

Vilas COUNTY



Things to See DIRECTORY

Boulder Junction Chamber
PO Box 286
5352 County Hwy M
Boulder Junction WI 54512
(715) 385-2400 or 1-800-466-8759
www.boulderjct.org

Conover Chamber
PO Box 32
4665 Cty Hwy K East
Conover WI 54519
(715) 479-4928 or 1-866-394-4386
www.conover.org

Eagle River Area Chamber of
Commerce & Visitors Center
PO Box 1917
201 N. Railroad St.
Eagle River WI 54521
(715) 479-6400 or 1-800-359-6315
www.eagleriver.org

Lac du Flambeau Chamber
PO Box 456
602 Peace Pipe Rd.
Lac du Flambeau WI 54538
(715) 588-3346 or 1-877-588-3346
www.lacduflambeauchamber.com

Land O'Lakes Chamber
PO Box 599
6484 Hwy 45 North
Land O'Lakes WI 54540
(715) 547-3432 or 1-800-236-3432
www.landolakes-wi.org

Manitowish Waters Chamber
PO Box 251
4 Airport Road
Manitowish Waters WI 54545
(715) 543-8488 or 1-888-626-9877
www.manitowishwaters.org

Chambers of Commerce

Minocqua Area Chamber
PO Box 1006
8216 Hwy 51 South
Minocqua WI 54548
(715) 356-5266 or 1-800-44-NORTH
www.minocqua.org

Phelps Chamber
PO Box 217
2299 Hwy 17
Phelps WI 54554
(715) 545-3800 or 1-877-669-7077
www.phelpscocf.org

Presque Isle Chamber
PO Box 135
8305 Main Street
Presque Isle WI 54557
(715) 686-2910 or 1-888-835-6508
www.presqueisle.com

Sayner/Star Lake Chamber
PO Box 191
Sayner WI 54560
(715) 542-3789
www.sayner-starlake.org

St. Germain Area Chamber
PO Box 155
473 Hwy 70 E
St. Germain WI 54558
(715) 477-2205 or 1-800-727-7203
www.st-germain.com

Winchester Chamber
10315 County Hwy W
Winchester WI 54567
(715) 686-2232
www.winchester-wi.org

These are your moments

Vilas County Tourism & Publicity ~ 330 Court Street, Eagle River WI 54521

www.vilas.org

Visit Northern Wisconsin's Lake Country.

1-800-236-3649 or www.vilas.org

Blackjack Springs Wilderness Area, (east of Eagle River) covers about 5,800 acres and is preserved in a natural condition where people are only visitors. No motor vehicles or motorized equipment are allowed.

Chains of Lakes - With over 1300 lakes, Vilas County features one of the highest concentrations of lakes in the world and, along with several lake chains, offers a variety of canoeing, boating and fishing activities. The Eagle River/Three Lakes Chain of 28 lakes is thought to be the longest chain of inland freshwater lakes in the world. The Manitowish and Cisco Chains (both 10 lakes) come in a close second. The Lac du Flambeau Chain of 10 lakes boasts three (3) world class muskies. The 5 lakes of the Minocqua Chain also offer a variety of water activities.

Trails for hiking, biking, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and nature enjoyment can lead you to the wild side of Vilas County no matter the season. Nearly 50% of the land in Vilas County is in public ownership with the majority of ownership by the **Northern Highland American Legion State Forest, Chequamegon/Nicolet National Forest, and County Forest**. Maps and trail information are available from local chamber offices.

Eagles Nests can often be observed along lake shores and riverways wherever there are high trees, open areas and low density population. The Rainbow Flowage south of St. Germain provides excellent viewing. A reminder that Bald Eagles are a protected species. **Please observe but do not disturb!**

State Wildlife Observation Areas such as Powell Marsh, near Manitowish Waters and Thunder Lake Marsh, south of Eagle River near Three Lakes, are great spots for viewing waterfowl and wildlife.

Official Wisconsin Historical Markers throughout the county profile the rich heritage and development of Vilas County.

The Continental Divide is clearly evident in the area located on Highway B west of Land O'Lakes

and marked by Devil's Lake. Lakes and streams to the north of the highway run toward the St. Lawrence Waterway while water runoff south of the highway flows to the Mississippi Watershed. A second East/West divide is marked on Highway 70 about 10 miles east of Eagle River. Waters run east to Lake Michigan or west to the Missouri River/ Mississippi Watershed.

Dams in Vilas County are also interesting sites. **Rest Lake Dam** (Manitowish Waters) at Hwy W was used for driving logs down to the Chippewa and Mississippi Rivers from late 1880's to 1900. Other dams instrumental in the development of the Northwoods include: **Fishtrap Dam** at Fishtrap Lake near Boulder Junction and **Bear Creek** (Lac du Flambeau) near the old Indian Village. **Burnt Rollways Dam**, on Dam Road between the Three Lakes and Eagle River Chains provides a boat hoist which can move craft ranging in sizes from runabouts to small family cruisers.

The **Otter Rapids Hydroelectric Plant** (west of Eagle River) on Cloverland Road. The water elevated by the dam created Watersmeet Lake and has served to deepen and connect the lakes of the Eagle River Chain.

Designated a **Rustic Road (R60)** the 11.7 mile stretch of County K between County N & County M south of Boulder Junction, is a winding road through the Northern Highland American Legion State Forest. This heavily wooded area is abundant with wildlife and passes hiking trails, an old saw mill and old logging camp sites.

Cranberry Marshes, near Alder and Little Trout Lakes (Manitowish Waters) are among the highest producing bogs in the state. A free Friday tour is offered by the Chamber and cranberry growers starting early-July through early-October.

Cathedral Point is a beautiful timbered point between the North and South basins of Trout Lake. Many of the pines on the east shore of the lake are 120-130 feet tall and grow at what once was an Indian garden.

The mighty **Wisconsin River**, labeled the hardest working river in the nation., begins on the south shore of Lac Vieux Desert in Phelps. Take this short walk to picnic by the headwaters.

Dillinger's Hideout. Bullet holes remain in the walls of Little Bohemia Lodge (Manitowish Waters). John Dillinger, notorious bank robber, shot his way out of the lodge and escaped an FBI trap in 1934. Shootout memorabilia may be viewed during restaurant operating hours.

Shanty Boy Hill Cemetery (Presque Isle) is a memorial to those men who lived in rough shanties in the rugged woodland frontier, cut the trees that built this nation and gave their lives working in the logging industry.

Star Lake Forestry Plantation is the site of an old lumber camp on the banks of Star Lake. Started in 1913 in an effort to show that forest trees could be planted, the plantation was the first venture in silviculture and the start of reforestation in Northern Wisconsin.

Military Road, used during the Civil War to transport men and equipment, runs through the Nicolet National Forest east of Eagle River and the town of Phelps.

Vilas County is home to many **Museums and Educational Centers**.

Trees for Tomorrow (Eagle River) is an internationally recognized natural resource education center promoting the wise use and conservation of all natural resources. Visitors can walk the forest trail, see the Talking Tree or visit historic Civilian Conservation Corp buildings.

Lac du Flambeau Indian Museum and Cultural Center (Lac du Flambeau) unfolds the story of the Chippewa and their culture. The Four Season Exhibit shows the living environment of the Chippewa and Indian dances and Pow-Wows can be seen at the **Indian Bowl**.

William J. Poupert, Sr. Fish Hatchery/Trout Ponds (Lac du Flambeau) raises walleye, north-

ern, and musky in a state of the art facility. Poles and bait provided to catch your Northwoods fish fry in the Trout Pond.

Waswagoning Indian Village (Lac du Flambeau) is a traditional Indian village depicting a way of life that honored the seasons, the earth and the natural resources.

The **Dr. Kate Museum** (Woodruff) preserves the memory of the dedication of the "Angel on Snowshoes" along with her sense of community in spearheading the Million Penny Parade.

The **Minocqua Museum** provides an ongoing display of the Island City's unique history.

The **Northwoods Wildlife Center** (Minocqua) dedicated to caring for injured and orphaned wild animals, provides guided tours to learn about these animals at a working wildlife hospital.

The **Snowmobile Hall of Fame** (St. Germain) is dedicated to preserving and showcasing the rich, exciting history of snowmobiling at recreational and competitive levels.

The **Northwoods Children's Museum** (Eagle River) encourages hands on learning, allowing participants (young and old) to explore different exhibits at their own pace.

The **Eagle River Historical Society** (Eagle River), located in the old Railroad Depot, is dedicated to the collection, preservation and display of memorabilia of the area's history starting from 1870's.

The **North Lakeland Discovery Center** (Manitowish Waters) is a community-oriented, non-profit environmental education center with a mission of promoting stewardship of natural and cultural resources in the Lakeland area through year 'round classroom and outdoor recreation options.

The **Vilas County Historical Museum** (Sayner) has an extensive collection of historic exhibits and pioneer artifacts of the late 1800's in Northern Wisconsin.