

1382 Willow St. | Minneapolis | 612-230-6400

### Lyndale Farmstead Off-Leash Dog Park

3845 Dupont Ave. S | Minneapolis | 612-230-6400

### Marcy Off-Leash Dog Park

711 11th Ave. SE | Minneapolis | 612-230-6400

### Minneapolis Airport Off-Leash Dog Park

6040 28th Ave. S | Minneapolis | 612-673-3000

### Minnehaha Off-Leash Dog Park

5399 Minnehaha Park Drive S | Minneapolis | 612-230-6400

### North Loop Dog Park

790 N 3rd St. | Minneapolis

### Off-Leash Dog Park at Roosevelt Park

7644 4th Ave. S | Richfield | 612-861-9351

### Plymouth Dog Park

17005 Chankahda Trl. | Plymouth | 763-509-5200

### Sochacki Park Dog Off-Leash Area

3500 June Ave. N | Minneapolis | 763-559-9000

### St. Anthony Parkway Off-Leash Dog Park

700 St. Anthony Parkway | Minneapolis | 612-230-6400

### Susan E. Lurton Nature Park and Off Leash Dog Park

3580 Wayzata Blvd. | Long Lake | 952-249-4600

### Van Valkenburg Park Off-Leash Dog Area

4935 Lincoln Dr. | Edina | 952-826-0367

### Victory Prairie Off-Leash Dog Park

4701 Russell Ave. N | Minneapolis | 612-230-6400

# Travel

Choosing the  
*perfect*  
destination

What is your dream vacation? Do you want to lay on the beach, hike a mountain or explore a city? Questions like these are a good starting point to decide on where to go. Do research on some different areas and activities that may interest you and any others that you are traveling with to identify the most suitable vacation area.

How long do you plan on being gone? Don't try to go too far or jam in too many activities if you don't have the time. Leave some free time in your schedule to accommodate any unforeseen changes during the trip.

Depending on what type of climate you are wanting to vacation in, plan your trip for an appropriate time of the year in that area. Also watch out for peak seasons at some popular vacation destinations. At these times prices may be higher with larger crowds.

#### Plan:

- Research and learn about the area you are heading to
- Check the Travel Advisories for your intended destination
- Pack the appropriate clothing and supplies you will need for your trip
- Have a backup plan in case of injury or illness while on your trip
- Let friends or family know about your trip

#### Protect:

- Make sure the food and water in the area is safe to consume
- Protect your skin from the sun and insects
- Don't take any unnecessary risks
- Keep an eye on your health while traveling & when you get back



Shop • Dine  
Play • Stay

# LOCALLY

...and support  
the community  
you live in!

