

LAKE CITY

Minnesota's South Shore



VISIT



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MINNESOTA



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MINNESOTA™

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WELCOME | LAKE CITY

Lake City is your gateway to Lake Pepin, one of the Midwest's most scenic natural playgrounds. With miles of shoreline, beautiful beaches, world-class angling, and plenty of space to get on the water, you've just found your new favorite lake escape!

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Get in touch |
Come see us at the
Lake City Welcome
Center.

Special thanks to
Ben Threinen for
photos.

Visit Lake City &
Lake City Chamber of Commerce
122 N. Lakeshore Dr.
Lake City, MN 55041
877-525-3248

visitlakecity.org
lakecity.org
[facebook/visitlakecitymn](https://facebook.com/visitlakecitymn)
[instagram/visitlakecity](https://instagram.com/visitlakecity)

REFRESH

- Book: Roots Hair Studio & Spa
- Reserve High Tea @ Chickadee
- Stay: Garden St.

HIKE

- Frontenac S.P.
- Dine @ Big Bear Pizzeria & Deli
- Stay: Hok-Si-La Campground

BEACH TIME

- Pack floaties for Ohuta Beach
- Sandwiches from Rustic Coffeehouse
- Stay: Sunset Inn

FALL COLORS

- Apple tasting at Pepin Heights
- Dine @ Heidi's Huggamug
- Stay: AmericInn

LIVE MUSIC

- Get tickets
- Pre-show drinks @ TJ's Lakeshore Pub
- Stay: Captain's Quarters Airbnb

KAYAK

- Rent a boat at LC Boat Club
- Dine @ Kelly's Lakehouse
- Stay: John Hall's Alaska Lodge

GOLF

- Get tee times at Jewel & Lake Pepin
- Dine @ Bluff-side Grill
- Stay: Willows on the River

FISH W/ THE KIDS

- Sportsman's Contest
- Dine @ WildWings
- Stay: Great River Flats

SAIL

- Book: Sail Pepin
- Dine @ Port 104
- Stay: Lakeview Getaway

YOGA

- River's Edge Yoga
- Dine @ Off the Rails
- Stay: Whiskey Bluff

BIKE

- Get Bike Trail Map from Visit Lake City
- Dine @ Fiesta Jalisco
- Stay: the Lighthouse

SHOPPING

- Shops of Lake City
- Dine @ Papa Tronnio's
- Stay: Lake Pepin Campground



EVENTS & FESTIVALS | LAKE CITY

Tour de Pepin Experience Lake Pepin from the saddle. Choose the 32 or 50 mile rides to Stockholm, Wisconsin, and get transported back to Lake City by bus or boat, or cruise the 72-mile full loop all the way around the lake!

Fireworks Over the Lake

You won't want to be anywhere else on **4th of July!** Hundreds of boats spread out across the Lake and hundreds more folks line the harbor and Riverwalk to catch a glimpse of this display.

Ice Fishing Contest Enjoy a day of frozen fun on Lake Pepin! The on-ice activities include a free kids fishing contest, adult fishing contest, food, warm drinks, and games. Warm up inside with raffles, live and silent auctions, food, drinks from the bar, games, and many prizes!

100 Mile Garage Sale This event invites fifteen historic river towns and two states to clean out their attics, garages and basements to create the most spectacular garage sale around!

Johnny Appleseed Day

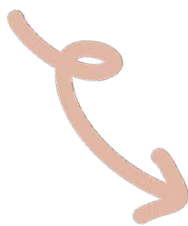
Come celebrate the apple harvest with us! Featuring: live music, a beer and cider fest, dozens of artists, crafters, and upcycle vendors, food trucks, kids art activities, and a pie eating contest!

Water Ski Days Live concerts, an arts and crafts fair, gravity-defying ski shows and competitions, a grand parade, a classic car show, and much, much, much more.

Y-Knot Tri Family oriented-triathlon featuring a 2.5-mile kayaking section, a 14-mile bike section, and closes with a 5K run south on the river walk.

The Fireman's Dance This isn't your grandpa's fundraiser, this is a full day of fun and games, food, libations, and live music. This event is typically held on the first weekend of July.

Lake City Fall Fest 5 Weeks of fall festivities including beer, cider, and spirit tastings, a spectacularly spooky fun run and more. Come for the fall colors stay for the FUN!





DINE | LAKE CITY

Kelly's Lake House

Fresh artisan breads, great family dining, and restaurants featuring locally grown produce, Lake City offers eateries to please anyone's palate with a wide spectrum of cuisine.



Everything Tastes Better with a View!

Drinks and cuisine with lake views or choose a meal to go! Their in-house butcher ensures the freshest cuts and tastiest sausages and smoked brisket. With 83 rotating draft beers, approximately 30 beers are on tap at any given time.

Park your boat at Kelly's dock while you eat and enjoy the large deck overlooking the lake. Live music and trivia nights are popular with locals and tourists.



Kelly's Dock
Live Cam



PIZZA & PASTA | Hand-tossed, wood-fired, and traditional-style pizzas can all be found in Lake City. Eat in or take it to the beach, pizza is always a winner.



Papa Tronnio's



Off the Rails Bistro



Big Bear's Pizzeria



BURGERS & SANDWICHES | Sometimes only a grill will do. Juicy, delicious burgers or a specialty sandwich can really hit the spot after a day adventuring on the lake.



B Wells



Bluffside Bar & Grill



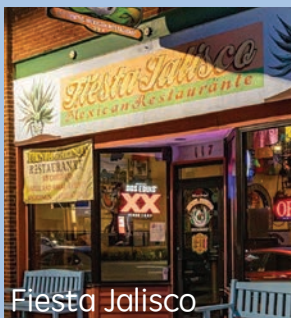
Port 104



TACOS & NOODLES | Fresh and flavorful! Wake up your tastebuds with a plateful of goodness from our locally-owned eateries. Daily specials are the best!



El Barco



Fiesta Jalisco



Chuang's Garden

SEASONAL FAVORITES |

While these gems are only open part of the year, they are worth the wait!

Chickadee Cottage Cafe

Located in a 1900 home with garden paths and a beautiful gazebo, you can enjoy breads, desserts, and dishes made from scratch right in their kitchen. It's also the perfect spot for afternoon teas – which are reservation-required affairs held throughout the season.

Dux

Hand-dipped ice cream in 16 flavors! Dux also offers espresso, or try a unique, hand-crafted Lotus energy drink. The perfect pick-me-up to fuel your day on Lake Pepin or beyond!

“ My partner had the apple stuffed French toast and I had the biscuits and gravy. Worth the check out.”
- Alek W. @ Chickadee Cottage Cafe



Chickadee Cottage

FOOD + ENTERTAINMENT |

These places offer something extra.

Port 104

All the benefits of a full bar and grill PLUS billiards and bowling! Bumpers for the kids and cosmic bowling on the weekends.

Wild Wings Plaza

Enjoy the buffet for dinner, then check out the gift store and arcade! Bouncy castle, foosball, air hockey, billiards, darts, and golf simulators.

“Wonderful place to bring kids, grandkids and families. Our grandkids had a great time.” - Jojo B.
@ Wild Wings



COFFEEHOUSE VIBES | Locally owned cafes offer an authentic Lake City experience. Espresso and a fresh baked pastry is just the beginning at **Heidi's Huggamug Cafe** and **Rustic Coffeehouse**.



Rustic Coffeehouse

“Spent the week in Lake City and it was a beautiful little city!! We stayed on Lake Shore Drive with beautiful views of the water & sail boats!! Enjoyed Big Bear Pizza & shopping!” - Debbie R.

WE LOVE A GOOD FISH FRY |



In addition to promoting outdoor recreation in the area, organizing an annual fishing contest, and hosting weddings and events, **The Sportsman's Club** and serves a delicious fish fry during lent and a couple weeks in November.



WHEN YOU'RE THE CHEF |

If you are looking to make use of that kitchen in your vacation rental or grilling at the campsite, stock up at these local markets.

Market by the Lake happens Thursdays June thru September at Ohuta Beach featuring fresh produce, baked goods, and live music.

Lake City Fresh Market is a full service, locally owned grocery store. They have perfect picnic foods such as salads, fried and rotisserie chicken, deli meats and cheeses and a bakery.

Huettl's Meats is a family owned business since 1918. Fresh meat cuts plus prepped ke'bots and more.



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AREA BREWERIES |

Travel down river and stop at 3 breweries along your way!

John the Baptist Beverage Co. brews kombucha and is open in the warm seasons. Their beverages are crafted from local, fair-trade, and organic ingredients on their farm.

Reads Landing Brewing Co. pours their beer along with offering a full menu of delicious food.

Hoppy Girl Brewing is located in Wabasha. There is a taproom in the back alley of the B&B!



Reads Landing

“Great brewery on the water. Love that you can enjoy deep fried goodness like cheese curds (reeeeeally good) but also something healthy like a salad and salmon. Definitely recommend!”
- Rebecca B. @ Reads Landing



Getting hungry?



Lake City Golf Course

www.lakecitygolf.com
33587 Lakeview Drive, Lake City, MN 651-345-3221



STAY | LAKE CITY

Willows on the River

Bed and breakfast, lake side vacation rental, motel or condominium, find your home away from home in Lake City. Enjoy panoramic views of Lake Pepin with over 100 rooms overlooking the lake.



“Along the Upper Mississippi every hour brings something new. There are crowds of odd islands, bluffs, prairies, hills, woods and villages--everything one could desire to amuse the children.” -Mark Twain



John Hall's Alaskan Lodge



Sunset Motel

JUST LIKE HOME |

With new listings popping up all the time on sites like Air BnB and VRBO, you're sure to find the vacation rental of your dreams in Lake City!



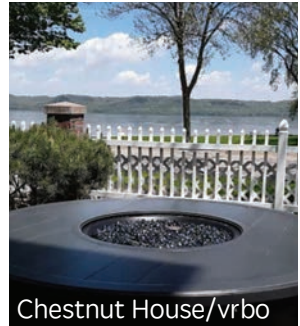
“Our family loved staying at the Lighthouse! Nice outside deck to take in the gorgeous summer weather.” -Min



The Lighthouse/airbnb



Captain's Quarters/airbnb



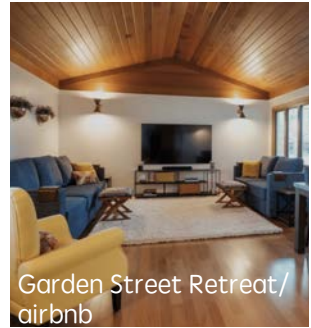
Chestnut House/vrbo



Great River Flats/
greatriverflats.com



Shoreside on Lake Pepin/
airbnb



Garden Street Retreat/
airbnb

Swimming Pool, Please |

If you have your heart set on a swimming pool for the kids, don't worry! We've got those, too.



AmericInn, Willows on the River, Sunset Motel (outdoors).

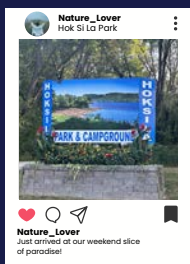
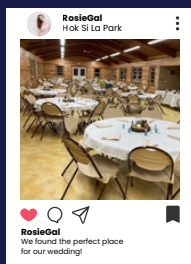


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UNDER THE STARS |

Get in touch with nature at one of the area's many campgrounds!



Hok-Si-La Municipal Park & Campground

Hok-Si-La is a municipally owned and operated park located on the lake shore. Spectacular views and tons of amenities – this is the place! In addition to tent camping, they have acres of natural areas, trails, and event space.

Cozy Cabins for Rent

Hok-Si-La now has cabins! Cabins have heat (and air conditioning) and electricity so you aren't totally roughing it.



Lake Pepin Campground Bring the RV and and enjoy the community and the sights!



Frontenac State Park is 5 miles north of Lake City, with miles of hiking trails and groomed ski trails.



Camp Lacupolis is a village 10 minutes south of Lake City with cabins for rent and a riverfront view.

“Super impressed! Our unit was extremely clean and well cared for. The building was quiet. The views of Lake Pepin out the window are gorgeous. The attached restaurant is superb. And the price is amazing. We’ll be back! I highly recommend!” - Heidi B. @ Willows on the River

CRAFTING RETREATS |

Take your crafting party to the next level.

Dragonfly Dreams is a bed & breakfast-style retreat center designed with the needs of quilters, scrapbookers and crafters in mind. The main-level area is well-lit, featuring eight 30x60” individual work stations with ergonomically-correct chairs. Within walking distance to a quilt shop and gift shops, along with many restaurants to choose from. Catch some fresh air on the wrap-around porch overlooking Patton Park.



**“I love going on retreats here. The home is loaded with Victorian charm.”
-Elizabeth M.**



Dragonfly Dreams Retreat



1 of 2 Craft Rooms



Dining Room

Supplies Needed |

Pick up your quilting supplies at **Pumpkinberry Stitches**, which is within walking distance of the Retreat!

Catch the Bus to Treasure Island Casino |



Treasure Island Casino has a free shuttle that makes stops in Lake City with a reservation. Get picked up and dropped off across from the Lake City Fresh Market. To reserve your spot, call 1-800-222-7077, ext. 2594, Monday-Friday from 8am-4pm.

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Willows

ON THE RIVER

a waterfront condominium resort

Willows on the River features breathtaking views of Lake Pepin, making this property very special. Enjoy a sunrise or moonrise over the lake, fish off the dock, or simply sit back and relax. Book your stay today!

willowsontheriver.com / (651) 345-9900 / Lake City, Minnesota



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Broker/Owner
507-251-1666



Schurhammer Real Estate welcomes you to the Lake City area! We strive to give our clients the very best customer service and have proven to be successful in doing so over 23 years! Our experience, knowledge and expertise in the real estate field sets us apart from the others! Trust us to get the job done professionally! *Call or visit us today!*



The Rustic Coffeehouse invites you to join us for a cozy coffee experience and hangout! We have created a comfortable atmosphere for gathering with friends, studying or taking that online meeting!

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Open everyday: 7AM-2PM

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Lake City, MN



651-345-2284 rusticcoffeehouse.com



SHOP | LAKE CITY

Pearl Button Company

Whether it's apple tasting at the orchard, browsing the gift shop at Wild Wings, or bargain hunting the 100-mile Garage Sale, shopping is never a passive sport in Lake City.



“Went home with apple cider donuts, delicious caramel, caramel apples, handmade scented wax cubes and a car full of pumpkins!” - Kurdi T. @ Pepin Heights Store



SHOP – UNWIND – EXPERIENCE

Our downtown community of shops offers a wide variety of goods. Excellent customer service, treats, and easy walking make it a great way to spend the day.

Several stores have multiple floors of wares, so take your time and discover: sailing and mariner themed homewares, unqiuae and handmade items, Lake City souvenirs, flowers and jewelry, and lots and lots of chocolate.



Girl's Day Out



Doe Day



Treats & Treasures



MGJ Designs

“I bought one of my favorite t-shirts here. Good place to get some Lake City-themed apparel. They also have amazing home-made fudge.” - Emily T. @ Treats & Treasures

There always seems to be something special happening downtown: Girl's Day Out, Lake City on a Stick, Johnny Appleseed Day, Doe Day, and Christmas by the Lake just to name a few. These events will treat you to friendly service, lots of hospitality, and always a good deal. Follow “The Shops of Lake City” on Facebook to stay in the loop.



Lake Pepin Pearl Button Company |

The local clamming industry thrived from 1914 to 1920. At the Lake Pepin Pearl Button Company, round 'blanks' were cut from clam shells and sent to a button manufacturing facility in Muscatine, Iowa. Some



clams produced pearls which were prized as gems and used for making jewelry. During that time, natural beds of mussels were depleted by overharvesting. That, plus the introduction of plastic buttons, led to the demise of the clamming industry. (source: Lake City Historical Society)

Today, the Lake Pepin Pearl Button Company is one of the most popular shopping destinations in Lake City. They offer an eclectic mix of apparel and accessories, antiques and collectables, gift items, nautical and home décor.

“I found gifts for relatives and friends. Pictures from the 1800’s, a magnifying anchor, clothes... When you want to find that unique special gift and an opening to talk about Lake City then this place should be a stop.” -Mark L.

POSTCARDS & SOUVENIRS |

Bring back a stuffed lake monter or a t-shirt for mom.

Treats & Treasures, MGJ Designs, Cute Chic Boutique, Lake City Pearl Button Co., Wild Wings Plaza, Willow Gentile Studio, and the Lake City Chamber of Commerce.



ARTISAN GOODS & BOUTIQUES |

Clothing and homegoods, fragrances and handmade, one of a kind items you'll only find in Lake City.

Start with great shopping adventures at **Pearl Button Co.**, **Treats & Treasures**, **Mercy & Grace**, **MGJ Adored Designs**, **Cute Chic Boutique**, and **Simply D'vine** in downtown Lake City. Then

check out **Handmade Natural Beauty Boutique**, **Shoptique**, **Johnson Jewelers**, **Market by the Lake** and **Willow Gentile Studio** for unique and artisan Lake-City-only finds for every budget.

Several of our local events also feature artisan markets including artists, crafters, and upcycle vendors: **Water Ski Days** in June and **Johnny Appleseed Day** in October.



Johnson Jewelers

“Wonderful and beautiful gallery! My husband bought me one of Willow’s gorgeous paintings for Christmas and this was absolutely the best gift I have ever received!”

-Andrea M.



Lake City FLORAL

*FLOWERS *GIFTS *JUST BECAUSE

WWW.LAKECITYFLORAL.COM

110 S LAKESHORE DRIVE · LAKE CITY, MN 55041

GET YOUR THRIFT ON | Lake City houses several used, vintage and consignment shops for treasure hunters looking for something for the closet, the bookshelf, or the home.

Twice Loved, Pass It On, Mercy & Grace, From Us to You, Dilly Dallies, Willow Gentile Studio and **DogHouse Books** all specialize in second-hand treasures.



Twice Loved Consignment



Pass It On



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SUPPLY RUN |

Food, pharmacy, or farm store, you can find what you need in Lake City.

Gerkens Town & Country, Sterling Drug, Wise Ace Hardware, and Lake City Fresh Market have all the basics.



“I go to this Ace hardware quite a bit for tools, supplies and other things when we’re in town staying on our sailboat. The staff at Wise Ace Hardware are always helpful and always friendly. They always seem to have what I’m looking for.” - Pat L. @ Wise Ace Hardware



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- Life-Sized Concrete Hero Statues
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- *vacation rental available at Wabasha location



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ARTS | LAKE CITY

William Cullen Bryant, a poet and long-time editor of the *New York Evening Post*, once said, “Lake Pepin ought to be visited by every poet and painter in the land.”

COMMUNITY ARTS |

Lake City Area Arts has a mission: strengthening the community through arts and culture. They organize events throughout the year, providing our community and region with a wide variety of arts experiences! Their focus is on Visual Art (Painting, Drawing, Photography, Sculpture, Public Art, Folk Art), Performance Art (Bands, Ensembles, Choirs, Dance, Theatre, Music Circles), and Literary Art (Writing, Poetry, Spoken Word, Story Telling).

This mural is by Jacqui Rosenbush.



ARTIST IN RESIDENCE |

Willow Gentile Studio & Gallery

Plein air painting is an adventurous and expressive art form that captures the beauty of nature in its rawest form. As a passionate and experienced artist, I strive to bring texture and vibrant color to my artwork, inspired by the moment and energies that surround me.

–Willow Gentile

Stop in and see the creative process in action. This is Willow's creative space, her studio! A new-age artist's salon: vintage shop, art studio, art classes, art gallery showing Willow Gentile's artwork.



A UNIQUE MUSIC VENUE |

The Oak Center General Store, built in 1913, was resurrected from the dead in 1976 and dedicated to rebuilding a better world from the earth up.

Upstairs is an intimate music venue hosting unparalleled musical talent in seasonal showcases.

“Wonderful intimate setting with great music.”
– Tonia S.



HISTORY BREAK |

Lake City has three properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places: the 1872 James C. and Agnes M. Stout House, the 1899 Lake City City Hall, and the 1910 Williamson – Russell – Rahilly House.

Many historic artifacts belonging to the Lake City Historical Society are on display from 8–4:30 M–F in the 2nd floor ballroom of the Lake City City Hall.



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DRIVE A LITTLE. **SAVE A LOT!**

In *Little House In the Big Woods*, Laura Ingalls Wilder describes her first look at the lake: “After a long time Laura began to see glimpses of blue water between the trees.” ... “Then all at once the road came out of the woods and Laura saw the lake. It was as blue as the sky, and it went to the edge of the world. As far as she could see, there was nothing but flat, blue water.” Our lake makes another appearance in *Little House on the Prairie* in the chapter “Going West.”

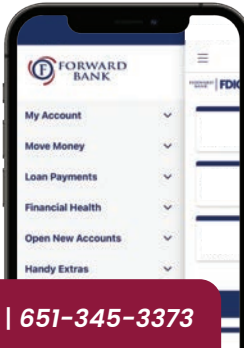


Take a selfie with Ralphie! | This life-sized bronze statue of water ski inventor Ralph Samuelson stands in Ohuta Park. The statue was commissioned by Destination Lake City and crafted by Brodin Studios.

Everyday Banking Needs Met *locally*

Personal | Business/Ag | Non-Profit

- ✓ Checking & Savings
- ✓ Loans & Lines
- ✓ Mortgages & HELOC
- ✓ Friendly Local Staff

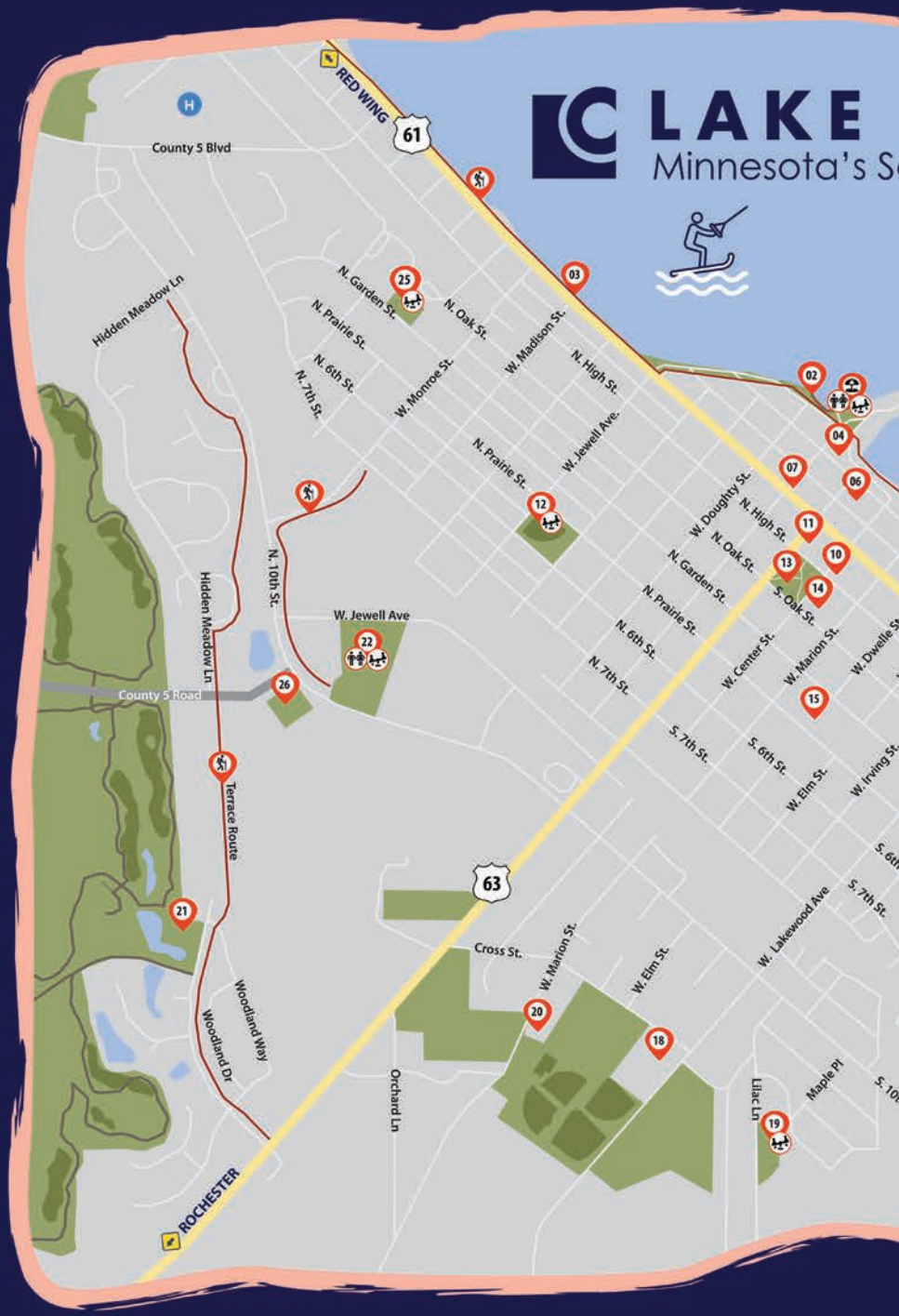


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LAKE Minnesota's State



CITY

South Shore



KEY

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 01 Marina Point | 14 City Hall |
| 02 Ohuta Park | 15 Lincoln High School & Tennis Courts |
| 03 River Walk | 16 Roschen Park |
| 04 Public Parking | 17 High School Track & Football Field |
| 05 Lake City Marina & Boat Launch | 18 Bluff View Elementary & Fields |
| 06 Downtown Business District | 19 Peter's Play Park |
| 07 Chamber/Tourism | 20 Pool |
| 08 McCahill Play Park | 21 The Jewel Golf Club |
| 09 Gov. Pier | 22 Underwood Park |
| 10 Library | 23 Lake City Golf |
| 11 Post Office | 24 Hok-Si-La Park and Campground |
| 12 McCahill Field & Park | 25 North End Park |
| 13 Patton Park | 26 Lake City Dog Park |

Walking Path/Hiking
 Beach
 Playground
 Public Restroom
 Public Boat Landing



ON THE WATER | LAKE CITY

So much water, so much fun!
Superb sailing opportunities,
stunning sandy beaches,
fantastic fishing, and
endless water sport activities.



“So relaxing and beautiful. Sunsets can’t be beat. Waterski days are great fun! We love Lake City.” -Lisa J.



SUPERB FISHING, YEAR ROUND |

Fishing is one of the most popular pastimes in the area. Situated on one of Minnesota's most prolific fisheries, boasting over 85 different species, anglers will quickly understand why we were chosen to host the Cabela's 2021 World Walleye Championship and the 2024 Minnesota Governor's Fishing Opener.



There's plenty of opportunity to drop a line in the water for experienced and beginner anglers. Shore fishing is popular in Lake City, and there are 3 public boat launches right in town. Many



talented and knowledgeable local guides are around to remove the guesswork from your adventure, and boat rentals are readily available. Several beautiful trout streams in the area bring fly fishers as well. Anglers can also challenge themselves (or just have fun) at a host of contests in both summer and winter run by area sportsman's clubs, which always include kid competitions as well.

Locals are quick to let visitors in on our "little secret". You don't have to wait until May's opener to get your walleye fix - you can legally fish walleye all year long on Lake Pepin.



ICE FISHING |

The best of this enduring winter pastime is right on our front porch. The locals target blue gills, bass and lunker walleye and pike. There's easy access for those who need to unload their fish house.



Lake City
Fishing Info



MESSING ABOUT IN BOATS |

Recreational boating reigns supreme on Lake Pepin. Our playground is a 22-mile-long, 2-mile-wide natural broadening of the Mississippi River covering 30,000 acres and surrounded by majestic bluffs.

On any given day in the spring, summer, or fall, the lake is buzzing with sailboats, pontoons, cabin cruisers, kayaks, and canoes, and yet the sheer size of Lake Pepin allows for a plentitude of elbow room for boaters to feel like they have the lake to themselves.

BYO BOAT |

Lake City makes it easy to get your craft on the water. **The Lake City Marina, Hok-Si-La Boat Launch, Roschen Park Landing, and the Florence Township Public Landing** are all great options.

During the day, you can beach your craft at one of our many lakefront city parks get lunch and explore downtown. Lake City Marina offers transient boat parking for overnight stays.





LEARN TO SAIL |

Lake City Yacht Club Sailing School

teaches new sailors the basics of small boat seamanship. Gain both classroom knowledge and on-the-water instruction to give you confidence in the finer arts of sailing.

Or just go for a ride on one of **Sail Pepin's** four daily scheduled Lake Pepin sailboat cruises from Pepin and Lake City. They've been providing sailboat rides, sailing instruction and corporate and youth sailing team-building programs since 1997.

Sail for Leukemia |

In July, this event allows you to try out crewing for a great cause.

For a recommended donation of \$25 per person, you can go sailing on beautiful Lake Pepin for an hour and a half.

All proceeds benefit the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of America.

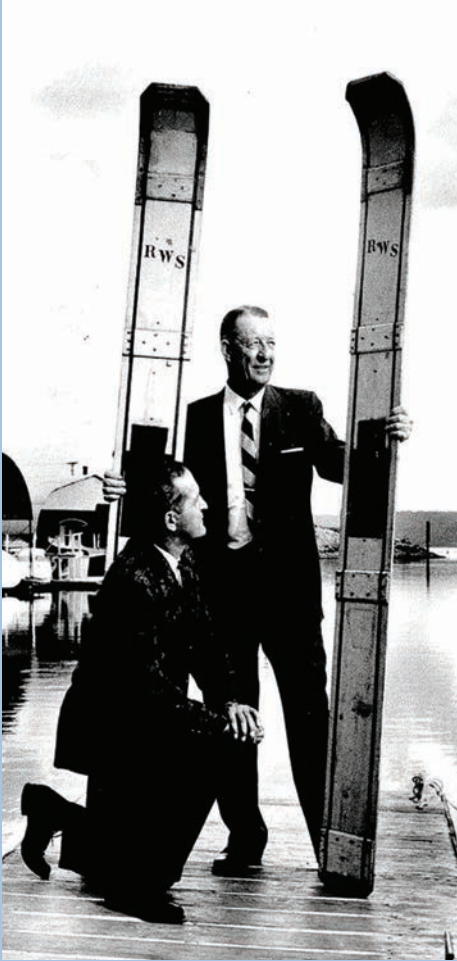
NO BOAT? WE GOT YOU |

Tours, charters, and rentals make it easy to explore the water. Rent everything from paddleboards to pontoons at one of our area outfitters or hire a guide to show you where the lunkers are biting! **Lake City Boat Club & Rentals, Sail Pepin, Broken Paddle, Lake Pepin Kayak, or Zumbro Valley Canoe.**

“Rented a pontoon for an 80th Birthday celebration and it was wonderful. Booking was easy, people were friendly and the pontoon was clean and easy to operate. Plus the weather was great and the Lake Pepin area was beautiful.” - Rita R.

WATER SKI | LAKE PEPIN

“THE BIRTHPLACE OF WATERSKIING”



At the young age of 19, Ralph successfully took on Lake Pepin with his home-made water skis constructed of pine boards measuring a whopping eight feet long and nine inches wide. Then, on July 2, 1922, Ralph Samuelson performed the sport for the first time in front of an audience on Lake Pepin, effectively putting Lake City and Samuelson in the history books.

Samuelson performed many water skiing exhibitions here in Lake City for which the City would charge an admission fee. Ralph was never paid any money for his Lake City Exhibitions, instead he insisted that the money be used to buy land which is now Marina Point, Ohuta Park, and the site of the Lake City Marina.



The first to be pulled behind an airplane on water skis, Samuelson hurdled across the water at the mind-boggling speed of 80 mph. It's estimated that when being pulled behind the airplane, he would jump the wake and sometimes fly as much as 50 feet in the air.

Ralph never wore a life vest while water skiing [not smart, but true].

Fun Facts About Water Skiing In Lake City

In 1966, after much debate around the world, the American Water Ski Association declared that it was indeed Ralph Samuelson on July 2, 1922, who invented water skiing. No one has been able to predate any claim to that fact.

Ralph was also first to jump off of a floating jump and to ever ski on one ski.

There are millions of water skiing specific enthusiasts around the world, and today, more than 20 million people in the US alone call themselves towed water sports enthusiasts.

In 2024, the USA Water Ski & Wake Sport Foundation announced the Ralph Samuelson Commemorative Boys 3 Scholarship. Funded by “Destination Lake City, the Birthplace of Water Skiing,” the Boys 3 Scholarship is awarded to the National Overall Title winner at the AWSA National Water Ski Championships each year.

(source: Lake City Historical Society and The USA Water Ski and Wake Sports Foundation)



WE'LL SEE YOU IN JUNE AT WATER SKI DAYS

- **Lakeside Concerts at Ohuta Beach**
- **All-Star Water Ski Shows & International Jump Competitions**
- **5k/10k & Half Marathon**
- **Classic Car Show**
- **A Carnival**
- **Learn to Ski Clinics**
- **Vendors & Food Trucks**
- **A Grand Parade!**



Water Ski
Days



OUTDOORS | LAKE CITY

An outdoor enthusiast's paradise: unmatched access to Lake Pepin, championship golf, world-class birdwatching, and miles of hiking and biking trails.



“We come here every year and spend a day on the beach. Love the area, the water, the people, the view, and the atmosphere!” - Aaron H. @ Hok-Si-La Park

PARKS & BEACHES |

Lake City is home to a large number of parks, both big and small. With hiking trails, pickleball courts, and the best beaches in Minnesota, no trip to the area is complete without spending time in our outdoor public spaces.



Ohuta Park & Beach



FOR BIRD WATCHERS |

Our unique location on the famous Mississippi River Flyway provides exceptional year-round bird watching, including the migrations of bald eagles, trumpeter swans and warblers. The American Bird Conservancy designates the area as a Globally Important Bird Area. Whether you consider yourself an ornithologist, a twitcher, a casual birder, or you just love nature's magnificent show, Lake City does not disappoint.

“One of our favorite places to visit. You can watch boats, sailboats, eagles, and trains go by. I love that the town takes such good care of the area too. Beautiful.” -Mitchell

Hok-Si-La Park A city-owned campground with miles of hiking trails.

Ohuta Park Public beach (no lifeguard), picnic area, access to the Riverwalk, unique playground equipment, public sculpture, a large pavilion.

Patton Park Gazebo-historic bandstand, paved walks, lighted fountain, Heritage Tree Walk.

Peter's Park Public swimming pool, softball & soccer fields, volleyball & basketball courts, covered picnic

area, seasonal public restrooms.

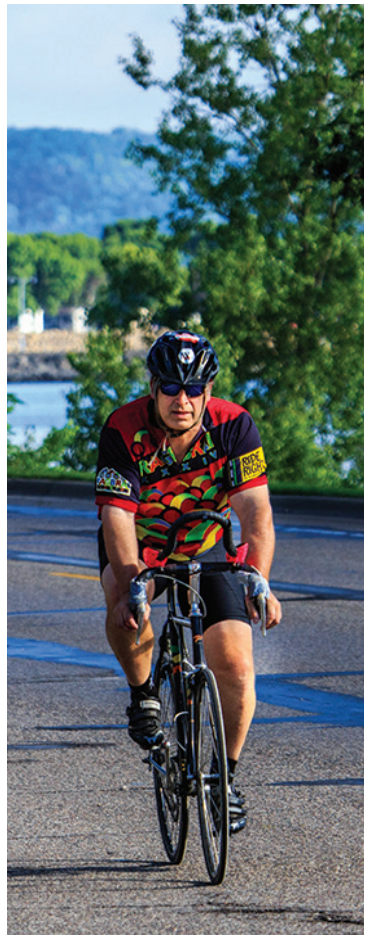
Roschen Park Free public boat launch, fish cleaning house, seasonal public restrooms, access to the Riverwalk.

Underwood Park & Fields Soccer fields, pickleball courts, children's playground, covered picnic area, seasonal public restrooms, winter ice skating Rrnk.

Lake City Dog Park Beautiful dog park with separate areas for both large and small dogs.

ESPECIALLY FOR TWO WHEELERS |

From road bikes to fat bikes, we've got trails for every type of bike any time of year. Gravel rides are also easy to find. Bonus: You can rent an e-bike from Lake City Boat Club and Rentals or use our free community bike program, allowing anyone to borrow a cruiser for the day – free! Pick up yours from the Lake City Marina.



Tour de Pepin Held every year in early June, Tour de Pepin is a supported ride around the Lake. Food and hydration stations along the route and a party at the finish line with live music and food trucks. Choose 32, 40 or 50 mile course or make it a grand tour by circumnavigating the entirety of Lake Pepin: the 72 or 100 mile options.



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mayoclinichealthsystem.org/lakecity



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NationalEagleCenter.org



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The National Eagle Center is an equal opportunity provider.

HIT THE LINKS |

Enjoy playing a round while soaking in the scenery. **Lake City Golf, the Jewel Golf Club, Lake Pepin Course, Zumbro Falls Golf Club, and Mount Frontenac Golf Course** are each within minutes of Lake City.

The Jewel course was designed by three time US Open Winner Hale Irwin, and the Lake Pepin course was designed by Gordon Emerson.

Our courses offer numerous public tournaments throughout their seasons. Call or visit them online for more information.



The Jewel

“Played on Saturday and left wanting to play another 18 right after! Amazing course! Creative holes, nice views, well manicured. Destination course in the Midwest for any golf fanatic!”

- Jonathan L. @ The Jewel

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT |



The Lake City Chamber Golf Tournament is a time honored tradition for golfers of all skill levels. It's a four person scramble with a shotgun start and happens in September. Proceeds benefit the Chamber's Community Pride Scholarship Fund.





HUNTING SEASONS |

Hunting near Lake City offers some of the most comfortable accommodations in a wilderness setting without having to travel or invest in a high end guided hunt. Hunters will find an open season on big game, small game, waterfowl, or trapping nine of twelve months each year. Our most popular opportunities are the Whitetail Deer, Turkey and Duck/Goose seasons.

TRAILS OF ALL KINDS |

Whether you hike, bike, ski, snowshoe, or snowmobile, there are a plethora of trails in the area. From groomed trails to undeveloped state forest land, flat to very steep, we'll meet you where you are at.



Book Tee Times online jewelgolfclub.com or call 651-345-2672



MOVING | LAKE CITY

People of all ages and backgrounds love the lakeside living, small-town charm and well-run municipal services we offer, not to mention the recreational activities, astounding natural beauty, healthcare facilities, quality schools, varied industries including manufacturing, retail, and agricultural, and proximity to Rochester and the Twin Cities.

“My true home. Always in my heart and mind.” -Robert H.

UTILITIES + BASICS |

Population: 5,252. Lake City was established in 1872 and straddles two Minnesota Counties: Wabasha and Goodhue.

Just 68 miles southeast of Minneapolis/St. Paul and 34 miles east of Rochester, MN.

The City of Lake City has a municipality owned and operated

utility provider, Lake City Public Utilities, which provides public water, sewer, and electric utilities to the community.

Our drinking water comes from the Quaternary Water Table aquifer.

Public WiFi is common and fiber cable installers are just a call away. Cell phone reception can be challenging in the river valley,



HOUSING OPTIONS |

Lake City has a diverse landscape of housing options; from multi-family rentals to existing single-family homes to shovel-ready lots, you can find, or build, the home of your dreams in our community.

Tasteful rentals, lakeshore condominiums, and senior living are popular choices.



**“Like living on vacation every day of your life!
In the best place!” - Michelle S.**

but Lake City’s got you covered.

Schools: Lake City Public Schools (K–12) and Saint John’s Lutheran School (K–8).

Community Education provides learning experiences and activities for you to develop skills or pursue new interests.

Newspapers: Lake City Graphic and the Lake City Shopper.

Thinking of doing business in Lake City? Get support from:



**Chamber of
Commerce**



**Port
Authority**

HEALTHY & HAPPY |

We support our community, and it shows.

Community Bikes Open daily from April to October, pick up your bike at Lake City Marina to experience Lake City on two wheels. Free for daily use and is available to anyone over the age of 18.

River Walk Lake City's River Walk is a four-mile-long paved cycling and pedestrian trail that covers the entire length of Lake City along Lake Pepin, from Roschen Park on the south side of town to Hok-Si La Park in the north. The views—cannot be beat, and it is protected from street and highway traffic!

Community Swimming Pool O'Neil Swimming Pool at Peter's Park has open swim times, classes, and hosts events.



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Villa Maria

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Lake City Golf Club

33587 Lakeview Dr, Lake City, 651-345-3221

Lake City Sportsman's Club

2200 S Oak St, Lake City, 651-345-2901

The Jewel Golf Club,

1900 Clubhouse Dr, Lake City, 651-345-2672

Wild Wings Plaza

2101 US-61, Lake City, 651-448-6865

Lake Pepin Golf Course

70895 260th Ave, Lake City, 651-345-5768

Frontenac Golf Course

33010 Ski Road Trail, Red Wing, 651-388-5826

City Hall

205 W Center St, Lake City, 651-345-5383

Port 104

104 N Washington St, Lake City, 651-345-2324

VFW Post #8729

115 N Franklin St, Lake City, 651-345-2646

Willow Brooke Farm

29212 Orchard Rd, Red Wing,
willowbrookeevents.com

Lake City Area Arts

105 W Center St, Lake City, lcaamn.org

Lake City Library

201 S High St, Lake City, 651-345-4013

AmericInn Lake City

1615 N Lakeshore Dr, Lake City, (651) 345-5611

290

capacity

100

225

40-120

400

125-325

240

40-225

100-250

150

300

90

60

40



Hok-Si-La Park

2500 US-61, Lake City

651- 345-3855

Up to 200

Lake City Park

Pavillions:

Ohuta Park

Underwood Park

Roschen Park

Patton Park



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EDUCATION | Welcome to Lake City Public Schools—Home of the Tigers!



Set along the bluffs and shoreline of beautiful Lake Pepin, Lake City Public Schools is proud to serve the heart of our community. We educate approximately 1,200 students from early childhood through grade 12 on two welcoming campuses: Bluff View Elementary and Lincoln Junior – Senior High. Families, businesses, and visitors will find a school district that reflects the character of Lake City itself: friendly, forward-looking, and deeply invested in opportunity for every learner.

Our mission is simple and strong: **Educate, Empower, Excel.** We focus on excellent teaching, safe and caring environments, and real-world learning that prepares students for the future they choose. Classrooms are alive with curiosity – from foundational literacy and math in the early grades to hands-on science, engineering, fine arts, world languages, and career and technical education in the upper grades.

Learning extends well beyond the bell. Tigers compete with pride in a full slate of athletics and activities, perform on award-winning stages, and serve neighbors through leadership and service projects.

Partnership is our superpower. Local employers, civic organizations, and the Chamber of Commerce collaborate with our schools on internships, mentorships, guest speakers, and authentic projects that connect coursework to community needs.



Lake City Public Schools: Cultivating excellence in a safe and welcoming environment that empowers learners toward the future they choose.

LIFELONG LEARNERS |

The Lake City Environmental Learning Program is a nonprofit organization dedicated to opening the eyes of area youth to the endless outdoor possibilities that await them. Through outdoor adventures, they gain confidence and leadership skills and gain an appreciation and sense of responsibility for our natural world.

The Lake City Public Library As a member of SELCO, the regional library system, our library has access to items from all libraries in Southeastern Minnesota. In addition to traditional check out items, they offer internet access, and special events such as children's programming and community movie nights.



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TOUR | LAKE PEPIN

Lake Pepin is one of the Midwest's most cherished natural playgrounds, with a plethora of recreational and sporting opportunities to accompany its majestic natural beauty.



HYDROLOGY BREAK |



Every year, a sediment load the size of a city block filled to a building 32 stories tall accumulates at the head of Lake Pepin. The impacts of upstream land use decisions exacerbated by climate change have outpaced the lake's natural ability to act as a filter for the river.

It's 72 miles around Lake Pepin

A drive around the lake, winding between the bluffsides and the Mississippi is a popular and accessible way to experience the area, and there are an abundance of pull-off areas with stunning vistas and historical markers.



The Great River Road is a national scenic byway that follows the Mississippi River all the way to Louisiana. There are numerous pull-offs along the way to take in the sights.

Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance builds on a long history of local activism and relies on community engagement, science, and public policy to improve water quality, habitat, recreation, and accessibility in the lake. Their work prioritizes the voices of people who passionately use, deeply love, and intricately know Lake Pepin. (source: Lake Pepin Legacy Alliance)



Lake Pepin
Legacy
Alliance



FALL TOURING

Leaf Drives From Lake City you can find days and days worth of beautiful drives, perfect for leaf peeping. Whether you enjoy twisting your way through bluffs on county roads or hugging Lake Pepin on Highway 61, you can't beat Lake City for amazing colors and vistas.

Pepin Heights Store The Pepin Heights Store has all your fall essentials. Find tons of local gifts, crafts and products, delicious pies and baked goods, apple cider and of course – locally grown apples!



Fall Fest Come experience us in all our red, gold, and orange glory with a month of family friendly weekend celebrations throughout October.

Doe Day Lake City retail businesses celebrate the opening weekend of deer hunting season with mighty sales and fun festivities. While the Buck's away, the Doe will play. You won't want to miss Doe Day.

Hiking Explore miles of trails at Frontenac State Park or Hok Si La and take in the breathtaking colors.

Haunted Hok-Si-La Don't miss this one day haunted trail in spooktacular Hok-Si-La Park!



WINTER ADVENTURES |

Snowmobiling Tour our bluffs and valleys on hundreds of miles of maintained trails. Find maps at visitor kiosks or city hotels or visit the DNR or Minnesota United Snowmobiler's Association websites.

Skiing & Snowboarding Coffee Mill and Welch Village are full-service ski areas and just a short drive away.

Cross Country Skiing Groomed trails at Hok-Si-La Park and Frontenac State Park attract skiers of all ages and skill levels. Our bluffs, valleys and forests provide stunning scenery and protection from winter winds.

Ice skating and hockey at Underwood Park's leisure and hockey rinks and warming house.

Ice sailing Harness winter winds! Host to several North American regattas, Lake Pepin's wide expanse provides outstanding conditions for racing or enjoying a speedy weekend on the ice.

Eagle viewing From November through April, bald eagles migrate along the Mississippi River, and about 50 nesting pairs remain in the Lake Pepin area year-round. See them perch, soar and fish.





SPRING OUTINGS |

Tour de Pepin Held the first Saturday in June, Tour de Pepin offers bicyclists from amateur to expert an opportunity to experience Lake Pepin from the saddle. Choose a route that ends in Stockholm, Wisconsin, and you and your bike can get a boat ride back to Lake City!

Spring Bird Migration

According to Audubon, Lake Pepin is described as the “best bird habitat in the State of Minnesota, especially for migrant birds.” In the spring and fall, nature puts on one of its most magnificent shows right here in Lake City. Visit our bird-watching page for more info.



Spring Fishing Lake City is famous for world-class angling on Lake Pepin, in fact Lake City was selected to host the 2021 World Walleye Championship. We also have numerous trout streams close by that offer browns, rainbows, and brookies!

Beautiful Parks Get outdoors in one of Lake City’s beautiful city parks. From lakeshore swimming and strolling to baseball fields and playgrounds, stop and smell the spring flowers in Lake City’s parks.



SUMMER FUN |

Water Ski Days Held the last full weekend in June, Water Ski Days is the quintessential summer party. Each year Lake City celebrates more than 50 years of this fun festival and over 100 years as the “Birthplace of Water Skiing” with concerts, classic cars, parades, carnival rides, and of course, water ski show performances.

Book a Sail Feel the wind in your hair on beautiful Lake Pepin when you schedule a charter sail with Sail Pepin. This is your opportunity to see what all the buzz is about. Who knows, it may lead to the next chapter of your life!

Camp with the Family

Wake up to the sounds of gentle waves lapping and birds singing in the Lake City area. Between Frontenac State Park, Hok-Si-La, and Lake Pepin Camping, you’re sure to find the right fit for your RV, trailer, or tent!

Golf Lake City Why not go all in with a weekend trip to Lake City— one of the premier golf destinations in the Midwest? With 5 courses (including the world-class Jewel Golf Club) within 15 minutes of downtown, Lake City needs to be on every golfer’s bucket list.





LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT |

We acknowledge that the area now known as Lake City is located on the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Dakota people. We recognize the significance of Lake Pepin and the surrounding region to the Dakota people and the contemporary presence of the Prairie Island Indian Community. We offer this acknowledgment to honor the Dakota people, their relationship to this land, and their rich history.

Steps taken by Lake City For Lake City, this acknowledgment is particularly meaningful due to recent actions taken by the city to address past injustices. In September 2023, the Lake City Council voted unanimously to return three acres of land containing 11 burial mounds to the Prairie Island Indian Community. This act of returning land was an important step toward reconciliation and a way to honor the historical significance of the site. Former Mayor Mark Nichols noted the process was positive and educational, improving relations with the Prairie Island Indian Community.

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651-345-3855

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651-345-5331

WILLOWS ON THE RIVER

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651-345-9900

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220 East Chestnut St
507-226-3036

KELLY'S LAKEHOUSE BAR & GRILL

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651-448-8840

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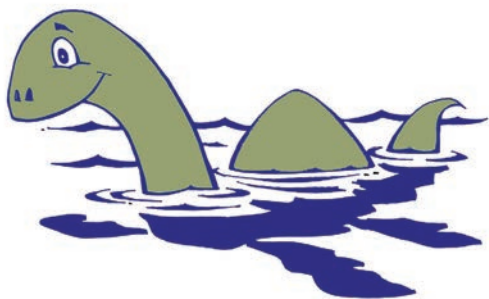


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olmstedmedicalcenter.org

THE LEGEND OF PEPIE



© Pepie is a copyrighted entity by Larry Nielson

The legend of Pepie tells of a large, serpentlike creature which lives in the shadowy depths of Lake Pepin.

There have been a lot of people over the years who said they saw it, or something they couldn't explain.

Legend has it that the Dakota, who lived along the scenic, wide stretch of river, beached their birch bark canoes for thicker dugout canoes when traveling on Lake Pepin. The reason? There were large creatures lurking in the lake that had easily punctured the thinner birch canoes.

“The early Native Americans warned of a deadly beast inhabiting the waters of Lake Pepin along the Mississippi River,” say Chad Lewis and Noah Voss, authors of **PEPIE – The Lake Monster of the Mississippi River**. “A lake monster was seen swimming on Lake Pepin” on April 28, 1871, according to the Minnesota Historical Society’s **Book of Days Almanac**.

The former captain of the 125-passenger paddle-wheeler Pearl of the Lake, says he has seen Pepie and believes the creature deserves respect and recognition.

The latest twist in the tale is that anyone who can hook, net or capture Pepie on film could earn a \$50,000 reward. Collecting the reward will require a good photograph or a bit of fin or skin. If the photo is determined to be authentic, or if a University of Minnesota biologist can confirm the DNA came from a monster, fame and fortune will certainly follow.

**Come visit Lake City
and see if you can spot
Pepie the Lake Pepin Monster!**

Travel Plan

Destination: **Lake City**
Dates:

Lodging:

Places to Eat:

Things to Do:

Packing List:



Villa Maria

Day 1:

Blank green area for Day 1 notes.

Day 2:

Blank green area for Day 2 notes.

Day 3:

Blank green area for Day 3 notes.

Day 4:

Blank green area for Day 4 notes.

Day 5:

Blank green area for Day 5 notes.

Notes:

Large blank orange area for general notes.

Lake City Word Search

Can you find:

fudge
canoe
apples
walleye
pearl
sailing
bicycle
pepin
samuelson
waterski
marina
ohuta
hoksila
bowling
pepie
mississippi

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



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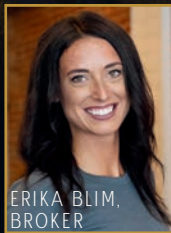
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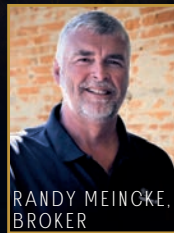
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