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- Metro area rivers guide : a guide

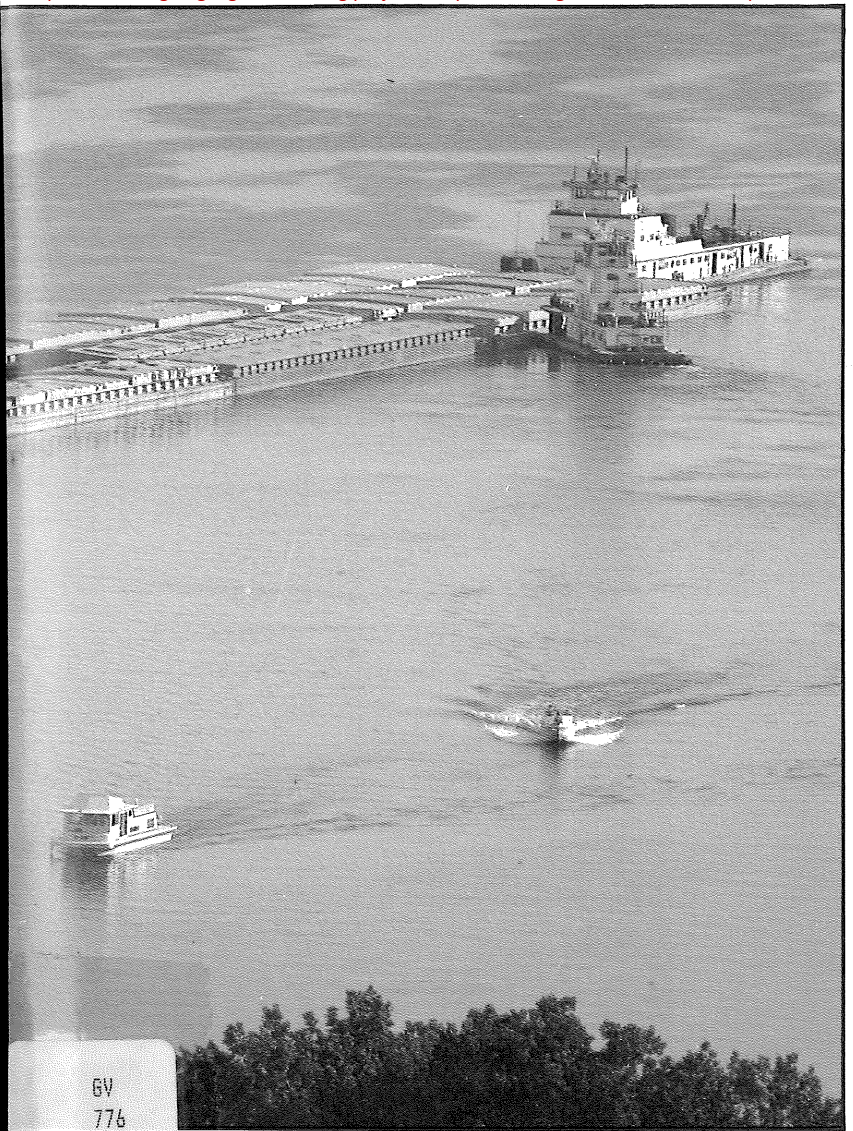


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METRO AREA RIVERS GUIDE

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A guide to boating on the
Mississippi, St. Croix and
Minnesota rivers.

Acknowledgments

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources would like to thank all of the federal, state and local agencies and private organizations that contributed to the completion of this guide. In addition, a special thanks to those members of the Department of Natural Resources who contributed their individual efforts, especially Cheryl Jackman, Deb Obsfeldt, John Morrow, Mark Kotz, Dana Wagner, Kim Elverum, Tim Smalley, Lori Rodriguez and Jill Crowson.

Cover photo taken by Jerry Stebbins

SAMPLE FLOAT PLAN

If you are planning on an extended or even a weekend boating or fishing trip, you should leave a float plan with someone who can notify the county sheriff, should you not return as scheduled.

1. Description of Boat

Length overall _____ feet

Color _____

Manufacturer _____

Registration number MN _____

Boat name _____

2. Persons on Board (names and addresses)

3. Trip Plan

Departing from _____ Departure date/time _____

Destination _____ Date & estimated return time _____

May be contacted by calling _____

4. Vehicle

Parking location _____

Description and license of vehicle _____

5. If not returned by (date/time) _____, call

_____ County Sheriff's Department

at () _____.

Agency

Type of Program

Deputy Registrar
See local phone book under
county government

Licensing of watercraft

County Sheriffs

Enforcement, search and
rescue and general water
safety

In Minnesota

In Wisconsin

Anoka County Sheriff
Courthouse
325 East Main Street
Anoka, MN 55303
(612) 421-4760

Pierce County Sheriff
Box 477
Ellsworth, WI 54011
(715) 273-5051

Chisago County Sheriff
Center City, MN 55012
(612) 257-4100

Polk County Sheriff
Box 245
Balsam Lake, WI 54810
(715) 485-3151

Dakota County Sheriff
Hastings, MN 55033
(612) 437-4211

St. Croix County Sheriff
919 Fourth Street
Hudson, WI 54016
(715) 386-8251

Hennepin County Water Patrol
Box 187
Spring Park, MN 55384
(612) 471-8528

National Park Service
St. Croix National
Scenic River - Lower District
P.O. Box 708
St. Croix Falls, WI 54021
(715) 438-3284

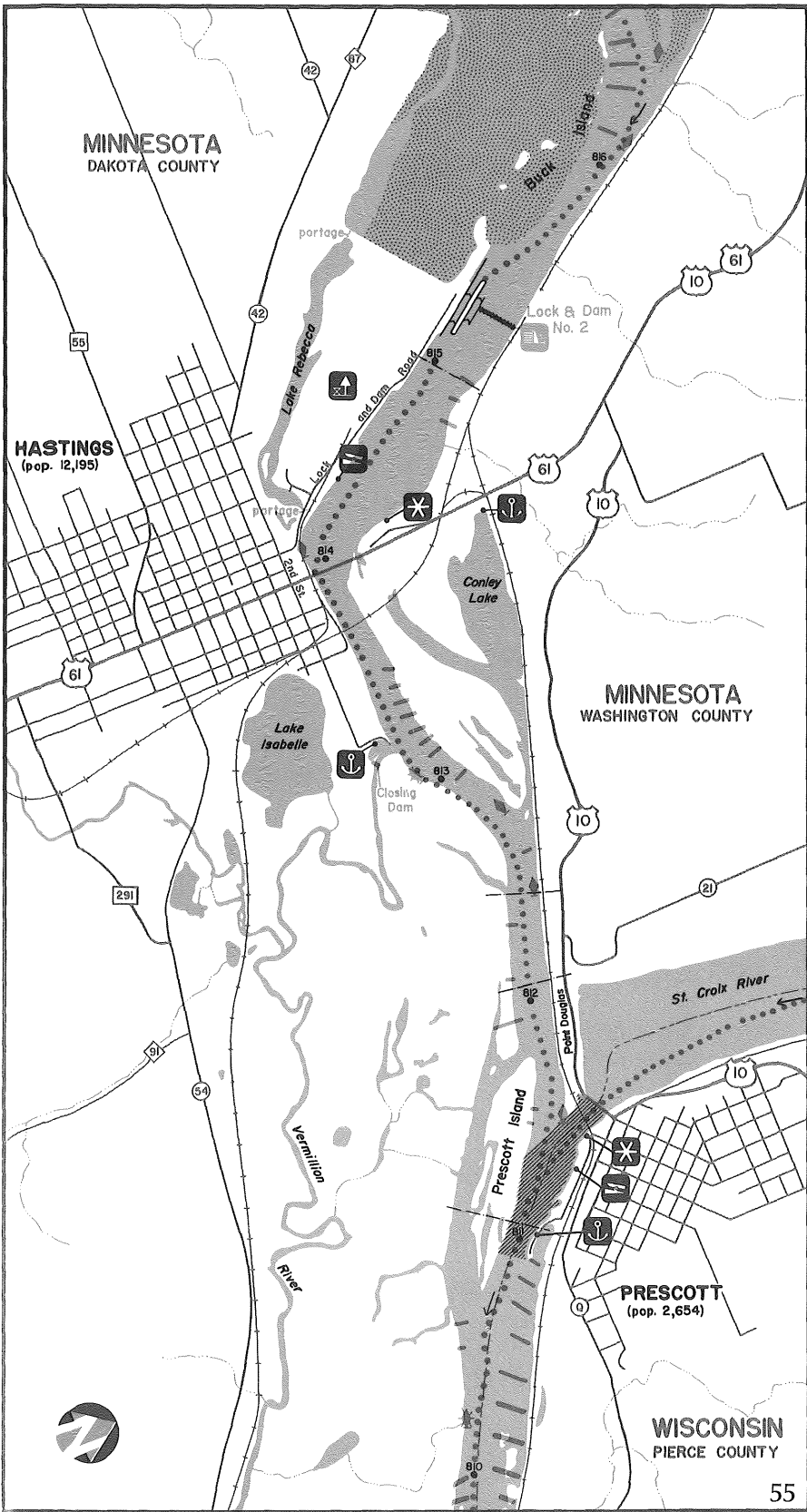
Ramsey County Sheriff
655 West County Road E
Shoreview, MN 55126
(612) 481-1312

Scott County Sheriff
428 South Holmes
Shakopee, MN 55379
(612) 445-7750

Washington County Sheriff
Stillwater, MN 55082
(612) 439-9381

**OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED
WITH BOATING ON THE RIVER(S)**

Agency	Type of Program
<p>Minnesota Department of Natural Resources: DNR Information: (612) 296-6157 Minnesota toll-free: (800) 652-9747 (ask for DNR)</p> <p>Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) (612) 296-5484</p>	
<p>License Bureau Box 26, 500 Lafayette Road St. Paul, MN 55155-4026 (612) 296-2316</p>	Watercraft Licensing
<p>DNR Region V/Rochester P.O. Box 6247 Rochester, MN 55903 (507) 285-7420</p>	Resource Management in S.E. Minnesota
<p>DNR Region VI/Metro 1200 Warner Road St. Paul, MN 55106 (612) 296-3572</p>	Resource Management in Metro Area
<p>U.S. Coast Guard: 1430 Olive Street St. Louis, MO 63103 (800) 255-3036 or Group Upper Mississippi River via Marine Radio on Channel 16</p>	Aides to navigation, inspection of boat manufacturers, federal regulations, marine event permits and pollution control
<p>U.S. Federal Communications Commission 316 North Robert St., Room 693 St. Paul, MN 55101 (612) 290-3819</p>	Administration, information, licensing and regulations of radio communications
<p>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Information St. Paul District 1135 U.S. Post Office and Custom House St. Paul, MN 55101 (612) 725-7506</p>	Administration of locks and dams, channel maintenance and river charts





815.3 Lock and Dam #2, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
lock on right

815.3-812.0R Hastings area
food, lodging, emergency 911



815.0R Lake Rebecca Municipal Park, City of Hastings
restrooms, drinking water, picnic area



814.4L King's Cove Marina, Private
entrance at R.M. 812.7L, fuel (including diesel), pumpouts, repair facilities, restrooms, (612) 437-6186



814.3R Mississippi River-Hastings Public Access, Minnesota DNR and City of Hastings
concrete slab ramp



814.3L Hub's Bait Marina, Private
concrete slab ramp — fee, canoe and boat rental, (612) 437-4358



813.3R Hastings Marine, Inc., Private
fuel, pumpouts, concrete slab ramp — fee, restrooms

811.5-810.8L Prescott area
food, lodging, emergency (715) 273-5051 (Pierce County Sheriff)



811.4L Leo's Landing, Private
fuel, pumpouts, temporary dockage, boat rental, restrooms, concessions, (715) 262-5998



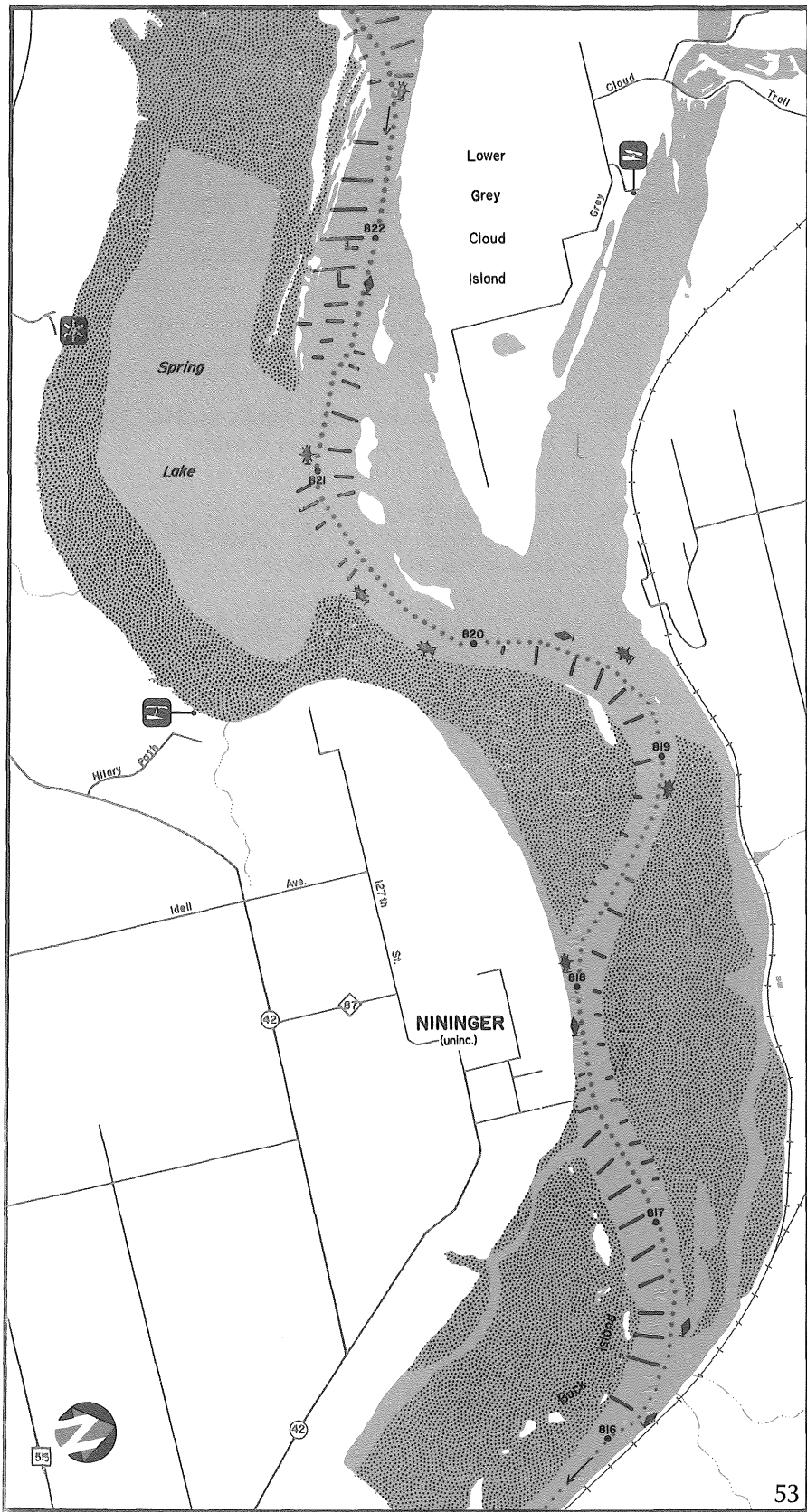
811.3L Prescott Public Access, City of Prescott
two paved concrete ramps — fee



811.1L Miss-Croix Yacht Harbor, Private
fuel, pumpouts, temporary dockage, repairs, (715) 262-5202

No wake zones

Special "slow-no-wake zones" are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage". To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.



822.4L **Grey Cloud Fish Bridge, City of Cottage Grove**
picnic area



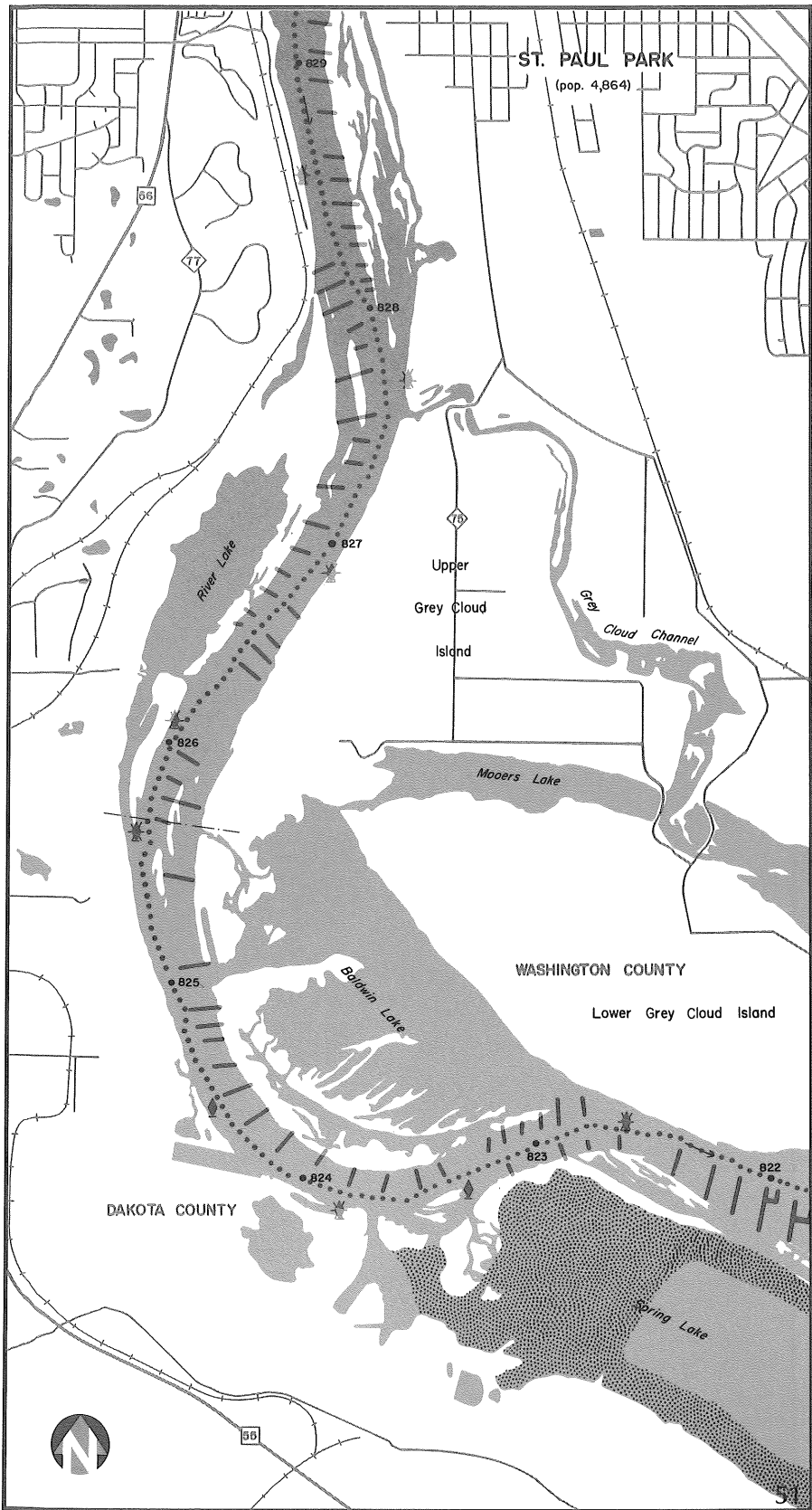
822.2L **Grey Cloud Park and Access, Minnesota DNR and City of Cottage Grove**
concrete slab ramp



821.4R **Bud's Landing, Private**
earth ramp — fee, canoe and boat rental



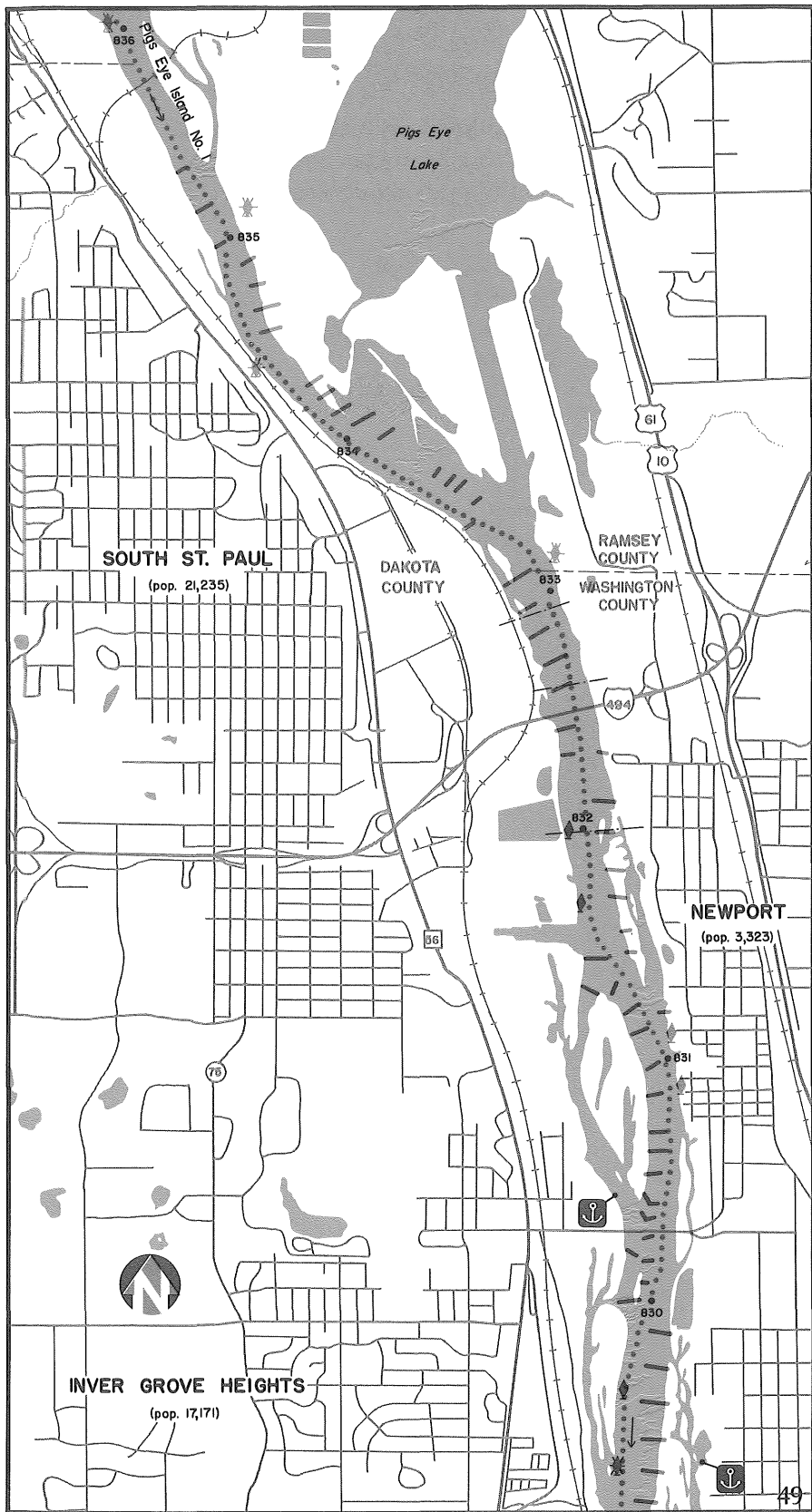
820.5R **Mississippi River Public Access, Minnesota DNR**
carry-in access



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

The Wisconsin DNR is also involved with enforcement, boating safety, pollution control, boat licensing, and information and education. For more information about Wisconsin DNR programs, contact:

Wisconsin DNR
District Office
1300 West Clairmont Ave.
Box 4001
Eau Claire, WI 54702
(715) 839-3717



835.7- **South St. Paul area**
830.8R *food, lodging, emergency 911*

833.1- **Newport area**
830.3L *food, lodging, emergency 911*

830.8 **Inver Grove Heights area**
838.0R *food, lodging, emergency 911*



830.4R **Newport Island Yacht Club, Private**
fuel, pumpouts, restrooms, asphalt ramp — fee, (612) 455-9110



829.5L **Willie's Hidden Harbor, Private**
fuel, pumpouts, concrete slab ramp — fee, restrooms, (612) 459-2129

BOAT AND WATER SAFETY PROGRAM

One of the Boat and Water Safety Program's prime responsibilities is education. Using brochures, boating courses, pamphlets, billboards, television and radio public service announcements, media interviews, and newsreleases, the public is kept informed of boating safety issues.

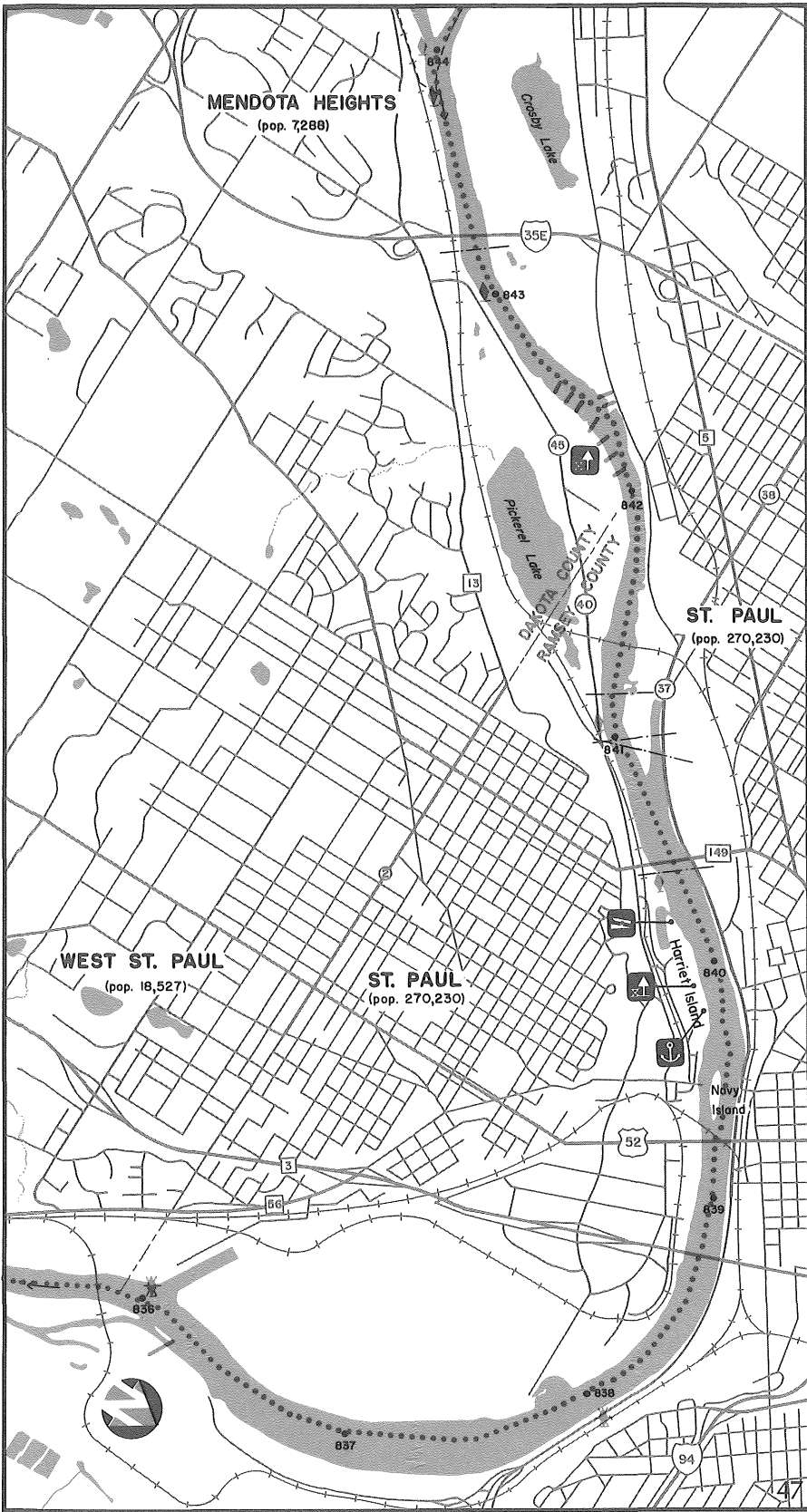
Boat and Water Safety personnel also give talks to boaters and sporting groups, and provide training to enforcement personnel and fire/rescue departments.

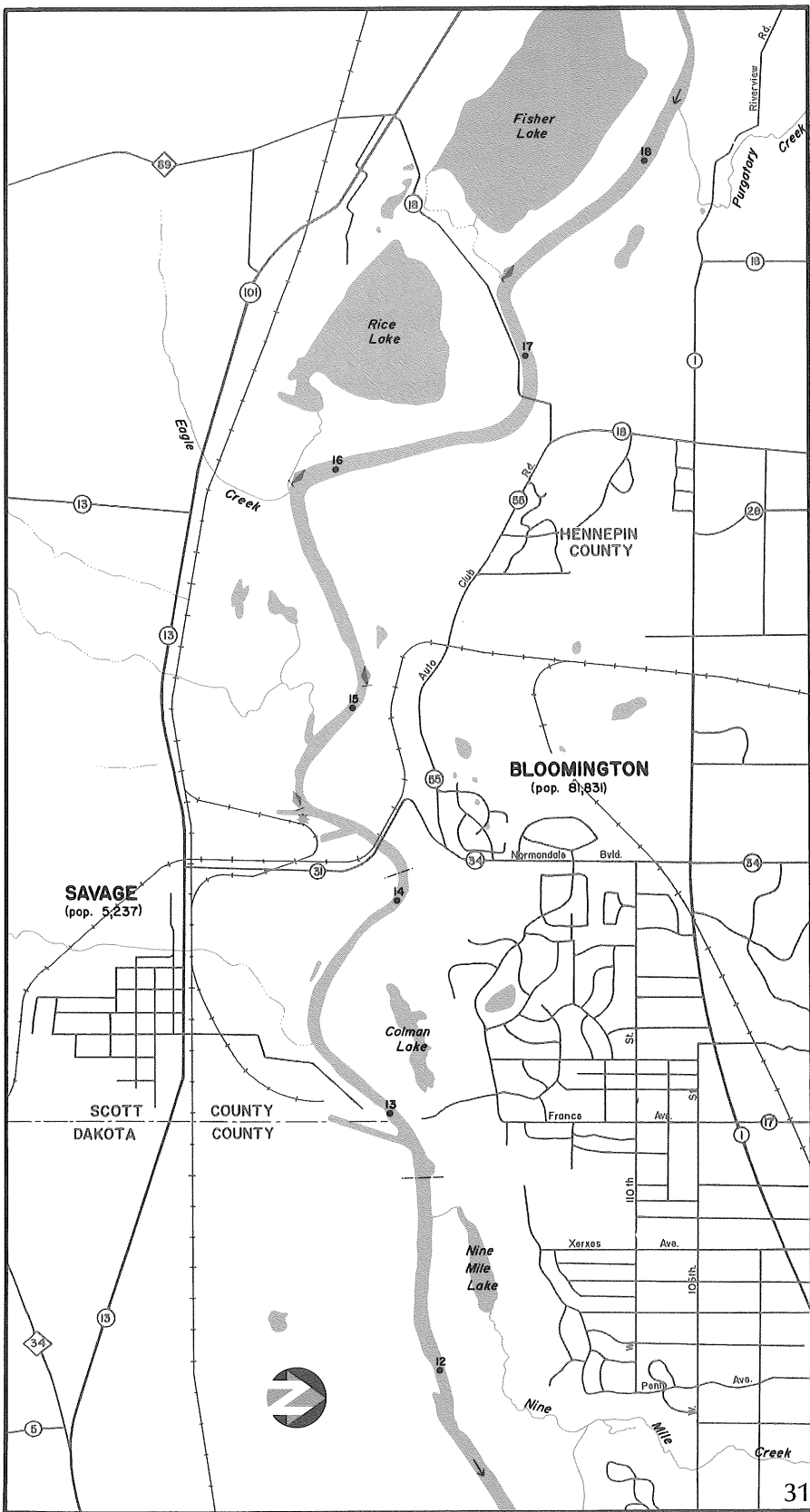
DNR Boat and Water Safety Section
Box 46, 500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4046
(612) 296-3310

DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT

The Division's responsibilities on the river include enforcement of fish and wildlife regulations, boating safety laws, water-use regulations and water pollution laws. DNR Conservation Officers also conduct firearms, snowmobile and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) safety training programs; enforce snowmobile and ATV laws; and patrol state parks and campgrounds.

DNR Division of Enforcement
Box 47, 500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4047
(612) 296-4771





17.5- **Bloomington area**
4.0L *food, lodging, emergency 911*

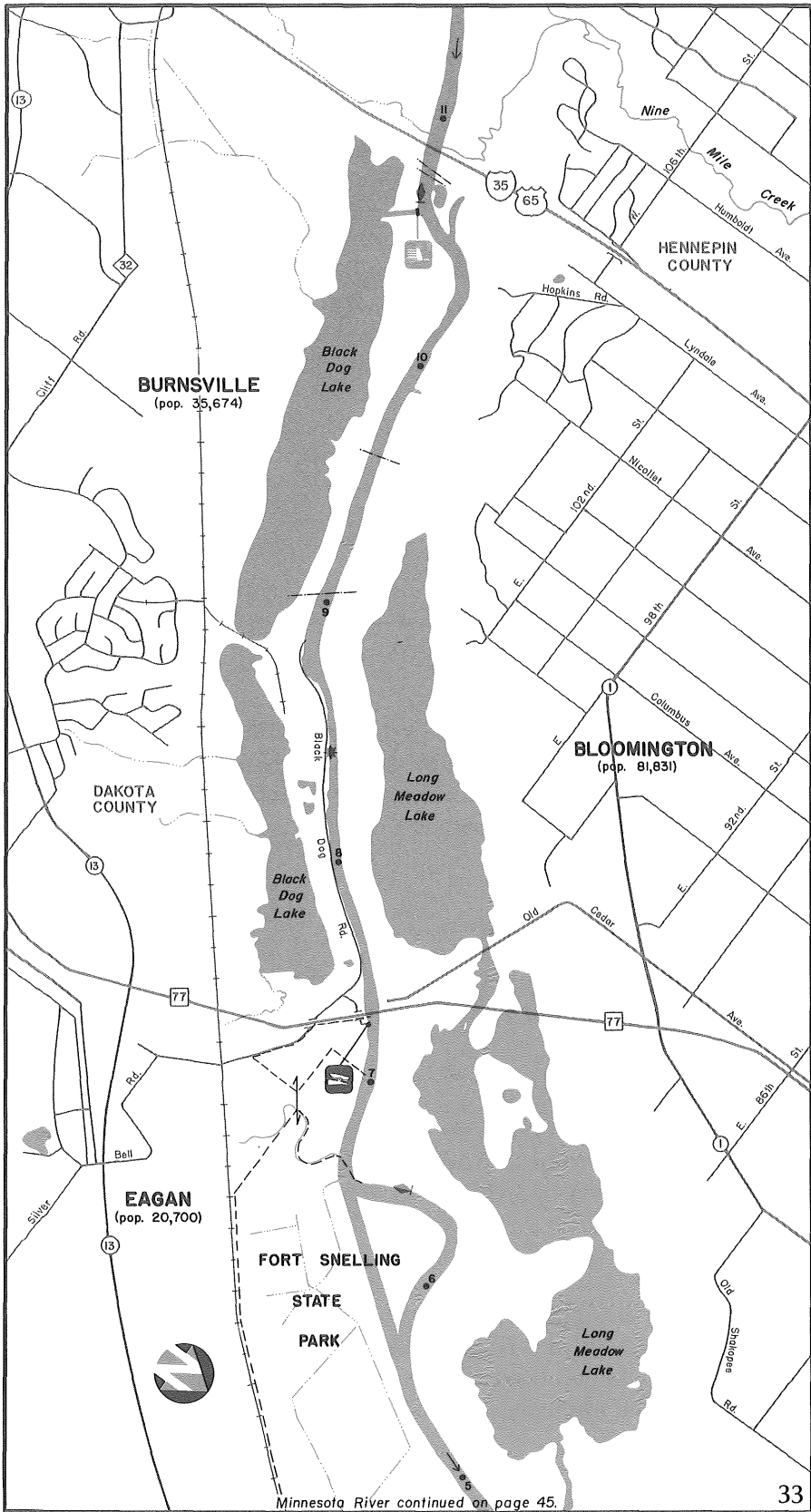
13.0- **Burnsville area**
7.0R *food, lodging, emergency 911*



7.2R **Jens A. Caspersen Landing, Minnesota**
DNR
asphalt ramp

7.0- **Eagan area**
4.8R *food, lodging, emergency 911*

Caution: Narrowness of the channel on the Minnesota River may become hazardous when approaching and/or passing barge traffic.





879.5R Mississippi-Crow River Public Access,
Minnesota DNR
earth ramp



878.8L Daytonport Park-Minnesota DOT and
Greenview Corp.
restrooms, drinking water, picnic area

879.3R Dayton
food, emergency 911

Caution: There are no buoys and no channel on this portion of the Mississippi. Also, water levels vary greatly. Boaters should take precautions to avoid propeller damage.

RULES OF THE ROAD

There are traffic rules afloat, as well as on our highways. Common sense tells us we should know what to do when passing, meeting and/or crossing the path of another craft. These rules are simple and they provide uniform patterns of passing and direction that otherwise would not exist.

Port to Port or Head to Head

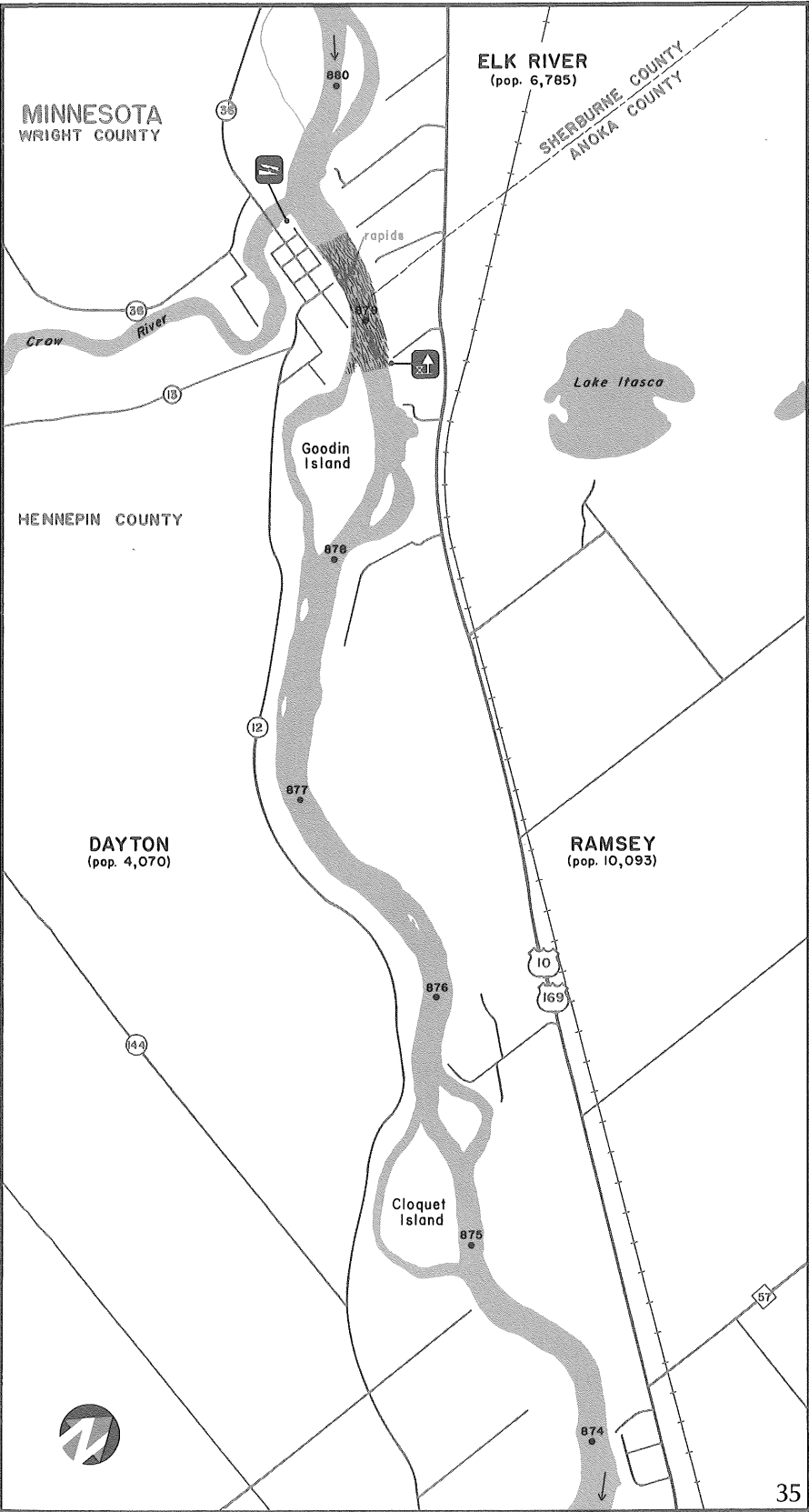
Each watercraft must pass on the port or left side of the other when meeting port to port or head to head.

Starboard to Starboard

When courses of two boats are so far on the starboard or right of each other as not to be considered a head to head meeting, they may pass on the starboard side of each other.

Crossing

When two boats approach each other at right angles, the boat on the starboard (*right*) side has the right of way. The privileged (*stand-on*) boat must hold course and speed while the burdened (*give-away*) boat must keep clear and pass behind the boat of the right of way.



873.0- **Champlin area**
868.0R *food, lodging, emergency 911*

873.5- **Anoka area**
870.0L *food, lodging, emergency 911*



871.5L **Riverside City Park and Access, City of Anoka**
asphalt ramp, restrooms, picnic area



870.6 **Mississippi River Public Access, City of Champlin**
paved concrete — fee, restrooms

870.0- **Coon Rapids area**
864.5L *food, lodging, emergency 911*

Caution: There are no buoys and no channel on this portion of the Mississippi. Also, water levels vary greatly. Boaters should take precautions to avoid propeller damage.

Overtaking

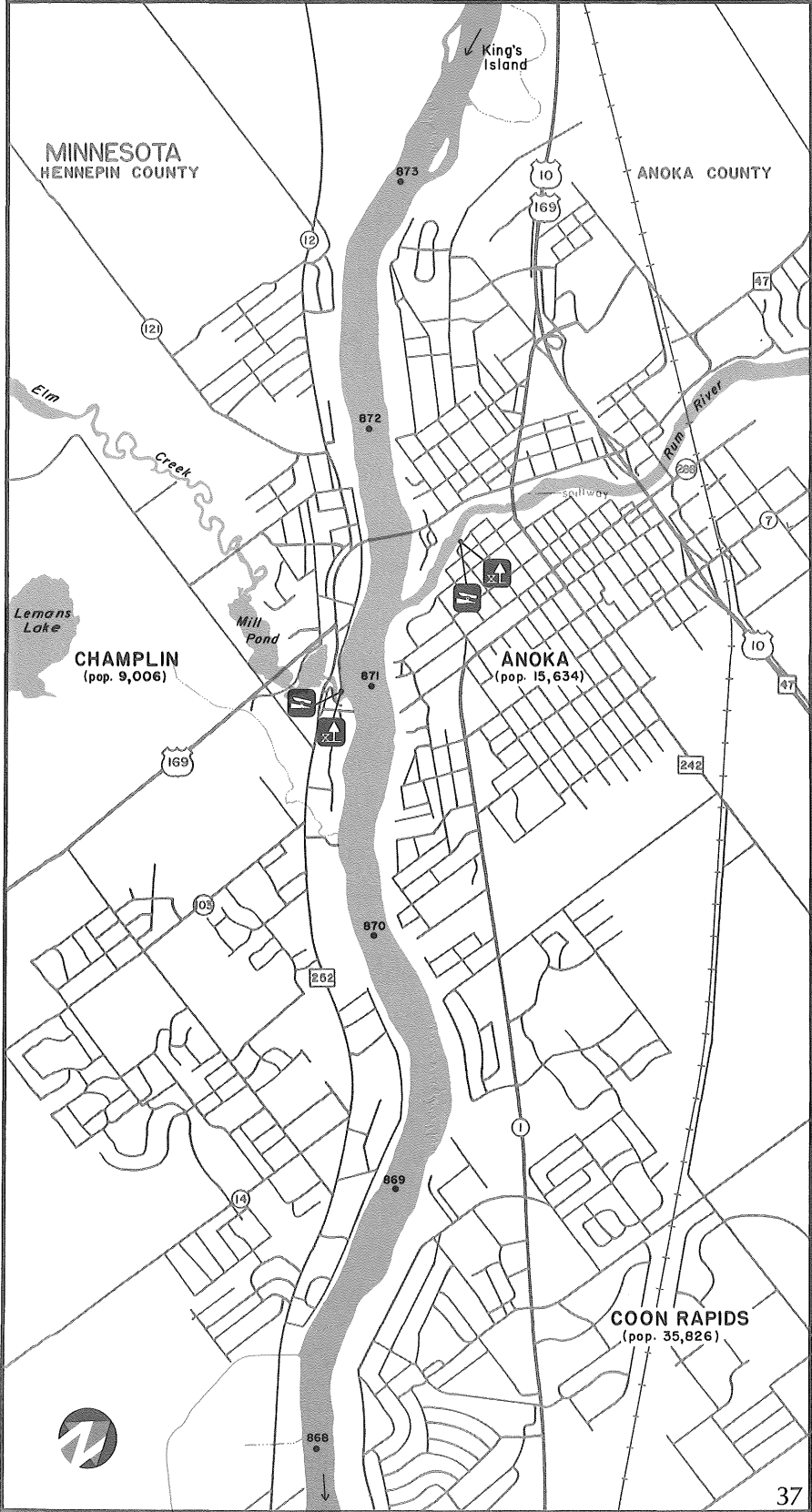
In an overtaking situation, the boat being overtaken has the right of way and must hold course and speed.

Non-motorized Boats

Except when passing, sailboats and non-motorized craft have the right of way over motorized watercraft. Steer clear of them, and remember that your wake can cause them trouble. Also, keep your distance from towboats and barges. Remember, you can maneuver faster and easier than they can.

At Night

At night, running lights indicate which boat has the right of way. The green light is on the starboard (*right*) side and a red light on the port (*left*) side of the craft. If the red and white lights are the only ones visible, then that boat is privileged and has the right of way.



MINNESOTA
HENNEPIN COUNTY

ANOKA COUNTY

King's
Island

Elm
Creek

Lemans
Lake

Mill
Pond

CHAMPLIN
(pop. 9,006)

ANOKA
(pop. 15,634)

COON RAPIDS
(pop. 35,826)



- 870.0-864.5L **Coon Rapids area**
food, lodging, emergency 911
-  866.3L **Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park Access, Hennepin County**
paved concrete ramp
-  866.3L **Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park, Hennepin County**
interpretive center, restrooms, drinking water, canoe rental
-  866.2L **Coon Rapids Dam Regional Park Carry In Access, Hennepin County**
- 864.5-858.0 **Fridley area**
food, lodging, emergency 911
-  863.0R **Mississippi River Public Access, City of Brooklyn Park**
paved concrete ramp
-  863.0R **River Municipal Park, City of Brooklyn Park**
restrooms, picnic area
-  861.8L **Manomin Park, Anoka County**
picnic area
-  860.8L **Islands of Peace Park, Anoka County**
restrooms, drinking water

Caution: There are no buoys and no channel on this portion of the Mississippi. Also, water levels vary greatly. Boaters should take precautions to avoid propeller damage.

AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

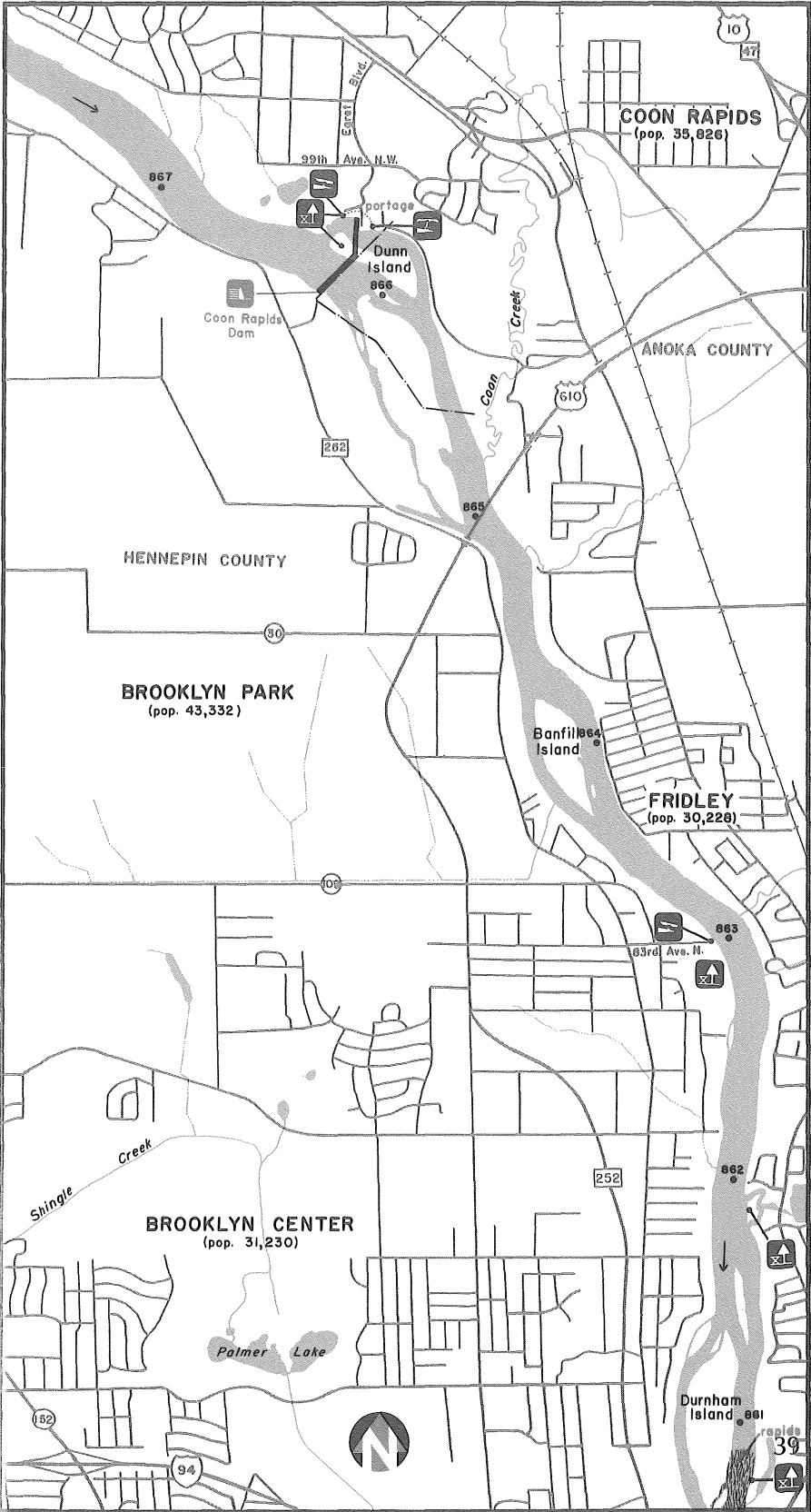
THE U.S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary offers public courses in boating safety and seamanship. They are taught by experienced Auxiliary members and the only charge is for course materials. These courses are usually given in the fall and winter. For more information, contact your local Auxiliary flotilla, or the regional office of Auxiliary at:

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary
Room 514, Federal Building
Fort Snelling
St. Paul, MN 55111-4007
(612) 725-3414

or call:

BOAT/US at 1-800-336-BOAT





860.7L **Islands of Peace Park, Anoka County**
restrooms, picnic area



860.3L **Mississippi River Public Access, Minnesota DNR**
concrete plank ramp



860.2L **Riverfront Park, Anoka County**
restrooms, drinking water, picnic area

859.4-846.5R(L) **Minneapolis area**
food, lodging, emergency 911



858.0R **Northern Mississippi City Park, City of Minneapolis**
no facilities along river (picnic area and restrooms away from river on path)

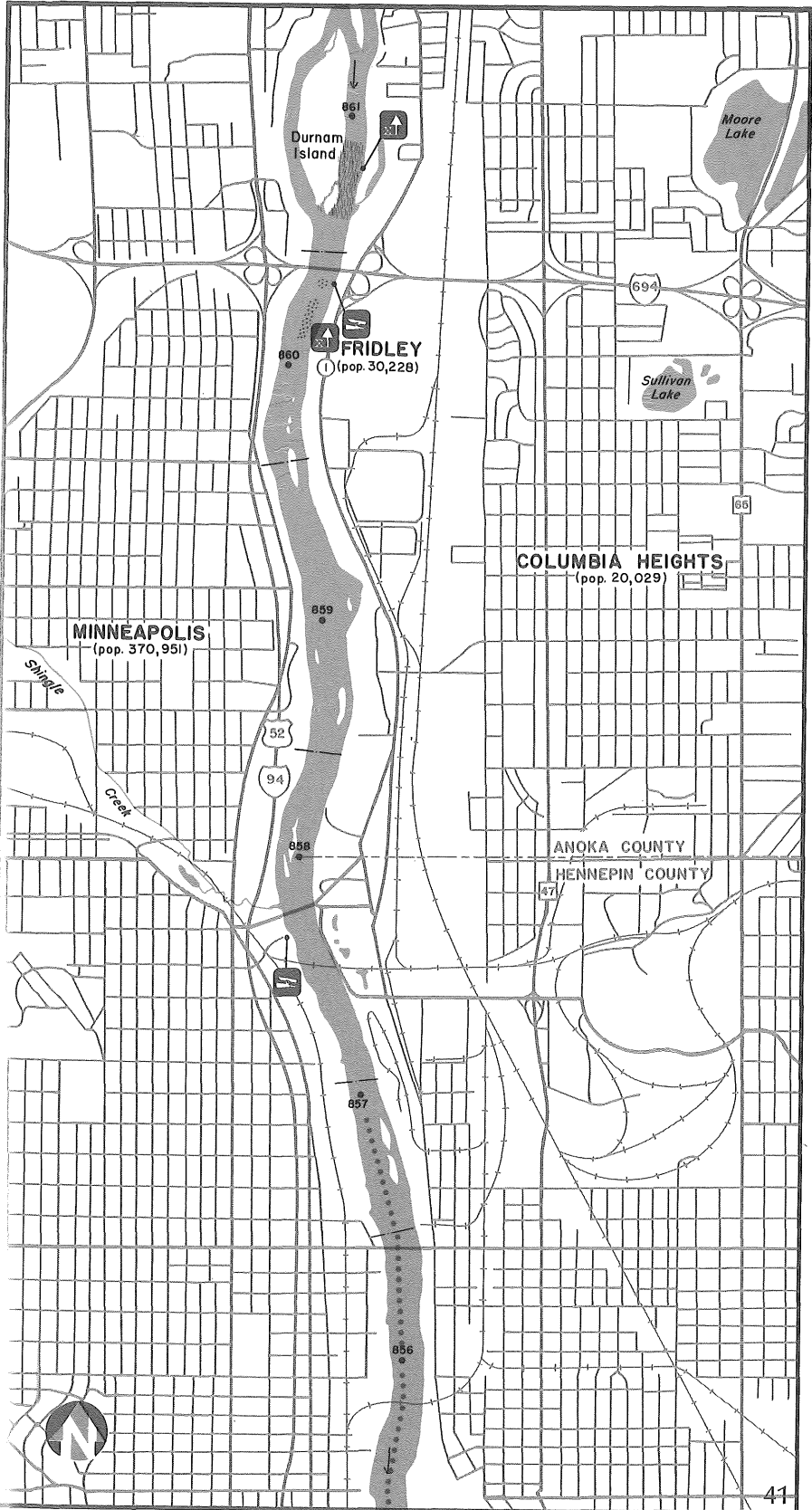
857.6 *Upstream limit of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 9 foot channel project. Above this point channel depth is not maintained.*



857.6R **Mississippi River Public Access, City of Minneapolis**
asphalt ramp

U.S. POWER SQUADRONS

U.S. Power Squadrons are a private, non-profit organization dedicating themselves to boating and boating safety. The Power Squadrons offer free public boating courses. Further information on the Power Squadrons and their courses can be obtained by contacting BOAT/US at 1-800-336-BOAT.





854.8L Boom Island Park, Minneapolis Park Board
concrete ramp, temporary dockage, restrooms, drinking water, picnic area

859.4-846.5R(L) Minneapolis area
food, lodging, emergency 911

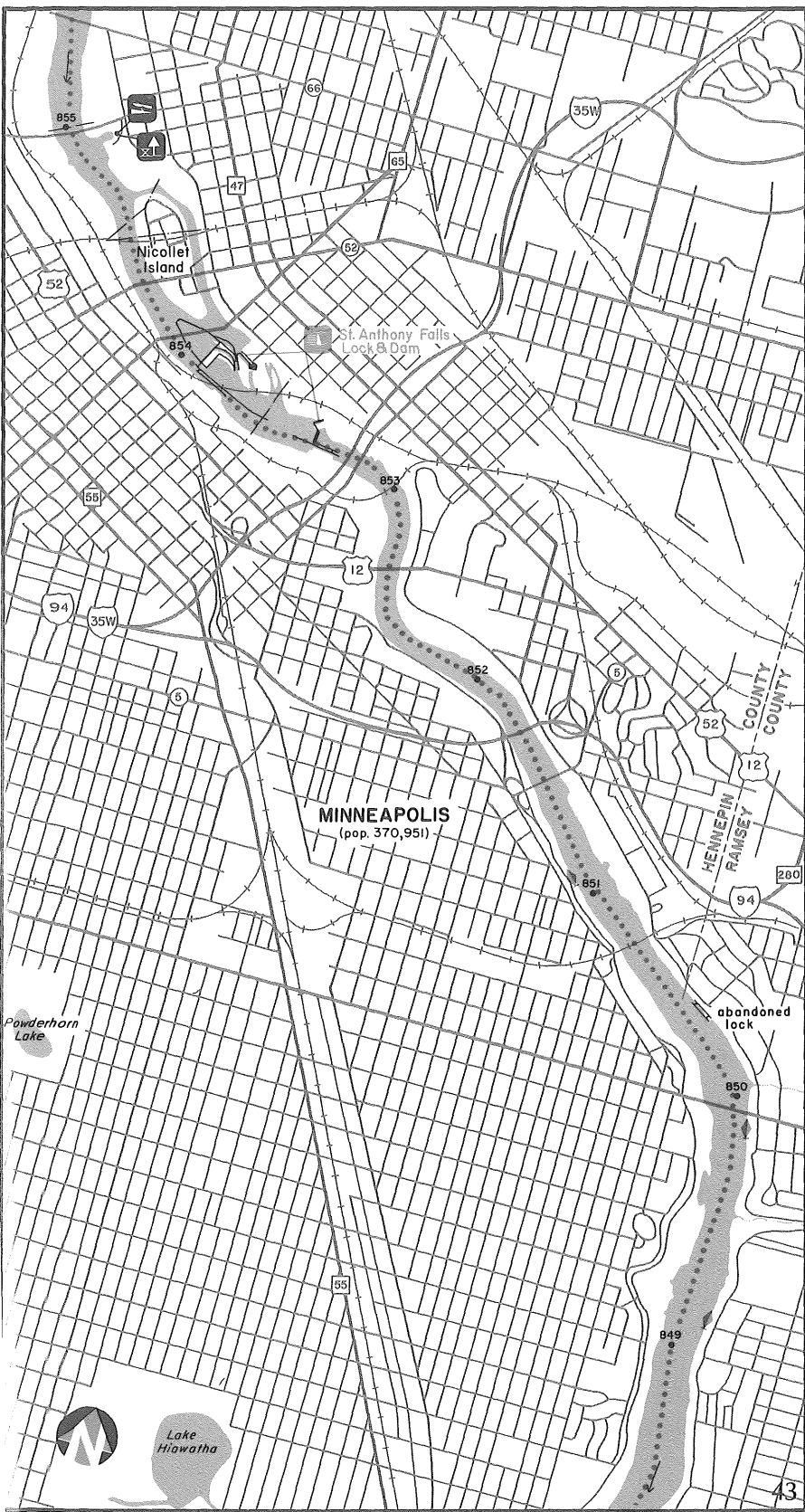


853.9 Upper St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
lock on right



853.4 Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
lock on right

850.5-833.2L(R) St. Paul area
food, lodging, emergency 911



MINNEAPOLIS
(pop. 370,951)

Lake
Hiawatha

HENNEPIN
RAMSEY
COUNTY
COUNTY

abandoned
lock

43

850.5- St. Paul Area
833.2L(R) *food, lodging, emergency 911*

859.4- Minneapolis Area
846.5R(L) *food, lodging, emergency 911*



847.6 Lock and Dam # 1, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
lock on right



845.9L Hidden Falls Regional Park and Access, City of St. Paul
concrete plank ramp, restrooms



844.9L Watergate Marina, City of St. Paul
concrete slab ramp — fee, pumpouts



MN1.5L Fort Snelling State Park, Minnesota DNR
concrete plank ramp, restrooms, drinking water, picnic area, camping

Caution: Narrowness of the channel on the Minnesota River may become hazardous when approaching and/or passing barge traffic.

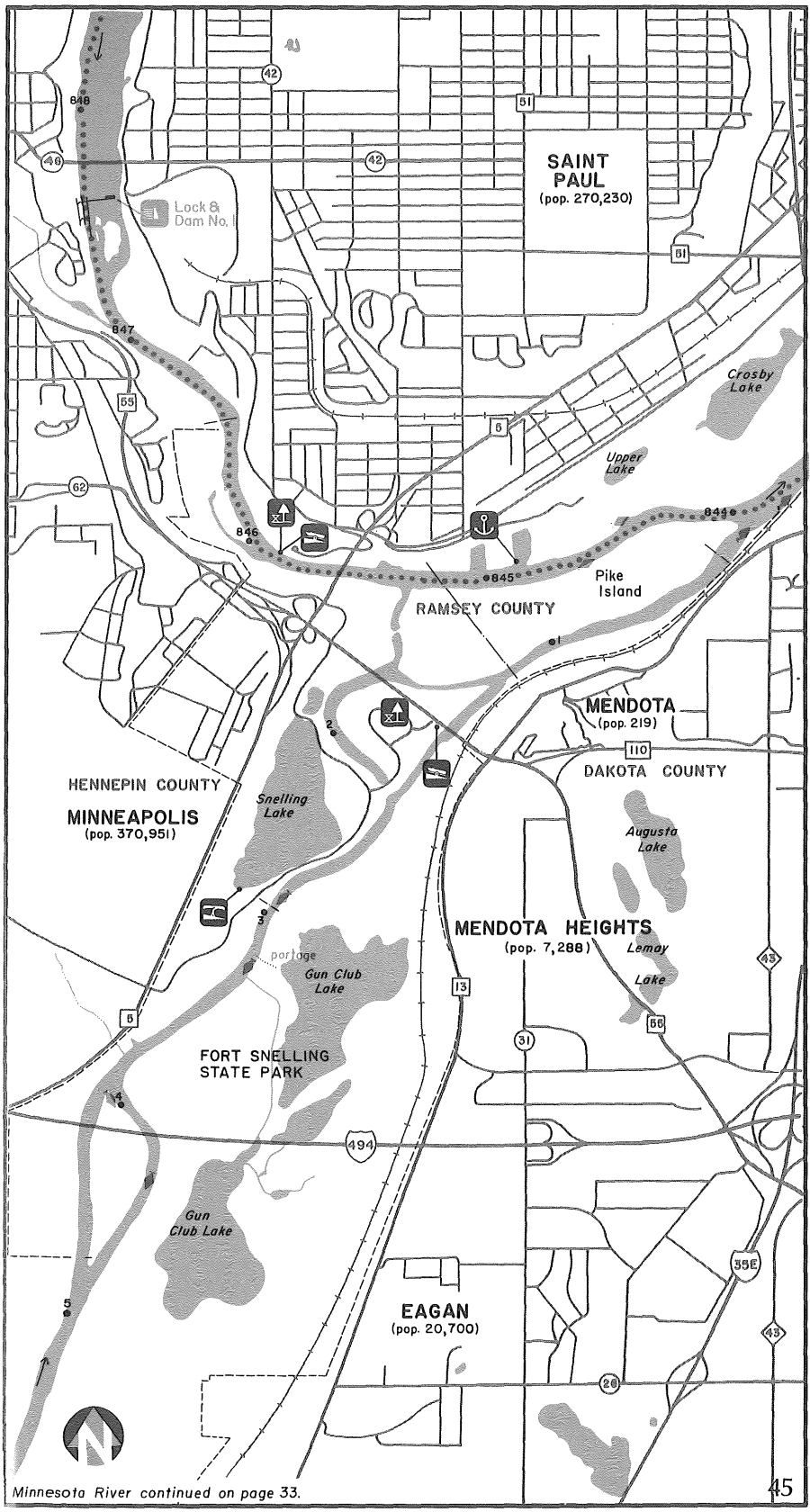
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Minnesota's lakes and rivers offer a wealth of canoeing, boating and fishing opportunities; and Minnesotans are increasingly eager to take advantage of them. Minnesota continually leads the nation in boats per capita. In 1986 Minnesota had over 655,000 watercraft registered, one for every 2.4 households.





Canoe and Boating Route Program

The DNR Canoe and Boating Route Program has mapped 19 canoeing rivers. The free maps show access points, campsites, rest areas and portages. Hazards such as dams and waterfalls are marked, and stretches of whitewater rapids are shown. A brief description of the river lets canoeists know what to expect along the way.

The DNR also provides a river level reporting service from May 1 to October 31. Canoeists can call the DNR Information Center to find out the condition of the 19 state-designated rivers. Phone: (612) 296-6157, toll-free in Minnesota: 800-652-9747 (ask for DNR). TDD: (612) 296-5484.



Minnesota River continued on page 33.

	850.5- 833.2L(R)	St. Paul area <i>food, lodging, emergency 911</i>
	842.3R	Lilydale Regional Park, City of St. Paul <i>no facilities</i>
	840.2R	Harriet Island Ramp, City of St. Paul <i>asphalt ramp</i>
	840.0R	Harriet Island Regional Park, City of St. Paul <i>restrooms, drinking water, picnic area</i>
	839.8R	St. Paul Yacht Club, Private <i>fuel, pumpouts, temporary dockage, restrooms</i>

Public Water Access Program

The Public Water Access Program, which began in 1947, was accelerated in 1979 to help meet an increasing demand for access facilities. Water access maps showing boat launching-sites for 55 Minnesota counties are available without charge from the access program. These maps identify more than 1,900 access locations operated by agencies of city, county, state and federal governments. Useful for those who boat, fish, hunt, harvest wild rice or enjoy other water-based pastimes, the maps show both trailer and carry-in boat accesses. Boats 12 to 18 feet long can be launched at most accesses with launch ramps. Carry-in sites are generally more primitive. They are intended for launching canoes and other light watercraft that can be carried from the parking lot to the water's edge.

Minnesota DNR accesses are usually open 24 hours a day. No fee is charged for their use, nor is there a fee for any of the accesses shown on the county access maps. Note: State parks as well as many county and regional parks require entrance fees for motor vehicles and are not open 24 hours a day.

For public access and canoe and boat route maps and brochures contact:

DNR Information Center
 Box 40, 500 Lafayette Road
 St. Paul, MN 55155-4040
 (612) 296-6157
 Minnesota toll-free: 1-800-652-9747 (ask for DNR)
 Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD)
 (612) 296-5484

- 17.5- **Bloomington area**
4.0L *food, lodging, emergency 911*
- 14.7 *Upstream limit of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 9 foot channel project. Above this point the 9 foot channel is maintained by private interests to river mile 21.8.*

Caution: Narrowness of the channel on the Minnesota River may become hazardous when approaching and/or passing barge traffic.

Signaling Systems

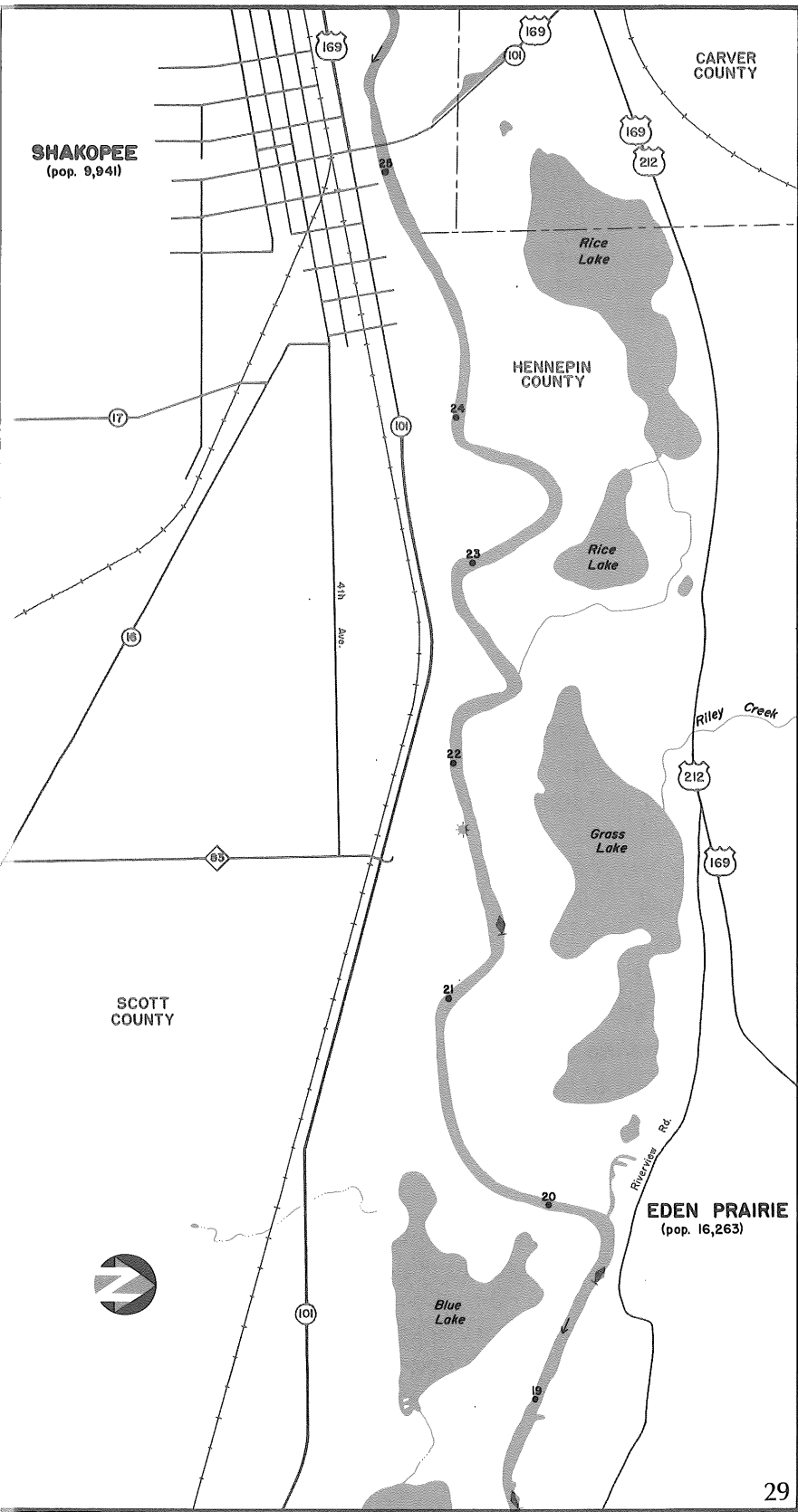
A whistle or horn is required on all motorboats 16 feet or longer. Check the current regulations for exact requirements.

Other Desirable Equipment

1. Bilge pump or bailing devices
2. Anchor and line
3. A tool kit and spare parts (*including an extra propeller and shear pins*)
4. Paddle, oars or auxiliary outboard
5. Extra fuel
6. Fenders
7. Flashlight
8. First aid kit
9. Radio (*marine or citizen's band*)
10. Battery box or nonconductive cover for terminals (*required by the State of Wisconsin*)

FINAL NOTE

This discussion of rules and regulations is by no means complete. Reference should be made to the current state, federal and local regulations before you embark on your first cruise. The Minnesota Boating Guide is a summary of laws and rules and is available from the Minnesota DNR or county sheriff. Wisconsin regulations can be obtained from the Wisconsin DNR. (Addresses are at the end of this guide.)



- 25.7-
24.5R **Shakopee area**
food, lodging, emergency 911
- 25.6 *Upstream limit of four foot channel
maintained by the U.S. Corps of
Engineers*
- 21.8 *Upstream limit of 9 foot channel main-
tained by private interests. Above this
point a 4 foot channel is maintained by
the U.S. Corps of Engineers to river mile
25.6.*

Caution: Narrowness of the channel on the Minnesota River may become hazardous when approaching and/or passing barge traffic.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Personal Flotation Devices—PFDs

Every watercraft must be equipped with the proper number of readily accessible Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices (PFDs) for each person on board.

Boaters should check the latest state and federal regulations for specific PFD requirements!

Use your PFD! In most boating fatalities, lifesaving devices are on board but are not in use at the time of the accident.

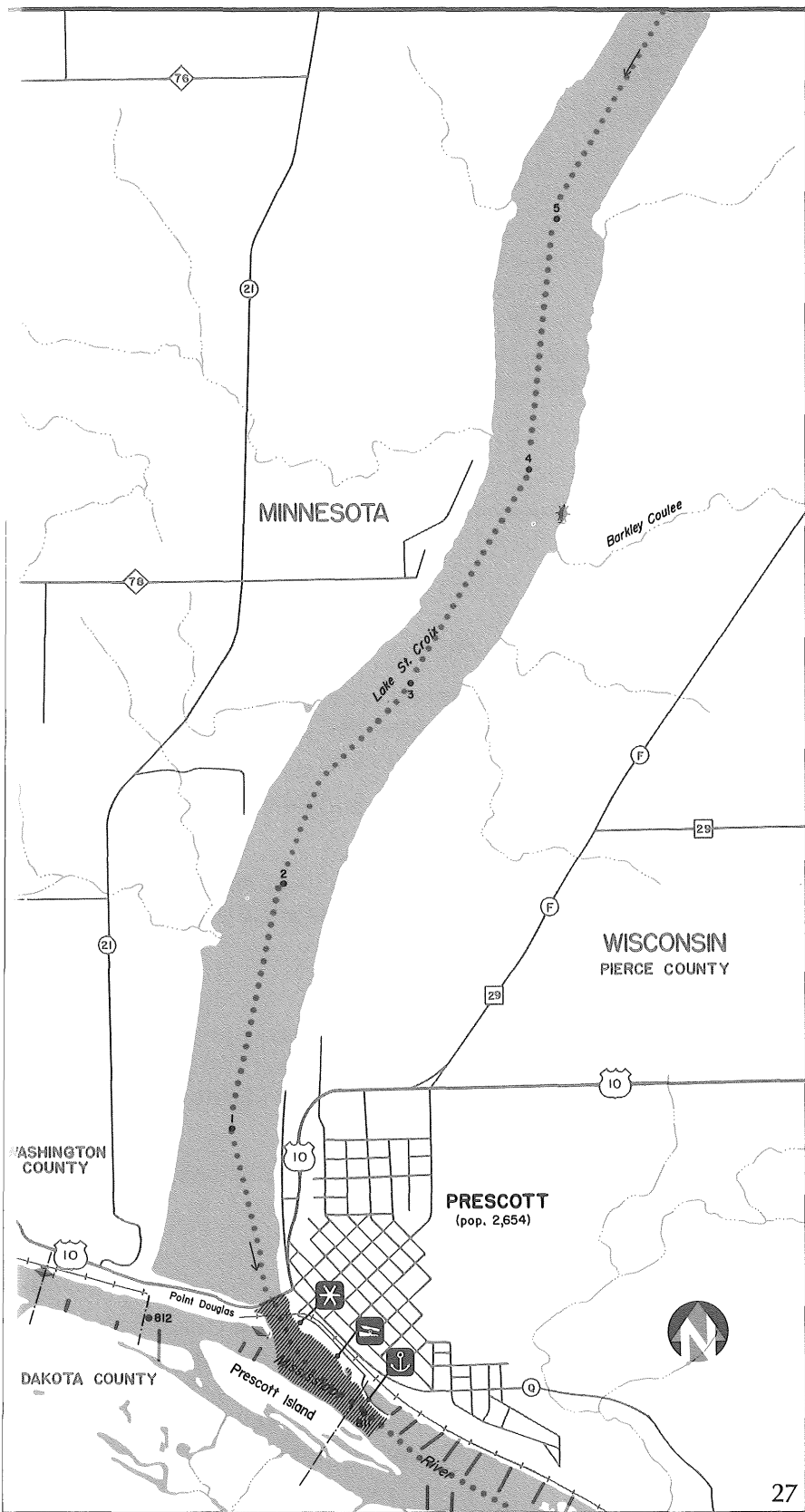
Lights

All watercraft must be equipped with the navigation lights required by law when operating between sunset and sunrise. These lights are to warn others and in many cases indicate what the watercraft is doing.

Boaters should check the state or federal regulations for the lighting requirements for their craft.

Fire Extinguishers

All watercraft using motors *should* carry a Coast Guard approved fire extinguisher. Both state and federal laws require fire extinguishers on watercraft carrying or using fuel or other inflammable fluid in any enclosure of the boat. Check the state or federal regulations for specific requirements.



0.0L Prescott area
food, lodging, emergency 911



0.0L Leo's Landing, Private
*fuel, pumpouts, temporary dockage,
restrooms, concessions, (715) 262-5998*

Mississippi



811.3L Prescott Public Ramp, City of Prescott
paved ramp — fee



811.0 Miss-Croix Yacht Harbor, Private
*fuel, pumpouts, boat repair,
(715) 262-5202*

No Wake Zones

Special "slow-no-wake zones" are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage". To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

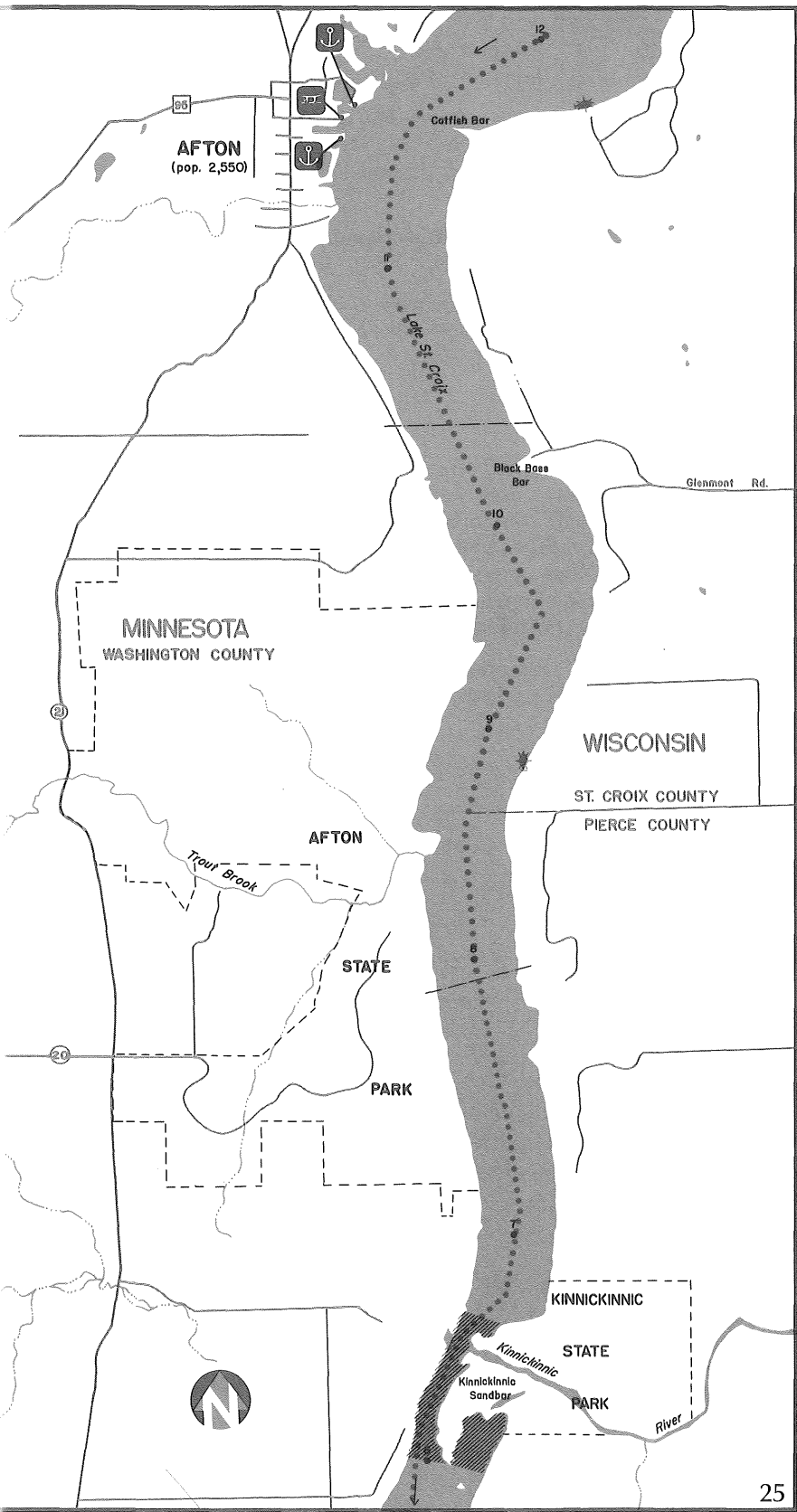
There is also a "slow-no-wake" rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers.

POLLUTION

Many people receive cuts and other injuries from trash thrown in our rivers and on shorelines. Throwing trash in the water is against the law. A fine, jail sentence or other penalty can be imposed on anyone who is convicted of this offense. Remember, "if you carried it on, carry it back!"

Marine toilets are another source of pollution if not designed correctly. All marine toilets must be U.S. Coast Guard certified.

Federal boating laws and regulations list the equipment you must have on board your watercraft. Good skippers know how to use their equipment. They also check to make sure it is aboard and in good condition before they use their craft.





11.5R **Minnetonka Boat Works, Private**
fuel (including diesel), pumpouts, temporary dockage, restrooms, concessions, (612) 436-8827



11.4R **Windmill Marina, Private**
fuel, pumpout, paved ramp — fee, temporary dockage, restrooms, (612) 436-7744

11.4R **Afton area**
food, lodging, emergency 911



11.4R **Afton Municipal Boat Docks, City of Afton**
temporary dockage

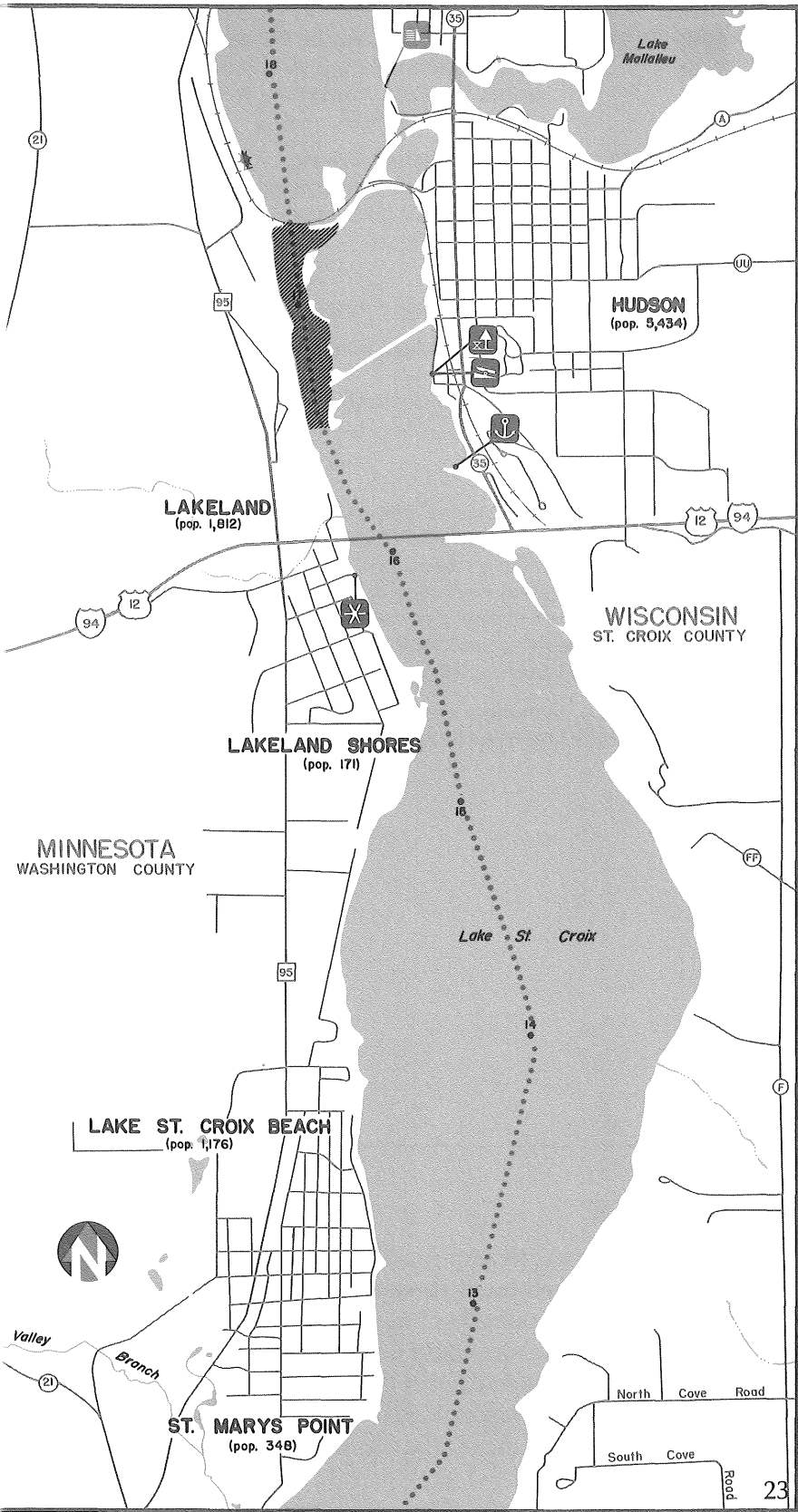
No wake zones

Special “*slow-no-wake zones*” are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to “*the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage*”. To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

There is also a “*slow-no-wake*” rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers.

WAKE DAMAGE

Watercraft operators are responsible for damage to property, shoreline and moored boats caused by their wake. Wake damage is more likely during periods of high water with normal operation. A combination of factors should be considered when assessing the possibility of damage caused by your wake including speed, draft and nearness to the bank. Operating out of the normal navigation channel increases the likelihood of wake damage.





16.6L **Lakefront Park, City of Hudson**
*concrete slab ramp — fee, restroom,
 drinking water, picnic area*



16.3L **St. Croix Marina, Private**
*fuel, pumpouts, temporary dockage,
 (715) 386-8239*



15.9R **Beanie's Resort, Private**
*cement slab ramp — fee, boat rental,
 (612) 436-8874*

13.2R **Lake St. Croix Beach area**
food, emergency 911

Hudson area
food, lodging, emergency 911

No wake zones

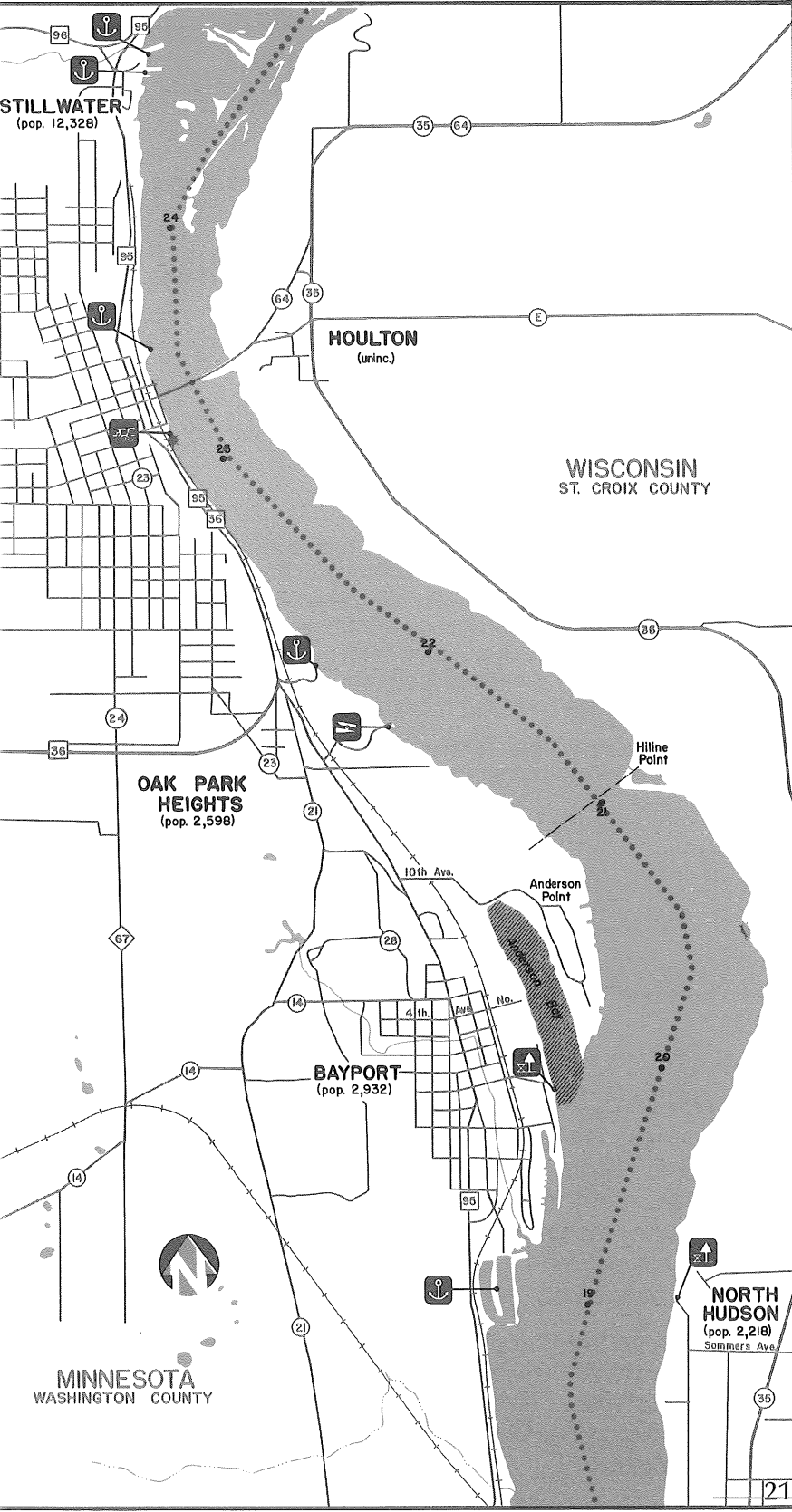
Special "slow-no-wake zones" are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage". To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

There is also a "slow-no-wake" rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands and within 100 feet of swimmers.

ALCOHOL

Alcohol will influence your balance, coordination, vision, judgment and reaction time. It's been estimated that the use of alcohol is involved in about half of all the boating accidents that occur in Minnesota and Wisconsin. This includes not only the spectacular collisions, but the lone fisherman who drowns after falling out of his boat on a peaceful backwater. So please, if you drink, don't operate a watercraft!

Minnesota law states that persons found guilty of operating a motorboat while intoxicated are subject to a fine, possible jail sentence and loss of motorboat operating privileges for 90 days. Wisconsin law also prohibits operating while intoxicated and has similar penalties.



STILLWATER
(pop. 12,328)

HOULTON
(uninc.)

WISCONSIN
ST. CROIX COUNTY

OAK PARK HEIGHTS
(pop. 2,598)

BAYPORT
(pop. 2,932)

NORTH HUDSON
(pop. 2,218)
Sommars Ave.

MINNESOTA
WASHINGTON COUNTY

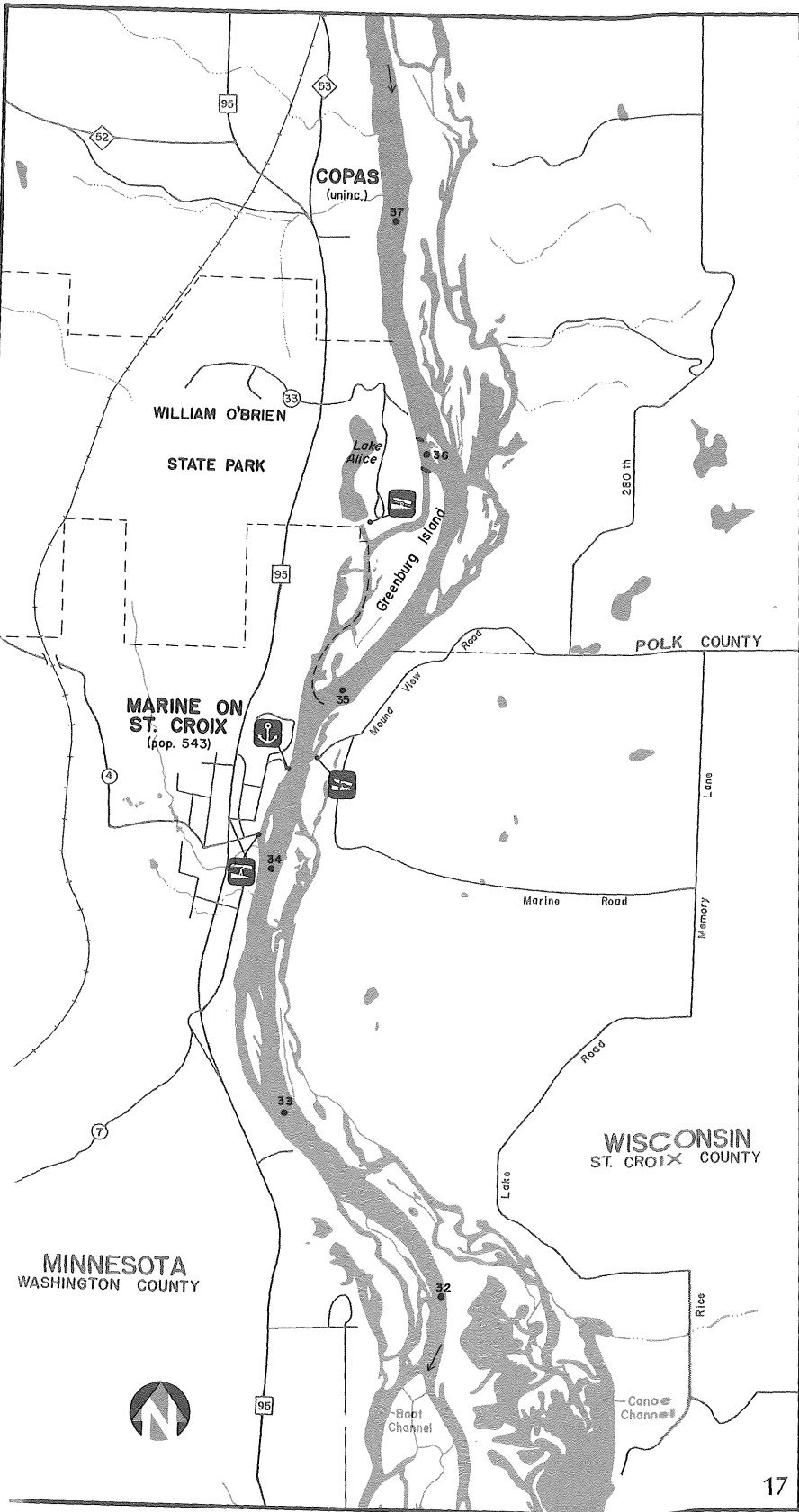
21

- 24.5 *Upstream limit of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 9 foot channel project. Above this point channel depth is not maintained. Boaters should be cautious in low water.*
-  24.5R **Wolf Marine, Private**
fuel, (612) 439-2341
-  24.3 **Rumpf's Dutch Harbor, Private**
gravel ramp — fee
- 24.2-22.6R **Stillwater area**
food, lodging, emergency 911
-  23.5R **Stillwater Yacht Club, Private**
fuel, pumpouts, cement slab ramp — fee, temporary dockage, restrooms, food, (612) 439-5658.
-  23.2R **Stillwater Municipal Boat Docks, Private**
pumpouts, temporary dockage, concessions, (612) 439-7294.
-  22.2R **Port of Sunnyside Marina, Private**
fuel (including diesel), pumpouts, temporary dockage, repairs, restrooms, (612) 439-2118
-  21.9R **Millroad Landing, City of Oak Park Heights**
concrete slab ramp
- 20.7-18.9R **Bayport area**
food, lodging, emergency 911
-  19.8R **Lakeside Park, City of Bayport**
restrooms, drinking water, picnic area
-  19.7R **Beach House Marina, Private**
concrete ramp — fee
-  19.1L **Ferry Landing Park, Village of North Hudson**
restrooms, drinking water, picnic area
-  19.0R **Bayport Marina, Private**
fuel (including diesel), pumpouts, temporary dockage, restrooms, food, (612) 430-1980

No Wake Zones

Special "slow-no-wake zones" are enforced in congested and hazardous areas of the river. In No Wake Zones, motorboat operation is restricted to "the slowest possible speed necessary to maintain steerage". To improve safety conditions and make the river experience more enjoyable for more people, please obey the speed limits and maintain special vigilance when traveling through such zones.

There is also a "slow-no-wake" rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers.





36.0R William O'Brien State Park, Minnesota
DNR
cement slab ramp, restrooms, drinking water, camping — fee, canoe rental



34.6L Marine Ferry Landing, Somerset Township/National Park Service
gravel ramp, restrooms



34.5R Marine Landing, Boat and Canoe Service, Private
fuel, gravel ramp — fee, boat and canoe rental, restaurant, (612) 433-2864

34.3R Marine-on St. Croix
food, emergency 911



34.2R Marine Public Landing, Marine-on St. Croix
carry-in access

Slow Speed Zone

A special water surface use regulation is enforced on the St. Croix River between the Taylors Falls dam and the Arcola Sandbar at the mouth of the Apple River. This area is designated as a "slow speed zone" where motorboat operation must be restricted to operating "at a leisurely speed, less than planing speed, whereby the wake or wash created by the motorboat is minimal." Please obey all rules.

There is also a "slow-no-wake" rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers.

WATERCRAFT OPERATOR'S PERMIT

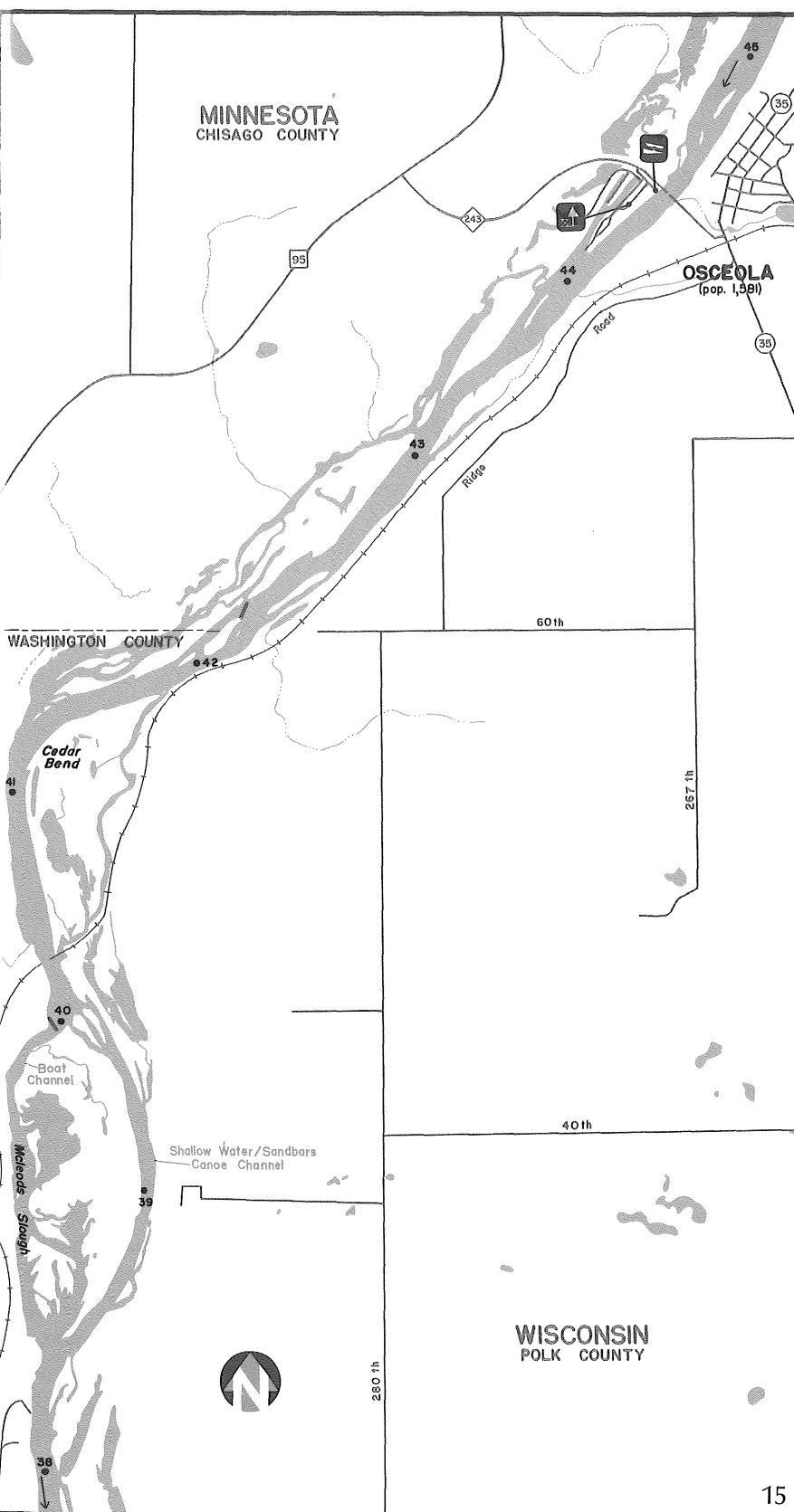
Persons 13 through 17 years of age who operate boats of more than 24 horsepower must either: (1) be accompanied by someone at least 18 years of age, or (2) possess a valid watercraft operator's permit from Minnesota or from the operator's state of residence. Persons less than 13 years of age must be accompanied by someone at least 18 years of age to operate a motorboat of more than 24 horsepower, except in an emergency. Permits may be obtained by contacting the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Boat and Water Safety Section at the address at the end of this guide. Wisconsin also requires operator's permits for persons 12-16 years of age or for 12- to 16-year olds for all motorboats. More information on Wisconsin's permit program can be obtained from the Wisconsin DNR (*address at the end of this guide*).

MINNESOTA
CHISAGO COUNTY

OSCEOLA
(pop. 1,981)

WASHINGTON COUNTY

WISCONSIN
POLK COUNTY



44.7L **Osceola**
food, lodging, emergency (715) 485-3131
(Polk County Sheriff)



44.4R **Osceola Public Access, National Park Service**
concrete ramps, restrooms, drinking water; picnic area

Slow Speed Zone

A special water surface use regulation is enforced on the St. Croix River between the Taylors Falls dam and the Arcola Sandbar at the mouth of the Apple River. This area is designated as a "slow speed zone" where motorboat operation must be restricted to operating "at a leisurely speed, less than planing speed, whereby the wake or wash created by the motorboat is minimal." Please obey all rules.

There is also a "slow-no-wake" rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers.

REGULATIONS AND EQUIPMENT

(This is not a complete summary of regulations. A current copy of federal, Minnesota and Wisconsin regulations should be consulted. Unless noted all rules summarized below are from Minnesota.)

REGISTRATION (Licensing)

All watercraft, except wild-rice boats and duckboats used during the appropriate season, non-motorized boats nine feet or less in length, and seaplanes, are required to be licensed by the DNR. This rule does not apply if the watercraft is licensed by another state, federal agency or foreign country. All canoes used in Minnesota must be registered either in Minnesota or the user's home state.

To obtain or renew a watercraft license, go to the nearest deputy registrar's office (*where you license your car*) or the DNR's License Bureau (*address at the back of this guide*).

MINNESOTA
CHISAGO COUNTY

TAYLORS FALLS
(pop. 623)

INTERSTATE
STATE PARK MN

ST. CROIX
FALLS
(pop. 1,497)

INTERSTATE
STATE PARK WI

FRANCONIA
(uninc.)

WISCONSIN
POLK COUNTY

Lawrence
Creek

Folsom Lake

Rice Lake

Peaslee Lake

Close Slough

Lower Lake

95

82

20

82

92

51

8

8

99

9

8

99

99

48

47

9

95



95

51.7L **St. Croix Falls**
food, lodging, emergency (715) 485-3131
(Polk County Sheriff)

51.3R **Taylors Falls**
food, lodging, emergency 911



51.5-48.4L **Interstate State Park, Wisconsin DNR**
concrete slab ramp, restrooms, drinking water, camping — fee, (715) 483-3747



51.1-49.6R **Interstate State Park, Minnesota DNR**
asphalt ramp, restrooms, drinking water, camping — fee, canoe rental, (612) 465-5711

Slow Speed Zone

A special water surface use regulation is enforced on the St. Croix River between the Taylors Falls dam and the Arcola Sandbar at the mouth of the Apple River. This area is designated as a "slow speed zone" where motorboat operation must be restricted to operating "at a leisurely speed, less than planing speed, whereby the wake or wash created by the motorboat is minimal." Please obey all rules.

There is also a "slow-no-wake" rule in effect within 100 feet of all shore, including islands, and within 100 feet of swimmers.

LOWER ST. CROIX NATIONAL SCENIC RIVERWAY

The Lower St. Croix National Scenic Riverway was added to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System in 1972. The Riverway covers river and lake-like environments, along with a narrow shoreline corridor, for 84 kilometers (52 miles) from the St. Croix Falls dam to Prescott, Wis., where the river joins the Mississippi. Administration of the St. Croix north of Stillwater is the responsibility of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. For more information, contact the Service at:

National Park Service
Box 708
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024
(715) 483-3284

channel 16 (156.8 MHz). The broadcasts are then given on channel 22A (157.1 MHz). Broadcast times for this area are 1:15 a.m., 9:15 a.m. and 5:15 p.m. Riverstage information is broadcast at 11:30 a.m. For more information on marine radio use, contact the St. Paul office of the Federal Communications Commission (*address and telephone number are at the end of this guide*).

DRAWBRIDGE OPERATION REGULATIONS

For drawbridges over the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers, the usual sound signal for opening the draw is a prolonged blast (4 to 6 seconds duration) of a whistle or horn, followed by one short blast (one second duration), sounded not more than three seconds after the prolonged blast. This sequence is repeated at intervals until acknowledged by the drawtender. If draw can be opened immediately, acknowledging signal is one prolonged blast followed by one short blast, sounded not more than 30 seconds after opening signal. If draw cannot be opened immediately, or if open and must be closed immediately, five short blasts, sounded in rapid succession not more than 30 seconds after the opening signal, shall be repeated at intervals until acknowledged by a signal which has the same meaning from the vessel. Some drawbridges are equipped with VHF marine radios; a list is provided below. Mariners approaching these drawbridges are urged to contact the bridge tender to confirm requests for opening, or to exchange information.

Locations of Drawbridges

	<u>Mile</u>	<u>Call Sign</u>	<u>Channel</u>
St. Croix River			
Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad	0.2	KJC 782	14 & 16
Prescott Highway Lift	0.3	KD 2829	14 & 7
Hudson Railroad	17.3	KUZ 549	14 & 16
Mississippi River			
LaCrosse Railroad	699.8	KVY 631	13 & 16
Hastings Railroad	813.7	KTD 538	14 & 16
Beltline Railroad	835.7	KUZ 544	14 & 16
Chicago & Northwestern Railroad	839.2	KUZ 546	14 & 16
Omaha Railroad	841.2	KUZ 545	14 & 16

BUOYS AND MARKERS

A list of the buoys and markers you will encounter on the river has been placed on the fold-out flap of the back cover. A knowledge of these is essential to safe navigation on the river.

All boaters are cautioned not to rely solely on buoys for navigation because of their potential unreliability. U.S. Coast Guard buoys are removed, relocated or established whenever the Coast Guard determines a change is desirable for the safety of navigation.

While the Coast Guard makes every reasonable effort to ensure buoys are properly located to serve their intended purpose, it cannot keep all buoys and navigable channels under constant surveillance. Between visits of a Coast Guard buoy tender, it is possible for a channel or obstruction to have shifted, the water depth to have changed, or for a buoy to have moved, sunk or gone adrift.

Daymarks are square-, triangular- or diamond-shaped boards (*usually red or green in color*) that are used to mark channels on the large river systems. On the Mississippi they will also indicate the river mileage upstream from Cairo, Ill., on a white board beneath the daymark. They may also be lighted (*green or white lights on green boards and red or white lights on red boards*).

Even with lighted buoys and markers, boating at night is not advisable due to unseen hazards.

VHF-FM MARINE RADIO

Channel 16 is a calling and *distress* channel. Communications on channel 16 should be kept short, limited to calling unless there is an emergency.

Channel 22A is for non-emergency communications with the Coast Guard. It is also used by the Coast Guard to make broadcast notices to mariners.

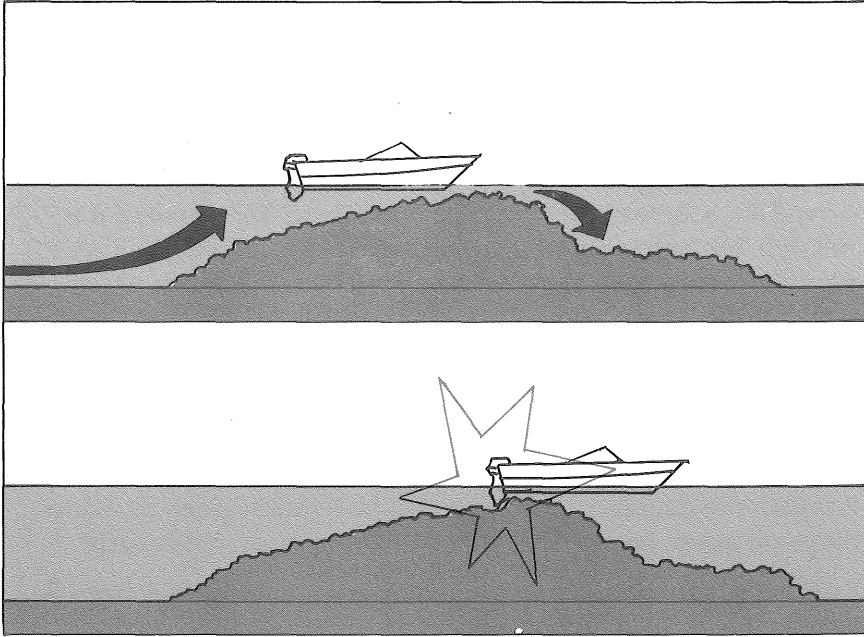
Locks on the Upper Mississippi River monitor channels 14 & 16. Initial contact with locks should be made on channel 14, which will also be the working channel in most cases.

When important marine events occur, broadcast notices to mariners are issued. These notices are broadcast by Coast Guard radio stations on channel 22A (157.1 MHz). Non-scheduled broadcasts are often made to supplement scheduled broadcasts. Preliminary announcements of broadcasts are made on

WARNING!

The wing dam symbols in this guide show *approximate* locations of wing dams. *The actual locations may vary.*

Wing Dams are not Buoyed!



Stumpfields

When the dam system on the Mississippi River was being built in the 1930s, many low-lying areas that were covered with trees would be permanently flooded. These trees were cut down. In these areas many submerged tree stumps still remain. We have shown the *approximate* locations of many stumpfields on the river maps; but please remember, whenever you are in a backwater area there is always a chance that you will encounter a stump. Take extra caution in these areas.

Changing Water Levels

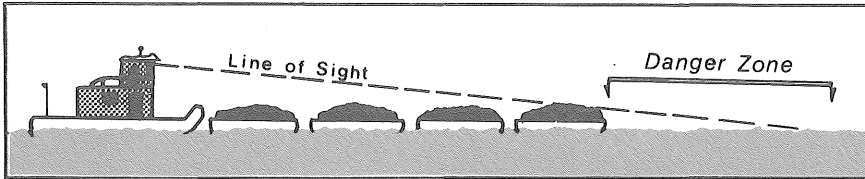
Water levels change frequently on the rivers, causing changes in currents that may not be immediately obvious to boaters. High water can produce unpredictable currents and moving debris that may come in the form of logs, timbers, docks and whole trees. Conversely, low water can produce hazards above and below the water's surface (*stumpfields, wing dams, etc.*)

HAZARDS

Towboats

When encountering a towboat, always obey the following rules:

1. Stay clear of towboats! They usually have the right of way over recreational boats and they create strong waves.
2. Never anchor (*without the engine running*) in their course; it may require a half-mile or more for them to stop.
3. Remember, at night their lights appear far apart compared to small boats.
4. They have a blind area directly in front of the barges.



5. Stay clear of the stern of the towboats. They may suddenly turn on a burst of power and overturn a small boat.
6. Turn your bow into the wake of barges and boats.
7. When meeting a barge at a bend in the river move to the inside of the bend where possible.

Wing Dams

To help improve the navigability of the Mississippi River by controlling the direction of channel flow, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has placed hundreds of wing dams in the River.

A wing dam is an elongated pile of rocks or concrete usually submerged. Because wing dams often lie just below the water surface, they can not be visually detected and pose a great danger to the unwary boater. If you follow these boating practices, however, you can avoid an unwanted encounter with a wing dam.

1. Stay within the main channel, indicated by buoys and markers (see *back cover*). It is continually dredged and maintained to provide hazard-free boating.
2. If approaching shore, proceed slowly from a perpendicular angle.
3. Stay clear of ripples in the water surface; these are a tell-tale sign of a wing dam lying just below.

Locking Through

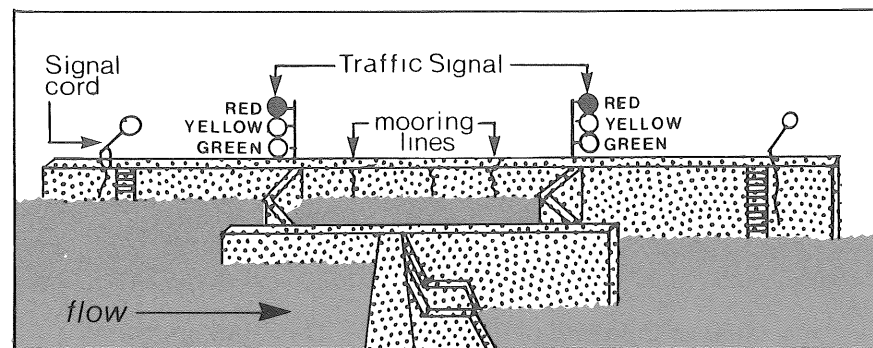
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lists the following procedures for using navigational locks:

No Light - Lock not in use, approach guide wall and signal for lockgate by pulling signal cord.

Red Light - Stand clear, do not approach.

Yellow Light - Approach lock under full control.

Green Light - Enter lock.



Upon receiving green light, proceed slowly into lock and observe mooring lines spaced along lock wall. The lines should be held by hand and not tied to the boat while in the lock chamber. Do not tie a line to a recessed ladder. Insure that passengers remain seated at all times and keep hands inside the boat to avoid the chance of crushed fingers. If construction of craft requires handling lines on deck, a life jacket should be worn. Do not leave motor of craft running during lockage, nor climb ladders of lock structure.

Upon completion of the lock filling or emptying operation and when the gates are fully open, a signal will be given by the lock operator that it is safe to depart the lock. *The signal will be either one short toot of the signal horn or a hand signal by the lock operator.* Leave the lock at a slow speed assuring that you are well clear of the lock structure before gaining speed. The approaches to the locks are considered no wake areas.

Recreational craft and towboats are locked through on a first-come, first-served basis. Only government craft and regularly scheduled passenger craft have priority. Boaters should be aware that delays in locking through may occur. Lock and dam personnel monitor channels 14 and 16 on the VHF marine radio and can be contacted about waiting periods. There is no charge for locking through.

descends to the Gulf of Mexico. A lock is used to raise or lower boats to the next pool in the system. A lock is a chamber that may be opened on either end to allow boats to enter or leave. Once a boat is in the lock, water is added to the chamber to raise a boat to the upstream pool or drawn out of the chamber to lower a boat to the downstream pool.

Deceptive Currents

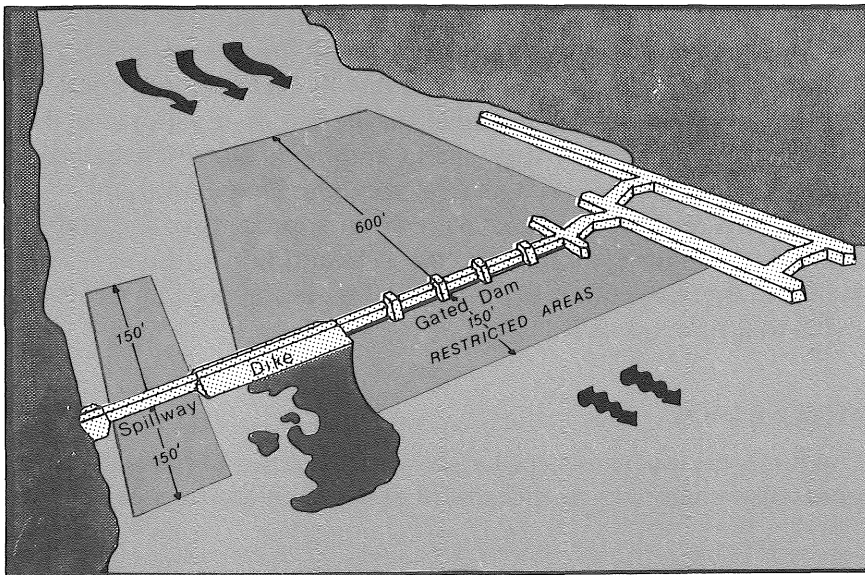
Near each lock and dam the water is turbulent and dangerous. Currents are strong, swift and deceptive. As water is drawn in and discharged from a lock chamber or drawn over a dam, undercurrents are created that are powerful enough to drag a boat and its occupants to the bottom.

Restricted Areas

There are certain restricted areas to protect boaters in the vicinity of locks and dams. Boats *may not enter* the following areas:

- the area 600 feet upstream and 150 feet downstream from the dam (*including auxiliary locks not in service*)
- the area 150 feet upstream from the spillway.

Additional restrictions may be posted at each dam or spillway. Obey all signs.



Remember:

- Most boating accidents occur during the day and in clear weather.
- The majority of boat operators involved in accidents have considerable experience in using their craft but have never taken a formal boating safety course.

Reporting Accidents

The Federal Boat Safety Act of 1971 requires that any accident, collision or other casualty involving a motorboat or other vessel must be reported if it resulted in:

1. a fatality, or
2. personal injury involving loss of consciousness, requiring medical treatment, or resulting in incapacitation for 24 hours or more, or
3. property damage in excess of \$200.

In Minnesota all accidents must be reported to the county sheriff's office where the accident occurred. The county sheriffs' offices and telephone numbers are at the back of this publication.

BOATING ON THE BIG RIVER

LOCKS AND DAMS

In the 1930s the United States Army Corps of Engineers built a series of locks and dams on the Mississippi River to maintain a navigational channel of at least nine feet in depth. Eleven such lock and dam facilities are located on the Mississippi north of the Minnesota-Iowa border. These locks and dams present a special hazard to recreational boaters who are unfamiliar with them. Special precautions must be taken when approaching and going through these navigational structures. In addition to these facilities, there are other dams on the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers that have no locks.

What is a Lock?

The dams on the Mississippi River create a series of navigational pools. Each dam can be thought of as a step in the river as it

BOATING ACCIDENTS

Many boating accidents can be avoided if you follow these safe boating practices:

1. Wear your personal flotation device (PFD).
2. If you drink, don't operate a watercraft.
3. Be especially careful around cold water. Hypothermia kills.
4. Turn your navigation lights on at sunset.
5. Carry a fire extinguisher aboard at all times.
6. Be aware of changing weather conditions.
7. Don't overload your watercraft.



NEW LONDON/SPICER TIMES PHOTO

When operating in foggy weather, be sure you are going slow enough to stop within one half your distance of visibility.

BOATING SAFETY

YOU ARE THE KEY TO WATER SAFETY

Considering the large number of participants in Minnesota, water-based recreation is a relatively safe pastime. Still, an average of 30 persons die in boating accidents each year in the state. In addition, many more people are injured and hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of property damage results from boating mishaps.

Your water fun depends on you, your equipment and other people who, like yourself, enjoy spending leisure time on, in or near the river.

Let's look at your responsibilities:

1. A knowledge of rules and regulations for watercraft use.
2. A knowledge of safety equipment required by law to be on board your watercraft.
3. A knowledge of the operation of your boat.
4. Knowledge of boating hazards unique to large rivers.
5. Responsibility for the actions of all persons on board the watercraft.
6. Acceptance of the fact that everyone has the right—and privilege—to use the river in a proper manner.

FLOAT PLAN

Leave a float plan with someone who will miss you if you do not return on time. A float plan should include the following information: (See sample float plan on page 58.)

1. A description of your car and where you will park it.
2. Where you intend to boat.
3. A description of your boat including the registration number.
4. Communication equipment on board and radio call sign if you have one.
5. The names of all persons on board.
6. Safety equipment on board.
7. Estimated time of arrival back home.
8. The latest return time home.
9. Your alternate plans in the event of an emergency or bad weather.
10. The phone number to the county sheriff for the area you are boating in.

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has prepared two publications in response to the recommendations of the GREAT I Study and the demand of the boating public for a detailed guide of Minnesota's great rivers. This is one of the two river guides that covers the most popular portions of the Mississippi, St. Croix and Minnesota rivers (*see inset on back cover*).

These guides are intended to assist boaters on the rivers and to promote safe and enjoyable use of the resource. They contain detailed maps of the rivers and include frequently requested information on boating facilities, safety aspects and hazards specific to the Mississippi, St. Croix and Minnesota rivers.

Take a few minutes to read through the safety information section in the next few pages. The BOATING ON THE BIG RIVER section on page 5 is especially important to boaters on the Mississippi River. Be informed about submerged wing dams and stumpfields. IT COULD SAVE YOUR MOTOR'S LOWER UNIT! Also know the proper boating procedures around towboats as well as locks and dams. IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!

A river, by its character, is constantly changing its physical dimensions. The rivers portrayed in this guide are no exception. While the mapping for this guide utilized the latest information, changes may have occurred. It is suggested that the user exercise care when navigating, especially in the backwater areas where changes occur more frequently.

Using This Guide

Using this river guide is easy. An index of maps and a fold-out legend is located on the back cover. An explanation of each facility is located on the facing or previous page for each map. Facilities are indexed by river mile and side of river (*left or right when going downstream*). Note: state parks as well as many county and regional parks require entrance fees for motor vehicles.

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