

# Free

# Area Guide



## Olmsted County, Minnesota

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



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# TABLE OF CONTENTS



|       |                        |
|-------|------------------------|
| 2-3   | Local Area Events      |
| 4     | Residential Services   |
| 6     | County History         |
| 7-9   | County Communities     |
| 14-15 | Parks & Recreation     |
| 16-17 | Local Area Attractions |
| 20    | DNR License Centers    |
| 22-23 | Hunting Seasons        |
| 24    | Fishing Seasons        |
| 30-31 | Local Trails           |

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Olmsted County



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# LOCAL AREA EVENTS

## JANUARY

Chillfest | Chatfield  
Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration  
| Rochester  
Rochester City & Mayo Historical Trolley Tour  
(Recurring monthly) | Rochester  
Historic Mayowood Mansion Tour (Recurring  
April-Oct, Weekends) | Rochester

## FEBRUARY

SocialICE | Rochester  
Polar Plunge | Rochester  
Stewartville Winterfest  
Cabin Fever Craft & Vendor Show |  
Stewartville  
Economic Summit | Rochester  
JamFest | Rochester

## MARCH

Annual Bowling Tournament for Justin Kime  
| Stewartville  
International Women's Day Celebration |  
Stewartville

## APRIL

City Wide Garage Sales | Pine Island  
Stewartville Job Fair  
Trout Classic | Chatfield  
Annual Byron Community Foundation Event  
Eggnormas Easter Event | Rochester

## MAY

City Wide Garage Sales | Eyota & Stewartville  
Evergreen Cemetery Breakfast Fundraiser  
| Dover  
Olmsted County Gold Rush | Rochester  
Mothers Day Bake & Craft Sale | Rochester  
Pine Island Cheese Festival (May-June)  
Rochester Craft Beer Week  
GrillFest | Rochester

## JUNE

Rochesterfest | Rochester  
Summerfest (June-July) | Stewartville  
Chamber Golf Outing | Rochester  
Art 4 Trails | Rochester  
Lemonade Day | Rochester

## JULY

Eyota Days | Eyota  
Good Neighbor Days | Byron  
4th of July Celebration | Oronoco  
Independence Day Celebration & Fireworks |  
Rochester  
Olmsted County Fair | Rochester  
Down by the Riverside (July-Aug) | Rochester  
Pine Island Ribbon Run/Walk

## AUGUST

Oronoco Goldrush Days | Oronoco  
Days of Yesteryear | Rochester  
Rochester Greek Fest | Rochester  
Western Days | Chatfield  
Art 4 Trails | Rochester  
Summerblast | Eyota

## SEPTEMBER

Labor Day Celebration & Parade | Rochester  
Quarry Hill Fall Festival | Rochester  
Harvest Moon Fall Festival & Dance  
| Rochester  
Craft & Gift Show | Rochester

## OCTOBER

Fire Department Breakfast | Stewartville  
Pumpkins & Corn Maze | Rochester  
Fright Night at the Farm | Rochester  
Trunk or Treat | Rochester  
Brains Together for a Cure | Rochester  
Creatures of the Night | Rochester  
Stewartville Home Show (Oct-Nov)  
Arts & Heritage Day | Chatfield  
Art 4 Trails | Rochester

## NOVEMBER

Mansion Christmas Tour (Nov-Dec) |  
Rochester  
Festival of Trees | Rochester  
Winona Art Walk & Tour | Rochester  
Craft Sale, Expo, and Bake Sale | Rochester

## DECEMBER

Jolly Trolley Holiday Lights Tour | Rochester  
Art at Hidden River | Rochester  
Holly Dayz of Christmas | Stewartville  
Winter Business Showcase | Rochester

*\*Events are subject to change.*



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





# RESIDENTIAL SERVICES

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| Administration.....                                | (507)328-6001 |
| Child Support .....                                | 328-6550      |
| Community Corrections .....                        | 328-7200      |
| Community Services.....                            | 328-6400      |
| County Attorney.....                               | 328-6000      |
| Emergency Management.....                          | 328-6100      |
| Environmental Resource Services/ Public Works..... | 328-7070      |
| Extension.....                                     | (800)854-1678 |
| Family Support & Assistance.....                   | 328-6000      |
| Garbage & Recycling .....                          | 328-7070      |
| Human Resources.....                               | 328-7700      |
| Property Tax Records .....                         | 328-7636      |
| Public Health Services .....                       | 328-6000      |
| Recording/Abstracting.....                         | 328-7636      |
| Sheriff.....                                       | 328-6745      |
| Emergency.....                                     | 328-6800      |
| Veterans Services .....                            | 328-6358      |
| Vital Records .....                                | 328-7630      |

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

## CITIES:

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

## TOWNSHIPS:

**CASCADE** – pop. 2,944  
**DOVER** – pop. 724  
**ELMIRA** – pop. 400

**FARMINGTON** – pop. 512  
**HAVERHILL** – pop. 1,088  
**HIGH FOREST** – pop. 4,550  
**KALMAR** – pop. 1,194  
**MARION** – pop. 6,165  
**NEW HAVEN** – pop. 1,313  
**ORION** – pop. 643  
**ORONOCO** – pop. 2,444  
**PLEASANT GROVE** – pop. 833  
**QUINCY** – pop. 600  
**ROCHESTER** – pop. 2,351  
**ROCK DELL** – pop. 686  
**SALEM** – pop. 1,130  
**VIOLE** – pop. 794

*\*Populations are approximate.*

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## BYRON

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

## CHATFIELD

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

## DOVER

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

## EYOTA

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

## ORONOCO

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

## PINE ISLAND

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

## ROCHESTER (COUNTY SEAT)

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

## STEWARTVILLE

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



# Mosquitoes

## Prevention & Health Risks



### A MOSQUITO FREE YARD

Create an environment in your yard that invites animals that like to eat mosquitoes. Some things that enjoy eating mosquitoes are:

- Bats • Frogs • Fish • Turtles • Birds • Dragonflies

To help repel mosquitoes, plant some of the different vegetation listed:

- Citronella • Geranium • Eucalyptus • Rosemary • Basil • Anise • Mint • Marigolds • Catnip • Wormwood • Tansy • Lavender • Cedar • Cloves

Don't have stagnant water sitting around in things like buckets or tires.

### BE SAFE WHILE OUTDOORS

When a mosquito bites you it can leave saliva in your body. If the mosquito is infected it can transfer diseases to you. A few of the more common diseases transmitted to people are:

- Dengue • Encephalitis • Malaria • Yellow Fever.

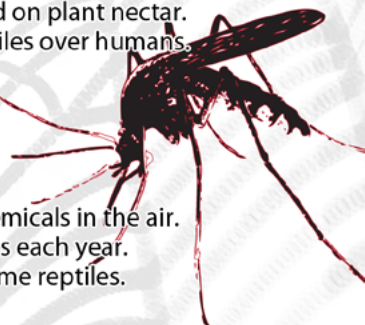
Mosquitoes can also transmit diseases to animals. A couple of these diseases are:

- Heartworm (mostly to dogs & cats) • Encephalitis.

To reduce your chance of getting a disease from mosquitoes you can, apply mosquito repellent to your skin and clothing.

### RANDOM MOSQUITO FACTS

- More than 3,000 different mosquito species can be found around the world.
- There are around 50 different mosquito species in the Upper Midwest.
- Female mosquitoes feed on blood. Male mosquitoes feed on plant nectar.
- Some mosquito species prefer to feed on animals or reptiles over humans.
- All mosquitoes need water to complete their life cycle.
- One female mosquito can lay over 200 eggs at one time.
- Mosquito larvae only need a week in water to hatch.
- Mosquito eggs can survive for more than five years.
- Mosquitoes can fly around 1 to 2 mph.
- Mosquitoes find food by sight, infrared radiation and chemicals in the air.
- Around 1,000 Americans get ill or die from mosquito bites each year.
- Mosquitoes are a huge food source for birds, bats and some reptiles.



# TICKS

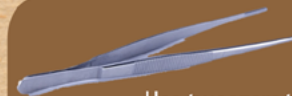
## Diseases & Prevention

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.



Blacklegged Tick Coverage

American Dog Tick Coverage

Lone Star Tick Coverage

Blacklegged (Deer) Tick  
Lyme disease  
Anaplasmosis  
Babesiosis  
Ehrlichiosis  
Powassan virus disease

American Dog (Wood) Tick  
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever  
Tularemia

Lone Star Tick  
Ehrlichiosis  
Tularemia  
Heartland virus disease  
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!





# FIREWOOD

**Burn it where you get it!**



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



**Emerald Ash Borer**

**Gypsy Moth Caterpillar**

## Preventing the Spread

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

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

## OLMSTED COUNTY FREE FAIR

The Minnesota State Fair is one of the biggest in the country. It's full of attractions like roller coasters, delicious foods such as crocodile on a stick and chocolate covered bacon. However, not everybody lives close enough to the state fair. The residents of Olmsted County, MN live nearly 2 hours away from it. They too still want to enjoy the end of summer, but can't be bothered to travel far away from home. So, the residents decided to just make their own County Fair in August. They called it the Olmsted County Free Fair.

Olmsted County Free Fair was created to honor Dr. Christopher Graham's legacy and to fulfill the expectations of Dr. and Mrs. Graham for their generous gift of the fairgrounds back in 1919. The fair promotes agriculture, arts, workshops, science, and education. They also care very much about the environment when setting up the fair. Many residents of Olmsted County are farmers, so they depend on their natural surroundings.

One of the things that makes Olmsted County Free Fair stand out compared to the rest is the livestock show. At the fair, many livestock animals are gathered and put on display. Visitors can feed the animals and learn about them from the supervisors nearby. The animals on display include cows, horses, chickens, sheep, rabbits, goats, and many more. Some shops sell dairy products taken directly from the animals. It is not often you get to drink milk that came directly out of a cow with no processing and preservatives.

Olmsted County Free Fair also has things that are less common at other fairs. There is a sewing contest, arts and crafts exhibition, baking and food preservation quick class, amateur wine show, photography, and if you're feeling brave, you can even attend the county's talent show to show off your skills.





## CARLEY STATE PARK

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

## CHESTER WOODS PARK

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

## DOUGLAS TRAIL

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

## GRAHAM PARK

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

## GREAT RIVER BLUFFS STATE PARK

43605 Kipp Dr. | Winona | (507) 312-2650  
Located in Winona, Great River Bluff State  
Park features recreational trails, a picnic area  
and plots for camping.

**NERSTRAND-BIG WOODS STATE PARK**

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

## LAKE ZUMBRO PARK

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

**OXBOW COUNTY PARK & ZOLLMAN ZOO**

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

## RICE LAKE STATE PARK

8485 Rose St. | Owatonna | (507) 414-6191  
Located 7 miles East of Owatonna, Rice Lake  
St. Park features excellent wildlife watching  
opportunities.

## ROOT RIVER PARK

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

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## **HISTORY CENTER OF OLMSTED COUNTY**

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(507) 282-9447

## **HONORS CHOIR OF SOUTHEAST MINNESOTA**

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(507) 252-0505

## **KINNEY CREEK BREWERY**

1016 7th St. NW | Rochester | (507) 282-2739

## **LTS BREWING COMPANY**

2001 32nd Ave. NW | Rochester |  
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## **MANKATO CIVIC CENTER**

30 Civic Center Dr. SE | Rochester |  
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## **MAPLE VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY**

8600 SE Maple Valley Rd. | Rochester |  
(507) 285-9100

## **MARCUS ROCHESTER CINEMA**

4340 SE Maine Ave. | Rochester |  
(507) 529-1753

## **MAYOWOOD MANSION**

3720 SW Mayowood Rd. | Rochester |  
(507) 282-9447

## **NORTHERN HILLS GOLF COURSE**

4721 W Circle Dr. NW | Rochester |  
(507) 281-6170

## **OAK SUMMIT GOLF COURSE**

2751 Cty. Rd. 16 | Rochester | (507) 252-1808

## **OLDE PINE THEATRE**

113 SW 2nd St. | Pine Island | (507) 491-2639

## **PLUMMER HOUSE**

1091 SW Plummer Ln. | Rochester |  
(507) 328-2525

## **QUARRY HILL NATURE CENTER**

701 Silver Creek Rd. NE | Rochester |  
(507) 328-3950

## **ROCHESTER ART CENTER**

20 SE Civic Center Dr. Ste. 120 | Rochester |  
(507) 722-2552

## **ROCHESTER CIVIC THEATRE**

30 Civic Center Dr. SE Ste. 120 | Rochester |  
(507) 282-8481

## **ROCHESTER GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB**

3100 SW Country Club Rd. | Rochester |  
(507) 282-2708

## **ROCHESTER RECREATION CENTER**

21 NW Elton Hills Dr. | Rochester |  
(507) 328-2500

## **ROCHESTER REPERTORY THEATRE**

103 NE 7th St. | Rochester | (507) 289-1737

## **ROCHESTER SYMPHONY**

1530 Greenview Dr. SW #120 | Rochester |  
(507) 286-8742

## **SHARI'S SPORTS SALOON & LANES**

118 N Main St. | Chatfield | (507) 867-0089

## **SKYLINE RACEWAY**

2250 SW 40th St. | Rochester |  
(507) 287-6289

## **ST. CHARLES GOLF COURSE**

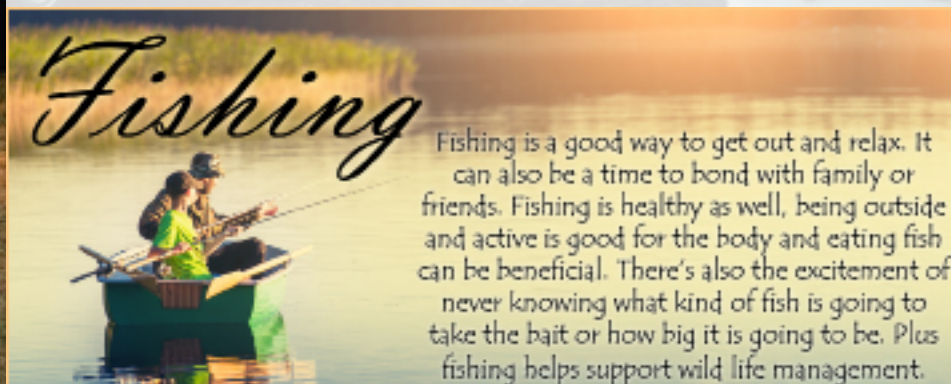
1920 Gladiola Dr. | St. Charles |  
(507) 932-5444

## **TRAILHEAD GRILL AND LANES**

416 3rd Ave. NE | Pine Island |  
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## **WILDWOOD SPORTS BAR & GRILL**

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

## **EYOTA**

### **BENNETT'S EYOTA MARKET**

501 Glen St. NW | Eyota | (507) 545-0108

## **ORONOCO**

### **GAS 'N GO LLC.**

1455 Cedar Ave. SE | Oronoco |  
(507) 367-2294

## **ROCHESTER**

### **AIRPORT VIEW LICENSE BUREAU**

7381 Airport View Dr. SW | Rochester |  
(507) 289-0994

### **COYOTE CREEK GUN & ARCHERY**

3600 S Broadway Ave. | Rochester |  
(507) 289-8308

### **FLEET FARM**

4891 Maine Ave. SE | Rochester |  
(507) 281-1130

### **MINSKE BAIT, TACKLE, CUSTOM RODS**

1117 N Broadway Ave. | Rochester |  
(507) 289-2520

## **ROCHESTER (CONT.)**

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(507) 753-2906

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### **WALMART SUPERCENTER (#2812)**

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### **TIGER ACE HARDWARE**

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# 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

08/16/24 Baiting start date - Permit areas & no-quota area

09/1/24 - 10/13/24 Permit areas & no-quota area

### Deer

09/14/24 - 12/31/24 Archery - Statewide

10/17/24 - 10/20/24 Early Antlerless

10/17/24 - 10/20/24 Youth - Statewide

11/9/24 - 11/24/24 Firearm (Season A) 100

Series permit areas

11/9/24 - 11/17/24 Firearm (Season A) 200 &

300 Series permit areas

11/23/24 - 12/1/24 Firearm (Season B) 300

Series permit areas

11/30/24 - 12/15/24 Muzzleloader - Statewide

### Badger

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

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

### Bobcat

12/14/24 - 01/19/25

North of I-94 & U.S. Highway 10

### Fox, Gray & Red

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

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

### Opossum

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

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

### Rabbit

09/14/24 - 02/28/25 Jack - Statewide

09/14/24 - 02/28/25 Cottontail & Snowshoe

Hare - Statewide

### Raccoon

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

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

### Squirrel, Gray & Fox

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

### Grouse

09/14/24 - 01/1/25 Ruffed & Spruce - Statewide

09/21/24 - 12/4/24 Sharp-Tailed -

Northwest zone

### Pheasant

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

### Wild Turkey

04/17/24 - 05/31/24 Spring - Youth - Statewide

04/17/24 - 05/31/24 Spring - Archery - Statewide

04/17/24 - 04/23/24 Spring - A season - Statewide

04/24/24 - 04/30/24 Spring - B season - Statewide

05/1/24 - 05/7/24 Spring - C season - Statewide

05/8/24 - 05/14/24 Spring - D season - Statewide

05/15/24 - 05/21/24 Spring - E season - Statewide

05/22/24 - 05/31/24 Spring - F season - Statewide

09/28/24 - 10/27/24 Fall - Statewide

## TRAPPING

### Badger

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

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

### Bobcat

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

Highway 10

### Fox

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

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

### Opossum

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

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

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

### Squirrel

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

*\*Check the MN DNR website for updates.*

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

or scan the QR code



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



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





# 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.)

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

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



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





# Send in your Favorite Recipe

For a chance to  
be published in our  
next guide!

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

## HONEY *Glazed* CHICKEN



Simple meal with a *Gourmet* Feel

### INSTRUCTIONS

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

Enjoy your delicious  
honey glazed chicken!

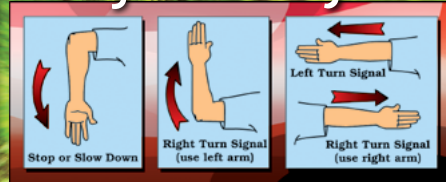
PREP: 10 MIN • TOTAL: 40 MIN



# 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.

## Bicycle Hand Signals



# Drink lots of Water!



# Know Your ATV

## Read the owner's manual

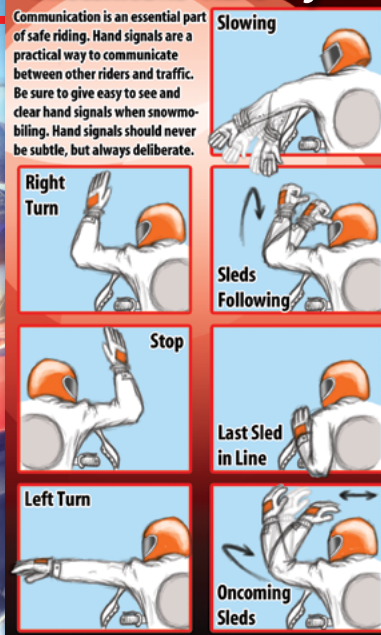
and know your vehicle thoroughly. • Check your vehicle before you ride. • Wear protective equipment and clothing. • Don't lend your vehicle to unskilled riders. • Supervise young or inexperienced riders. • Never carry a passenger on vehicles meant for one rider. • Do not operate under the influence of 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

Communication is an essential part of safe riding. Hand signals are a practical way to communicate between other riders and traffic. Be sure to give easy to see and clear hand signals when snowmobiling. Hand signals should never be subtle, but always deliberate.

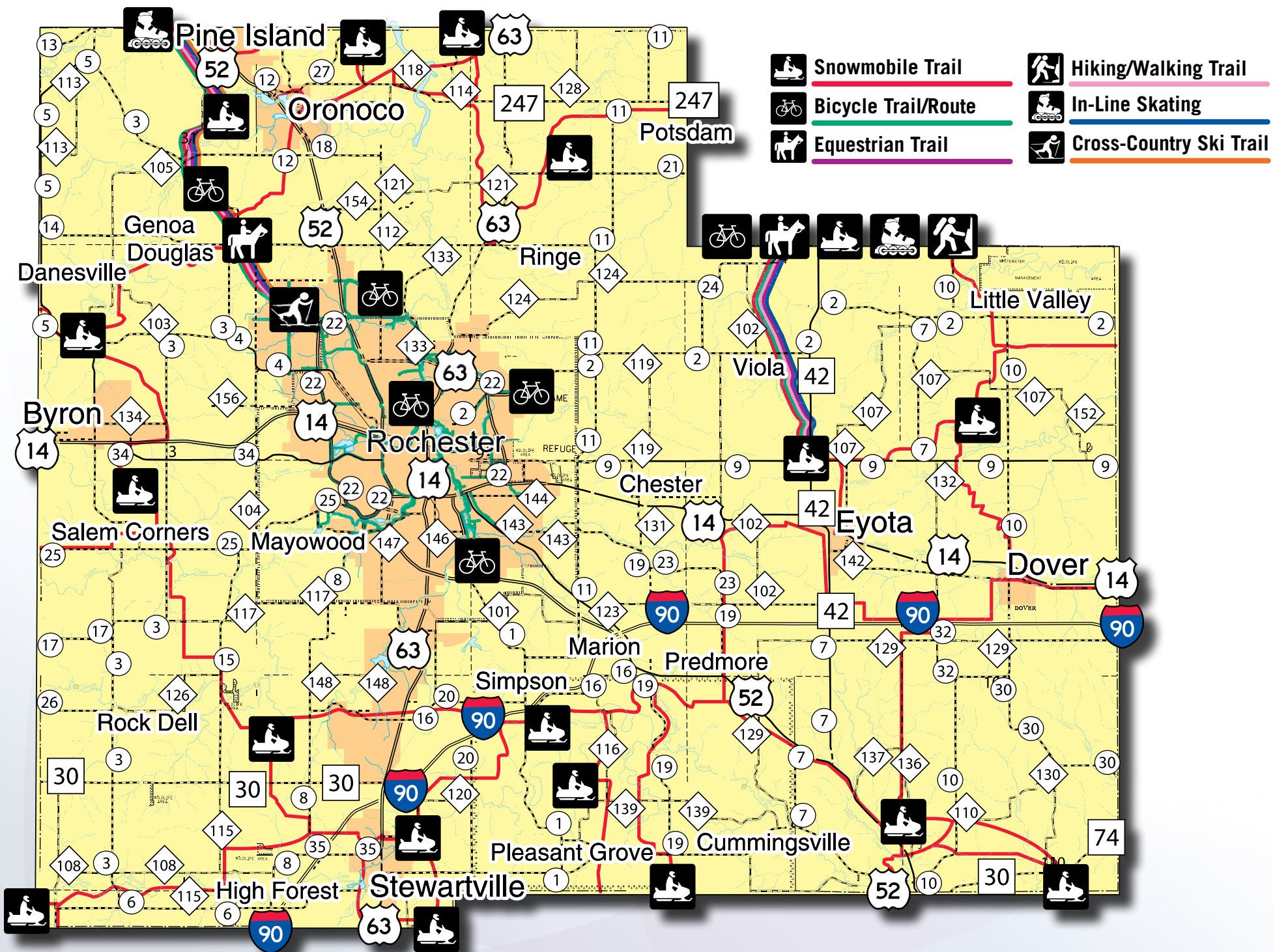


**PRIVATE PROPERTY**  
**NO TRESPASSING**

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



# OLMSTED COUNTY TRAILS





## GO GREEN



Reduce, Reuse,  
Recycle

reduce waste, reuse materials & recycle properly



EVERY  
DAY  
is  
EARTH  
DAY

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



# Healthy & Environmentally Friendly Lawn

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



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



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



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





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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

## 3 Days:

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

## 3 Weeks:

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

## 3 Months:

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

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

## DOG PARKS

### Chester Woods Park

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

### Jean & Carl Frank Canine Park

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

### River Road Dog Park

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

### Stewartville Dog Park

20th St. NE | Stewartville





# Be smart...



## Take good care of your skin

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

### • Protect your skin

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

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

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

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

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

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

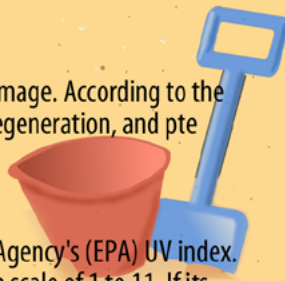
Use a broad-spectrum sunscreen to cover all exposed skin. The FDA recommends using sunscreens that are broad spectrum and have a sun protection factor (SPF) value of at least 15. Re-apply sunscreen throughout the day.

### • Protect your eyes

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

### • UV index

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



Shop.  
Dine.  
Play.  
Stay.

LOCALLY

...and support the community you live in!