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Monroe County



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LOCAL AREA EVENTS

JANUARY

Freeze Fest (Jan-Feb) | Tomah Justin Trails Winter Farmer's Market (Saturdays, Jan-Mar) | Sparta Sparta Day & Shootout (Jan-Feb) The Highground Female Veterans Retreat (Jan-Feb) Black River Falls

FEBRUARY

Cabin Fever | Sparta North Bend Lions Fish Fry TWSA Ice Fisheree | Tomah Sparta Trailblazers Annual Snowmobile Fun Days Kitty Kat Snowmobile Race | Warrens

MARCH

Annual Banquet | Sparta Monroe County Arts & Craft Show | Sparta

APRIL

Spring Thaw-Large Beef Show | Black River Falls Earth Day Clean-Up | Black River Falls, Taylor Warrens Rummage Sale | Tomah Thunderbird Village Flea Market | Hatfield Monroe County Community Easter Breakfast | Warrens Annual Spring Clean-Up Day | Warrens

MAY

Lost Falls Rendezvous | Black River Falls Annual Honor Ride | Black River Falls, Alma Center Fort McCoy Armed Forces Day Open House Ice Age Trail Marathon | La Grange Spring Clean-Up Days | Black River Falls Ho-Chunk Nation Memorial Day POW-WOW **Black River Falls** Cashton PD Annual Bike Rodeo Memorial Day Tractor & Truck Pull | Taylor Annual Horse & Pony Pull | Taylor Spring Clean-up Day | North Bend Annual Ride to Remember® | Neillsville Annual Canoe River Fall Rendezvous | Sparta Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony | Sparta Paddle at the Park | Warrens

JUNE

Juneteenth | Kendall Annual Strawberry Festival | Alma Center Sparta Butterfest **Budweiser Dairyland Super National Truck &** Tractor Pull | Tomah Americana Music in the Park (Jun-Aug) | Tomah Sparta Run & Walk Stampede Cranberry Blossom Day | Warrens Annual Arts & Crafts Festival | Black River Falls Northwoods Welsh Pony & Cob Show Black River Falls Art in the Park | Black River Falls

JULY

Karner Blue Butterfly Festival | Black River Falls Black River Heritage Fest Grand Parade **Black River Falls** 4th of July Celebration | Jackson & Monroe Counties Fireworks | Hatfield Monroe County Fair | Tomah Millston Family Fun Days Millston Sesquicentennial Celebration SquirrelFest | Tomah Jackson County Fair (July-Aug) | Black River Falls Crazy Days | Tomah, Sparta

AUGUST

Classics on Main Cruise-in | Black River Falls Leon Gatorfest & Stand Still Parade Melvina Frog Days Annual Heroes Ride Bike Tour | Neillsville St. Pat's Church Summerfest Auction | Sparta

SEPTEMBER

Fire Department Annual Car Show Black River Falls Warrens Cranberry Festival Millston Labor Day Celebration & Softball Tourney Ho-Chunk Pow-wow | Black River Falls Fall Clean Up Days | North Bend Cashton Fall Fest Car & Bike Show Millston Chili Cook Off

OCTOBER

Oktoberfest | Black River Falls Annual Sparta Dome Autumn Arts & Crafts Fair Will to Ben Bike Tour | Sparta Downtown Trick or Treat | Black River Falls Trunk or Treat | Tomah North Bend Trail Fest

NOVEMBER

Monroe County Arts & Craft Show | Sparta Kriskindlmarkt | Sparta Taylor Fire & Rescue Animal Chili Feed

DECEMBER

Sparta Holiday Parade Christkindl Festival | Black River Falls Sparta Santa Scamper Project Christmas | Black River Falls Santa Claus is Coming to Town | Taylor

*Events are subject to change



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RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

JACKSON COUNTY Aging & Disability Services......(715) 284-3978 Animal Shelter ..284-0213 Circuit Court. Clerk of Court ...284-0208 ..284-0201 ...284-0242 ...284-0263 Emergency Management..... ..284-8475 Forestry & Parks..... Health & Human Services..... ..284-4301 Highway Department..... ..284-0233 ...284-0256 Land Conservation Recycling ...284-0220 Sheriff284-5357 ..284-0206 Treasurer..... UW Extension ..284-4257 ..284-0225 Veterans Services.....

..284-0220

Zoning & Sanitation.....

MUNKUE COUNTY	
Administration	(608) 269-8705
Aging & Disability Services	269-8690
Animal Shelter	269-8775
Circuit of Court	269-8700
Clerk of Court	269-8745
County Clerk	269-8705
District Attorney	269-8780
Emergency Management	269-8711
Forestry & Parks	269-8635
Health & Human Services	269-8600
Highway Department	269-8740
Recycling/Solid Waste	
Register of Deeds	
Sheriff	
Treasurer/Real Property Lister	269-8710
UW Extension	269-8722
Veterans Services	269-8618
Zoning & Sanitation	269-8939





First inhabited by Winnebago Indians, Jackson County was organized from LaCrosse County in 1853 and named in honor of President Andrew Jackson. Ample timber resources attracted lumbermen and settlements began to form. Many settlers were farmers, harvesting cranberries and strawberries. As the railroad was established, Jackson County continued to thrive. Black River Falls was selected as the county seat and by 1900 the population of Jackson County had reached 17,466. The Jackson County Forest now makes up almost one third of Jackson County, providing an assortment of recreational activities. Today Jackson County is home to approximately 19,904 residents.

Tackson County Communities

CITIES:

BLACK RIVER FALLS — (County Seat) pop. 3.406

VILLAGES:

ALMA CENTER – pop. 435 HIXTON – pop. 437 MELROSE – pop. 500 MERRILLAN – pop. 565 TAYLOR – pop. 486

TOWNS:

ADAMS – pop. 1,217 **ALBION** – pop. 1,108 **ALMA** – pop. 1,113 **BEAR BLUFF** – pop. 154 **BROCKWAY** – *pop. 2,583* CITY POINT - pop. 250 CLEVELAND - pop. 460 **CURRAN** – *pop.* 393 FRANKLIN – pop. 379 **GARDEN VALLEY** – pop. 421 GARFIELD - pop. 757 **IRVING** – *pop. 702* **KNAPP** – *pop. 313* **KOMENSKY** – pop. 506 **MANCHESTER** – pop. 710 MELROSE – pop. 466 MILLSTON - pop. 159 **NORTH BEND** – pop. 468 NORTHFIELD - pop. 614 SPRINGFIELD - pop. 598 *Populations are approximate.

ADAMS

Named in honor of President John Adams, the community separated from Albion in the 1930s. Early industry was based on agriculture with settlers farming the land. Located north of Black River Falls, Adams has become a popular destination for recreation enthusiasts. Today Adams is home to approximately 1,217 residents.

ALBION

One of the earliest communities in Jackson County, Albion was established in 1849. Albion originally included most of Jackson County. Located west of Black River Falls, it was once part of Crawford and LaCrosse Counties until 1853. Due to the fertile soil, early industry was dominated by agriculture. Today Albion is home to approximately 1,108 residents.

Jackson County Communities

ALMA

Once part of Albion, Alma was established in 1856. As the railroad was established, Alma grew dramatically. At the time it was the only community where the Northwest and Green Bay railway lines crossed which attracted many settlers. Businesses were established and Alma began to thrive. Today Alma is home to approximately 1,113 residents.

BLACK RIVER FALLS (COUNTY SEAT)

Settled in 1839 by Joseph Spaulding, Black River Falls began as a logging town. Its name is derived from the dark color of the river, due to tannic acid from forest drainage. A sawmill was constructed near Town Creek and a post office was established in 1850. Black River Falls was selected as the county seat in 1853 and was incorporated in 1866. With the arrival of the railroad in 1868, Black River Falls continued to grow. Destroyed by fire in 1860 and by flood in 1911, Black River Falls was rebuilt and the area continued to thrive. Today Black River Falls is home to approximately 3,406 residents.

BROCKWAY

Located east of the Black River, Brockway was settled in the 1880s. Originally part of Albion, the community separated in the 1890s. Early settlers were loggers, harvesting timber from what is now the Black River State Forest. As the railroad was constructed, Brockway continued to grow and businesses were established. Today Brockway is home to approximately 2,583 residents.

HIXTON

Originally part of Albion, Hixton was established in 1856. It was originally recognized as Hick's Town, in honor of settler John Hicks. Early settlers were attracted to the fertile soil and ample natural resources. With the arrival of the railroad, Hixton continued to grow. Today Hixton is home to approximately 437 residents.

KOMENSKY

Komensky was part of Brockway until 1913. Most of the land in Komensky is part of the Black River State Forest and early industry was based on timber. Because of ample resources and railroad access, Komensky was an integral community for transportation and agriculture in Jackson County. Today Komensky is home to approximately 506 residents.

MELROSE

Located near Douglas Pond, Melrose was first called Bristol and remained part of Albion until 1856. It was named after the Melrose Abbey in Scotland. Due to its proximity to the Black River, Melrose was an important logging community as timber was easily floated downstream. Today Melrose is home to approximately 500 residents.

MILLSTON

Surrounded by the Black River State Forest, Millston was part of Manchester until 1874. Settled by lumbermen, the community was named in honor of Hugh B. Mills, a local lumber baron. It was once a vital logging center that boasted some of the highest quality lumber in all of Wisconsin. Today Millston is home to approximately 159 residents.













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Monroe County Communities

SPARTA – (County Seat) pop. ADRIAN - pop. 794 8,823 **ANGELO** – pop. 1,431 **TOMAH** – *pop.* 8,664 **BYRON** – *pop.* 580 **CLIFTON** – *pop.* 784 **VILLAGES:** GLENDALE – pop. 646 **CASHTON** — *pop.* 1,055 **GRANT** – pop. 545 KENDALL – pop. 463 **GREENFIELD** – pop. 745 MELVINA – pop. 88 JEFFERSON – pop. 906 NORWALK – pop. 616 **LA GRANGE** – *pop. 1,918* **OAKDALE** – *pop.* 312 LAFAYETTE – pop. 379 WARRENS – pop. 347 **LEON** – pop. 921 **WILTON** – *pop.* 544 LINCOLN - pop. 959 WYEVILLE - pop. 140 LITTLE FALLS - pop. 1,427 **NEW LYME** – *pop.* 170

TOWNS:

OAKDALE - pop. 722

PORTLAND - pop. 729

RIDGEVILLE - pop. 540

SCOTT - pop. 157

SHELDON - pop. 730

SPARTA - pop. 2,837

TOMAH - pop. 1,246

WELLINGTON - pop. 581

WELLS - pop. 584

WILTON - pop. 967

*Populations are approximate.

ANGELO

CITIES:

In 1852 Dr. Seth Angel arrived to the area and constructed a mill. As the community was settled in 1856, Edward Canfield platted streets and called the area Athens. The fertile soil attracted residents and many established fruit farms, growing a variety of apples and berries. By 1910 the village was renamed in honor of Dr. Seth Angel and its population neared 700. Today Angelo is home to approximately 1,431 residents.

Irst inhabited by Winnebago Indians, Monroe County was organized from LaCrosse County in 1854 and named in honor of President James Monroe. Natural resources and fertile soil attracted many settlers. Logging camps and farms were established and communities began to grow. With the construction of the railroad and road improvements, Monroe County continued to develop. Sparta was selected as the county seat and by 1900 the population of Monroe County had reached 28,103. Almost 29 million pounds of cranberries and over 300,000 bales of sphagnum moss are now harvested each year from the area. Today Monroe County is home to approximately 43,350 residents.



Monroe County Communities

CASHTON

Cashton was first called Hazen's Corners. Established in the 1870s, the community was renamed in honor of a local railroad worker and landowner. By 1880 Cashton housed saloons, a hotel, grocery store, hardware store and blacksmith shop. Incorporated in 1892, the community continued to grow. Today Cashton is home to approximately 1,055 residents.

JEFFERSON

Once part of Portland, Jefferson was established in 1858. As land was cleared, the settlement grew and by 1860 a church, school and post office were constructed. By 1900 its population had reached 1,100 and the area continued to thrive. Today Jefferson is home to approximately 906 residents.

LA GRANGE

La Grange was originally part of Lincoln until 1873. Settlers were attracted to the ample resources and many established farms. The area was widely recognized as having some of the most fertile soil in all of Monroe County. As rail lines were built, farmers were able to easily transport goods to nearby markets. Today La Grange is home to approximately 1,918 residents.

LINCOLN

The area of Lincoln originally included La Grange and Grant and was settled in 1855. Organized in 1860, a sawmill was built the following year which also held classes and church services. The abundance of natural resources attracted many settlers and many farmed cranberries. As the railroad arrived, Lincoln continued to grow. Today Lincoln is home to approximately 959 residents.

LITTLE FALLS

Organized in 1856, Little Falls grew quickly as it was a central stopping place between Sparta and Black River Falls. Early settlers harvested timber and farmed the soil. By 1870 hotels were built and Little Falls became a trading center for agricultural products. Today Little Falls is home to approximately 1,427 residents.

SPARTA (COUNTY SEAT)

Sparta was first settled in 1849 by the Frank Petit family. As the community grew, hotels, grocery stores, hardware stores, furniture stores, mills and a newspaper were established, and Sparta quickly became a trading center. As rail lines were constructed, Sparta grew dramatically and its population reached 1,284 by 1858. Discovery of mineral waters attracted many tourists to the community, as the waters were said to hold healing powers. By 1900 a diverse economy with manufacturing centers, farms and variety of businesses was established. Sparta was selected as the county seat and has continued to thrive. It is widely recognized as the "Bicycling Capital of America." Today Sparta is home to approximately 8,823 residents.

TOMAH

Tomah was founded in 1855 and named in honor of Native American Chief, Thomas Carron. The community was platted by William Spear and Tomah was incorporated in 1883. As the railroad was constructed, Tomah continued to grow and a variety of businesses were established. It is the childhood home of cartoonist Frank King, whose "Gasoline Alley" comic strip became nationally recognized. Today Tomah is home to approximately 8,664 residents.

WILTON

Wilton was first settled in the 1840s by Easau Johnson. Due to poor road conditions, the community grew slowly. By 1860 a sawmill, general store and school were built and a post office was established. As the railroad arrived in 1872, Wilton began to grow and by 1900 housed a bank, church, newspaper, social hall, school, blacksmith shop and variety of businesses. Today Wilton is home to approximately 967 residents.



PARKS & RECREATIO

JACKSON COUNTY

BLACK RIVER STATE FOREST

W10325 Hwy. 12 | Black River Falls | 715-284-4103

Located on 67,000 acres, the Black River State Forest features primitive and equestrian campgrounds, swimming beaches, recreational trails and picnic areas.

EAST ARBUTUS COUNTY PARK

W7898 Duck Hill Rd. | Merrillan | 715-284-8475 Located near Lake Arbutus, East Arbutus County Park features a modern campground, handicapped accessible boat launch, swimming beach, recreational trails and picnic areas.

JACKSON COUNTY FOREST

W9790 Airport Rd. | Black River Falls | 715-284-8475

Located on 118,000 acres, the Jackson County Forest features primitive and modern campgrounds, public hunting areas, recreational trails, fishing ponds and picnic areas.

WAZEE LAKE RECREATION AREA

N6302 N Brockway Rd. | Black River Falls | 715-284-3171

Located on 1,300 acres of a former iron mining site, the Wazee Lake Recreation Area features a campground, handicapped accessible boat launch, swimming beach, recreational trails, picnic areas and is a popular area for scuba diving.

*Campground reservations can be made by calling (715) 284-8475.

MONROE COUNTY

KICKAPOO RIVER VALLEY

S3661 State Hwy. 131 | La Farge | 608-625-2960 Spanning 65 miles in La Farge, the Kickapoo River Valley features canoe launches, recreational trails and picnic areas, fishing streams and the Kickapoo Valley Reserve.

MCMULLEN MEMORIAL COUNTY PARK

1703 Atlantic Rd. | Warrens | 608-378-4913 Located near Lake Wazeda, McMullen Memorial County Park features primitive and modern campgrounds, a boat launch, playground equipment, volleyball court, horseshoe pit, recreational trails and picnic areas.

MILL BLUFF STATE PARK

15819 Funnel Rd. | Camp Douglas | 608-427-6692

Located on 1,337 acres near the Ice Age National Scientific Reserve, Mill Bluff State Park features a campground, swimming beach, recreational trails and picnic areas.

WILDCAT MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

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E13660 WI-33 | Ontario | 608-337-4775 Located on 3,603 acres, Wildcat Mountain State Park features primitive, modern and equestrian campgrounds, recreational trails

by calling (608) 269-8635.

ANDREW BLACKHAWK MEMORIAL POW-WOW GROUNDS

W8426 WI-54 | Black River Falls | (715) 284-9343

BEAR BOGGING ADVENTURE TOURS

100 Oasis Rd. | Black River Falls | (920) 253-5626 121 Cranfest Dr | Warrens | (920) 253-5626

CAIN'S ORCHARD

W13885 Cain Rd. | Hixton | (715) 963-2052

DEKE SLAYTON MEMORIAL SPACE & BIKE MUSEUM

200 Main St. W | Sparta | (608) 269-0033

FIELD OF HONOR VETERANS MEMORIAL

120 N. Water St. | Black River Falls | (715) 284-2503

FORT MCCOY HISTORICAL CENTER

900-906 Circle Dr. | Sparta | (608) 388-2407

GIANT CHEESE MOUSE

400 Oasis Rd. | Black River Falls

HIAWATHA GOLF CLUB

10229 Ellsworth Rd. | Tomah | (608) 372-5589

HO-CHUNK GAMING BLACK RIVER FALLS

W9010 Hwy. 54 East | Black River Falls | (715) 284-9098

HO-CHUNK NATION MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTER

1108 Superior Ave. | Tomah | (608) 374-4974

HOFFMAN AQUATIC CENTER

1400 Tyler St. | Black River Falls | (715) 284-4033

HUACAYA HILLS ALPACA FARM & STORE

W12766 County Rd. P | Black River Falls | (715) 284-0436

JACKSON COUNTY ATV TRAILS

Black River Falls | (715) 284-8475

JACKSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

321 Main St. | Black River Falls | (715) 284-5314

LITTLE FALLS RAILROAD & DOLL MUSEUM, LTD.

9208 CTH II | Sparta | (608) 272-3266

LUNDA COMMUNITY CENTER

405 WI-54 Trunk | Black River Falls | (715) 670-0790

MILLSTON AREA MUSEUM

W6665 Berry Street | Millston | (715) 299-2414

MONROE COUNTY HISTORY ROOM & MUSEUM

200 Main St. | Sparta | (608) 269-8680

PARKLAND VILLAGE CAMPGROUND

N6150 Julianna Rd. | Black River Falls | (715) 284-9700

RUSTIC ROAD #54

N Settlement Rd. | Millston | (608) 266-2161

SAMPSON ART GALLERY

106 Main E St. | Black River Falls | (715) 284-5223

SAND CREEK BREWING COMPANY

320 Pierce St. | Black River Falls | (715) 284-7553

SKYLINE GOLF COURSE & RESTAURANT

612 N 11th St. | Black River Falls | (715) 284-2613

SPARTA CINEMA 6

1010 Maple Ave. | Sparta | (608) 269-7469

SPARTA GARAGE GALLERY

10031 Impala Ave. | Sparta

THE BIG ORANGE MOOSE

600 Oasis Rd. | Black River Falls | (715) 284-9471

THE LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE MUSEUM

1318 Superior Ave. | Tomah | (608) 372-1880

THE PAUL & MATILDA WEGNER GROTTO

7788 Daylight Rd. | Sparta

THE RETRO RANCH

536 Chestnut St. | Black River Falls | (715) 600-1004

THREE BEARS RESORT WATER PARK

701 Yogi Circle | Warrens | (608) 378-2500

THUNDERBIRD VILLAGE FLEA MARKETS AND LODGING

N9596 Cty. Rd. K | Hatfield | (608) 989-2275

TOMAH AREA COMMUNITY THEATRE

907 Kilbourn Ave. | Tomah | (608) 374-7469

TOMAH AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

321 Superior Ave. | Tomah | (608) 372-1880

WAZEE SPORTS CENTER

W11099 Clark Rd. | Black River Falls | (715) 896-0726

WEBB'S RENTALS & SERVICE

W8210 County Rd. J | Merrillan | (608) 295-5032

WHITETAIL RIDGE SKI AREA

8061 W J St. | Sparta | (608) 388-4498

WI CRANBERRY DISCOVERY CENTER

204 Main St. | Warrens | (608) 378-4878

WILDES ART GALLERY/ANTIQUE MALL

1510 Eaton Ave. | Tomah | (608) 372-7853

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*Dates are subject to change please contact your local DNR office for specific hunting and trapping zone regulations. For general information on firearm safety training call: 1 (888) 936-7463.

DEER

Archery and Crossbow

Sept. 13 – Jan. 4, 2026

Archery and Crossbow *Metro Sub-units only*

Sept. 13 – Jan. 31, 2026

Gun hunt for hunters with disabilities: This is

not a statewide season. ~ 0 ct. 4 - 12

Youth deer hunt \sim 0ct. 11 – 12

Gun ~ Nov. 22 − 30

Muzzleloader \sim Dec. 1 - 10

December 4-day antierless hunt \sim

Dec. 11 – 14

Antlerless-only Holiday Hunt \sim

Dec. 24 – Jan. 1, 2026*

*Only in valid farmland units. Please see deer regulations booklet for valid units.



BEAR

Zones A, B, D: where dogs are permitted Sept. 3 – 9

with aid of dogs only

Sept. 10 - 30 with aid of dogs with aid of bait

with all other legal methods

Oct. 1 - 7 with aid of bait

with all other legal methods not using dogs

Zones C, E, F: where dogs are not permitted

Sept. 3 - 0ct. 7 with aid of bait

with all other legal methods not using dogs

SMALL MAMMALS

Cottontail rabbit

Northern zone ~ Sept. 13 – Feb. 28, 2026 Southern zone ~ Oct. 18 (9 a.m.) – Feb. 28, 2026 Milwaukee County ~ Year-round

Squirrels (gray and fox)

Statewide ∼ Sept. 13 − Feb. 28, 2026

GAME BIRDS

Crow

Statewide Nov. 22 – March 25, 2026

Pheasant

Statewide ~ Oct. 18 (9 a.m.) – Jan. 4, 2025

Bobwhite quail

Statewide ~ Oct. 18 (9 a.m.) – Dec. 10

Ruffed grouse

Zone A ~ Sept. 13 − Jan. 4, 2026

Zone B \sim Oct. 18 – Dec. 8

Sharp-tailed grouse ~ Season is under review.

Hungarian partridge

Statewide ~ Oct. 18 (9 a.m.) – Jan. 4, 2025 (Closed in Clark, Marathon and Taylor counties)

FURBEARERS

Coyote

 $Hunting \sim Year\text{-}round$

Trapping ~ 0ct. 18 − Feb. 15, 2026

Fox, red and gray

Hunting & Trapping \sim Oct. 18 – Feb. 15. 2026

Beaver

Trapping

Zone A (northwest) Nov. 1 – April 30, 2026 Zone B (northeast) Nov. 1 – April 30, 2026 Zone C (south) Nov. 1 – March 31, 2026 Zone D (Mississippi River) Dec. 8 – March 15,

2026

Muskrat & Mink

Trapping

Northern Zone Oct. 18 – April 15, 2026 Central Zone Oct. 25 – March 22, 2026 Southern Zone Nov. 1 – March 15, 2026 Mississippi River zone Nov. 10 – March 8, 2026

Bobcat

Trapping

North & South zones, Period 1, Oct. 18 — Dec. 25 North & South zones, Period 2, Dec. 26 — Jan. 31, 2026

Fisher

Trapping

North and South Zones Oct. 18 – Jan. 4, 2026

0tter

Trapping

North zone Nov. 1 — April 30, 2026 South zone Nov. 1 — March 31, 2026

Raccoon

Trapping

Resident Oct. 18 – Feb. 15, 2026 Nonresident Nov. 1 – Feb. 15, 2026

Opossum, skunk, weasel, snowshoe hare and woodchuck ~ No season limits, bag limits, size limits or possession limits, but a license is required.

WILD TURKEY

2025 Youth turkey hunt \sim April 12 - 13

Spring 2025

Period A April 16 – 22

Period B April 23 – 29

Period C April 30- May 6

Period D May 7–13

Period E May 14—20 Period F May 21 — 27

Fall 2025

Statewide Sept. 13 – Nov. 21

Zones 1 - 5 ~ Nov. 22 – Jan. 4, 2026



*For the latest season dates. Check the WI DNR website, https://dnr.wisconsin.gov or scan the QR code.



NR License Centers

You can purchase hunting and fishing licenses, cross-country ski passes and snowmobile trail stickers through the Electronic License System. Online: dnr.wi.gov, Toll Free: 1 (888) 936-7463 or visit one of the *ELS agents available throughout your County:*

BLACK RIVER FALLS

BLACK RIVER POWERSPORTS, INC.

W10120 Hwy. 54 | Black River Falls | (715) 284-2600

MOE HARDWARE & SPORTING LLC

33 Main St. | Black River Falls | (715) 284-4621

THEISENS OF BLACK RIVER FALLS

616 State Hwy. 54 | Black River Falls | (715) 284-1275

WALMART (#1277)

611 Hwy. 54 | Black River Falls | (715) 284-2434

CASHTON

HANSENS IGA INC

830 Front St. | Cashton | (608) 654-7682

TRIGGERS N TACKLE

30057 State Hwy. 27 | Cashton | (608) 487-6076

FAIRCHILD

PROVISION PARTNERS COOPERATIVE



HIXTON RUSTIC HAVEN BAR & GRILLE LLC

W15683 State Hwy. 121 | Hixton (608) 984-

MELROSE

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301 S Washington | Melrose | (608) 488-7017

SPARTA

THEISEN'S OF SPARTA

3000 S Black River St. | Sparta | (608) 269-2087

WALMART (#979)

1600 Wisconsin Ave. W | Sparta | (608) 269-7501

TAYLOR

TAYLOR CORNER STORE

W16211 State Rd. 95 | Taylor | (715) 662-3673

TOMAH

ACE HARDWARE

1110 N Superior Ave. | Tomah | (608) 372-4724

R & E SPORTING & AVON SHOP

29048 State Hwy. 21 | Tomah | (608) 372-5535

WALMART (#965)

222 W McCoy Blvd. | Tomah | (608) 372-7900

WARRENS

WARRENS MALL

201 Main St. | Warrens | (608) 378-4499

FIREWOOD

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



Gypsy Moth Caterpillar

Preventing the Spread

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

Invasive Pests are a Problem!

FISHING SEASONS

2024-2025 FISHING SEASON DATES

(Effective Date: April 1, 2024; Dates Inclusive)

Early Inland Trout (catch & release)

January 6 (5 a.m.) - May 3

General Inland Trout

May 4 (5 a.m.) - October 15

General Inland Fishing

May 4 - March 2, 2025

Largemouth Bass Northern Zone Harvest

May 4 - March 2, 2025

Smallmouth Bass Northern Zone Harvest

June 15 - March 2, 2025

Large And Smallmouth Bass Southern Zone Harvest

May 4 - March 2, 2025

Large And Smallmouth Bass Catch And Release

At all other times of the year.

Musky Northern Zone Harvest

May 25 - December 31

Musky Southern Zone Harvest

May 4 - December 31

Northern Pike

May 4 - March 2, 2025

Walleye

May 4 - March 2, 2025

Lake Sturgeon

February 10 - February 25 (spearing) September 7 to September 30 (hook-and-line)

Free Fishing Weekends

Jan. 18-19, 2025 June 1-2, 2024 Sept. 2 to Sept. 30 (hook-and-line)

*Contact the Wisconsin DNR for more information on specific fishing zones and dates:

1 (888) 936-7463 https://dnr.wisconsin.gov or scan the OR code.





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



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

YOUR Help is **NEEDED!**

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

CLEAN. DRAIN. DISPOSE.



- 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.



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.

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.

SPARTA,
WISCONSIN,
THE BICYCLE
CAPITAL OF
THE WORLD.



As the Bicycle Capital of the World, Sparta, Wisconsin is a haven for cyclists of all levels. With its picturesque countryside, rolling hills, and scenic landscapes, Sparta offers a vast network of bike trails that cater to every kind of rider. From leisurely rides along the scenic Elroy-Sparta State Trail to more challenging routes that test your endurance, Sparta's bike trails are a true paradise for pedal enthusiasts.

One of the crown jewels of Sparta's bike trail system is the 32-mile Elroy-Sparta State Trail, which takes you on a journey through the heart of Wisconsin's countryside. This trail is particularly popular among families and casual riders, with its gentle slopes and stunning views of the surrounding countryside. For more experienced riders, the La Crosse River State Trail offers a thrilling 22-mile ride that winds its way through scenic valleys and rolling hills.

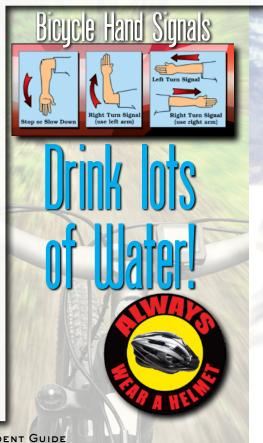
But Sparta's bike trails aren't just limited to these two routes. The city is also home to a number of smaller, more intimate trails that offer a unique and unforgettable riding experience. The Great River State Trail, for example, takes you on a 24-mile journey along the Mississippi River, offering breathtaking views of the river and its surrounding landscape. Meanwhile, the Perrot State Trail is a 12-mile route that winds its way through the scenic Perrot State Park, offering a challenging ride that's perfect for more experienced riders.

No matter what kind of ride you're looking for, Sparta's bike trails have something to offer. Whether you're a seasoned cyclist or just starting out, the city's scenic trails and picturesque landscapes are sure to leave you in awe. So why not grab your bike and experience the charm of Sparta, Wisconsin for yourself?

ATV SAFETY

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 traf-



Ynow Your ATV

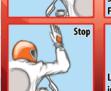
Read the owner's manual

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 SAFETY

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











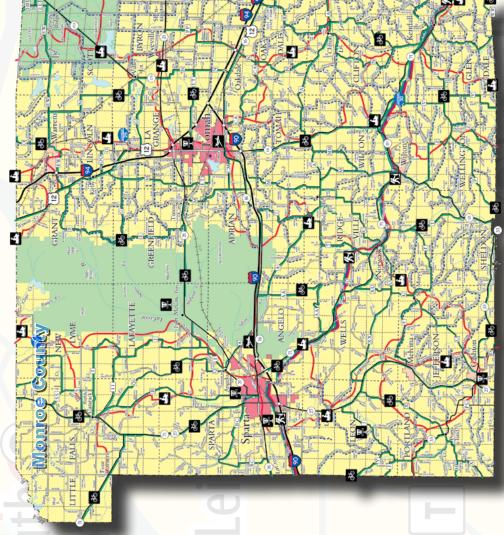
Please respect private property and no trespassing signs. Stay on

trails. Exercise extreme caution on all lakes and streams. Obey all

state and local laws and ordinances. Do not operate snowmobiles/ATV's on county roads or state highways.

fic of your changing direction.





nonresident can operate or UTV into Wisconsin from their home state, a When bringing an ATV which should be in pos-Nonresidents who keep NONRESIDENT ATV session of the operator. 5-day trail use receipt, their ATV or UTV on designated ATV/UTV waterways with either UTV trail pass affixed corridors and frozen a valid non-resident a nonresident ATV/ to the ATV/UTV or AND UTV TRAIL PASSES:

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Wisconsin.

their ATV or UTV in



INGREDIENTS

boneless, skinless chicken breasts

/2 cup honey

1/4 cup soy sauce

tablespoons olive oil

tablespoons apple cider vinegar

garlic cloves, minced

Salt and pepper to taste

Enjoy your delicious oney glazed chicken!

INSTRUCTIONS

- 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.



BARBECUE DO'S:

- use proper barbecue equipment and tools, such as a grill, tongs, and spatulas.
- preheat your grill before placing any food on it.
- marinate your meat before cooking to enhance the flavor.
- keep a close eye on your food while grilling to prevent overcooking or burning.
- use a meat thermometer to ensure that your meat is cooked to the correct internal temperature.
- let your meat rest for a few minutes before slicing or serving to allow the juices to redistribute.
- keep your grill and utensils clean to prevent any foodborne illness.

BARBECUE DON'TS:

- use lighter fluid to start your grill.
 Instead, use a chimney starter or electric starter.
- overcrowd your grill. Leave enough space between the pieces of meat to ensure even cooking.
- use a fork to flip your meat. Piercing the meat can cause it to lose its juices and become dry.
 - baste your meat with sugary sauces too early in the cooking process, as it can burn and create a bitter taste.
- leave cooked meat out in the sun for too long, as it can spoil quickly.
- assume that meat is fully cooked by its color. Always use a meat thermometer to check the internal temperature.
- leave your grill unattended while it's still hot. Always make sure to properly cool it down before leaving it.





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.

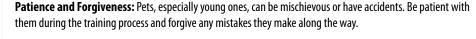
Provide a Safe Environment: Ensure that your home and yard are safe for your pet. Remove hazards, keep toxic substances out of reach, and provide appropriate shelter from extreme weather conditions.

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 mea-sure 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.



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 Davs:

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?

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TOMAH DOG PARK

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Cross country skiing is a great way to stay in shape throughout winter. It provides an excellent aerobic exercise while also strengthening your legs, arms and core muscles. During a classic cross country skiing adventure you can burn around 600 calories per hour while traveling at around 3mph. On top of the health benefits, it's fun to do and lets you get outside to enjoy the snowy months.

There are two main types of cross country skiing, classic and skate. Classic is more traditional and involves pushing off each ski parallel to one another. Skate skiing requires pushing off each ski in a V pattern like ice-skating.

If you are just learning, you may want to start off on some of the easier trails in your area. These trails tend to be maintained better and have smaller hills.

Before investing money into equipment, check your area for trails with a rental shop. That way you can give it a try to see if it is a winter activity you enjoy.



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HOW TO APPLY:

Create an account at https://wecan.waspa.org to view openings and apply online.

Si necesita Ud. ayuda en la traducción de este documento, por favor llama la especialista Si de ELL del distrito a 608-374-7014.

OPENINGS:

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Click on "Employment" under the "About" heading.



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