

HINCKLEY

VISITORS GUIDE 2024



YOUR FIRST STOP INTO THE GREAT OUTDOORS
hinckleymn.com





OUR HISTORY

Nestled amidst the breathtaking landscapes of Minnesota, the town of Hinckley exudes a picturesque charm that captivates visitors from the moment they arrive. As you approach the town, you'll be greeted by a scene straight out of a postcard—a place where natural beauty and small-town warmth converge.

Hinckley was named in honor of Isaac Hinckley, a stockholder of the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad. Hinckley Village, previously known as Central Station, was incorporated on November 23, 1885. In 1885, the year Hinckley was organized, most of the male population worked for the railroad or sawmills. At that time, the village boasted the large Brennan mill, the depot, the railroad roundhouse, four hotels, several stores, a schoolhouse, and 3 churches.

The early settlers commonly bought land for farms, but little farming was done before the fire. The brush and stumps were thick on the ground. Farm products were cheap and there was always a demand for labor. The Hinckley Village supported the farms with two creameries in 1919.





WENDT'S CAFE
NORTHLAND GREYHOUND BUS DEPOT
HINCKLEY, MINN.



Now Hinckley is a community
of great historic importance to
east central Minnesota, as well
as a popular destination for
vacationers of every interest.



MAIN STREET
HINCKLEY, MINN.





THE GREAT HINCKLEY FIRE

The Ojibwe had lived near the St. Croix River since the mid-1800's, amidst the natural wealth the land had to offer. Because of the abundance of white pine trees in the Hinckley area, loggers migrated here and built the first saw mill in 1869. That same year, the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad pushed into Hinckley. With the coming of the railroad, the lumber industry boomed and for twenty years, Hinckley was a growing, prosperous town.

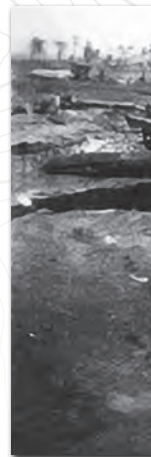
On September 1, 1894, all of that changed. With blowing winds, low humidity and less than two inches of summer rain, the area was a prime target for fire. Drought fires were common along the railroad tracks and logging camps, since loggers would set fire to slash before moving on.

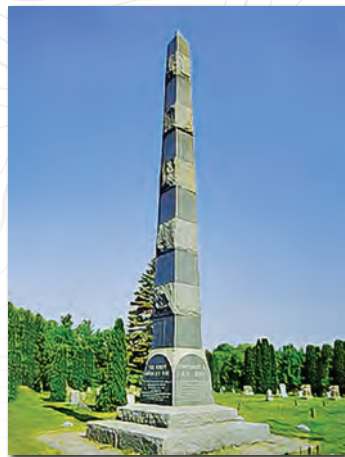
Saturday, September 1, 1894, began as another oppressively hot day with smaller fires threatening area towns. To add to the problem, a huge layer of cool air from a

temperature inversion held down the heat, smoke and gasses of these fires. Two fires eventually joined together, creating one large fire that penetrated the inversion, reaching the cool air above. That air came rushing down into the fires to create a vortex (a tornado of flames), which quickly grew larger, becoming a fierce firestorm. The fire first destroyed the towns of Mission Creek and Pokegama (now Brook Park) before reaching Hinckley.

When it was over, the firestorm had completely destroyed 6 towns. More than 480 square miles lay black and smoldering. The firestorm was devastating; it lasted four hours and destroyed everything in its path. The death toll exceeded 400.

Today, the Hinckley Fire Museum commemorates the story of the Great Fire of 1894. Housed in the restored depot, rebuilt just after the fire, the museum is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Exhibits include the original waiting rooms for men and women, the eating area, known as the Beanery and the Freight Room, where once an hour a 20 minute documentary about the fire is shown. Upstairs in the Depot Agent's Apartment, life in the 1890's is recreated in the five-room living space. A replica "relief house" is also onsite for those interested in the post-fire reconstruction era.





The Hinckley Fire Monument was erected in 1900 to honor the 418 lives lost in the Great Hinckley Fire of 1894. The 248 unidentified men, women, and children were buried in 4 trenches. The gray granite monument stands 51 feet tall, weighs 60 tons. Located in The Memorial Cemetery off Hwy 48 just east of I-35



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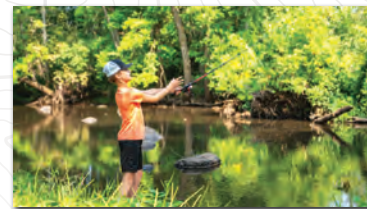
OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES & RECREATION

Fishing

While visiting the area, take some time and do some fishing at one of our area lakes or rivers. The St. Croix and Kettle Rivers, Pokegama, Cross, Pine and Big Pine Lakes offer great walleye fishing. Try Grindstone Lake for rainbow, lake and brown trout. Looking for largemouth bass? Check out Pine or Sturgeon Lake. For those interested in catching muskies, try Cross or Pokegama Lake.

Snowmobiling / Cross Country Skiing / Snowshoeing

Make tracks! Whether its tracks from your snowmobile, skis, snowshoes or hiking boots, winter is a great time to get out and make tracks in the snow! With more than 450 miles of groomed trails, Pine County is a haven for snowmobiling. Trails are located throughout the county and also in St. Croix, Banning, and Moose Lake State Parks. The Willard Munger State Trail is also open to snowmobiling. Both Banning and St. Croix State Parks offer miles of cross-country ski trails and the scenery is spectacular so bring your camera! With an abundance of state parks and forests in the area, you'll find new ground to uncover from your snowshoes and remember to keep an eye out for all the wildlife viewing opportunities.



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Biking / Hiking

With many miles of hiking and biking trails in the area, you can make your stay as relaxing or challenging as you would like. Come ride the trail system, the Willard Munger State Trail, which is the longest continuous paved trail in the state at 70 miles, travels from Hinckley all the way to Duluth. If you are up for the challenge, ride the full length or ride a shorter section and stop at any of the many trail towns along the way. St. Croix State Park offers many miles of hiking and biking trails. Banning State Park offers great views of the Kettle River along the hiking trails.

Canoeing / Kayaking

Explore the exciting waters of the Kettle and St. Croix Rivers near Hinckley. These rivers provide challenging waters for all levels. Well known for its rapids at Hell's Gate and Blueberry Slide, Banning State Park is a favorite for many kayakers.

The St. Croix River follows the boundary between Minnesota and Wisconsin offering a quiet and intimate look at nature's beauty for miles. Canoe rentals are available at St. Croix State Park.

Horseback Riding

St. Croix State Park and State Forest offer horse trails and camps for the equestrian. Portions of the Willard Munger Trails are available for riding as well. For additional information on the trails and camp at St. Croix State Park contact the office at 320-280-7880.

Golfing

With your choice of Golf courses in our area, we are sure you will need the weekend to try them out!

Looking for a quick 9 holes to get your golf fix in? No problem. Grab your clubs and head out to the Moose Lake, Pokegama or Pine City courses. If you're up for a real challenge, take on all 18 holes at Grand National Golf Club, one of the region's only PGA-certified courses.



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EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT

In Hinckley the entertainment never ends!

Grand Casino Hinckley is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Offering Vegas-style gaming with over 2,500 state-of-the-art slot machines, 28 blackjack tables, pull tabs, live bingo and more! For more information visit grandcasinomn.com

The Rival House offers live music, and is also open on Sundays during football season for enthusiasts who want to drop in for meals and drinks. Grand Casino Hinckley hosts top entertainers year 'round in the Events and Convention Center, as well as hosting a Summer Concert Series in the 5,000 seat outdoor amphitheater located next to Grand Casino, May through September.

Bear Creak Tavern in Cloverdale offers a

small-town, family-friendly atmosphere with a candy shop nearby to help everyone's sweet tooth!

Hinckley Firehouse Liquor Store & Bar offers karaoke, bingo, meat raffles, daily specials, and other special events throughout the year. Check their Facebook for more information.

Sweet Summer Sounds is always a hit at Westside Park in Hinckley. It offers a series of free concerts throughout the summer for those who enjoy music. Different groups perform weekly! For additional info, visit hinckleymn.com

Baseball lovers will want to check out our local Hinckley Knights. The Hinckley Knights are members of the Eastern Minny League, which is part of the Minnesota Baseball Association, the governing body of amateur baseball in Minnesota. The league has thirteen teams, which play in three divisions. Each summer, after the regular season, the league playoffs

determine which teams will advance to the Region 1 tournament and a chance to go to the state Class C tournament. For game dates and times go to hinckleymn.com or hometeamsonline.com

The Hinckley Chamber promotes Hinckley and the surrounding areas as the ultimate destination to live, work, play, and prosper. Our purpose is to connect and collaborate with businesses, organizations, and community members to enhance our thriving community!

- Corn & Clover Carnival, our annual Summer Festival tentatively held the weekend after July 4th. Parade, contests, drawings, carnival, music, entertainment, food, kiddie parade, Miss Hinckley Coronation, fireworks, and so much more.
- Hinckley's Fall Fest is an annual fall BBQ and celebration that engages residents and draws lots of visitors to our community. Entertainment, raffles, bingo, bouncy houses, and crafters.
- Widows Weekend Craft Show held annually on deer hunting opener at the Hinckley Community Center. Filled with a variety of crafters, vendors, and food.

You don't want to miss out on one of these fun events! Visit our website for more information www.hinckleychamber.com.







LODGING & CAMPING

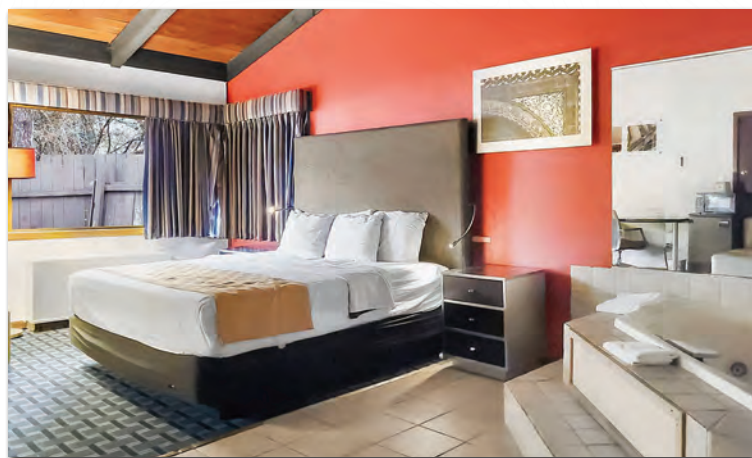
Nothing is more relaxing than a long soak in a hot tub at America's Best Value Inn, Days Inn, The Grand Casino Hotel, or Grand Hinckley Inn.

If home away from home is more your style, be sure to book a stay at the Grand RV Park. Their chalets provide all the conveniences of a home, away from home. Hinckley also offers many vacation rentals. We currently offer 2 right in town! Make sure to check them! There are plenty of rental spaces available that provide all the comforts of home, without having to mow the lawn!

Want to stay in the area and enjoy the great outdoors? Hinckley has many parks that offer camping!

Banning State Park is twelve miles north of Hinckley on 1-35, located on the Kettle River, Minnesota's first Wild and Scenic River. St. Croix State Park is Minnesota's largest State Park. St. Croix covers 34,000 acres and is located along the St. Croix River, a National Scenic Waterway. The park is located fifteen miles east of Hinckley on Hwy. 48

For more options visit hinckleymn.com



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DINING & LOUNGES

Everybody loves a good meal, and there are definitely some must-eat destinations in Hinckley. Every visit should include a world-famous caramel roll from Tobies. They are so huge and deliciously decadent that you'll need a fork and knife to tackle one. Daggett's Fresh Foods also offer a delicious delectable deli.

If you like pizza and prefer staying at your hotel or wherever you're at in Hinckley, order finely crafted artisan pizzas online from Grand Cinema Pizza. If a burger is more to your liking, Bear Creek Tavern and Bogey's on Main both have a great selection to choose from. Visit El Tucan for some delicious Mexican cuisine.

When dinner time comes around, everyone should enjoy at least one meal at The Winds Steakhouse. If you like steak, this is your place. Prefer fresh fish or seafood? Those palate-pleasing options are on the menu also. Aside from the Winds Steakhouse, check out the Grille House at the Grand Casino for your favorite dishes like crispy chicken wings, bacon cheeseburgers, or their monthly special. For a relaxing, family-style meal, The Whistle Stop Café, and Tobies offers a wide variety of superb menu choices, guaranteed to please even the most discriminating palate.



In the mood for a little entertainment while you eat?

Make sure to visit Rival House at Grand Casino. They have bowling, live bands, and most sporting events are on one of their many TVs! Are you in the mood to sing? Check out the Firehouse Bar they also have pull tabs, weekly bingo, and meat raffle events!



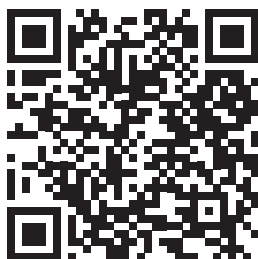
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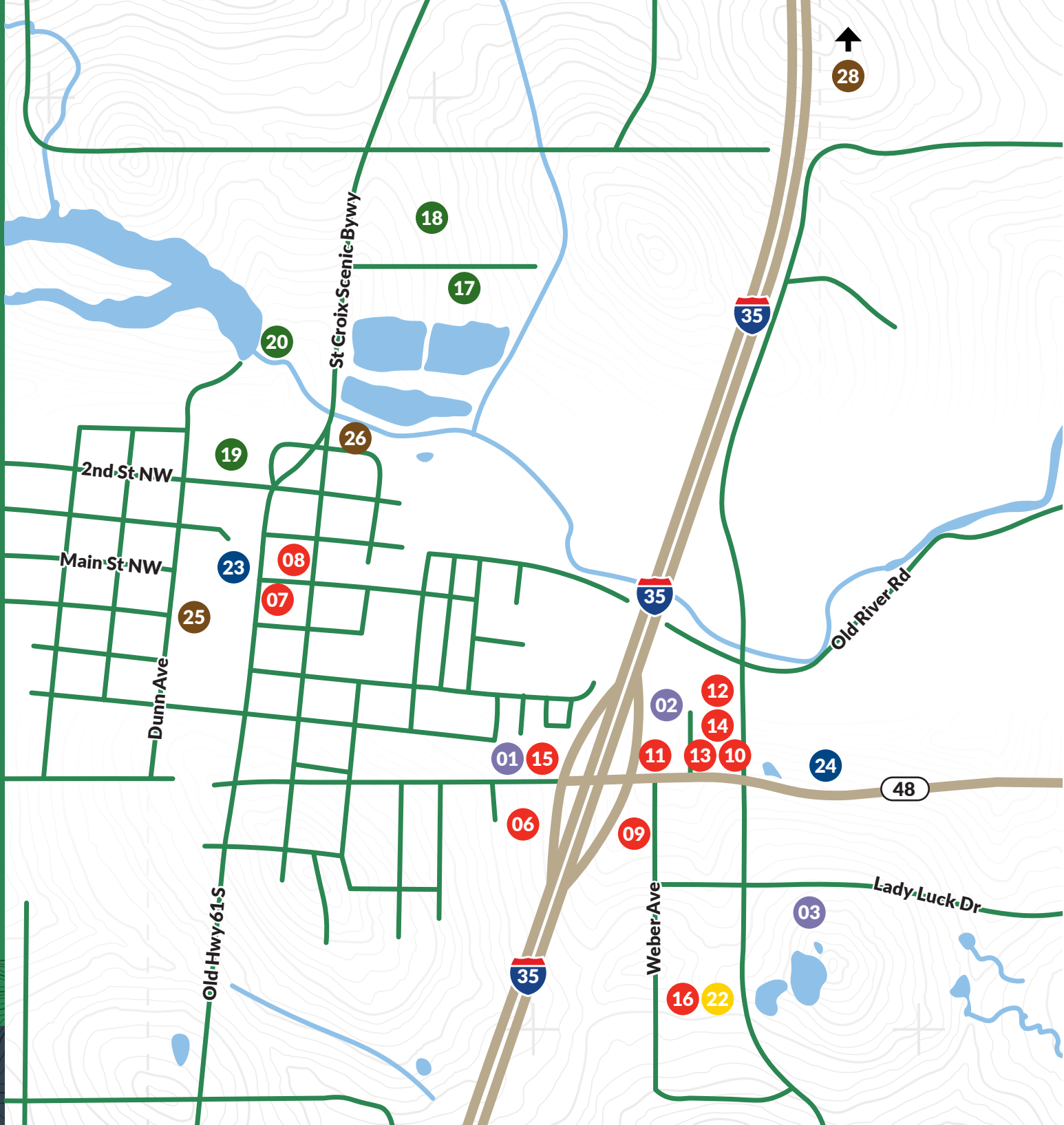


SHOPPING & BUSINESSES

Be sure to check out Hinckley's small-town shops. Whether you are shopping for gifts, plants, clothes, hardware, or food for your camping trip, we are sure you will find something. Be sure to scan the QR code to see what shops you would like to visit!



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HINCKLEY AREA MAP



LODGING

- 01. America's Best Value Inn
- 02. Days INN
- 03. Retreat 121
- 04. Grand Hinckley Inn
- 05. Grand Casino RV & Chalets Resort
- 21. Grand Casino Hotel



FOOD & BEVERAGE

- 06. Firehouse Bar & Liquor Store
- 07. Boogey's on Main
- 08. El Tucan
- 09. Tobies
- 10. Taco Bell
- 11. Hardees
- 12. Dairy Queen
- 13. Subway
- 14. McDonald's
- 15. White Castle
- 16. Grand Cinema Pizzeria
- 21. Grille House



OUTDOOR FUN

- 17. Brennan Baseball Field
- 18. Berquist Football Field
- 19. Munger Trail Head
- 20. Hinckley Dam



ENTERTAINMENT

- 21. Grand Casino Hinckley
- 22. Grand Cinema Hinckley



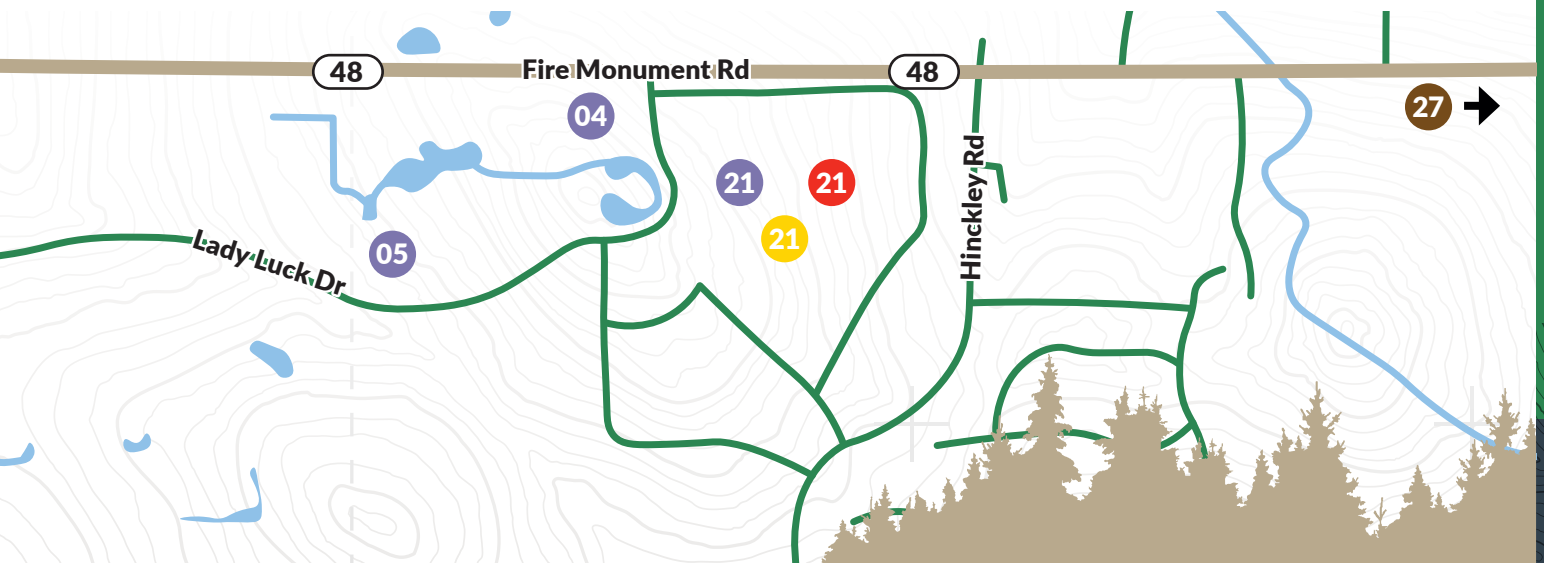
HISTORICAL

- 23. Hinckley Fire Museum
- 24. The Great Hinckley Fire Monument



PARKS

- 25. Westside Park
- 26. Legion Park
- 27. St. Croix Park
- 28. Banning St. Park



HINCKLEY ANNUAL EVENTS

April

Easter Event

June

Sweet Summer Sounds

July

Corn And Clover Carnival

Sweet Summer Sounds

August

Sweet Summer Sounds

National Night Out

Pine County Fair

September

Rocktember

Hinckley's Fall Fest

Kiss's Classic Car Show

October

Hogs And Hoses

November

Windows Weekend

December

Santa Day

Other attractions

May- October – Hinckley Fire Museum

Sept-Oct - Cider Flats Apple Orchard

End of Sept-October- Ringler's House on Haunted Hill

End of Sept-October- Peaceful Pines Pumpkin Patch & Apple Orchard



320-384-0126