

mountain lake trails *map*

Wildlife Area

The Wildlife Area is open to public hunting. Please be aware of hunters, especially between September and March, when it is advisable to wear bright colors when passing through this area.

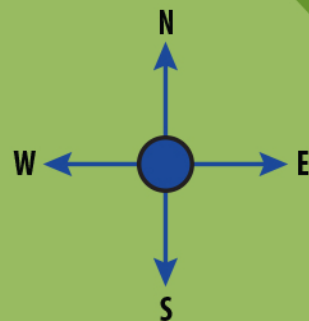


map legend

	Paved Trail		Parking		Trailhead		Fire Ring
	Bike Route		Boat Landing		Public Restroom		Swimming Beach
	Unpaved Trail		Camping		Playground		Golf Course
	Shared Trail		Disc Golf		Fishing Pier		Points of Interest (see inset for details)
	Boardwalk						
	City Street						

points of interest

- 1 first island boy scout cabin**
Cross the bridge and follow the path to the south edge of the island where there are remnants of a cabin. Constructed by the Boy Scouts in 1946, it was used for campouts by Boy Scouts and residents until destroyed by fire.
- 2 scenic overlook**
The 220 acre shallow Mountain Lake was created in the late 1930s through the collaborative efforts of the Village of Mountain Lake and the Works Progress Administration. Its watershed is home to numerous plant and animal species.
- 3 eastern red cedar trees**
This species of cedar is the only evergreen native to southwestern Minnesota. Cedars can live 800 years and have a rot resistant wood.
- 4 mountain lake watershed**
The lake's watershed is about ten square miles in size. Half the water entering the lake comes from Eagle Lake through this stream. The surrounding wetland removes water borne pollutants before they enter the lake. This is critical because agricultural-based uses often produce high nutrient and sediment levels.
- 5 cottonwood trees**
The cottonwood tree is where the county gets its name. These twin giants are over 75 years old, 130 feet tall, and combined weigh over 47 tons.
- 6 wetlands**
The surrounding Type 2 wetland is without surface water most of the year, but generally saturated below the surface. The lake is a Type 5 wetland which has water up to ten feet deep.
- 7 second island**
Originally an 'island' only during high water, the swampy area on the west end was filled to create the peninsula, now a State Wildlife Management Area.
- 8 food forest**
There are over 12 varieties of edible fruits and berries including plums, raspberries, currants, elderberries, serviceberries, and apples planted in three plots in Lawcon Park. Feel free to pick some fruit!



1000 ft
200 m

Total distance of trail: 5.2 miles
Total distance of bike loop: 3.5 miles
Trail is marked in one half and one mile increments.

County Road 44

60

60

60

60