

Guide to Parks

www.co.washington.mn.us/Parks



Welcome

Discover the outdoors and make unforgettable memories. Washington County Parks are your gateway to scenic landscapes and treasured natural resources, unique to the Twin Cities region. With more than 4,400 acres of parkland, Washington County contains more than 75 miles of turf and paved trails, 5 beaches, 2 campgrounds, and a wide offering of programs and events. Whether you like biking, hiking, or skiing, or if you are interested in birding, fishing, or horseback riding, the parks have something for everyone to enjoy.

Washington County Parks are a welcoming environment for all visitors and the county strives to provide a holistic, safe, and inclusive way to connect with nature.

For detailed information on park amenities, rules, and making reservations, visit the Parks page on the county website.



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Programs and events

Washington County Parks offer educational nature and history programs, outdoor recreation demonstrations and lessons, summer camps, Historic Courthouse tours, community events, and an annual bluegrass music festival.

Reservations

Reservations are available for campsites, picnic pavilions, and indoor facilities. Reserve campsites online, by phone or in-person. For pavilions or indoor facilities, contact the applicable park office directly.

Equipment rentals

Summer Rentals: Watercraft rentals are available at Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park and Square Lake Park. Fishing poles and picnic kits are also available at select offices.

Winter Rentals: Nordic Rocks cross-country skis or snowshoes are available when conditions allow at Lake Elmo Park Reserve, Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park, or St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park.



Vehicle permits

All vehicles in the parks must display a valid daily or annual vehicle permit. Vehicle permits may be obtained at all park entrances, the Washington County Historic Courthouse, and all Washington County License Centers.

The annual permit is valid for 12 months from the date of purchase and grants access to Washington and Anoka County parks.

Vehicle permits are not required on "Free Tuesdays," the first non-holiday Tuesday of each month.

Protect your parks

Please help keep the parks safe and enjoyable by adhering to all verbal and written regulations and ordinances in the parks.

Alcoholic Beverages: The possession or consumption of any alcoholic beverage is prohibited.

Parking: Park in a designated parking areas only. There is no parking on grass, even in campgrounds.

Pets: Pets are allowed in parking areas and on designated trails. All pets must be always on a maximum six-foot leash. Pets are not allowed in beaches, campgrounds, indoor facilities, picnic areas, or playgrounds. Please pick up after your pets.

Trash & Recycling: Keep the parks clean! There are designated waste and recycling containers throughout all parks and trails.



Big Marine Park Reserve

Located in May Township, this park features fascinating natural landscapes, including the St. Croix Valley Moraine and high-quality upland and wetland wildlife habitat. This delightful scenery can be enjoyed year-round on the trails. Right on the beautiful Big Marine Lake, this park also provides motorized boat access, a fishing pier, and a large swimming beach for visitors to enjoy.



Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park

Located in Cottage Grove, the park consists of 500-plus acres of rolling hills and forested ravines. The park features non-motorized boat access to Ravine Lake, a popular fishing lake. The trails and playground offer additional recreational opportunities and the Ravine Landing facility serves as a place to rest, connect, or plan your next adventure.



Hardwood Creek Regional Trail

This 10-mile regional trail is in northwestern Washington County. There are two parallel routes, paved and unpaved, primarily along State Highway 61 in Hugo and Forest Lake.

The paved portion is great for visitors to enjoy biking, hiking, and in-line skating and the unpaved route is available to horses in the summer and snowmobilers in the winter.



Historic Courthouse

A county treasure recognized on the National Register of Historic Places, this site is the longest standing courthouse in the state of Minnesota. Located in Stillwater, the facility was originally built in 1870 and has been restored to display its original craftsmanship. It serves as a noteworthy space for special events and educational tours, all while showcasing the county's history.



Lake Elmo Park Reserve

Located in the City of Lake Elmo and consisting of 2,000-plus protected acres, the park provides space for a variety of visitors and activities. From horse trails to hiking and ski trails, to a chlorinated swim pond and multiple lakes to enjoy, the park has something for everyone. Just a short drive from the Twin Cities, the park also offers scenic rustic and modern campsites.



Find us online at:

www.co.washington.mn.us/parks

Email: parks@co.washington.mn.us

[f](#) [t](#) [@](#) @WashCountyParks

General Info: 651-430-8370

North Parks: 651-430-8200

Big Marine Park Reserve, Hardwood Creek Trail, Square Lake Park, Pine Point Park

South Parks: 651-430-8240

Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park, Point Douglas Park & Regional Trail, St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park

Lake Elmo Park Reserve: 651-430-8370

Historic Courthouse: 651-275-7075

Get involved

There are many opportunities for individuals as well as groups looking to support and volunteer in county parks. From campground hosts, to seeding, to park donations, you're sure to find a way to give back. Learn more about how to get involved on the website under *Support Your Parks*.



Pine Point Regional Park

Located in Stillwater Township, Pine Point Regional Park serves as a trailhead to the Gateway State Trail, a popular multi-use trail in the region. In addition to the state trail, this park offers a variety of its own soft-turf surface trails that guide park users through hardwood forests and marshes with views of both Louise Lake and Loon Lake.



Point Douglas Park

Located east of Hastings, Point Douglas is a small but mighty 10-acre park that functions as a trailhead for the Point Douglas Regional Trail. After a nice ride or walk along the regional trail, visitors may relax at the picnic area while admiring the charming landscape or enjoy the beautiful views of the St. Croix River as they soak in the sun at this park's swim beach.



Point Douglas Regional Trail

This 2.5-mile paved trail in southeastern Washington County runs parallel to Highway 10 from Point Douglas Park into Hastings. The trail links with other trail systems to connect with two states and three counties. Featuring picturesque views of the Mississippi and St. Croix rivers it overlooks stunning scenery.



Square Lake Park

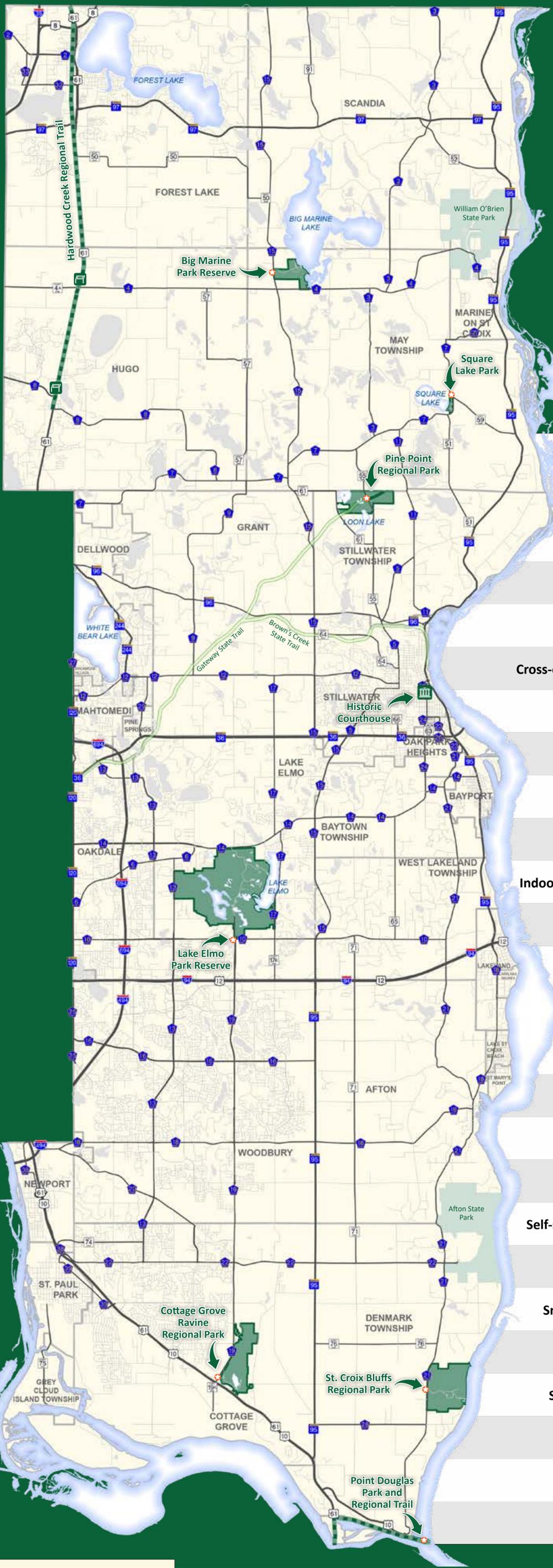
Located in May Township, this park is home to some of the clearest waters in Minnesota. Designated as a Regional Special Recreation Feature by the Metropolitan Council, Square Lake's outstanding water quality makes for a one-of-a-kind paddle. The park provides a swimming beach and access for motorized boats and small watercrafts, SCUBA divers, and more.



St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park

Located in Denmark Township, nestled along the shores of the St. Croix River, this park is the hidden gem of Washington County. In addition to access to the nationally recognized scenic river route, this park also offers up opportunities to enjoy the outdoors in any season. From camping, hiking, skiing, and more there is so much available for visitors to try.





-  Trail Kiosk
-  Park Entrance
-  County/Regional Park
-  Regional Trail
-  State Park
-  State Trail



	Big Marine Park Reserve – 17495 Manning Trail N., Marine on St. Croix, MN 55047	Cottage Grove Ravine Regional Park – 9653 Keats Ave. S., Cottage Grove, MN 55016	Hardwood Creek Regional Trail – 19987 Fitzgerald Trail N., Forest Lake, MN 55025	Historic Courthouse – 101 W. Pine St., Stillwater, MN 55082	Lake Elmo Park Reserve – 1515 Keats Ave. N., Lake Elmo, MN 55042	Pine Point Regional Park – 11900 Norell Ave. N., Stillwater, MN 55082	Point Douglas Park – 14500 Pt. Douglas Dr. S., Hastings, MN 55033	Point Douglas Regional Trail – 14500 Point Douglas Drive S., Hastings, MN 55033	St. Croix Bluffs Regional Park – 10191 St. Croix Trail S., Hastings, MN 55033	Square Lake Park – 15450 Square Lake Trail N., Stillwater, MN 55082
Archery 					✓					
Basketball court 									✓	
Biking 	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Boat launch 	✓				✓				✓	✓
Camping 					✓				✓	
Cross-country ski trails 	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	
Fishing pier 	✓	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓
Grilling area 	✓	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓
Hiking trails 	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓
Horse trails 			✓		✓	✓				
Indoor rental facilities 		✓		✓	✓					
Mountain bike/Fat tire biking 		✓			✓	✓				
Multi-use trails 	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓	
Orienteering 					✓					
Park office 	✓	✓		✓	✓				✓	
Paved trails 	✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓	
Pavilion rentals 	✓	✓			✓				✓	
Playground 	✓	✓			✓				✓	
Self-serve paystation 	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Small watercraft launch 	✓	✓			✓		✓			✓
Snowmobile trails 	✓	✓	✓		✓					
Snowshoeing 	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	
Swimming beach 	✓						✓		✓	✓
Swim pond 					✓					
Tennis court 									✓	
Tours 				✓						

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