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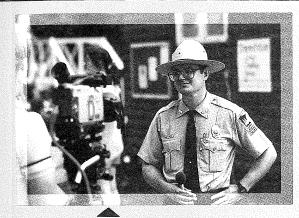
DNR/Sundberg

# NATURALE

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

STATE PARKS

MAY 1 A 1990



# **Expect Our Best**

You are welcomed and invited to explore Minnesota's 65 state parks. Come experience the beauty and adventure that these great places have to offer, or find a quiet spot to relax and watch the sun set

Use this guide to find your special place, Minnesota style. Every park is unique and offers you its own combination of scenery, facilities, natural resources and pieces of Minnesota's history.

Minnesota State Park employees are dedicated to preserving natural and cultural resources, while being responsive to public needs and providing a diversity of recreational opportunities.

Our employees' professionalism and Minnesota's natural beauty are among the things that make Minnesota's state park system one of the finest in the country. Minnesota's state parks are here for you. If you like what you see, please tell a friend, and be sure to come back soon.

Sudy Terpich

RUDY PERPICH Governor State park staff provide a variety of services including: visitor information, security, maintenance of park facilities and reservation system, resource management, special events, and public relations.

DNR/Duke

One of the main purposes of the Minnesota State Park system is environmental education. Naturalists help visitors of all ages to better understand, appreciate and enjoy the resources. DNR/Duke





Hiking & Biking

Scenic hiking trails are provided in all 65 state parks. Over 780 miles of trails wind through pine forests, prairies, colorful hardwoods, marshes and bogs. Each turn holds the promise of wildlife, overlooks, bluffs, rivers and lakes.

Biking is permitted on park roads and on trails that are designated for such use. Surfaced bike trails are available in 12 state parks. St. Croix and Itasca have rental bikes available.

**Swimming** 

Thirty-three state parks offer visitors a cool reprieve from hot summer days. Facilities vary from natural sandy lakeshores to elaborate sandbottom swimming pools. Glass, fires, pets and alcoholic beverages are not permitted on state park beaches.

**Boating & Fishing** 

Water is the common denominator in many of Minnesota's state parks. Opportunities include rushing trout streams, crystal blue lakes, meandering rivers, waterfowl lakes and the great Lake Superior itself. Fishing piers make many lakes accessible to children, elderly and handicapped people. Public boat launches, canoe and

boat rentals are available in many parks. Commercial boat tours are available at Itasca. Interstate and Lake Bemidji State Parks.

**Picnicking** 

Picnic tables are available year-round in all 65 state parks. Many parks also offer open or enclosed shelters which may be reserved for group picnics or family reunions. Contact the park for reservations. Playground equipment, volleyball courts and horseshoe pits are often adjacent to the picnic areas.

Interpretive Activities

For visitors of all ages, interpretive programs are often the highlight of the park visit. Seasonal and year-round naturalists offer guided tours, talks, slideshows, films and workshops in almost half of the parks. (Brochure code MIP). Naturalists also provide programs for school groups, youth groups and other organizations.

The Junior Park Naturalist program is designed especially for children 7-14 who want to learn more about our environment. Upon completion of the Junior Park Naturalist program, kids may go on to the Explorer program which offers more advanced educational opportunities. (Brochure code JPN).

Visitor centers, outdoor exhibits and selfguided trails provide additional opportunities to learn about park resources.

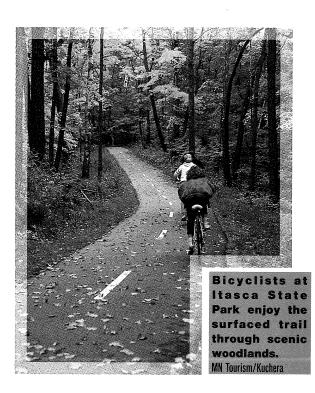
The Lifetimes and Landscapes program provides free, quality summer entertainment through music, theater, storytelling, demonstrations and more at parks throughout the state. (Brochure code SAS).

> Trout fishing is popular along the North Shore rivers such as the Cascade River. Southeast Minnesota state parks also offer excellent trout streams. DNR/Sundberg



# Passport Club

The Passport Club is a fun and easy way to keep a record of the different state parks you visit. It is also an incentive to keep exploring and visiting new state parks. After visiting 8, 16, 32 and 65 parks, members receive free patches, nights of camping, posters and more. (Brochure code PPC).



#### **Historical Features**

Minnesota state parks are rich in history — from ancient Indian campsites and burial mound cemeteries to iron ore mine tours. Individual park histories are explained through maps, brochures, self-guided trails, displays and interpretive programs. Special historical festivals and events are offered seasonally at many parks. (Brochure code SAS).

The Lakota Hoop Dance intrigues visitors at the Big Island Rendezvous at Helmer Myre State Park. It is also performed at the Fort Ridgely Historical Festival. DNR/Duke

Groomed and well marked cross-country ski trails are available in most state parks. Skate ski trails are also provided in some areas.

DNR/Sundberg



# Winter Activities

Great cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, sledding, snowshoeing, ice fishing, skating and more await visitors looking for outdoor adventure. Heated trail centers, ski and snowshoe rental and naturalist programs are available in some parks. Bring your camera along to capture the beauty of these sparkling winter landscapes.



More than 4,000 campsites are provided in Minnesota's state parks. A variety of settings are available, from secluded canoe campsites to RV sites with modern amenities. Winter camping areas with vault toilets and a water source are available at many parks. Some parks offer electrical hook-ups throughout the winter. Wild River, Gooseberry Falls and Tettegouche State Parks offer winter campers heated showers and sanitation buildings.

**Tent & Trailer Camping** 

Drive-in campsites are available in most parks. Many parks offer electrical hook-ups, dumping stations and pull-through sites. Hot showers, modern toilets and handicapped accessible sites are available at many parks. Some parks do have RV length limits. Check the chart in the back of this brochure for specific details.

The sparkle of sunlight off a clear, tranquil stream, the wind in the pines, the smell of an open campfire...

Camping gives visitors a chance to really experience the beauty of Minnesota. **DNR/Miles** 

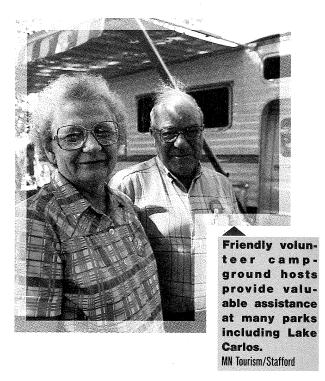
# Walk-in Camping

These sites are ideal for campers who want to get away from the activity of a busy campground, but not too far away. Walk-in sites are more rustic and less than 1/4 mile from a parking area. Split Rock Lighthouse offers carts to assist campers with carrying gear.

# **Backpack Camping**

For those seeking a more wilderness-type experience, these secluded sites are more than





<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile from a parking area. Campers may have to carry in drinking water.

# Canoe Camping

These sites are accessible only from lakes or rivers in the park. Most are located near the shore and are secluded, providing vault or pit toilets and a water source (which may need treatment).

# Horse Camping Areas

Eighteen campgrounds have been set up for equestrian use. Sites accommodate trailer units, and most are equipped with a hitching area, water source and toilets. (Brochure code HO).

# **Campground Hosts**

Many state parks have volunteer campground hosts who "live in" the park and assist campers by providing information and making your park visit more enjoyable. In return for assisting campers, hosts receive free camping. If you are interested in being a campground host, contact the park of your choice. (Brochure code CGH).

# Group Camping & Group Centers

(Brochure code GRC).

Modern group centers offer complete modern facilities including cabins, hot showers, dining halls, kitchens and private recreation areas. Available at: Flandrau, Lake Carlos, Lake Shetek, St. Croix, Sibley and Whitewater. (St. Croix and Whitewater are winterized).

Semi-modern group centers offer the same facilities as modern centers except they are designed for tent camping or recreational vehicles. Available at: Helmer Myre and Itasca.

Rustic group camps are available in most parks. These sites offer campsites with tables, fire rings, toilets and a water source.

#### Reservations

Campsite reservations are available for all state park campgrounds. While specific sites cannot be guaranteed, you are guaranteed a site. A fee is charged for each camping reservation. The camping reservation brochure gives details. (Brochure code PRB). Group camps and group center reservations are available up to a year in advance. Picnic shelter reservation policy varies from park to park.

Winter camping is available at many state parks. The adventurous may even want to try snowshoeing into one of the backpack campsites such as this one at Banning State Park. MN Tourism/Kuchera







#### 1. Buffalo River

Hike along a glacial beach ridge in this big sky prairie country. Bring your binoculars on the nature trail along the river where hundreds of swallows nest in the cliff. Listen for the rare prairie chicken in the spring. or escape summer's heat by spending the afternoon swimming. Entrance to the park is from U.S. Hwy 10.

#### 2. Glacial Lakes

This park is located on a complex glacial deposit where the prairieland and the central hardwood forests meet. Hikers and skiers enjoy the excellent vistas of Mountain and Baby Lakes and the wide-open feel from the hills of the native prairie. Trails also lead past many glacial formations, prairie potholes, marshes, woodlands and creeks. Located 5 miles south of Starbuck off State Hwy 29.

#### 3. Hayes Lake

The central focus of the park is the lake and the north fork of the Roseau River. Here there is an abrupt transition from farmland to wilderness. This secluded park gives visitors a chance to see a variety of Minnesota wildlife, Loons, moose and beaver can commonly be seen: fisher, otter, lynx, black bear and wolves also live in the area. Located south of Roseau. Access to the park is off Co. State Aid Hwy 4.

#### 4. Itasca

Established in 1891, Itasca is our oldest Minnesota State Park. In this 32,000 acre sanctuary, the mighty Mississippi River begins its journey 2.552 miles to the Gulf of Mexico. Other points of interest in the park include Preacher's Grove, Peace Pipe Vista, the Itasca Indian Mounds, Wegmann Cabin and over 100 lakes. The historic Douglas Lodge complex features the lodge, rustic cabins and the unique Forest Inn, built by the CCC. Wilderness Drive goes past the 2,000 acre Wilderness Sanctuary which is one of Minnesota's seven National Natural Landmarks, Located 21 miles north of Park Rapids on U.S. Hwy 71.

# 5. Lake Bemidji

The unique boardwalk into the quiet, mysterious world of a sprucetamarack bog offers visitors a rare chance to view orchids, mosses and insect eating plants. Swimming and boating on Lake Bemidji, hiking, biking, skiing and snowshoeing are

visitor favorites in this popular park. The park is located 1.7 miles off Old U.S. Hwy 71 on Beltrami Co. State Aid Hwy 20.

#### 6. Lake Bronson

If you've never seen a moose, this park may give you that opportunity. Located in the transition zone between the prairieland of the Red River Valley and the aspen parkland to the east, this park offers a diversity of wildlife habitat. Climb the historic tower for a view of the area. Water recreation is very popular. Near the town of Lake Bronson. access is from Co. State Hwy 28.

#### 7 Lake Carlos

The glacial moraine is dotted with woodland ponds, marshes, wet meadows and lakes cradled among hills. Visitors can hike or ski from a tamarack bog to a maple-basswood stand, or from open grassland to forested ridges overlooking a clean, deep lake noted for its game fish. Located 10 miles north of Alexandria on State Hwy 29.

> Retreating glaciers left many sota. This diverse region offers prairies. hardwood forests and tall pines. DNR/Sundberg

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# 8. Maplewood

Visitors are surprised by the size and incredible beauty of this west-central Minnesota park. There is great fishing, with eight major lakes in this 9,250 acre park. The rolling hills and hardwood forests along the park drive make it an exciting place to watch for wildlife or view fall colors. Located 7 miles east of Pelican Rapids on State Trunk Hwy 108.

#### 9. Old Mill

This historic area was recognized as a community treasure long before it became a state park. Visitors enjoy the old flour mill and log cabin as well as the clean swimming beach, campgrounds and woodland trails. Access to the park is 1/2 mile off Co. State Aid Hwy 4.

# 10. Zippel Bay

This is north country! The park is located on the shores of Lake of the Woods, a 950,000 acre lake. The four miles of white sand beach and ocean-like waves offer a variety of water recreation opportunities. A new stone jetty provides a channel for safe access to the lake. Located 10 miles northeast of Williams, From State Hwy 11, take Co. Rd. 2 north to Co. Rd. 8 west.

Moose can be seen in severa of the northern water. They are the largest members of the deer family. DNR/Gordon

The Red River Valley of northwest Minnesota is famous for its lush cropland. sons Mill, now part of Old Mill State Park.







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#### Bear Head Lake

Experience the beauty of the North at this secluded park on the edge of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Listen quietly for the call of the loon, or cast a line in these outstanding fishing waters. From Tower, take U.S. Hwy 169 east to St. Louis Co. Hwy 128. Take 128 south 6 miles to the park.

#### - Cascade River

As the name implies, this park offers spectacular waterfalls in the heart of the North Shore country. Hike up the hills of birch and spruce forests for scenic overlooks of Lake Superior. Follow U.S. Hwy 61 northeast out of Tofte 18 miles to the park.

#### Franz Jevne

Located along the famous Rainy River. You'll enjoy the peaceful, rustic, secluded campsites. Be sure to bring along your fishing gear. There is public boat access to the

Rainy River from the park. Access to the park is via State Hwy 11.

#### 14. George H. Crosby Manitou

For those wanting to get off the beaten track, this park offers the essence of tranquility in the rugged north country. Only backpacking campsites are available. They are located along the cascading Manitou River amidst towering pines and yellow birch. Water is available at the office, but if you plan to drink the river water, it must be treated. From Finland, take Lake Co. Rd. 7 eight miles to the park entrance.

# Gooseberry Falls

This popular North Shore park features spectacular waterfalls. scenic overlooks, a visitor center and superb trout fishing. Be sure to take in an interpretive program to learn more about the history, geology and wildlife of the North Shore. Take U.S. Hwy 61 northeast from Two Harbors 12 miles to the park.

# 16. Grand Portage

This park was approved by the legislature in May, 1989. It is not open to the public yet. Acquisition, lease arrangements, trail restoration and other development should be completed by 1991.

#### Hill Annex Mine

Some people refer to it as Minnesota's own Grand Canyon. This historic open pit mine was one of the richest iron ore mines in the nation and is now a tribute to the mining industry. Bus tours take visitors down 300 feet into the spectacular open

pit mine, with numerous stops along the way. The park is located north of Calumet along U.S. Hwy 169.

# 18 Jay Cooke

Hike the historic Grand Portage of the St. Louis River. Peer over the swinging bridge at the rocky river gorge below or pause for a moment in the pioneer cemetery. The forests and vistas make this park a hikers' and skiers' delight. Located 3 miles east of Carlton on State Trunk Hwy 210.

#### Judge C.R. Magney

Some would say the further north you go along the North Shore, the more spectacular the waterfalls become. The Devil's Kettle Waterfall on the rampaging Brule River is certainly a sight to see. Trails in the park also offer scenic vistas of Lake Superior and the surrounding forests. The park entrance is off U.S. Hwy 61, 14 miles northeast of Grand Marais.

> Waterfalls characterize the Shore parks along Lake Sup-**Baptism River** tumbles through Tettegouche State Park's northern pine forests. MN Tourism/Stafford

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#### 20. McCarthy Beach A water-recreation enthusiasts' haven!

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Sturgeon Lake Chain (4 lakes), Side Lake, Pickerel Lake, Beatrice Lake, Mark Lake. Trestle Lake and other small lakes provide endless opportunities for swimming, boating, fishing and sailing. The park is also the midpoint of the Taconite Trail. Take U.S. Hwy 169 north out of Hibbing to St. Louis Co. Rd. 5. Follow this county

#### 21. Moose Lake

road 16 miles to the park.

A sunny beach and open grassy areas for Frisbee or other sports makes this park a fun, family recreation area. The campground is high on the hill overlooking Echo Lake. Located 1/4 mile east of I-35 at the Moose Lake exit; the park

# 22. Savanna Portage

entrance is off Co. Hwy 137.

Hike the historic Savanna Portage Trail where voyageurs, explorers and Indians once carried canoes and heavy packs. Or walk high above on the Continental Divide Trail where water flows either to the Mississippi River or Lake Superior. This northern lake country offers excellent swimming, boating and fishing

opportunities. Take MN Hwy 65 to

Aitkin Co. Hwy 14, then follow 14

and 36 east 10 miles to the park.

#### 23. Scenic

So named because many would say it is the most scenic state park in Minnesota. You will have to come judge for yourself! Camp in the modern campground; or you might want to venture back into one of the canoe or backpack sites on one of

the seven pristine lakes in the park. Scenic is 7 miles east of Bigfork on Co. Rd. 7.

#### 24. Soudan **Underground Mine**

This is the only underground iron ore mine in the world that you can tour. Journey down 2,400 feet through the mine shaft to the 27th level, then ride the rails back into the mine to see the work of Minnesota miners. Take U.S. Hwy 169 to Soudan and follow the signs.



# 25. Split Rock Lighthouse

The beautiful, historic lighthouse and history center are the focal points, but plan to spend some time hiking and camping to really appreciate the park and Lake Superior. Day Hill, Corundum Point and access to the Superior Hiking Trail are some of the popular trails. This is the only park

with cart-in campsites. The park is

located about 20 miles north of Two Harbors on U.S. Hwv 61.

#### 26. Temperance River One of the most interesting geologic

features in the park is the narrow Temperance River gorge with its many waterfalls. The rapidly flowing river cut deep potholes in and along the riverbed. Located 1 mile north of Schroeder on U.S. Hwy 61.

Split Rock Lighthouse is one of sites in northeast Minnesota. Other visitor favorites are Hill Annex Mine, Souground Mine and Savanna Portage. **DNR/Sundberg** 

# 27. Tettegouche

This park serves as one of the headquarters for information on the North Shore. It is also a spectacular destination. Hike out to the rocky, wind-swept Shovel Point, or back into one of the four, quiet inland lakes. And, of course, don't miss the beautiful High Falls on the Baptism River, the highest waterfall inside Minnesota's border. Tettegouche is located 41/2 miles east of Silver Bay on U.S. Hwy 61.

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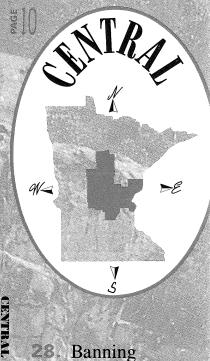
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Banning

Wander through the historic ruins of the Banning Sandstone Quarry or, for the very adventurous, kayak down the Hell's Gate Rapids on the Kettle River. Wolf Creek Falls, the Log Creek Arches and Robinson's Ice Cave are other unique features. Entrance is off I-35, exit 195 and State Hwy 23 (Askov).

Parks along the scenic St. Croix River offer a multitude of recreation opportunities, Canoeists here at Interstate Park enjoy the sheer cliffs of the narrow river gorge.

Charles A. Lindbergh

Located on the outskirts of Little Falls, this park offers quiet picnic grounds and scenic trails. Eagles, hawks and owls can often be seen along the river and in the surrounding forests. Across the street, on the banks of the Mississippi River, is the boyhood home of the famous aviator. Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr. The park entrance is located one mile southwest of Little Falls on Co. Rd. 52.

**Crow Wing** 

Walk along the historic Red River Ox Cart Trail past the remains of the once prosperous townsite of Old Crow Wing, Indians, settlers and people of today have long appreciated the beauty of this site at the confluence of the Crow Wing and Mississippi Rivers. Take time to read the interpretive signs and hike the trails to capture a sense of the area's history. Located 9 miles south of Brainerd on U.S. Hwy 371. Park headquarters 2 miles west of 371 on Co. 27.

3 Father Hennepin

This park is the gateway to Mille Lacs Lake, where you can experience the excitement of all kinds of water recreation. The park offers a natural sand beach and boat access on the southeastern shore of the lake. Located off of State Hwy 27, just west of Isle.

#### Interstate

The fascinating glacial potholes and the steep narrow river gorge on the St. Croix River make this an exciting park to hike, canoe and explore. Geologically, it is one of the most significant sites in Minnesota. Visitors also enjoy the interpretive center and the excursion boat tour down the river. The park entrance is located on State Hwy 8, one mile south of Taylors Falls.

33 Lake Maria

Fall is a favorite time for hikers and horseback riders in this beautiful park of maple-basswood forests. The large trail center features wildflower paintings by a local artist. The park can be reached from the south via Co. State Aid Hwy 39 and Wright Co. 111, or from the north via Co. State Aid Hwy 8 and Wright Co. 111.

34. Mille Lacs Kathio

This 10.000 acre park offers an outstanding woodland trail system that is a favorite of hikers, skiers, snowmobilers and horseback riders. Climb to the top of the 100 foot observation tower for a spectacular view of the area. Visit the interpretive center to learn the fascinating story of 5,000 years of human activity in this National Historic Landmark. Entrance is one mile off U.S. Hwy 169 on Co. Rd. 26.

St. Croix

Our largest Minnesota state park. with over 34,000 acres, has three family camparounds and facilities for large groups. Canoeing is popular on both the St. Croix and Kettle Rivers in the park; they are a combination

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of flat water and easy rapids. Be sure to visit the interpretive center, Bring your bike along, or rent one in the park to ride on the paved bike paths. Located 16 miles east of Hinckley on State Hwy 48. Park headquarters is on Co. Rd. 22, five miles south of the park entrance.

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# **36.** Schoolcraft

The park is sometimes called Little Itasca because here too, you will find the giant pine forest. The Mississippi River is a little wider as it flows through the park, but it is a much quieter spot than the busy Headwaters. Canoeists and hikers enjoy a nice view of the river from the park. Take State Hwy 6 to Co. Rd. 65 west, then north on Co. Rd. 138.





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The Yellow
Lady's Slipper is
a beautiful orchid that blooms
in the bogs,
swamps and
rich woods of
Minnesota. It
blooms in late
spring/early
summer, as does
its close relative
the Showy
Lady's Slipper.

DNR/Sundberg

# **37.** Wild River

Co. Rd. 12.

The beautiful St. Croix River is one of the eight original National Wild and Scenic Rivers. Eagles, woodcock, ruffed grouse, bluebirds, beaver and otter are just a few of the wildlife species that abound in the park. The visitor center highlights the natural resources and cultural history of the area. An all-season trail center is the focal point for the park's 35 mile trail system. Take State Hwy 95 to

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On the shores of this large reservoir, visitors enjoy quiet sunsets and excellent walleye fishing at the source of the Minnesota River. The drive along the lakeshore, through the apple orchards north of Ortonville, is especially beautiful in the fall. Access to the park is via State Hwy 7.

#### Blue Mounds

Experience the prairie as it was in the early days. Prairie grasses and flowers sway in the wind like the waves of a sea. Atop the mound you can see for miles and walk along the Sioux Quartzite cliff. You'll be surprised by the beauty of the cactuses blooming in June, the herd of bison grazing and the unique interpretive center. Three miles north of Luverne, just off U.S. Hwy 75.

#### A) Camden

Fish for trout in the Redwood River, hike or ski the trails, or cool off in the spring-fed pool. Walk along the wooded river valley, climb the valley to Sioux Lookout or simply enjoy Brawner Lake. The park is located off State Hwy 23, ten miles south of Marshall.

#### Flandrau

Nestled in the valley of the Cottonwood River, this park offers hikers and skiers a diversity of landscapes; from wooded river bottoms to oxbow marshes to scenic hill prairies. There are many opportunities for wildlife observation, and summer visitors enjoy the sandbottom swimming pool. From Hwy 15 & 68 in New Ulm, turn southwest on 10th Street, continue 2/3 mile, turn left on Summit Street.

Fort Ridgely

Tour the historic fort site and wander through the ruins of this once thriving outpost. Learn about the 1862 U.S.-Dakota Conflict, a major event in Minnesota's early history. Enjoy the scenic nine-hole golf course. Entrance to the park is off of State Hwy 4, six miles south of Fairfax.

#### Kilen Woods

For a quiet, relaxing reprieve, hike the cool woodland trails along the Des Moines River. Climb the lookout tower for a bird's-eye view of the surrounding countryside. You'll find pleasant surprises as you explore small creeks, prairie grasslands and oak savannas. Located 8 miles

A herd of Bison roam the large prairie area at Blue Mounds State Park. Early May is a good time to watch vouna calves.

MN Tourism/Stafford

northeast of Lakefield, 5 miles east of State Hwy 86 on Jackson Co. 24.

# Lac Oui Parle

The "lake which speaks" is a dominant feature of this park. In fall, thousands of geese descend on the lake, bald eagles perch on nearby trees and deer are a common sight. Fishing is popular year-round and the area is rich in Minnesota history. Access is off of U.S. Hwy 59 via Chippewa Co. Rd. 13, on the southeast end of Lac Qui Parle Lake. 5 miles northwest of Watson.

#### Lake Shetek

History and water abound in this park. The lake, Koch Cabin and monument to the Shetek settlers are points of interest. The interpretive trail out to Loon Island is scenic and interprets the area. Boats and canoes are available for use on the lakes and along the cange trail. The park is north of Currie, via Co Rd. 38.

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Swimming is a popular summer activity, especially at Flandrau's new sand bottom swimming pool. DNR/Duke

#### Minneopa 46.

Visit the picturesque Seppman Mill and hike woodland trails along the Minnesota River. The picnic shelter near the scenic Minneopa Falls is a favorite site for weddings and family reunions. Located 5 miles west of Mankato on State Hwy 68 and U.S. Hwy 169.

#### 47. Monson Lake

With lake, wetlands and hardwood forests, this park has excellent habitat for wildlife. Summer evenings are a good time to watch for pelicans, waterfowl and western grebes feeding near the water's edge. Access is off State Hwy 104, just south of Sunburg, via Co. State Aid Hwy 18.

#### 48. Sibley

There is something for everyone at this active west-central Minnesota park, including special events such as a spring Loon Days Children's Festival, summer music concerts and autumn Heritage Days. Hiking to the Mt. Tom vista, enjoying a variety of water sports in the park's five lakes and crosscountry skiing are other visitor favorites. The main entrance to the park is on U.S. Hwy 71, 15 miles north of Willmar.

# 49. Split Rock Creek

Enjoy a swim in Split Rock Lake or walk down to the dam area for good fishing or just to see the picturesque stone bridge built by the WPA in 1937. Be sure to stop by the Prairie Hill Trail Center for an excellent vista and to learn more about the area. Just north of the park is the famous Pipestone National Monument. Located 7 miles southwest of Pipestone off State Hwy 23.

# SOUTHWESTERV 50. Upper Sioux Agency

The Yellow Medicine River is one of the most scenic rivers in southwestern Minnesota, Here, at its confluence with the Minnesota River, the land becomes a collection of open prairie knolls, bluffs and cool, wooded slopes. The visitor center and Upper Sioux Agency historic site give a good background of the area history and natural resources. The park is located on State Hwy 67, eight miles southeast of Granite Falls.

> Prickly Pear Cactus is just one of the unique flowers that bloom at Blue Mounds. Southwest Minmany types of plants and animals not found anywhere else in the state. **DNR/Miles**





#### Beaver Creek Valley

Tucked away in the scenic hills of southeastern Minnesota, this is an excellent park for viewing spring wildflowers. A blue-ribbon trout stream and nearby historic Schech's Mill are visitor attractions. Sit quietly in the campground by the stream or hike the bluff trails and explore the many overlooks. Kids' wading pool is new. From I-90 take State Hwy 76 south 24 miles.

The limestone bluff county of southeast Minnesota is scenic anytime of the year. Here snow sprinkles the top of a bluff at Whitewater State Park.

DNR/Palmouist

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# Carley

Come explore a springtime woodland filled with the colors of bluebells, or stroll softly on carpeted pine forest trails along the North Branch of the Whitewater River. You'll delight in this small, quiet park with excellent birding, fishing and hiking. Carley is located 4 miles south of Plainview

# Forestville/ Mystery Cave

In the spring, come listen to the ruffed grouse drumming and the wild turkey gobbling. In the summer, beat the heat and venture into the cool, intriguing world of Mystery Cave. In the fall, tour the park for an outstanding show of fall colors. In the winter, ski or snowmobile the southeastern bluff country. The historic pioneer townsite, excellent trout streams, scenic horse trails and early spring wildflowers are a few more reasons to visit the park. Entrance to the park is 4 miles south of U.S. Hwy 16 on Fillmore Co. Hwy 5, then 2 miles east on Fillmore Co. 12

#### 54. Frontenac

Enjoy views of Lake Pepin as you hike along the wooded slopes of this park. Be sure to bring your binoculars. Bald eagles may be seen nearly all year; this is one of the best places in the U.S. to view birds migrating every spring and fall along the Mississippi Flyway. The park is located on U.S. Hwy 61, ten miles southeast of Red Wing.

# Helmer Myre

Visit the waterfowl blind during spring migration, or come again in early fall when Albert Lea Lake is a major staging ground for white pelicans. The Esker Trail is spectacular any time of the year, and the Big Island Trail is another visitor favorite. Located 3 miles southeast of Albert Lea, on Co. Hwy 38.

#### 56. Lake Louise

Enjoy the walk by Lake Louise and the Little Iowa and Upper Iowa Rivers. The Hambrecht Historical Cottage and Museum is open weekends and holidays during the summer. A community-style barbecue pit in the picnic grounds makes this an ideal spot for family reunions. Lake Louise is located 1½ miles north of Le Roy on Co. Rd. 14.

#### 57 Nerstrand Woods

Part of the original "Big Woods," this park is known for its spring wildflowers, large hardwood trees and fall color. Take the boardwalk trail or hike to Hidden Falls. The best way to see the beauty of this park is on foot. Take State Hwy 246 west of Nerstrand for 2 miles to Co. Rd. 40.

SOUTHEASTERN

MINNESOTA

SOUTHEASTERN

# 58. O.L. Kipp

High on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River, scenic overlooks are easily reached by walking trails and offer a chance to get away in the quiet bluff country. Oak-hickory woods, pine plantations, and goat prairies provide excellent birding, hiking and scenery. Access to the park is off I-90 at Co. Rd. 12. Take Winona Co. Hwy 3 (Apple Blossom Drive) to the park entrance.

#### 59. Rice Lake

because of the shallow water and marshy edges. Spring and fall are the best times to see large flocks of birds. Spring wildflowers and deer observation are other visitor favorites. Located 7 miles east of Owatonna on Steele Co. Hwy 19.

Waterfowl are attracted to Rice Lake

# 60. Sakatah Lake

On the boundary between the prairie and the "Big Woods," this park offers a diversity of landscapes. Sakatah Singing Hills State Trail runs through the park, providing miles of hiking, biking, skiing and snowmobile opportunities. A bicycle touring camp will be completed in 1990. The park entrance is located off State Hwy 60, one mile east of the intersection of State Hwy 13 and 60 at Waterville, or

#### **61.** Whitewater

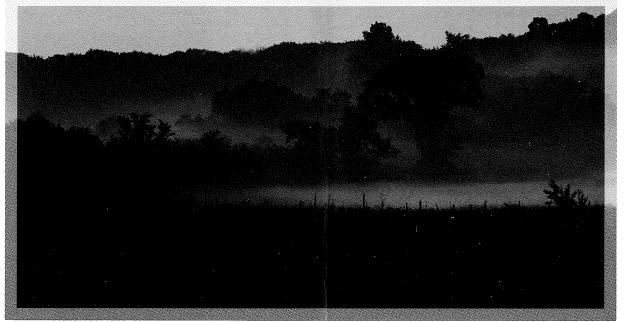
14 miles west of Faribault.

Minnesota's blufflands, with its absence of mosquitoes. This park features six scenic overlooks and excellent trout fishing in the spring fed Whitewater River and Trout Run Creek. Be sure to see the new Whitewater

Discover the beauty of southeastern

Valley Visitor Center and the Chimney Rock Geological Center. John Latsch Wayside offers additional camping nearby. Whitewater is located 3 miles south of Elba on State Hwy 74.

A quiet, foggy morning along a river or stream is a great time to capture the beauty of Minnesota State Parks Southeastern Minnesota's ests offer many peaceful re treats. DNR/Miles



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entrance is located on Post Road off

State Hwy 5.

One of Minnesota's best kept secrets, this park has outstanding natural resources and recreational opportunities only minutes away from the Twin Cities. Trails follow along the river. Lakes, historic farmsteads and abundant wildlife are a few of the many resources. Canoeing is also popular on the river. Access is off U.S. Hwy 169, west of Jordan.

# 65. William O'Brien

This year-round recreation area is on the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway among rolling, wooded hills and flood plain forests. Camping, canoeing, hiking, swimming, interpretive programs, picnicking and cross-country skiing are favorite pastimes. The park is located on State Hwy 95, 2 miles north of Marine on St. Croix.

The metro area state parks offer good places for friends and families to gather, such as the picnic area at William O'Brien State Park. Scenic rivers, lakes and trails provide additional outdoor recreation.

DNR/Ruda

# **62.** Afton The rugged, rolling landscape of this

park provides excellent hiking and skiing opportunities with scenic overlooks of the St. Croix River. The Prairie Walk interpretive trail, oak savannas and wooded river valley offer an interesting contrast of wildlife habitats. The visitor center offers a good place to get oriented to the trails and special features of the park. From St. Paul, go 8 miles east on 1-94, 7 miles south on Co. Rd. 15 then 3 miles east on Co. Rd. 20.

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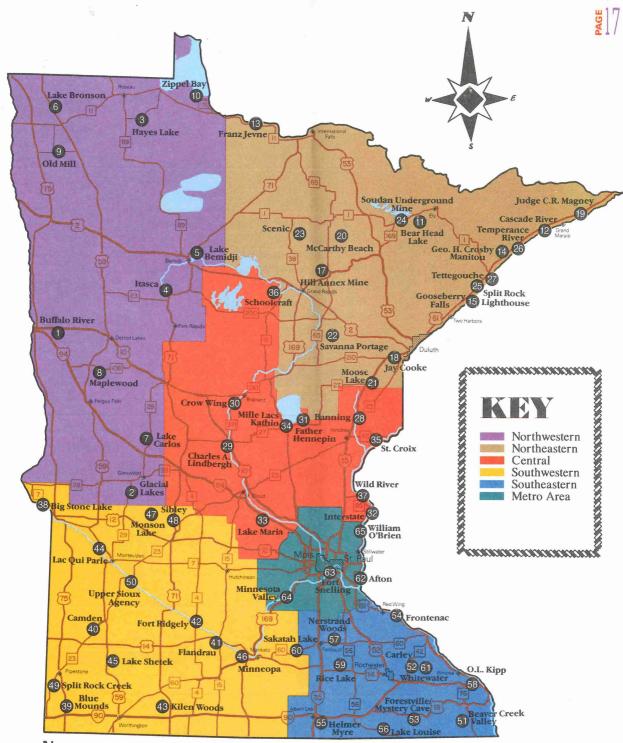
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**Note:** Numbers shown on the above map correspond to numbers used in preceding park descriptions and in the following facilities chart.



B — Boat C - Canoe

TO GRAPH

CA — Carry-In D — Drive-In

E — Enclosed

L - Lake

MI - Miles

O - Open R — River

S - Seasonal

ST - Stream Y - All Year

& - Handicapped Access

■ — Near Park ▲ — In Park

Under Construction

#### **BOATING** RESTRICTIONS

M — Electric Motors OnlyI — Inquire At Park

N — No Motors

SP — Speed Limit Restrictions W — No Water-Skiing

#### **OTHER**

1 — Fishing Pier2 — Canoe Shuttle

3 — Excursion Boat Tours

4 — Skating Rink 5 — Ski Rental

6 - Bike Rental

7 — Snacks

8 — Groceries

9 — Gift Shop

10 - Cabin(s)

11 — Lookout Tower 12 — Winter Sliding Hill

13 - Snowshoe Rental

14 — Mine Tours

15 — Cave Tours

16 - Lodge & Restaurant

17 - Golf Course & Club Rental

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B — BoatC — Canoe

TO GRAPH

CA — Carry-In
D — Drive-In

E — Enclosed

L — Lake MI — Miles

O — Open

R — River S — Seasonal

ST — Stream

Y — All Year

& — Handicapped Access
■ — Near Park

■ — Near Fa
■ — In Park

• — Under Construction

#### BOATING RESTRICTIONS

M — Electric Motors Only

I — Inquire At Park

N — No Motors

SP — Speed Limit Restrictions

W - No Water - Skiing

#### **OTHER**

1 - Fishing Pier

2 — Canoe Shuttle

3 — Excursion Boat Tours

4 — Skating Rink5 — Ski Rental

6 — Bike Rental

7 — Snacks

7 — Snacks8 — Groceries

9. — Gift Shop

10 - Cabin(s)

11 — Lookout Tower

12 — Winter Sliding Hill13 — Snowshoe Rental

14 — Mine Tours

15 — Cave Tours16 — Lodge & Restaurant

17 — Golf Course & Club Rental

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DECIONS

Snowmobile (MI)

Warming House

OTHER

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# PARK ADDRESSES & PHONE NUMBERS

Afton (612) 436-5391 6959 Peller Ave. S. Hastings, MN 55033 Banning (612) 245-2668 Box 643 Sandstone, MN 55072 Bear Head Lake (218) 365-4253 (218) 365-3150 Star Rt. 2 Box 5700 Ely, MN 55731 Beaver Creek Valley (507) 724-2107 Rt. 2 Box 57 Caledonia, MN 55921 Big Stone Lake (612) 839-3663 Rt. 1 Box 153 Ortonville, MN 56278 Blue Mounds (507) 283-4892 Rt. 1 Luverne, MN 56156 **Buffalo River** (218) 498-2124 Rt. 2 Box 118 Glyndon, MN 56547 Camden (507) 865-4530 Rt. 1 Box 9 Lynd, MN 56157 Carley (507) 534-3400 (507) 932-3007 Rt. 1 Box 256 Altura, MN 55910 Cascade River (218) 387-1543 (218) 226-3539 HCR 3 Box 450 Lutsen, MN 55612 Charles A. Lindbergh (612) 632-9050° P.O. Box 364 Little Falls, MN 56345 Crow Wing (218) 829-8022 7100 State Park Rd. SW Hill Annex Mine Brainerd, MN 56401 Father Hennenin (612) 676-8763 Box 397 Isle, MN 56342 Flandrau (507) 354-3519 1300 Summit Ave. New Ulm, MN 56073

Forestville/Mystery Cave (507) 352-5111 Rt. 2 Box 128 Preston, MN 55965 Fort Ridaely (507) 426-7840 Rt. 1 Box 65 Fairfax, MN 55332 Fort Snelling (612) 727-1961 Hwy. 5 & Post Rd. St. Paul, MN 55111 Franz Jevne no phone Rt. 3 Box 230 Birchdale, MN 56629 Frontenac (612) 345-3401 Rt. 2 Box 134 Lake City, MN 55041 George H. Crosby Manitou Call Tettegouche at: (218) 226-3539 474 Hwy. 61 E. Silver Bay, MN 55614 Glacial Lakes (612) 239-2860 Rt. 2 Box 126 Starbuck, MN 56381 Gooseberry Falls (218) 834-3855 (218) 834-3787 1300 Hwy. 61 E. Two Harbors. MN 55616 Grand Portage no phone; contact DNR Info. Center St. Paul, MN (800) 652-9747 Hayes Lake (218) 425-7504 Star Rt. 4 Box 84 Roseau, MN 56751 Helmer Myre (507) 373-5084 Rt. 3 Box 33 Albert Lea, MN 56007 (218) 247-7215 Box 376 Calumet, MN 55716 Interstate (612) 465-5711 Box 254 Taylors Falls, MN 55084

Itasca (218) 266-3654 (218) 266-3656 Lake Itasca, MN 56460 Mankato, MN 56001 Jav Cooke (218) 384-4610 500 E. Hwy. 210 Carlton, MN 55718 Judge C.R. Magney (218) 387-2929 (218) 226-3539 Box 500 East Star Rt. Grand Marais, MN 55604 Kilen Woods (507) 662-6258 Rt. 1 Box 122 Lakefield, MN 56150 Lac Oui Parle (612) 752-4736 Rt. 5 Box 74A Montevideo, MN 56265 Lake Bemidji (218) 755 - 38433401 State Park Rd. NE Bemidii, MN 56601 Lake Bronson (218) 754-2200 Box 9 Lake Bronson, MN 56734 Lake Carlos (612) 852-7200 Rt. 2 Box 240 Carlos, MN 56319 Lake Louise (507) 324-5249 Rt. 1 Box 184 Le Roy, MN 55951 Lake Maria (612) 878-2325 Rt. 1 Box 128 Monticello, MN 55362 Lake Shetek (507) 763-3256 Rt. 1 Box 164 Currie, MN 56123 Manlewood (218) 863-8383 Rt. 3 Box 422 Pelican Rapids, MN 56572 McCarthy Beach (218) 254-2411 HCR 5 Box 341 Hibbing, MN 55746 Mille Lacs Kathio (612) 532-3523 HC-67 Box 85 Onamia, MN 56359

Minneopa (507) 625-4388 Rt. 9 Box 143 Minnesota Valley (612) 492-6400 19825 Park Blvd. Jordan, MN 55352 Monson Lake (612) 366-3797 Sunberg, MN 56289 Moose Lake (218) 485-4059 (218) 384-4610 Rt. 2 1000 Co. 137 Moose Lake, MN 55767 Nerstrand Woods (507) 334-8848 9700 170th St. E. Nerstrand, MN 55053 O.L. Kipp (507) 643-6849 Rt. 4 Winona, MN 55987 Old Mill (218) 437-8174 Rt. 1 Box 42 Argyle, MN 56713 Rice Lake (507) 451-7406 Rt. 3 Box 45 Owatonna, MN 55060 St. Crnix (612) 384-6591 (612) 384-6657 Rt. 3 Box 450 Hinckley, MN 55037 Sakatah Lake (507) 362-4438 Rt. 2 Box 19 Waterville, MN 56096 Savanna Portage (218) 426-3271 HCR 3 Box 591 McGregor, MN 55760 Scenic (218) 743-3362 Rt. 2 Bigfork, MN 56628 Schoolcraft (218) 566-2383 HCR 4 Box 181 Deer River, MN 56636 Siblev (612) 354-2055 800 Sibley Park Rd. NE New London, MN 56273

Soudan Underground Mine (218) 753-2245 Box 335 Soudan, MN 55782 Split Rock Creek (507) 348-7908 Rt. 2 Jasper, MN 56144 Split Rock Lighthouse (218) 226-3065 Box 2010A Hwy. 61 E. Two Harbors, MN 55616 Temperance River (218) 663-7476 (218) 226-3539 Box 33 Schroeder, MN 55613 Tettegouche (218) 226-3539 474 Hwy. 61 E. Silver Bay, MN 55614 Upper Sioux Agency (612) 564-4777 Rt. 2 Box 92 Granite Falls, MN 56241 Whitewater (507) 932-3007 Rt. 1 Box 256 Altura, MN 55910 Wild River (612) 583-2125 39755 Park Trail Center City, MN 55012 William O'Brien (612) 433-<del>2421</del> 0500 16821 O'Brien Trail N. Marine on St. Croix, MN 55047 Zinnel Bay (218) 783-6252 Williams, MN 56686



# Park Entrance

State parks are open to the public vear-round from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Annual park vehicle permits give everyone in the vehicle unlimited access to all 65 state parks. Daily park entrance permits may be purchased at a nominal fee. Special discounts are available for Minnesota senior citizens, handicapped people and second-vehicle permits. All permits are available at park entrances, and annual permits are available at the DNR St. Paul office, 500 Lafayette Road. These funds help operate and preserve the park system.

# Sale of Items

All Minnesota state parks accept VISA or MasterCard along with cash and personal checks for park purposes. Wood, ice, pop and other convenience items, as well as gift and souvenir items, are available in most parks.

# Buses

Groups wishing to visit by bus must secure a vehicle permit. Vehicles with tax-exempt license plates do not need a permit. Group coordinators are encouraged to contact the park at least two weeks in advance.

# Waysides

The Division of Parks and Recreation also manages 14 state waysides. These sites have been set aside for their scenic beauty, unique resources, or historical significance. They have limited facilities; only John Latsch has camping (six rustic sites).

#### Pets

Pets are allowed in state parks though they must be kept on a leash (six foot maximum length) and be personally attended at all times. Pets are not allowed in buildings or on beaches, except for hearing or seeing-eye dogs. Owners must insure that their pets are not a nuisance. In mowed or maintained areas, owners should clean up after their pets.

# Firewood

Gathering of any firewood is prohibited in all areas of state parks. Firewood is available for sale at most parks.

#### Rules

A complete set of state park rules is available in all park offices or at the DNR Information Center. (Brochure code SPR).

# FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Department of Natural Resources Information Center can provide you with free detailed information about state parks. The center is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. To order additional state park brochures, use the brochure codes listed in this publication.

# Call Us At:

Twin Cities — 296-4776
Toll free in Minnesota —
800-652-9747 (Ask for DNR)
Telecommunications Device for Deaf — 612-296-5484

# Visit/Mail Address:

DNR Information Center 500 Lafayette Road St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

Reservations
1-800-765-2267
8-5 Man-Sat
550 fee
120 days in advance

