

Discover

Blue Earth County, Minnesota

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

FREE  
RESIDENT  
GUIDE



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Scan the QR Code to go to  
the **county page.**

Blue Earth County



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# LOCAL AREA EVENTS

## JANUARY

Hockey Day Minnesota | Mankato  
Mankato Craft Beer Expo  
Burns Night | Mapleton  
Anthony Ford Pond Hockey Tournament |  
North Mankato

## FEBRUARY

Ski & Board for Echo Food Shelf | Mankato  
Southern MN Wedding Expo | Mankato  
Spring Awakening | St. Peter

## MARCH

Mount Kato Spring Fling | Mankato  
St. Patrick's Day Parade | Mankato  
Frosty Foot 5K | Mankato

## APRIL

Spring Collection Dance Concert | Mankato  
Natural Healing & Psychic Expo | Mankato

## MAY

Senior Expo | Mankato  
Spring Collection Jazz Concert | Mankato  
Senior Expo | Mankato  
Classic Car Roll-In (May-Sept.) | Henderson

## JUNE

ArtSplash | Mankato  
Mapleton Town & Country Days  
Nicollet Friendship Days  
St. Clair Days  
Henderson Sauerkraut Days

## JULY

Tator Days | Eagle Lake  
Blue Earth County Fair | Garden City  
Compact Car race | Garden City  
Key City Kennel Club Dog Show | Mankato  
Festag | Minnesota Lake  
North Mankato Fun Days

## AUGUST

EAA 642 Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast | Mankato  
North Mankato Triathlon  
EGGstravaganza | Gaylord  
Nicollet County Fair | St. Peter  
Henderson Hummingbird Hurrah  
Pride 5k Fun Run | Mankato

## SEPTEMBER

Bethany Fall Festival | Mankato  
Day of the Dam | Mankato  
Mahkato Powwow | Mankato  
Minnesota Shorts Festival of Plays | Mankato  
U of M Open House | Mankato  
Car & Show Swap Meet | St. Peter  
FarmAmerica Pumpkin Party | Waseca  
Annual Bier on Belgrade | North Mankato

## OCTOBER

Trunk or Treat at the LCARC | Lake Crystal  
Halloween Austic 5K | Lake Crystal  
History Fest | Mankato  
Deep Valley Book Festival | Mankato  
Mankato River Ramble  
Pumpkin Land | Vernon Center

## NOVEMBER

Holiday Craft & Vendor Show | Mankato  
Mankato ChiliFest for Vets & Rett  
Pumpkin Pi Family Fun Run | Mankato

## DECEMBER

Light Up Lake Crystal  
A Betsy-Tacy Victorian Christmas | Mankato  
Christmas Concert | Mankato  
Gun & Knife Show | Mankato  
Snowflake Dazzle | Mapleton  
Goldsmith Reunion Fine Art Festival | Mankato  
Christmas at the Cox House | St. Peter  
Bells on Belgrade | North Mankato

*\*Events are subject to change*



## American Legion John Roth Post #294

600 County Rd 20  
Lake Crystal, MN 56055



507-726-6050 • 507-726-2505



Open 24  
Hours

1200 S Riverfront Dr.  
Mankato, MN 56001  
507-387-4163



# RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

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Assessor .....	304-4251
Attorney .....	304-4600
Auditor .....	526-6211
Central Services .....	526-6225
Court Administration .....	304-4650
<b>EMERGENCY</b> .....	<b>911</b>
Environmental Services .....	304-4251
Extension Service .....	304-4325
Fairgrounds .....	420-5689
Geographic Information Systems .....	304-4251
Highway Department .....	304-4025
Information Services .....	304-4319
License Center .....	304-4491
Parks Department .....	304-4025
Planning & Zoning .....	304-4381
Public Health .....	304-4319
Recorder .....	304-4251
Sheriff .....	304-4800
Social Services .....	304-4166
Solid Waste .....	304-4251
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# BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORY

# BLUE EARTH COUNTY COMMUNITIES



Once occupied by Dakota Indians, Blue Earth County was settled in the 1850s. The name Blue Earth translates from an Indian word, Mahkato, due to the blue-green clay found within the area. As the Treaty of Traverse des Sioux was signed in 1851, land was available for settlement and the county was officially organized in 1853. Early industry included agriculture and milling, utilizing the Minnesota River for power as well as transportation. As the railroad arrived in 1868, the population of Blue Earth County grew dramatically. Towns were established near rail stations and Mankato was voted as the county seat. Blue Earth County is home to approximately 69,000 residents.

## CITIES:

**AMBOY** – pop. 537  
**EAGLE LAKE** – pop. 3,278  
**GOOD THUNDER** – pop. 569  
**LAKE CRYSTAL** – pop. 2,598  
**MADISON LAKE** – pop. 1,247  
**MANKATO (COUNTY SEAT)** – pop. 44,488  
**MAPLETON** – pop. 1,658  
**MINNESOTA LAKE** – pop. 638  
**NORTH MANKATO** – pop. 14,275  
**PEMBERTON** – pop. 257  
**SKYLINE** – pop. 295  
**ST. CLAIR** – pop. 780  
**VERNON CENTER** – pop. 330

## TOWNSHIPS:

**BEAUFORD** – pop. 433  
**BUTTERNUT VALLEY** – pop. 379  
**CAMBRIA** – pop. 266  
**CERESCOE** – pop. 259

## TOWNSHIPS CONTD:

**DANVILLE** – pop. 262  
**DECORIA** – pop. 885  
**GARDEN CITY** – pop. 673  
**JAMESTOWN** – pop. 577  
**JUDSON** – pop. 576  
**LE RAY** – pop. 809  
**LIME** – pop. 1,395  
**LINCOLN** – pop. 233  
**LYRA** – pop. 374  
**MANKATO** – pop. 1,969  
**MAPLETON** – pop. 309  
**MCPHERSON** – pop. 461  
**MEDO** – pop. 375  
**PLEASANT MOUND** – pop. 237  
**RAPIDAN** – pop. 1,011  
**SHELBY** – pop. 294  
**SOUTH BEND** – pop. 1,412  
**STERLING** – pop. 278  
**VERNON CENTER** – pop. 303  
\*Populations are approximate

A graphic for Lincoln Marketing with a dark blue background and a grid pattern. The text "Advertising Made Simple" is in a large, glowing blue font. Below it, "call: 651-788-9323" is in white. The Lincoln Marketing logo is at the bottom, with the website "www.lincolnmarketing.us" and "SINCE 1984" below it.

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## AMBOY

Settlers arrived to the Amboy area in the mid 1800s. Founded in 1879, Amboy grew as a farming community. A schoolhouse was constructed in 1881 and general stores were built. As the railroad arrived, Amboy began to thrive and the community was incorporated in 1887. Amboy, meaning bowl or hollow, was named after a city in Illinois by Robert Richardson, Amboy's first postmaster. Today Amboy is home to approximately 537 residents.

## EAGLE LAKE

Platted by Freeman A. Cate in 1872, Eagle Lake was named after the many bald eagles found off the shores of the nearby lake. With the construction of rail lines, Eagle Lake became recognized as the county's lumber center. In 1902 Eagle Lake was officially incorporated and the community continued to grow. Today Eagle Lake is home to approximately 2,285 residents.

## LAKE CRYSTAL

Lake Crystal was settled in the mid 1800s and incorporated in 1870. Settlers were attracted to the fertile soil and nearby water. Once known as Loon Lake, Gen. Judson W. Bishop renamed the community after the clear and spectacular waters of the nearby lake. In 1995 residents of Lake Crystal celebrated a 125 year anniversary of the founding of the community. Today Lake Crystal is home to approximately 2,598 residents.

## MANKATO (COUNTY SEAT)

Named Mahkato by Dakota Sioux Indians, meaning greenish blue earth, until a spelling error made the city Mankato. The community was first settled in 1852 by Parsons K. Johnson and Henry Jackson after the signing of the Treaty of Traverse des Sioux. The community was voted as Blue Earth's county seat and the community grew quickly. As the railroad arrived in 1868, Mankato became a major transportation hub. Residents experienced great industrial growth between 1880 and 1890 and the city was officially incorporated in 1898. Today Mankato is home to approximately 36,245 residents.

## MAPLETON

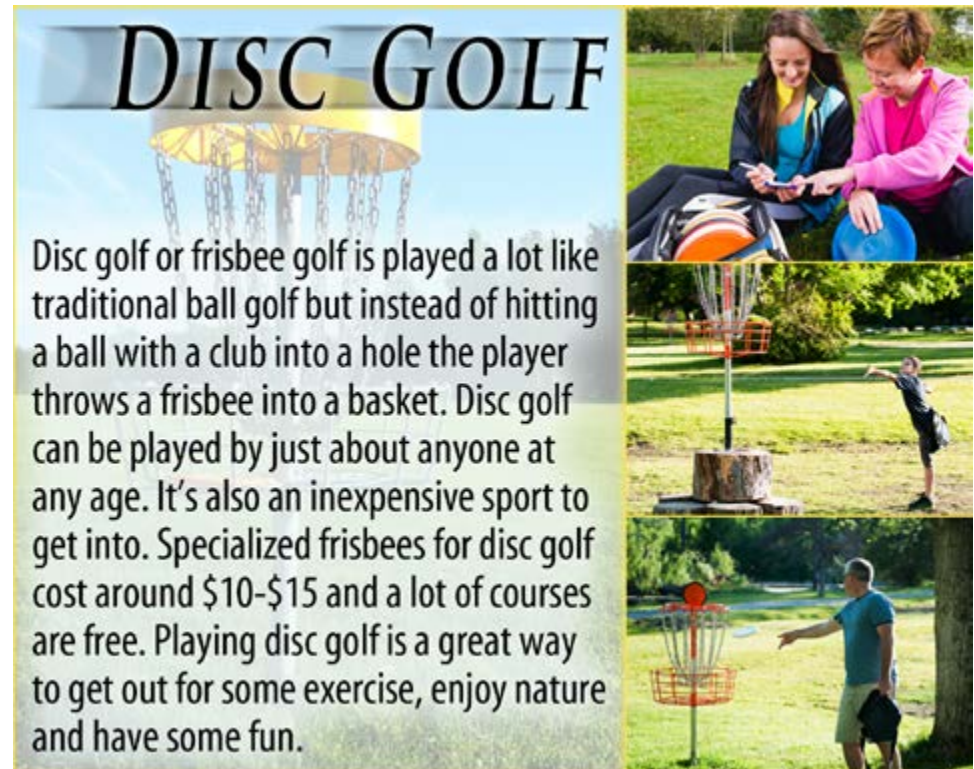
Upon the signing of the Treaty of Traverse des Sioux, land near Mapleton was opened for settlement. Attracted to the rich farmland, settlers arrived and the community was platted. General stores, post office and a school were built to accommodate the growing needs of the community. Mapleton is the site of the Lucas Troendle House, built in 1890, which can be visited today. Today Mapleton is home to approximately 1,658 residents.

## NORTH MANKATO

North Mankato is a city in Nicollet and Blue Earth counties. Originally inhabited by Dakota Indians, North Mankato was settled in the 1850s. Pioneers were attracted to the ample natural resources and fertile soil. In 1880 the first bridge was constructed across the Minnesota River, connecting Mankato to North Mankato. Both cities formed a partnership and the area began to thrive as industry flourished. North Mankato was incorporated in 1898 and has continued to grow. Today North Mankato is home to approximately 12,530 residents.

## VERNON CENTER

Founded by Col. Benjamin F. Smith and Benjamin McCracken, Vernon Center was platted in 1856. As the railroad arrived in 1879, businesses were established including grain elevators, lumberyard, general store, butcher shop, post office and blacksmith shops. Originally known as Edgewood, Vernon Center was incorporated in 1899. In 2006 residents of Vernon Center celebrated the community's 150 year anniversary. Today Vernon Center is home to approximately 330 residents.



## DISC GOLF

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

# Health Benefits of Physical Activity

## Major Research Findings

from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention



- Regular moderate-to-vigorous physical activity reduces the risk of many adverse health outcomes.
- Some physical activity is better than none.
- For most health outcomes, additional benefits occur as the amount of physical activity increases through higher intensity, greater frequency, and/or longer duration.
- Substantial health benefits for adults occur with 150 to 300 minutes a week of moderate-intensity physical activity. Additional benefits occur with more physical activity.
- Both aerobic and muscle-strengthening physical activity are beneficial.
- Health benefits occur for children and adolescents, young and middle-aged adults, older adults, and those in every studied racial and ethnic group.
- The health benefits of physical activity occur for people with chronic conditions or disabilities.
- The benefits of physical activity generally outweigh the risk of adverse outcomes or injury.

### Guidelines for Adults

- For substantial health benefits, you should do at least 2.5hrs a week of moderate-intensity, or 1.25hrs a week of vigorous-intensity aerobic activity, or a combination of the two activities. Aerobic activity should be performed in episodes of at least 10 minutes, and should be done throughout the week.
- For even better health benefits, adults should increase their aerobic physical activity to 5hrs a week of moderate-intensity, or 2.5hrs a week of vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity, or a combination of the two activities.

### Guidelines for Children and Adolescents

- Children and adolescents should do an hour or more of physical activity daily.
- Aerobic: Most of the hour or more a day should be either moderate- or vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity.
- Muscle-strengthening: As part of their hour or more of daily physical activity, children and adolescents should include muscle-strengthening physical activity on at least 3 days of the week.
- Bone-strengthening: As part of their hour or more of daily physical activity, children and adolescents should include bone-strengthening physical activity on at least 3 days of the week.
- It is important to encourage young people to participate in physical activities that are appropriate for their age, that are enjoyable, and that offer variety.

*Start slowly. Cardiac events, such as a heart attack, are rare during physical activity. But the risk does go up when you suddenly become much more active than usual. For example, you can put yourself at risk if you don't usually get much physical activity and then all of a sudden do vigorous-intensity aerobic activity, like shoveling snow. That's why it's important to start slowly and gradually increase your level of activity.*

## Intensity Examples

### Moderate Intensity

- Walking briskly (3 mph or faster, but not race-walking)
- Water aerobics
- Bicycling slower than 10mph
- Tennis (doubles)
- Ballroom dancing
- General gardening

### Vigorous Intensity

- Race walking, jogging, running
- Swimming laps
- Tennis (singles)
- Aerobic dancing
- Bicycling 10mph or faster
  - Jumping rope
  - Heavy gardening (continuous digging or hoeing)
- Hiking uphill or with a heavy backpack



# Fall Lawn Care



In the fall grass grows fast. This is because the sun's rays are less intense during the day and the cooler temperatures at night. This makes it a great time to get your lawn good and healthy for next summer.

Here are a few things you can do to prep your lawn for next year.

- Remove the leaves from your lawn to prevent matting and fungi growth. Or mulch them up into fine pieces, which also acts as a natural fertilizer.
- Don't stop mowing. If the grass is too long come winter time it will lay over on itself and be more vulnerable to fungi.
- Aerate the soil every other year to loosen it up so water, oxygen and nutrients can get to the roots easier.
- Reseed bald or thin areas of grass around the yard.
- Fertilizing in the fall is the best time. It gives the grass important nutrients to help it stay strong and healthy through the winter.



## Closing up the cabin

### Some Common Things To Check Inside The Cabin

- Make sure the water and electric are set up for winter
- Set the thermostat to the correct temperature for the area
- If you don't heat in the winter and live in a cold area, drain the pipes
- Turn off the hot water heater
- Winterize appliances that use water
- Clean the furnace filter
- Inspect the sump pump
- Unplug computers and major appliances (Leave the door cracked on the refrigerator if you unplug it)
- Seal your linens in a container
- Remove perishable food
- Close dampers and seal the fireplace

### Some Common Things To Check Outside The Cabin

- Look for air leaks around the cabin and seal with caulk or insulation
- Insulate pipes in crawl spaces with heat tape or heat cables
- Open cabinet doors so heat can get to the pipes under the sink
- Clean and store boats and equipment
- Winterize gas-powered equipment
- Remove leaves and debris around the cabin
- Store lawn furniture and decorations
- Mow
- Clean gutters and inspect roof
- Drain hoses and sprinklers
- Inspect your septic tank
- Take the dock in



## BRAY PARK

22214 Oriole Rd. | Madison Lake

Located on 102 acres near Madison Lake, Bray Park features a campground, picnic shelters, swimming beach with beach house, playground equipment, reservable interpretive center, fishing pier, boat launch and a nature trail.

## DALY PARK

11056 571st Ln. | Mapleton

Located on 75 acres near Lura Lake, Daly Park features a campground, picnic shelters, swimming beach with beach house, playground equipment, reservable interpretive center, fishing pier, boat launch, nature trail, tennis court, disc golf course, and canoe and paddleboat rentals.

## DUCK LAKE PARK

61861 232nd Ln. | Madison Lake

Located on 21 acres near Duck Lake, Duck Lake Park features picnic shelters, swimming beach with beach house, playground equipment, reservable interpretive center, boat launch, nature trail, volleyball courts, and canoe and paddleboat rentals.

## EAGLE LAKE PARK

59899 230th St. | Madison Lake

Located on 1 acre near Eagle Lake, Eagle Lake Park features a rest area, swimming beach and a boat launch.

## LAKE GEORGE PARK

23945 604th Ave. | Madison Lake

Located on 4 acres near Lake George, Lake George Park features picnic tables, swimming beach with beach house, playground equipment, fishing pier and a boat launch.

## LONE PINE PARK

21928 Oriole Rd. | Madison Lake

Located on 1 acre near Madison Lake, Lone Pine Park features picnic areas and a boat launch.

## MINNEOPA STATE PARK

54497 Gadwall Rd. | Mankato

Located on 2,689 acres, Minneopa State Park features a campground, picnic shelters, interpretive center, nature trails and a waterfall.

## RAPIDAN DAM PARK

54101-54199 Glory Ln. | Lake Crystal

Located on 35 acres near Madison Lake, Lone Pine Park features picnic areas and a boat launch.

## RED JACKET TRAIL PARK

19950 State Hwy. 66 | Mankato

Located on 4 acres, Red Jacket Park features picnic shelters, boat launch and nature trails.

## SCHIMEK PARK

15800-15898 557th Ln. | Good Thunder

Located on 30 acres near the Maple River, Schimek Park features picnic shelters and a nature trail.

## WATONWAN STOP

County Rd. 20 | Lake Crystal

Located on 7 acres near the Watonwan River, Watonwan Stop features picnic shelters and a boat launch.

## WILDWOOD PARK

60550 200th Ln. | Mankato

Located on 28 acres near the LeSueur River, Wildwood Park features a nature trail.

## WILLIAMS NATURE CENTER

54988 MN-68 | Mankato

Located on 65 acres, the Williams Nature Center features a reservable interpretive center and a nature trail.

\*For more information on Blue Earth County Parks, visit: [www.co.blue-earth.mn.us/dept/parks/](http://www.co.blue-earth.mn.us/dept/parks/)

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# AREA ATTRACTIONS

## **ARTS CENTER OF ST. PETER**

315 Minnesota Ave. S | St. Peter | (507) 931-3630

## **BETHANY LUTHERAN COLLEGE THEATRE**

700 Luther Dr. | Mankato | (507) 334-7365

## **BETSY-TACY HOUSE**

332 Center St. | Mankato | (507) 345-9777

## **BLUE EARTH COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE**

204 5th St. S | Mankato | (507) 304-4650

## **BLUE EARTH COUNTY HERITAGE CENTER**

424 Warren St. | Mankato | (507) 345-5566

## **CARNEGIE ART CENTER & LIBRARY**

120 Broad St. S | Mankato | (507) 625-2730

## **E. ST. JULIEN COX HOUSE**

500 Washington Ave. N | St. Peter | (507) 934-2160

## **GIANT MUSEUM**

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

## **GREEN GIANT STATUE**

1126 Green Giant Ln. | Blue Earth

## **GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS COLLEGE THEATRE**

800 College Circle W | St. Peter | (507) 933-7590

## **KATO ENTERTAINMENT CENTER**

200 Chestnut St. | Mankato | (507) 625-7553

## **LAKE CRYSTAL AREA RECREATION CENTER**

621 Nathan St. W | Lake Crystal | (507) 726-6730

## **LINNAEUS ARBORETUM**

800 College Ave. W | St. Peter | (507) 933-6181

## **MANKATO BALLET CO.**

1650 Tullamore St. Ste. 200 | Mankato |  
(507) 625-7716

## **MANKATO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

523 S 2nd St. | Mankato | (507) 625-8880

## **MAYO CLINIC HEALTH SYSTEM EVENT CENTER**

1 Civic Center Plaza | Mankato | (507) 389-3000

## **MERELY PLAYERS THEATRE**

110 Fulton St. | Mankato | (507) 338-5483

## **MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY**

### **THEATRE & DANCE**

320 Maywood Ave. | Mankato |  
(507) 389-2118

## **MOUNT KATO SPORTS FACILITY**

20461 Hwy. 66 | Mankato | (507) 625-3363

## **NICOLLET COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

1851 Minnesota Ave. N | St. Peter | (507) 934-2160

## **OSWALD BREWING COMPANY**

110 S Main St. | Blue Earth | (507) 526-3101

## **R.D. HUBBARD HOUSE**

606 Broad St. S | Mankato | (507) 345-4154

## **ST. PETER & PAUL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH**

105 5th St. N | Mankato | (507) 388-2995

## **SAV-MOR JEWELRY**

816 2nd St. N | Mankato | (507) 345-5508

## **SCHOOL SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME**

170 Good Counsel Dr. | Mankato | (507) 389-4200

## **SINCLAIR LEWIS' SUMMER HOME**

315 Broad St. S | Mankato | (507) 345-5566

## **RIVER HILLS MALL**

1850 Adams St. | Mankato | (507) 388-1100

## **TRAVERSE DE SIOUX HISTORIC SITE & PARK**

1851 N Minnesota Ave. | St. Peter | (507) 934-2160

## **TWIN RIVERS COUNCIL FOR THE ARTS**

424 N Riverfront Dr. | Mankato | (507) 387-1008

# The Best of Minnesota Outdoors

## *Hiking:*

*Superior Hiking Trail, Lake Superior  
Silver Creek Trail, Jay Cooke State Park  
North River Trail, Afton State Park  
Glacial Pothole Trail, Interstate State Park  
Sioux Hustler Trail, Superior National Forest*

## *Fishing:*

*Bass: Lake Vermilion, Tower  
Walleye: Leech Lake, Walker  
Muskellunge: Lake Oscar, Holmes City  
Northern Pike: Lake of the Woods, Warroad*

## *Golf Courses:*

*Interlachen, Edina • Spring Hill, Wayzata  
Hazeltine National, Chaska  
Giants Ridge Golf & Ski Resort, Biwabik  
The Wilderness at Fortune Bay, Tower*

## *Mountain Biking:*

*Cuyuna Lakes, Ironton • Lebanon Hills, Eagan  
Elm Creek Park, Champlin • Brewer Park, Duluth  
Spirit Mountain, Duluth • Piedmont, Duluth*

## *Skiing:*

*Lutsen Mountains, Lutsen • Afton Alps, Afton  
Elm Creek Winter Rec. Area, Maple Grove  
Powder Ridge Ski Area, Kimball  
Giants Ridge Golf & Ski Resort, Biwabik*

# 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.

## OPENERS

09/23/23 Take a Kid Hunting Weekend - Statewide  
09/23/23 Waterfowl - Statewide  
11/4/23 Deer - Firearms - Statewide

## HUNTING

**Bear**  
08/11/23 Bear baiting start date Permit areas & no-quota area  
09/1/23 - 10/15/23 Bear Permit areas & no-quota area

## Deer

09/16/23 - 12/31/23 - Archery Statewide  
10/19/23 - 10/22/23 - Early Antlerless  
10/19/23 - 10/22/23 - Youth Statewide  
11/4/23 - 11/19/23 - Firearm (Season A) 100 Series permit areas  
11/4/23 - 11/12/23 - Firearm (Season A) 200 & 300 Series permit areas  
11/18/23 - 11/26/23 - Firearm (Season B) 300 Series permit areas  
11/25/23 - 12/10/23 - Muzzleloader - Statewide

## Badger

10/14/23 - 03/15/24 North furbearer zone  
10/21/23 - 03/15/24 South furbearer zone

## Bobcat

12/16/23 - 01/21/24  
North of I-94 and U.S. Highway 10

## Fox, Gray & Red

10/14/23 - 03/15/24 North furbearer zone  
12/23/23 - 03/15/24 South furbearer zone

## Opossum

10/14/23 - 03/15/24 North furbearer zone  
10/21/23 - 03/15/24 South furbearer zone

## Rabbit

09/16/23 - 02/28/24 Rabbit, Jack - Statewide  
09/16/23 - 02/28/24 Rabbit, Cottontail & Snowshoe Hare - Statewide

## Raccoon

10/14/23 - 03/15/24 North furbearer zone  
10/21/23 - 03/15/24 South furbearer zone

## Squirrel, Gray & Fox

09/16/23 - 02/29/24 Statewide

## Grouse

09/17/22 - 11/30/22 Sharp-Tailed - Northwest zone  
09/17/22 - 01/1/23 Ruffed & Spruce - Statewide  
10/15/22 - 11/30/22 Sharp-Tailed (season closed) East-central zone

## Pheasant

10/14/23 - 01/1/24 Ring-Necked - Statewide

## Wild Turkey

02/10/23 WMA lottery deadline  
04/12/23 - 05/31/23 - Youth - Statewide  
04/12/23 - 05/31/23 - Archery - Statewide  
04/12/23 - 04/18/23 - A season - Statewide  
04/19/23 - 04/25/23 - B season - Statewide  
04/26/23 - 05/2/23 - C season - Statewide  
05/3/23 - 05/9/23 - D season - Statewide  
05/10/23 - 05/16/23 - E season - Statewide  
05/17/23 - 05/31/23 - F season - Statewide  
09/30/23 - 10/29/23 Fall - Statewide

## TRAPPING

### Badger

10/14/23 - 03/15/24 North furbearer zone  
10/21/23 - 03/15/24 South furbearer zone

### Bobcat

12/16/23 - 01/21/24 North of I-94 and U.S. Highway 10

### Fox

10/14/23 - 03/15/24 Gray & Red - North furbearer zone  
12/23/23 - 03/15/24 Gray & Red - South furbearer zone

### Opossum

10/14/23 - 03/15/24 North furbearer zone  
10/21/23 - 03/15/24 South furbearer zone

### Rabbit

09/16/23 - 02/28/24 Rabbit, Jack - Statewide  
09/16/23 - 02/28/24 Rabbit, Cottontail & Snowshoe Hare - Statewide

### Raccoon

10/14/23 - 03/15/24 North furbearer zone  
10/21/23 - 03/15/24 South furbearer zone

### Squirrel

09/16/23 - 02/29/24 Gray & Fox Statewide

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



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Or visit one of the ELS agents available throughout the area:

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# OUTDOOR Fun Facts

- 85% of plant life is found in the ocean
- Fire usually moves faster uphill than downhill
- Wildfires can reach speeds of 14 miles per hour
- For every human there are around 200 million insects
- The only continent with no active volcanoes is Australia
- You can only see a rainbow if you have your back to the sun
- The record high in the U.S. was in Death Valley, CA at 134F and the record low was in Prospect Creek, AK at -79F
- Oak trees produce acorns when they are around 20 years old
- Parks run by the National Park Service have around 3 million campers per year

# FIREWOOD

**Burn it where you get it!**

Emerald Ash Borer and Gypsy Moth are a couple of invasive pests that have killed millions of trees in United States. Where these pests come from, the population stays in control because, they have natural predators. In the United States we do not have these natural predators so the populations have the chance to grow to extreme numbers.



**Emerald Ash Borer**

**Gypsy Moth Caterpillar**

## Preventing the Spread

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

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

## OPENERS

- Stream trout opener - 04/15/23
- Walleye, sauger and northern pike opener - 05/13/23
- Muskellunge opener - 06/03/23

## INLAND WATERS

### General

Largemouth bass - 05/28/22 - 02/26/23  
Statewide excluding northeastern Minnesota

Smallmouth bass - 05/28/21 - 09/11/22  
Statewide excluding northeastern Minnesota

Lake sturgeon and shovelnose sturgeon - 06/16/22 - 04/14/23  
Statewide inland waters

Lake trout - 01/15/22 - 03/31/22  
Statewide inland waters

Lake trout - 05/14/22 - 09/30/22  
Statewide inland waters

Walleye, sauger and northern pike - 05/14/22 - 02/26/23  
Statewide inland waters

Muskellunge - 06/04/22 - 12/01/22  
Statewide inland waters

Lake sturgeon and shovelnose sturgeon - 06/16/22 - 04/14/23  
Statewide inland waters

## Northeast

Smallmouth and largemouth bass - northeastern Minnesota - 05/14/22 - 02/26/23  
Northeastern Minnesota

## LAKE SUPERIOR

Brook and brown trout - 4/16/22 - 9/30/22  
Lake Superior and tributaries above posted boundaries

Brook trout and splake - 04/16/22 - 09/05/22  
Lake Superior and tributaries

Rainbow trout catch-and-release only 4/16/22 - 9/30/22  
Lake Superior and tributaries above posted boundaries

Walleye and northern pike - 05/14/22 - 03/01/23  
Lake Superior and tributaries

Lake trout - 12/01/21 - 10/02/22  
Lake Superior and tributaries

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## Operating Watercraft

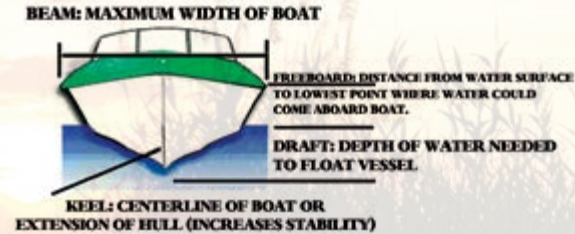
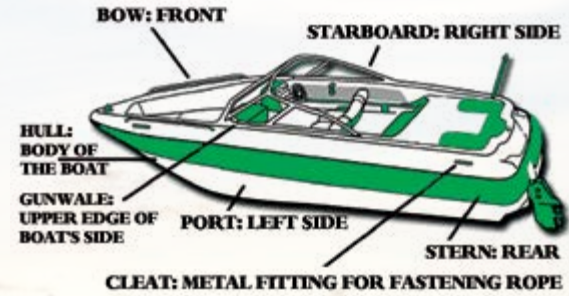
FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES TO HELP PREVENT AND PREPARE FOR CAPSIZING, SWAMPING, OR SOMEONE FALLING OVERBOARD.

- MAKE SURE THAT YOU AND YOUR PASSENGERS ARE WEARING LIFE-JACKETS WHILE THE BOAT IS MOVING.
- ATTACH THE IGNITION SAFETY LANYARD TO YOUR WRIST, CLOTHES, OR LIFE JACKET.
- DON'T ALLOW ANYONE TO SIT ON THE GUN WALE, BOW, SEAT BACKS, MOTOR COVER, OR AREAS NOT DESIGNED FOR SEATING. ALSO, DON'T LET ANYONE SIT ON PEDESTAL SEATS WHEN CRAFT IS NOT IN IDLE.
- DON'T OVERLOAD YOUR BOAT. BALANCE THE LOAD OF PASSENGERS AND GEAR STORED ON-BOARD.
- KEEP YOUR CENTER OF GRAVITY LOW BY NOT ALLOWING PEOPLE TO STAND UP OR MOVE AROUND WHILE CRAFT IS IN MOTION.
- IN SMALL BOATS, DON'T ALLOW ANYONE TO LEAN BEYOND THE GUNWALE.
- TURN BOAT AT SLOW RATES OF SPEED.
- SECURE THE ANCHOR LINE TO THE BOW, NEVER TO THE STERN.
- DON'T RISK OPERATING WATER CRAFT IN ROUGH CONDITIONS OR BAD WEATHER.

## Who May Operate a Motorboat

(OTHER THAN A PERSONAL WATERCRAFT)

- **FOR ENGINES 25 HORSEPOWER OR LESS:**
  - THOSE UNDER AGE 12 MAY OPERATE WITHOUT RESTRICTIONS.
- **FOR ENGINES OVER 25 HORSEPOWER THROUGH 75 HORSEPOWER:**
  - THOSE UNDER AGE 12 MUST HAVE SOMEONE 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER ON BOARD WITHIN REACH OF THE CONTROLS.
- **FOR ENGINES OVER 75 HORSEPOWER:**
  - NO CHILDREN UNDER AGE 12 MAY OPERATE, EVEN WITH AN ADULT ON BOARD.
  - OTHER RESTRICTIONS APPLY TO BOAT OPERATORS 12 TO 17 YEARS OLD:
    - OPERATORS FROM 12 TO 17 YEARS OF AGE MAY OPERATE ENGINES OF 25 HORSEPOWER OR LOWER WITH NO RESTRICTIONS.
- **FOR ENGINES OVER 25 HORSEPOWER:**
  - OPERATORS 12 TO 17 YEARS OF AGE MUST HAVE: A WATERCRAFT OPERATOR'S PERMIT, OR SOMEONE AGE 21 YEARS OR OLDER OLD ON BOARD WITHIN REACH OF THE CONTROLS.



## All Watercraft Must Have...

- AT LEAST ONE COAST GUARD APPROVED TYPE 1, 2, 3 OR 5 FLOTATION DEVICE THAT IS THE PROPER SIZE FOR EACH PERSON ON BOARD OR BEING TOWED.
- ALL DEVICES MUST BE IN GOOD CONDITION AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE.
- CHILDREN UNDER AGE 10 MUST WEAR A DEVICE WHEN ON BOARD A BOAT THAT IS UNDERWAY UNLESS:
  - IN AN ENCLOSED CABIN OR BELOW DECK OR ON AN ANCHORED BOAT THAT IS BEING USED FOR SWIMMING OR DIVING OR PASSENGER CRAFT WITH A LICENSED CAPTAIN.
- ALONG WITH THE ABOVE AT LEAST ONE APPROVED TYPE 4 MUST BE ON BOARD BOATS 16 FT. OR LONGER (EXCEPT CANOES AND KAYAKS) AND IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE.
- A COAST GUARD APPROVED TYPE 5 DEVICE MAY BE SUBSTITUTED FOR ANY OTHER COAST GUARD APPROVED DEVICE IF IT MEETS THE SAME REQUIREMENTS AND IS NOTED ON THE LABEL.
- ANYONE RIDING A JET SKI OR OTHER PERSONAL WATER CRAFT MUST WEAR AN APPROVED -NON INFLATING FLOTATION DEVICE, AS WELL AS ANYONE BEING TOWED BY A WATER CRAFT.

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## Honey Glazed Chicken

With Green Beans & Coconut Rice



Simple meal with a Gourmet Feel

**1 PREP** In a medium pot, bring the **coconut milk**, 1 cup water, and a pinch of salt to a boil. Now trim the stemmed ends of the **green beans**, mince the **garlic**, Peel and mince 2 teaspoons **ginger**. Once the liquid is boiling, add the rice to the pot. Cover and reduce to a low simmer for 15-20 minutes, until tender.

**2 COOKING THE CHICKEN** Cut the **chicken** into thin strips, and season on all sides with salt and pepper (to taste). Pour a large drizzle of oil in a large pan over medium-high heat. Once hot, add the **chicken** strips and cook 3-4 minutes until golden brown.

**3 COOK THE BEANS** Pour another drizzle of oil in the same pan over medium heat and add the **green beans**. Cook for 5-6 minutes, occasionally tossing until tender and you can season with salt and pepper (to taste).

**4 MAKING THE GLAZE** Now combine the **soy sauce**, **ginger**, **garlic**, 2 Tablespoons **honey**, and 2 tablespoons of water in a small bowl.

### Ingredients

• Chicken Breast	24 oz
• Garlic	4 Cloves
• Basmati Rice	1 1/2 Cups
• Green Beans	12 oz
• Ginger	1 Thumb
• Coconut Milk	1 Can
• Honey	2 TSP
• Soy Sauce	2 TSP
• Oil	4 TSP

**5 TOSS IT UP** Return the **chicken** to the pan and pour in the glaze. Increase heat to medium-high. Toss 1-2 minutes, until the **glaze** thickens.

**6 PLATE & SERVE** Serve the **glazed chicken** and **green beans** on a bed of **coconut rice**.  
Time To Eat!

Bon Appétit!

PREP: 10 MIN TOTAL: 30 MIN



# 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

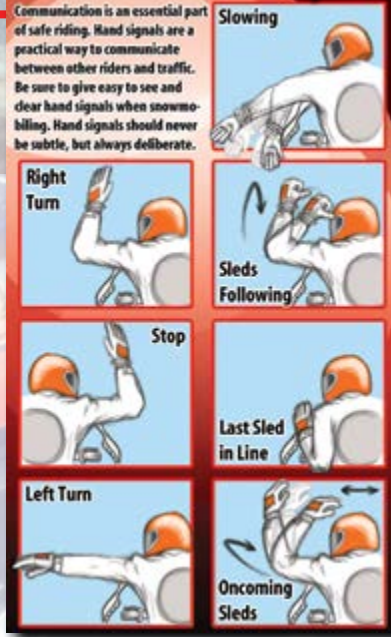
**Read the owner's manual** and know your vehicle thoroughly.

- 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 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.

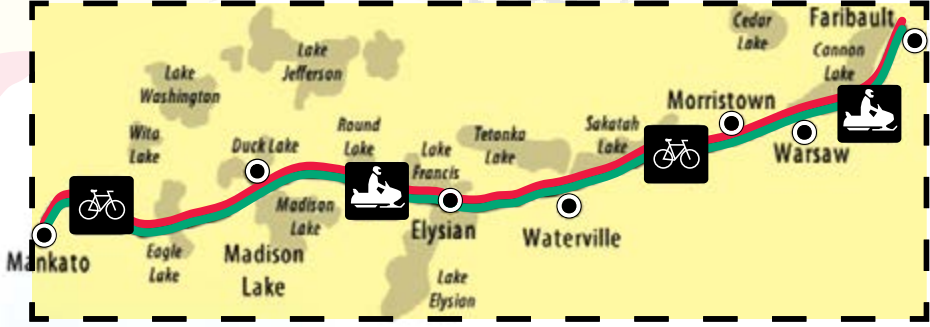
### Snowmobile Hand Signals



**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.

# Sakatah Singing Hills State Trail



# Area Snowmobile Trails



**Hiking Safety Tips**

Before heading out on a hike, make sure you are prepared. Determine the length of the hike you're going on and the type of terrain you are going to traverse. Make sure to wear suitable footwear depending on the weather and terrain. Pack an appropriate size backpack and proper gear for your hike. Let a friend or family member know when and where you are going and how long you plan on being gone.

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MONARCH HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT

## Summer Energy Saving Techniques

Conduct an energy assessment to find out where you can save the most. This will allow you to see where the biggest problem areas are.

### Windows

- Close curtains during the day to block sunlight and open them at night.
- Plant trees, shrubs, or vines to help shade your home.
- Apply solar window film to windows.

### Adjust Your Thermostat

- When you're home and awake, set your thermostat at the highest comfortable temperature.
- When you're out of the house, turn your thermostat up. You can save 1-3 percent per degree, for each degree the thermostat is set above 72 degrees, depending on the outside temperature.
- You can set a programmable thermostat to keep the temperature where you want day and night.

### Maintain Your Cooling Systems

- Schedule service for your cooling system.
- Do regular maintenance to keep your cooling system operating efficiently.

### Fans and Vents

- Keep inside air vents clear from furniture and other objects.
- Run energy efficient ceiling and whole-house fans to circulate the air.
- Use the bathroom vent to remove the heat and humidity after showering.

### Appliances and Electronics

- Try not to use the oven on hot days. Cook on the stove top, microwave, or grill outside.
- Keep your fridge and freezer full. The refrigerator will run less often.
- Air dry dishes in the dish washer.
- Wash laundry with cold water and air dry.
- Unplug electronics when not in use.

### Lighting

- Use light emitting diodes "LED's". They use less energy and have a longer life span, plus they produce less heat than incandescent and CFL bulbs.

## Winter Energy Saving Techniques

### Windows

- Open curtains during the day to allow sunlight in and close them at night.
- Tape a clear plastic sheet or film to the window frames.
- Install insulating drapes or shades on windows.

### Adjust Your Thermostat

- When you are home and awake, set your thermostat at the lowest comfortable temperature.
- When you are asleep or out of the house, turn your thermostat down about 12 degrees for eight hours and save around 10% a year on your heating bills.
- You can set programmable thermostats to keep the temperature where you want day and night.

### Air Leaks and Insulation

- Seal the air leaks on the inside and outside walls of your home. These can be holes for pipes and wires, gaps around chimneys, or unfinished spaces behind cupboards and closets.
- Add caulk or weatherstripping to seal air leaks around leaky doors and windows.
- Check your attics insulation. Depending on what climate you live in there are different insulating products and thickness that work best for your area.

### Maintain Your Heating Systems

- Schedule service for your heating system.
- Do regular maintenance to keep your heating system operating efficiently.
- Furnace - Replace your furnace filter once a month or as needed.
- Fireplace - Clean the flue vent regularly and the inside of the appliance with a wire brush periodically to ensure that your home is heated efficiently.

### Lower Your Water Heating Costs

- On average 18% of the energy consumed in your home is from the water heater. Turn down the temperature of your water heater to a setting around (120°F). This will save energy and can help prevent burns.

### Lighting

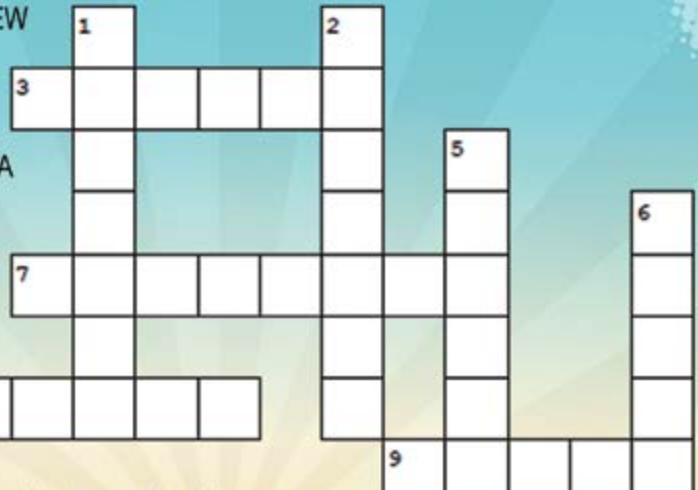
- Use light emitting diodes "LED's". They use less energy and have a longer life span.

# Crossword Puzzle

## Blue Earth County MN (READ GUIDE FOR CLUES)

### ACROSS

- TRIBE NATIVE TO AREA
- CITY THAT THE LUCAS TROENDLE HOUSE IS LOCATED
- ONE OF THE FEW RIVERS IN AREA IMPORTANT TO AREA GROWTH
- NAMED AFTER A CITY IN ILLINOIS



### DOWN

- SETTLED BY PARSONS K. JOHNSON IN 1852
- "\_\_\_\_\_ SINGING HILLS" STATE TRAIL MAPPED WITHIN THIS GUIDE
- PARK LOCATED IN GOOD THUNDER MN NEAR THE MAPLE RIVER
- FIRST NAME OF BOTH MEN THAT FOUNDED VERNON CENTER
- WHICH "SYSTEM" IS IMPORTANT TO USE WHEN RIDING ON A SNOWMOBILE

# Word Search

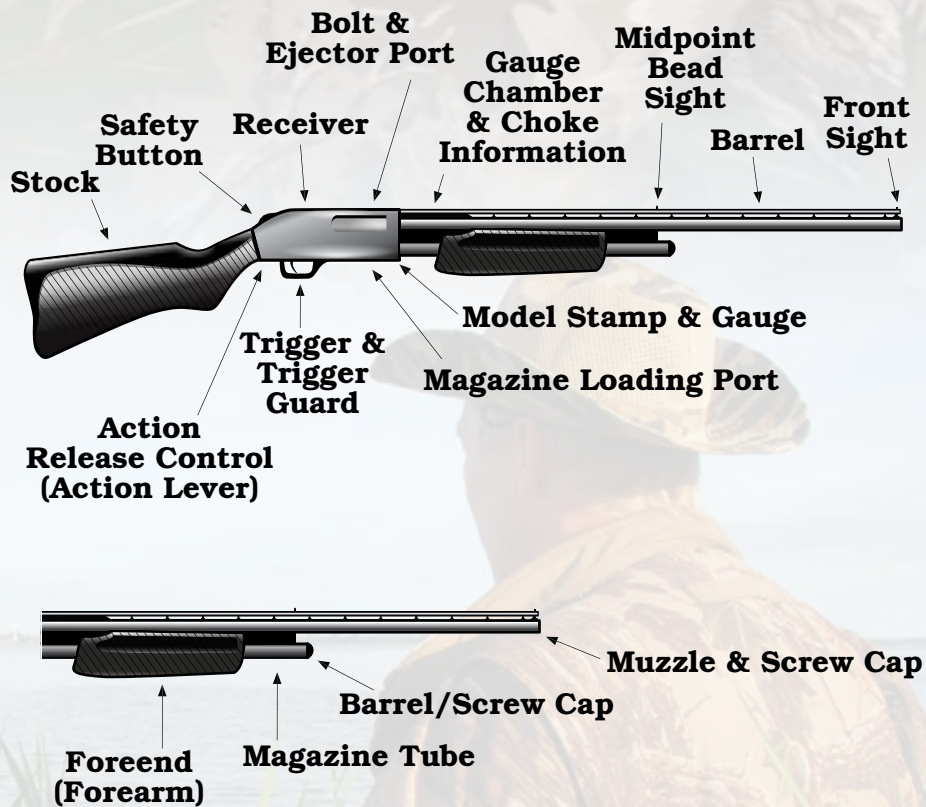
## Blue Earth County MN

M	O	P	E	I	N	A	D	I	P	A	R	D	S
A	I	N	D	A	N	V	I	L	L	E	L	Y	T
N	S	O	B	L	A	O	A	B	N	M	R	O	E
K	C	T	D	R	I	I	S	I	S	T	R	B	R
A	M	E	Y	E	R	W	L	D	O	I	P	M	L
T	E	L	R	B	C	Y	N	S	U	E	R	A	I
O	D	P	M	E	K	O	H	N	M	J	S	V	N
E	O	A	C	S	S	E	R	B	E	M	I	L	G
N	C	M	S	D	L	C	E	I	Y	F	R	O	I
P	L	B	M	B	D	R	O	I	A	I	O	B	A
E	S	N	Y	S	T	R	T	E	W	D	D	A	E
E	L	S	L	O	O	B	E	A	U	F	O	R	D
P	I	C	N	I	N	W	O	T	S	E	M	A	J
L	I	N	C	O	L	N	V	E	M	T	I	S	E

- Shelby
- Judson
- Mankato
- Amboy
- Cambria
- Jamestown
- Sterling
- Lime
- Decoria
- Pemberton
- Lincoln
- Cerescoe
- Mapleton
- Skyline
- Danville
- Rapidan
- Beauford
- Lyra
- Medo

Play this puzzle online at: <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/4199852/>

© thewordsearch.com



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

**Here are 5 Suggestions for a safe and successful hunting experience:**

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

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# LOCALLY



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