



## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### Enjoy the Great Outdoors in Crow Wing County!

Crow Wing County has so many great opportunities for residents and visitors to enjoy the outdoors including over 100 acres of parks, over 1,000 miles of trails, and over 100,000 acres of public land.

Among the over 100 acres of parks is the recently updated Paul M. Thiede Fire Tower Park, located at 5230 County Road 11 in the City of Pequot Lakes. This park was first opened to the public in the summer of 2020 and includes a historic fire tower over 100 feet tall, built in 1935, which is open for climbing. The park also has a picnic shelter, vaulted toilet, and many more features including a nearly one-half mile long newly paved walking trail leading from the parking lot all the way up to the base of the tower. Other County parks include Big Island on the Whitefish Chain of Lakes, Milford Mine Memorial Park just a few miles north of Crosby, and South Long Lake Community Park located at the south end of South Long Lake.

In addition to parks, the 1,000 plus miles of trail opportunities are very diverse and include non-motorized uses such as hiking, horse riding, and mountain biking, as well as motorized uses such as ATV riding, off-highway motorcycle riding, and snowmobiling. The trails are monitored and maintained by both County Land Services staff and trail user groups.

Maps of all County trails are available in the Land Services building. A full list of all Crow Wing County parks, trails, and recreational opportunities can be viewed on the county website at <http://crownwing.us/289/Recreation>.

Crow Wing County Land Services manages 105,000 acres of public land for timber production and diverse recreational opportunities for multiple users. The sale of timber at public auctions funds the county's management of these lands, while providing revenues to local communities. County forest lands are managed to strict environmental standards established by both the Sustainable Forestry Initiative and the Minnesota Forest Resources Council.

**Land Services Department**  
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**Our Vision:** Being Minnesota's favorite place.  
**Our Mission:** Serve well. Deliver value. Drive results.  
**Our Values:** Be responsible. Treat people right. Build a better future.

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