

Monona County Community Directory



Recreation & Entertainment:

Community Centers in Monona County:

Blencoe Community Center
413 Main
Blencoe, IA 51523
Phone: 712-452-2200

Castana Community Center (Legion Building)
Call City Hall for information:
Phone: 712-353-6747

Mapleton Community Center
511 Main St.
Mapleton, IA 51034
Phone: 712-881-1032
Website:

Moorhead Community Center
100 Oak St.
Moorhead, IA 51558
Phone: 712-886-5211

Onawa Community Center
320 10th St.
Onawa, IA 51040
Phone: 712-433-2201
Website: http://www.onawa.com/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={C2A1C313-2612-4C70-BD59-9CB6EC3E4B66}

Rodney Community Center
(City Hall & Senior Citizen Center)
219 Main St.
Rodney, IA 51051
Phone: 712-889-2210

Recreation & Entertainment: (continued)

Community Centers in Monona County: (continued)

Soldier Community Building

113 1st St.

Soldier, IA 51572

Phone: 712-884-2214

Ute Community Building

Phone: 712-885-2621

Golf Courses in Monona County:

The Club House

1825 235th St.

Onawa, IA 51040

Phone: 712-433-1712

Willow Vale Golf Club

300 W. Sioux St.

Mapleton, IA 51034

Phone: 712-881-1002

Libraries in Monona County:

Fisher-Whiting Memorial Library

609 Courtright St.

Mapleton, IA 51034

Phone: 712-881-1312

Website: <http://www.mapleton.lib.ia.us/>

Moorhead Public Library

Main St., P.O. Box 33

Moorhead, IA 51558

Website:

<http://iowa.public-libraries.org/library/IA/Moorhead.html>

Onawa Public Library

707 Iowa Ave.

Onawa, IA 51040

Phone: 712-423-1773

Website: <http://www.onawa.lib.ia.us/>

Recreation & Entertainment: (continued)

Libraries in Monona County: (continued)

Soldier Town Hall (Library)

108 Oak St.

Soldier, IA 51572

Phone: 712-884-2266

Website:

<http://library.public-libraries.org/iowa/Soldier/SoldierPublicLibrary.html>

Ute Public Library

130 Main St.

Ute, IA 51060

Phone: 712-885-2237

Website: <http://library.public-libraries.org/iowa/Ute/UtePublicLibrary.html>

Whiting Public Library

407 Whittier St.

Whiting, IA 51063

Phone: 712-455-2612

Website: <http://www.whiting.lib.ia.us/library-information>

Parks/Camping/Wildlife Areas in Monona County:

<http://www.discovermononacounty.com/default.aspx?id=68>

or call the Iowa Department of Natural Resources wildlife biologist at 712-423-2426 for more information.

Badger Lake Wildlife Area – “This site is an old oxbow lake that provides upland and marsh habitats. The 987 acre area is popular for viewing and hunting pheasant and waterfowl.”

Beaver Run – “65 acre wildlife management area located along county road L37. Beaver dams have created a picturesque wetland, bordered on the west by native prairie grasses. This is a haven for pheasants and other wildlife. A long walk from the parking area is required for hunters and visitors.”

Blackbird/Ivy Island – “Visitors will find a variety of upland and marsh loving wildlife species on this 722 acre area. Public access is by river only.”

Blencoe Lake Wildlife Area – “This 70 acre tract offers hunters a variety of marsh and dry timber. Access to this area is by river only.”

Upper Blencoe Bend Wildlife Area – “Both marsh and timber habitats exist on this 94 acre site. Visitors will find waterfowl, pheasant and deer. Access is by river only.”

Recreation & Entertainment: (continued)

Parks/Camping/Wildlife Areas in Monona County: (continued)

Blue Lake Wildlife Area – “Located adjacent to and west of Lewis & Clark State Park, this 865 Acre area is a very popular “drive through” wildlife viewing site in the evenings. Hunting is allowed in the wildlife area, but is prohibited on state park land.”

Davis Wetland – “This marsh lies in the Little Sioux River floodplain just below the loess hills one mile north of Turing on Larpenteur Road. The 54 acre property was planted with native grasses and woody plants to attract wildlife.”

Decatur Bend Access Area – “3 miles west and 1 mile south of Onawa. 5 acre park. This area is popular for fishing, canoeing and primitive camping. Potable water and vault toilets are the only facilities provided. Camping fees are charged.”

Middle Decatur Bend Wildlife Area – “Good deer, pheasant, woodcock and waterfowl hunting is available on this 338 acre area.”

Upper Decatur Bend Wildlife Area – “This area contains 534 acres of marsh and timber. Visitors will find waterfowl, pheasant, deer and rabbit.”

Gray’s Landing – “This 43 acre wildlife management area was once a gravel operation. Located 5 miles south of Mapleton on Hwy 175, the area lies along the Maple River and contains a shallow six-acre excavation pond, which attracts local fishermen. Upland hunting and fishing are popular, with access to the Maple River for boaters and river walkers soon to be available.”

Huff-Warner Access Area – “This 6 acre park is located 2 miles west of Blencoe on the Missouri River. This park is a popular camping spot with a boat ramp into the Missouri River, open shelter house, vault toilets and potable water. Electricity is available at the shelter house and to campers. Camping fees are charged.”

Lewis and Clark State Park – “This 176 acre park is situated on a 250 acre “Blue Lake”. The park offers hiking trails, swim beach, enclosed lodge and a historical display of the keelboat and other equipment used by the Lewis & Clark party. There are 81 electrical camping sites for visitors. The auto trail through the park and adjoining wildlife management area is a popular evening activity to view the abundant wildlife.”

712-423-2829

Loess Hills Pioneer State Forest – “The Loess Hills Pioneer Forest is the newest forest in the State of Iowa. Located in both Monona and Harrison counties, the four separate tracts will eventually contain 17,000 acres. The land is purchased with REAP funds from willing sellers only. Use of REAP funds insures that the State will pay the property and school taxes on this land. Once purchased, the public can use the property for hunting, fishing, camping, nature studies and sight-seeing from the many

Recreation & Entertainment: (continued)

Parks/Camping/Wildlife Areas in Monona County: (continued)

Loess Hills Pioneer State Forest (continued)

vistas within the forest. Nature enthusiasts can search the forest hills for wildlife species found only in the Loess Hills. These species include plains pocket mouse, southern bog lemming and great plains skink. Some of the common species often seen include turkey, fox, coyote, pheasant, quail, and deer. The forest also contains a lake which has been restocked with bluegill, bass and catfish. For more information call the area forester at 712-456-2915.”

Loess Hills Scenic Byway – “The Loess Hills are a unique geological formation created by wind and water between 14,000 and 24,000 years ago. This narrow band of hills extends from Plymouth County south along Iowa’s western border and into the state of Missouri. A scenic byway has been developed to allow visitors to enjoy the beautiful sites of the Loess Hills at their leisure. Signs displaying the symbol below guide visitors along the route.



Loess Hills Wildlife Area – “This 3,896 acre property contains some of the best Loess Hills formations and prairie stands found in Iowa. Hiking is allowed throughout the area but trails are limited. Upland timber and prairie habitat provide good populations of deer, quail, squirrel, pheasant and turkey.”

Louisville Bend Wildlife Area – “This 904 acre site has a reputation for good hunting and wildlife viewing.”

Monona County Arboretum – “This is the site of the Conservation Center and the headquarters for the Monona County Conservation Board. The 100 acre area is located at the east edge of Onawa and is the location for many of the environmental education programs offered by the Board. The Arboretum displays over 300 trees and shrubs representing 75 individual species. Many displays have been marked and the area is open to the public. Group tours are available by request.” **712-433-2400**

Oldham Recreation Area – “This 13 acre park is located on a 12 acre lake, 1 ½ miles northwest of Soldier. A boat ramp, swimming beach with a diving raft, along with some of the best fishing in the County makes this park very popular. Electricity is available to picnickers and campers. Camping fees are charged.”

Recreation & Entertainment: (continued)

Parks/Camping/Wildlife Areas in Monona County: (continued)

Onawa Materials Yard – “Situated on an old Oxbow lake, 5 ½ miles west of Onawa. This site was once used by the Corps as a material storage area for work done along the Missouri River. The 3 acre site is now used for primitive camping and for waterfowl viewing during the spring and fall migration. Camping fees are charged.”

Plum Thicket – “Situated just west of the overpass between Onawa and Blencoe on Interstate 29 is a four acre wildlife management site that was abandoned road right of way. The area has been enhanced with wildlife plantings.”

Prairie Trail – “This linear park is an abandoned railroad right of way that has been smoothed and planted to native short grasses and wildflowers. The two mile trail begins on the west side of the Maple River and follows Hwy 183.”

Preparation Canyon State Park – “Located at the north edge of the Loess Hills Pioneer State Forest, this 344 acre park offers excellent examples of Loess Hills Prairie and forest. Eight hike-in camp sites are available for campers. Steeped in local history and nestled in the Loess Hills this area is well worth a visit.” **(The park ranger at Lewis & Clark State Park is also responsible for Preparation Canyon. Call 712-423-2829 for more information).**

Rodney Pits Recreation Area – “This complex is actually three separate abandoned gravel pits that are being developed into a recreation and fishing area. Located two miles east of Rodney, the combined 42 acres of water provide good fishing for bass, bluegill, crappie and catfish. Future facilities will include camping pads with electricity, vault toilets, an open shelter house and drinking water. Camping fees are charged.”

Savery Pond – “Located approximately 4 miles southeast of Moorhead, this 25 acre park includes a 15 acre pond with 10 acres of land. Good populations of white crappie, bass, bluegill, carp and catfish are available to area anglers. A boat ramp is available, with other improvements planned for the future. Camping fees are charged.”

Schoenjahn Wildlife Preserve – “The preserve is a greenbelt along the Maple River, just south of Mapleton, adjacent to Hwy 175. The 113 acre area was donated for wildlife management. Hunting is prohibited and there are no facilities for the public.”

Whiting Woods – “This 80 acre tract of dense native timber is located 4 miles southwest of Mapleton. Approximately 10 acres have been developed for picnicking, hiking and nature studies. An open shelter house, drinking water and vault type toilet facilities are available. A 10:30 p.m. curfew is enforced for all visitors.”

Recreation & Entertainment: (continued)

Recreational Opportunities by Town:

Blencoe:

1. City park with ball diamond and swings
2. Sidewalk around 4-plex apartments

Castana:

1. City park
2. Timber Ridge
3. Whiting Woods – camping, fishing, hiking trails

Mapleton:

1. 4-H, FFA, Boy & Girl Scouts, Boys & Girls Club coming soon
2. 4th of July parade
3. County and State parks in area for camping, fishing, hiking, biking boating
4. Golf course
5. Maple Valley High School weight room gym with basketball courts: \$10/yr.
6. Municipal Swimming Pool with swimming lessons offered
7. Playgrounds with equipment
8. Sidewalks and paved streets used for walking and bicycling
9. Slow pitch softball leagues
10. Youth baseball, softball, soccer, football leagues with fees per child

Moorhead:

1. 4-H
2. AA meetings-Lutheran Church basement, Monday at 8 p.m.
3. Church woman's organization
4. Churches sponsor Vacation Bible School each year
5. City park with playground equipment and a basketball court. Use of this is free.
6. Coffee groups at the restaurant and gas station/convenience store
7. Loess Hills Association quilting group
8. Loess Hills Look-Out with a hiking path available at no cost
9. Moorhead Fun Days
10. Moorhead Public Library – open 1-4 p.m. on Saturday
11. Preparation State Park in Loess Hills offers camping, hiking, etc. and is also free.
12. Sidewalks and streets for walking and riding bikes

Onawa:

1. 4-H programs
2. Adult slow pitch softball leagues
3. Big Blue Run sponsored by Burgess Health Center

Recreation & Entertainment: (continued)

Recreational Opportunities by Town:

Onawa (continued)

4. Boy & Girl Scouts organizations for youth
5. Chamber gold outing each August
6. Church activities including Vacation Bible School
7. City parks with playground equipment, some walking trails, tennis courts and one with a skate park. No cost. Have a summer recreational program at Gaukel Park.
8. Exercise games for kids at the Onawa Public Library
9. Fitness Center at the Onawa Community Center. Exercise games for kids
10. Iowa Theater – the only movie theater in Monona County
11. Golf course at Onawa Country Club with golf leagues.
12. Indoor hospital walking trail at Burgess Health Center
13. Lewis & Clark Festival in June each year
14. Lewis & Clark State Park – walking, hiking, biking trails, fishing, boating, swimming. Large camp grounds with electricity and primitive site, small fees.
15. Local church camp located on east side of Blue Lake
16. Numerous campsites and recreational sites maintained by Monona County Conservation, State and private areas. Some have swimming and fishing, hiking trails, overnight camping at \$10-\$15 per day.
17. Onabike – organized annual bike ride draws bicycling enthusiasts from around the area on 4th Saturday of August each year
18. Onawa Municipal Swimming Pool in season with lessons for all ages. There is a fee for lessons and pool entrance.
19. Open gym on Sundays at West Monona High School with weight room, volleyball, basketball courts and also outside basketball hoops in parking lot
20. Taekwondo for kids at the Onawa Community Center
21. Yoga classes at the Onawa Public Library
22. Youth baseball, softball, soccer and football leagues at approximately \$50/child.
23. Youth dance studio

Rodney:

1. City Hall/Senior Citizen's Center

Soldier:

1. Community library doubles as the city office
2. Soldier Community Center is used for recreational gatherings

Turin:

1. Playground and picnic area at no cost

Recreation & Entertainment: (continued)

Recreational Opportunities by Town:

Ute:

1. Playgrounds; (1) in park and (1) on school grounds
2. School gym with basketball court
3. Senior meal site for socialization
4. Summer baseball and softball leagues for youth
5. Tennis court available (but not used)
6. Ute Days Celebration annually

Whiting:

1. 4th of July parade annually
2. Biking around town
3. Camping available close to town
4. Elder programs and activities offered at Pleasant View Nursing Home, Assisted Living and Independent Living
5. Park with playground equipment- free to the public
6. Recreation center at church
7. Sidewalks for walking – no walking trails presently
8. Summer sports programs including slow pitch softball for adults, youth baseball, softball, soccer leagues with fees per child
9. Swimming lessons are offered for a fee at the Onawa Municipal Swimming Pool and interested students are bused to Onawa.
10. Whiting Public Library offers preschool story hour throughout the year. A summer reading program is also offered during July annually for free.

Swimming Pools in Monona County:

Mapleton Pool
609 Sioux St.
Mapleton, IA 51034
Phone: 7612-881-2519

Onawa Swimming Pool
200 12th St.
Onawa, IA 51040
Phone: 712-433-1597

Theaters in Monona County:

Iowa Theater
920 10th St.
Onawa, IA 51040
Phone: 712-423-1576
Website: <http://iowatheater.com/>