

County Parks

Douglas County parks and campgrounds provide the perfect setting for family and friends to enjoy a relaxing getaway where they can tell stories around a crackling fire, relax under a starlit night sky, and wake up to the whispering woodlands and cheerful songbirds. Great fishing, nice swimming beaches, picnic areas, hiking trails, and scenic vistas make any of our parks or campgrounds popular vacation or getaway destinations. Join us at any one of these great locations and experience the magnificent Northwoods and all it has to offer.



Visit Douglas County Parks... escape back to nature.

Day-Use County Parks



Anna Gene County Park
6100 East Lyman Lake Road, Oakland, Wisconsin 54874
SE1/4 of the SW1/4 Section 15, Township 46 North - Range 13 West, Town of Oakland, Douglas County, Wisconsin
Longitude: 91° 58' 52.4353" W
Latitude: 46° 27' 41.3460" N

Bass Lake County Park
11869 Bass Lake Road, Solon Springs, Wisconsin 54873
NW1/4 of the SW1/4 Section 31, Township 45 North - Range 11 West, Town of Solon Springs, Douglas County, Wisconsin
Longitude: 91° 48' 8.8959" W
Latitude: 46° 20' 11.4247" N

Long Lake County Park
9909 Fire Lane Road, Solon Springs, Wisconsin 54873
SE1/4 of the SW1/4 Section 31, Township 45 North - Range 11 West, Town of Solon Springs, Douglas County, Wisconsin
Longitude: 91° 48' 57.8084" W
Latitude: 46° 19' 51.9974" N

Lake Minnesuing County Park
7637 South County Highway P, Bennett, Wisconsin 54849
NW1/4 of the SW1/4 Section 10, Township 46 North - Range 11 West, Town of Bennett, Douglas County, Wisconsin
Longitude: 91° 44' 10.8300" W
Latitude: 46° 29' 46.9543" N

Park Creek Pond County Park
9182 East Hughes Avenue, Solon Springs, Wisconsin 54873
NE1/4 of the SW1/4 Section 26, Township 44 North - Range 10 West, Town of Gordon, Douglas County, Wisconsin
Longitude: 91° 49' 18.4038" W
Latitude: 46° 15' 32.0156" N

Mooney Dam County Park
14293 South Fowlers Circle, Gordon, Wisconsin 54838
NW1/4 of the NW1/4 Section 36, Township 44 North - Range 10 West, Town of Gordon, Douglas County, Wisconsin
Longitude: 91° 54' 40.4342" W
Latitude: 46° 15' 9.7024" N

Gordon Dam County Park
7201 East County Highway Y, Gordon, Wisconsin 54838
SE1/4 of the NE1/4 Section 36, Township 44 North - Range 13 West, Town of Gordon, Douglas County, Wisconsin
Longitude: 91° 50' 2.2483" W
Latitude: 46° 20' 57.2077" N

Lucius Woods County Park
9231 East Marion Avenue, Solon Springs, Wisconsin 54873
NW1/4 of the SW1/4 Section 25, Township 45 North - Range 12 West, Village of Solon Springs, Douglas County, Wisconsin
Longitude: 91° 50' 8.7175" W
Latitude: 46° 20' 57.2077" N

Getting There
Located 8 miles east of U.S. Highway 53 at the County Highway L turn off in the Town of Oakland. Take County Highway L west for 7.1 miles, turn left (west) on Lyman Lake Road and take it for 1 mile until you enter the park.

Nearest Municipality:
Town of Oakland/Town of Summit

Description
Anna Gene County Park is located on approximately 38 acres along the northern shoreline of Lyman Lake offering a scenic, tranquil backdrop for picnicking, fishing or unwinding. Well known for great muskellie, walleye, and crappie fishing in its dark-stained water. Lyman Lake is a 403-acre drainage lake with a maximum depth of 15 feet and average depth of 7 feet. Common fish species include muskellie, walleye, largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, and other panfish.

Available Facilities & Amenities

- Lake Access
- Restroom (vault toilets)
- Beach Area
- Picnic Area
- Picnic Tables
- Charcoal Grills
- Garbage Receptacles
- Recycling Receptacles

Activities

- Picnicking
- Fishing (Shore)
- Swimming
- Canoeing
- Kayaking

Getting There
Located 8 miles east of downtown Solon Springs. From the intersection of County Highway A and Business 53, take County Highway A east for 0.5 miles, turn right (south) on Muskrat Lake Road and take it for 1.1 miles, turn right (south) on Bass Lake Road and take it for 1/10 mile until you see the park entrance on the right (west) side of the road.

Nearest Municipality:
Village of Solon Springs

Description
Bass Lake County Park is located on approximately 3 acres along the eastern shoreline of Bass Lake offering a refreshing, peaceful setting for picnicking or just relaxing. Bass Lake is a 53-acre seepage lake with a maximum depth of 9 feet and average depth of 6 feet. Common fish species include largemouth bass, northern pike, bluegill, and other panfish.

Available Facilities & Amenities

- Lake Access
- Restroom (vault toilets)
- Beach Area
- Picnic Area
- Picnic Tables
- Charcoal Grills
- Garbage Receptacles
- Recycling Receptacles

Activities

- Picnicking
- Fishing (Shore)
- Swimming
- Canoeing
- Kayaking

Getting There
Located 6 miles east of U.S. Highway 53 at the County Highway B turn off in the Town of Bennett. Take County Highway B east for 4.1 miles, turn right (south) on County Highway P and take it for 1/10 mile until you see the park entrance on the left (west) side of the road.

Nearest Municipality:
Village of Lake Nebagamon

Description
Park Creek Pond County Park is located on approximately 1 acre along the northern shoreline of Park Creek Pond and offers convenient picnicking and children's fishing opportunities in downtown Solon Springs. Directly adjacent to the Forestry Department's office headquarters, Park Creek Pond is an 11-acre seepage lake with a maximum depth of 7 feet and average depth of 3 feet. Common fish species include brook trout, rainbow trout, sunfish, and other panfish. Trout are stocked annually by the WDN and fishing opportunities are typically reserved for children.

Available Facilities & Amenities

- Lake Access
- Restroom (during open business hours at the office)
- Fishing Pier
- Picnic Area
- Picnic Tables
- Charcoal Grills
- Garbage Receptacles
- Recycling Receptacles

Activities

- Picnicking
- Fishing
- Swimming
- Canoeing
- Kayaking

Getting There
Located 1.1 miles east of U.S. Highway 53 at the County Highway Y turn off in the Town of Gordon. Take County Highway Y west for 7 miles until you enter the park approximately 3/4 mile beyond the Chief Kamebabe Scenic Overlook.

Nearest Municipality:
Town of Barnes (Bayfield County)

Description
Pleasantly scenic Gordon Dam County Park is located on approximately 18 acres along the western shoreline of the St. Croix Flowage (Gordon Flowage) at the headwaters of the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. With a maximum depth of 28 feet and average depth of 7 feet, the 1,900 acre flowage is one of the largest and most pristine lakes in Douglas County. Well known throughout the region and beyond, the flowage offers anglers exceptional fishing opportunities for bluegills, sunfish, crappies, perch, largemouth bass, and northern pike. Other fish species include muskellie, smallmouth bass, bullheads, suckers, and carp. The park includes a playground with 33 slides offering both electric and non-electric services and day-use picnic areas. All camp sites are available on a first-come first-served basis with NO advance reservations available.

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- Beach Area
- Picnic Area
- Picnic Tables
- Charcoal Grills
- Garbage Receptacles
- Recycling Receptacles
- 11 Non-Electric Camp Sites

Activities

- Camping
- Picnicking
- Boating
- Fishing
- Canoeing
- Kayaking
- Exploring
- Hiking

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Description
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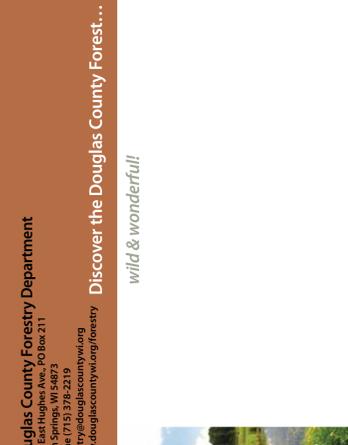
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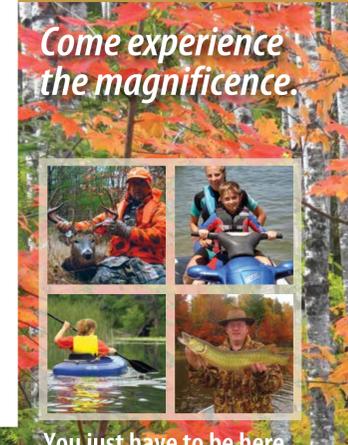
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Forest Based Recreation Activities

Hunting

Desired game species can be found throughout the County Forest and ideal hunting opportunities abound. The Forest is open to public hunting with the exception of a very few areas in and around developed features. Large expanses of remote public lands that give any hunter ample room to roam make the Forest a very popular hunting destination. With many different habitats capable of supporting varying population levels of game species across vast acreages with a lower density of hunters, the Douglas County Forest is a true hunter's paradise. All hunters are expected to comply with all State of Wisconsin hunting laws and rules when hunting in the County Forest.

Fishing

With 41 lakes and 150 miles of rivers and streams throughout its boundaries, the County Forest offers a wide variety of wilderness fishing and fishing resources for anglers to enjoy. Fishing opportunities range from warmwater species such as panfish and muskellunge to coldwater species such as trout and whitefish. Waterbody access opportunities from remote walk-in sites to modern improved boat launch facilities are available throughout the property. The most commonly pursued species of sport fish include bluegills, sunfish, crappies, perch, largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, walleye, northern pike, muskellunge, brook trout, and brown trout. Anglers with fly fishing tackle can find good trout action on many of the small streams and creeks. Fly fishing is also a very popular activity during the winter months and anglers have many opportunities for fishing the hatches. Walleye, northern pike and panfish are the most common species targeted. All anglers must be sure to comply with all State of Wisconsin fishing laws and rules when fishing in the County Forest.

Deer Hunting

White-tailed deer are the most popular game species found in the Forest. Severe winters, predation, hunter harvests and altered carrying capacity of the land can periodically alter deer population levels throughout the County. Archer hunters can typically find areas to hunt where they seldom encounter other hunters, while firearm hunters tend to experience greater hunter densities. During firearm seasons, a little scouting can often lead individuals to areas that minimize the chance of encountering others. As with most hunting and fishing activities, access to roads and access points tend to experience higher hunter densities than those areas further away. Many deer, including trophy quality bucks are taken from the Forest annually.

Bear Hunting

Whether you hold a Class A or B license, the Douglas County Forest has always been a popular area among bear hunters with its vast tracts of public land offering hunters a great opportunity to pursue black bear. Access points to public motor vehicle use tend to experience the greatest bear baiting activities while those areas that are less traveled are more likely to have been harvested from the Forest but are far less common than mature representatives of the species.

Ruffed Grouse Hunting

With its active forest management program, the Forest provides excellent young forest habitat for ruffed grouse. Like many game species, population levels tend to change from year to year but excellent grouse hunting is the norm throughout much of the property on most years. Bird densities will vary across the Forest with birds being scarce in some habitats and plentiful in others. The Forest has excellent habitat for ruffed grouse and aspen and alder stands along forest edges and near forest openings for the best hunting opportunities. The Forest contains 3 blocks totaling over 28,000 acres designated as special game management areas (GMA's) that are recognized by the Ruffed Grouse Society's Special Management Area Program. The areas include the Spruce River GMA, Poplar River GMA, and the Empire Swamp GMA. The Forest also has good populations of woodcock and grouse hunters can expect to encounter some of these birds in young to medium aged aspen, open alder and willow thickets, and forest openings.

Wild Turkey Hunting

Douglas County's wild turkey population has increased since reintroduction efforts in 2004 and many birds can be found in different regions of the County Forest. Wild turkeys are very adaptable and their population is growing. Additional hunting opportunities to get out and enjoy the Forest and test their hunting skills with a wary bird population. Hunting opportunities will vary across the Forest with the best habitats having lots of edge and offering suitable feeding areas and adequate roosting sites.

Waterfowl Hunting

Waterfowl hunters can find many good hunting locations throughout the Forest from large open bodies of water to small beaver ponds and remote marshes. Common geese and ducks will reside in the area all the way until freeze-up. Habitat is more common of southern Wisconsin and prairie west of the Mississippi River such as wide open marshes and agricultural pothole lakes are not common in the Forest. More common are spots in rivers, beaver flowages, and marshy bays and edges of lakes. Some years, waterfowl can experience fantastic early season puddle duck hunting with decoying or jump shooting. Other years, hunters can find tremendous late season diver duck hunting on larger bodies of water. Being located as far north as the Forest is, waterfowl hunting is very weather dependent from one year to the next.

Predator Hunting

Although not as popular an activity, excellent predator hunting can also be found in the County Forest. Coyote and red fox are the typical predators pursued but bobcat are also hunted and are becoming more popular every year, especially among houndhunters. Like other game species, population levels of predator species tend to fluctuate from year to year and diseases such as mange can have dramatic effects on numbers. Predator hunters should note that timber wolves are also found in the Forest and can easily be mistaken for coyotes.

Other Small Game Hunting

Other small game hunting opportunities found in the County Forest include cottontail rabbit, squirrel, sharp-tailed grouse, and mourning dove. Each of these species can be found in the Forest and hunters should be looking for any particular species in their respective habitat types.

Trapping

Populations of traditional furbearers are plentiful throughout the County Forest and the Forest has a long and storied tradition of trapping. Many local Douglas County communities were originally founded as trade posts where furs were traded or sold. Beaver, otter, mink, and muskrat are found in abundance throughout the aquatic habitats scattered throughout the property and offer water trapping enthusiasts exceptional opportunities. Dryland trappers typically find excellent opportunities for coyotes, red fox, raccoons, fisher, and bobcat. In this day and age, furbearer trapping is typically only practiced by a few hardy individuals and finding an area of the Forest to trap without encountering other trappers should not be too difficult. All trappers must be sure to comply with all State of Wisconsin trapping laws and rules when trapping in the County Forest.

Swimming

Bass Lake County Park, Long Lake County Park, and Lake Minnetonka County Park, all offer sand beach areas available for swimming. Lucas Woods County Park also offers a sand beach and designated swimming area. No lifeguards are provided at any location. Although not encouraged, swimming is also available at Anna Gene County Park, and Gordon Dam County Park. These parks do not offer any beach areas or designated swimming areas but swimming opportunities do exist, although not recommended.

Canoing and Kayaking

Bass Lake County Park, Long Lake County Park, Anna Gene County Park, Lake Minnetonka County Park, Gordon Dam County Park, and Lucas Woods County Park all offer different types of canoeing and kayaking opportunities ranging from large open lakes to high-velocity rivers and streams. Some of the better known rivers in the Forest that annually attract many canoeing and kayaking enthusiasts include the American River, Black River, Eau Claire River, Moose River, Nemadji River, Spruce River, St. Croix River, and the Totogatic River.

Hiking and Snowshoeing

The County Forest contains numerous trails open to foot travel in the form of hiking and snowshoeing that allow for scenic views and quite serenity.

Picnicking

Bass Lake County Park, Long Lake County Park, Anna Gene County Park, Lake Minnetonka County Park, and Gordon Dam County Park all offer free day-use picnic areas that provide picnic tables, charcoal grills, garbage receptacles, and restrooms. Lucas Woods County Park also offers an open picnic shelter available on a first-come-first-served basis with picnic tables and benches available. Lucas Woods County Park and the Developed Recreational Area of the Douglas County Wildlife Area both offer enclosed building facilities (picnic shelter and clubhouse) available on a first-come-first-served rental fee basis with advanced reservations available by contacting the Forest Department.

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Additional trapping and furbearer management information

For additional trapping and furbearer management information, please contact the WDNR Wildlife Biologist at WDNR Brule Ranger Station, 6250 South Ranger Road, Brule, WI 54820 or (715) 372-4866.

Additional fishing and fish management information

For additional fishing and fish management information, please contact the WDNR Fisheries Biologist at WDNR Brule Ranger Station, 6250 South Ranger Road, Brule, WI 54820 or (715) 372-4866.

Additional information on rules and regulations regarding hunting on County Forest lands

For additional information on rules and regulations regarding hunting on County Forest lands, please visit www.douglascountywi.gov or contact the Forestry Department.

Additional information on rules and regulations regarding recreational motor vehicle use

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Additional information on rules and regulations regarding dispersed camping

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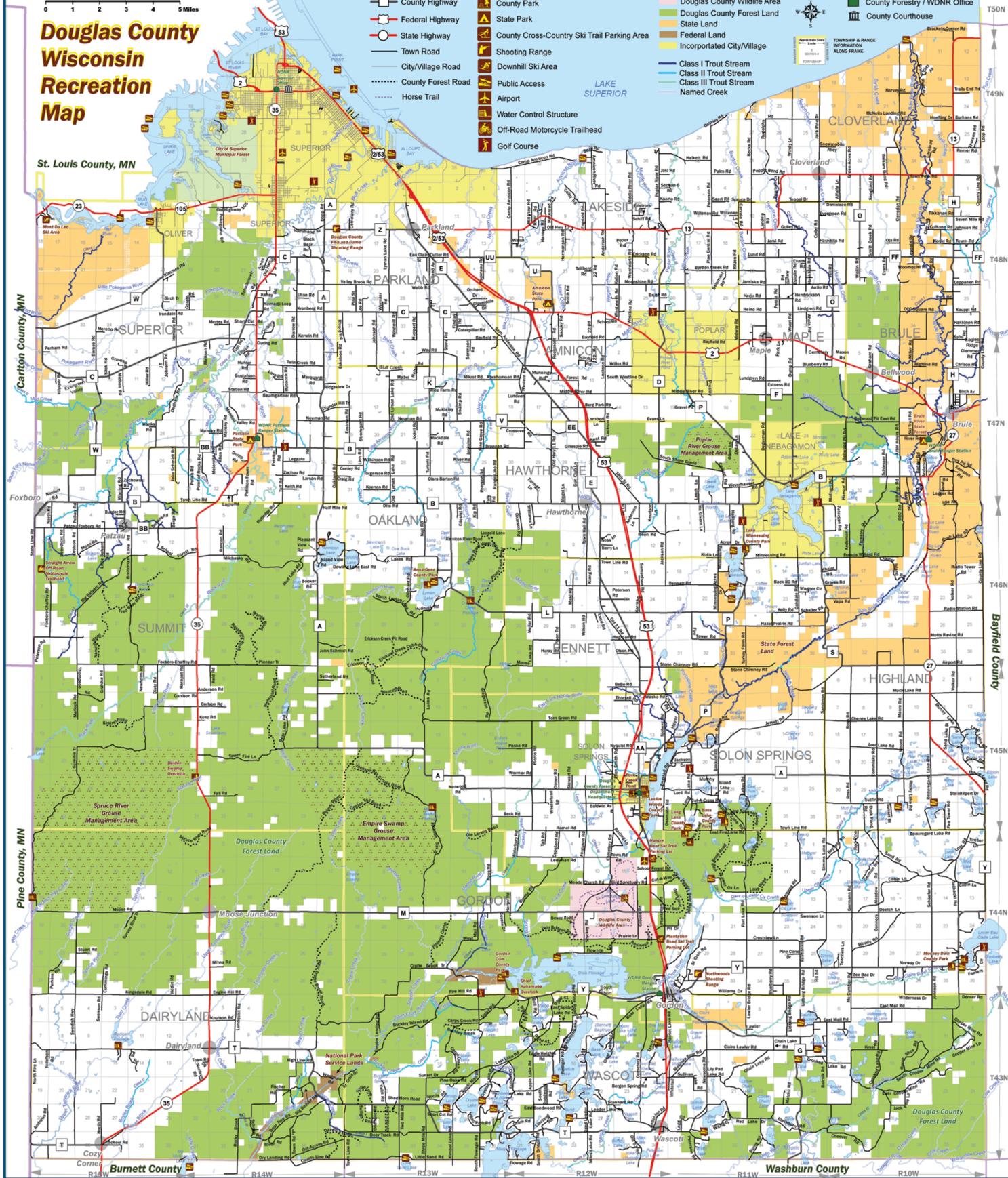
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Maps within this publication are for reference purposes only and are not guaranteed to be without error. They are not intended to be used for the legal determination of land ownership. Please contact the Douglas County Clerk's Office at (715) 395-1341, Douglas County Planning and Zoning Office (715) 395-1380, or the Forestry Department to purchase a copy of the most current Douglas County Plat Book.

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Douglas County Forest

Established 1931

Forest History

In the mid-1800's much of Wisconsin was covered with magnificent stands of great timber. From 1860 to the early 1900's, these vast timberlands provided the raw material necessary to support a thriving lumber industry. The demand to supply lumber for a growing nation and lack of sound forest-management practices eventually resulted in severely overharvesting many of these once great timberlands and landscape devastation.

Forest Management

As an active working forest, the Douglas County Forest is sustainably managed for optimum production of forest products. Timber harvests are the primary management method utilized and play a critical role in achieving a long-term management goal. Harvesting practices are carefully planned and performed under close supervision of forest managers to ensure sustainable management of timber resources. Before an area is harvested, forest managers have already planned for the future by determining what types of trees to regenerate following the harvest. Furniture, paper and other essentials we all make use of every day. All lands of the Douglas County Forest are voluntarily third-party certified under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) and Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) standards. Both non-profit organizations are comprehensive programs that ensure forest management that respects the environment, social, and economic viability. This is accomplished by practicing and promoting a land stewardship ethic that integrates recreation, conservation, and harvesting of trees with the preservation of soil resources, air and water quality, biological diversity, wildlife and aquatic habitat, outdoor recreation and forest aesthetics. Ultimately, certification and other wood products harvested from the Douglas County Forest will be able to compete in the global marketplace.

Timber harvesting... a necessary element of sustainable forest management.

Douglas County taxpayers heavily rely upon timber sale revenue to directly offset the county tax levy and also to fund new capital improvement projects such as County Highway replacement. The wood products supplied by the Forest help sustain the second largest industry in Wisconsin by significantly contributing to the State's economy on an annual basis. The industry also provides many important local and regional jobs in paper mills, saw mills, energy production facilities, professional logging companies, and forest