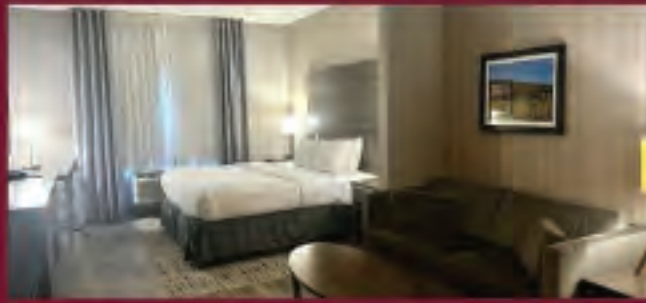




- 61 Modern Finished Guest Rooms,  
Amenities include:
- Free Breakfast Buffet
  - Pet Friendly Rooms
  - King & Double Queen Rooms
  - King & Queen Room Suites
  - Fitness Center & Heated Saline Pool
  - Guest Rooms Include: Premium Movie Channels, Safe, Cafe Valet Single Serve Coffee Maker, Microwave and Mini-Fridge
  - Outdoor Patio with Fire Pit



**Conveniently Located**  
Attached to La Crescent Event Center  
4 Miles from La Crosse Center &  
Downtown La Crosse  
5 miles from La Crosse Regional Airport

**On-Site Dining**  
**On-Site Laundry**  
**Complimentary Parking**  
**Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**  
**Meeting Room & Private Party Area**

Blocks | Tour Groups | Weddings | Corporate Travel | Leisure | Sports



**Business Center**

30 People Capacity  
Host Company Meetings,  
Wedding Gift Openings, Sports  
Team Dinners

Contact Hotel for Pricing

509 N Chestnut Street La Crescent, MN 55947 | 507-895-1001 | LaCrescentHotel.com



**2025-2026**   
**La Crescent Area**  
Official Visitors Guide



**Driftless Region, La Crescent, MN**  
[explorelacrescent.com](http://explorelacrescent.com)

# Welcome To LA CRESCENT

Nestled among the picturesque bluffs of the Mississippi River, La Crescent boasts a stunning natural backdrop perfect for endless outdoor adventures.

Conveniently situated at the intersection of three scenic byways—Apple Blossom Scenic Byway, National Historic Bluff Country Scenic Byway, and the Great River Road—La Crescent invites visitors to discover the charm of southeastern Minnesota.

Whether you're seeking peaceful back-road escapes or exhilarating activities like hiking, biking, boating, kayaking, fishing, birding, or snowshoeing, there's something for everyone here. Explore a variety of local eateries, unique shops, wineries, orchards, and cozy lodging options, making La Crescent an ideal hub for your journey.

Businesses, visitors, and residents alike value the town's easy access to major highways, interstates, and the nearby La Crosse Regional Airport.

Plan your trip today—who knows, you might just decide to call our charming town home!



For more information stop by the La Crescent Chamber of Commerce & Tourism office.

111 S Walnut Street,  
La Crescent, MN  
or visit our website.



*Mike Poellinger | Mayor  
City Of La Crescent*

*Jon Wilson | President  
Chamber of Commerce and Tourism*

- 06 Scenic Byways
- 12 Explore The Driftless Region
- 18 Parks + Recreation
- 24 Hiking Map
- 28 Neighboring Communities
- 30 Historic Tours of La Crescent
- 36 About the Apples
- 40 Restaurant Directory
- 42 Business Directory

Produced by the La Crescent Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

**La Crescent Applefest**  
EST. 1949

September 19, 20 & 21, 2025

**Events**

- Carnival (IT'S BACK!)
- Queen Candidate Style Show
- Apple Annie Cabaret
- Apple Cobbler Golf Open
- Music & Entertainment
- Miss La Crescent Coronation
- King Apple Parade
- Food Vendors
- Bingo & Cornhole Tournament
- Kids Events & Kiddie Parade

Visit [www.applefestusa.com](http://www.applefestusa.com) for more information!



Amber Thorson Photography



Amber Thorson Photography

Wagon Wheel Pedestrian + Bike Bridge



Elevate Media Group

# Where will YOUR next adventure take you?

How fortunate the residents of La Crescent are to live within minutes of the mighty Mississippi and its tributaries. Several public boat landings provide easy access to the water trails and abundant fishing opportunities. We live in such an amazing place with natural beauty and terrain that has so much to offer regardless of the season. More variety, means more access for all abilities.

- Main Channel on the MS River
- Mississippi Back Waters
- Small Streams + Tributaries
- 3 Scenic Overlooks
- 185 + Acres of City Parks
- Miles of Hiking + Cycling Trails

## Three Scenic Drives

page 6



## Mississippi River Flyway

page 12



## Water Trails

page 14



## Driftless Lands

page 16



# Apple Blossom Scenic Drive

National Scenic Byway



The 17-mile Byway follows County Rd 1 through rolling farmland and offers stunning bluff-top views above the Mississippi River, passing through La Crescent and Nodine. No matter the season, the scenic beauty is unmatched.

Just outside La Crescent, Apple Blossom Overlook Park offers a breathtaking view of the Mississippi River's main shipping channel. Along the Byway, you'll find bluff-top pull-offs with some of the region's most spectacular vistas.

Traveling north, the route ends at a "T" intersection, where you can head east to Dakota or west to Nodine and Great River Bluffs State Park. Just a 15-minute drive, the state park offers hiking and camping opportunities, requiring a state park pass for entry. Looping around the park, travelers can return to La Crescent via the Great River Road or Apple Blossom Scenic Drive, both offering incredible panoramic views.



In spring, enjoy the fragrant apple blossoms and acres of blooming orchards. In fall, experience vibrant foliage, pick-your-own apple harvests, and take home orchard treats like honey, cider, pumpkins, and Indian corn. La Crescent's orchards are famous for distinctive apple varieties, including the Honeycrisp, Sweet Tango, and First Kiss, developed by the University of Minnesota Research Center. Apple Blossom Scenic Drive is a designated National Scenic Byway.



Apple Blossom Scenic Drive is a designated National Scenic Byway.



# Great River Road, Minnesota



The Great River Road, a designated National Scenic Byway, traces the path of the Mississippi River. Starting at its headwaters, the Byway meanders through the charming towns of northern Minnesota, passes through the Twin Cities, and continues south along Highway 61 to La Crescent before heading into Iowa via Highway 26.



Official "National Route" signs mark the Federal Highway Administration's designated route, while "State Alternate" signs guide travelers off the main path to discover hidden gems and local points of interest.

Don't miss the breathtaking views of the river and bluffs from Wabasha to La Crescent—this area serves as the gateway to the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. Watch for the green pilot's wheel logo featuring a steamboat to stay on course during your journey.

Lock And Dam #7  
La Crescent Minnesota



Historic Swing Bridge on the Mississippi  
Amber Thorson Photography

## Lock & Dam Swing Bridge

Located two miles north of La Crescent, this lock and dam provides a vertical lift of 8 feet for boats, ranging from canoes to large towboats with barges. There is an observation deck at the lock and dam. The Army Corp of Engineers invite visitors to view the lock operations, browse displays and enjoy shore fishing.

Built in 1876, the historic swing bridge is located just south of lock and dam #7. It has a swing span of 359 feet to allow barges and paddle boats to pass through. This historic span ran on steam until the 1940's when it switched to electric power. You can view the bridge by boat or by driving to Shore Acres.

Moving goods on the water is the most efficient transportation mode. One 15 barge tow can move the equivalent of 216 rail cars or 1,050 semi-trailer trucks.



595 Veterans Parkway, Suite 200  
swingbridgepub.com • 507-895-1110

- Variety of appetizers, pub favorites, entrees, desserts, cocktails, wine, and draft beer
- Open 11am - 9pm  
Tuesday - Saturday






### How Large is a Barge?



**16X LARGER!**



**70X LARGER!**

# Historic Bluff Country

From La Crescent, take a scenic drive along the Historic Bluff Country National Scenic Byway, which connects some of the region's most beautiful, historic, cultural, and recreational sites. The 88-mile route stretches from La Crescent through the stunning Root River Valley in southeastern Minnesota. Before becoming Minnesota Trunk Highway 16, the Historic Bluff Country Scenic Byway was once U.S. Highway 16, the main route between Chicago, Illinois, and Yellowstone National Park.

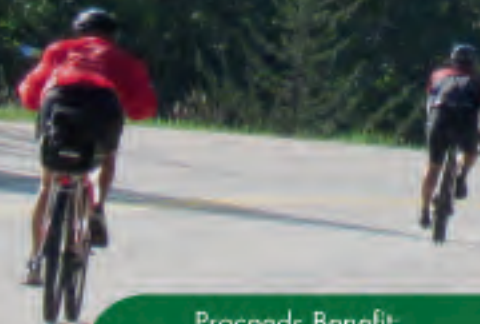


Over millions of years, geological forces shaped the region's dramatic landforms, creating deep river valleys, sinkholes, caves, and towering limestone bluffs. Visit [bluffcountry.com](http://bluffcountry.com) for a complete list of cities and attractions to help plan your journey.



August 9, 2025

Second Saturday of Every August  
Hosted by Rotary Club of La Crescent



Proceeds Benefit:  
Rotary Polio Plus  
Erin Dunlap-Mathews Memorial  
Foundation  
Living for Liz Scholarship Program

Free Live Music

Lunch Available

Family-Friendly

Early Bird Discount



Registration: \$60 (Family Ride is FREE)  
4-Person Team for \$150  
Register at: [AppleBlossomTour.org](http://AppleBlossomTour.org)



# Birding On The Mississippi River Flyway

## EAGLES

From October through March, the Mississippi River in southeastern Minnesota is a prime spot for viewing bald eagles. They can often be seen sunning in trees or standing on the ice near open water in search of a meal.

Late fall and early spring, when eagles follow shifting ice conditions, bring chances to see several hundred in one area. As warmer weather arrives, they disperse to nesting sites across Minnesota. Wabasha, Minnesota, is home to the National Eagle Center, which offers interpretive programs about these majestic birds.

## SWANS, WATERFOWL + PELICANS

Tundra swans, ducks, and pelicans are frequent migrants through the Brownsville area. Upon arrival, the air fills with the sounds of swans calling to one another. Large flocks begin appearing in late October and stay until the water freezes—sometimes up to 25,000 birds rest and feed here at once. This wildlife refuge serves as a crucial stopover where birds build fat reserves for their final journey to the Atlantic coast.

### How many species did you see on your visit to the La Crescent Area?

- Bald Eagle
- Golden Eagle
- Trumpeter Swan
- Tundra Swan
- Peregrine Falcon
- Turkey Vulture
- Canadian Goose
- Red Tailed Hawk
- Sand Hill Crane
- Great Blue Heron
- Great Egret
- Woodpecker
- Owl



## Great Spirit Bluff Peregrine Falcons



The river acts as a migration corridor not only for waterfowl but also for many other birds like raptors, shorebirds, and migratory songbirds.

In spring and summer, it provides nesting habitat for numerous species.

Even in winter, the area supports northern bird populations and year-round residents.

The Upper Mississippi River offers excellent birding in its marshes, wooded bottomlands, open waters, sand prairies, and wooded bluffs.



## INTERNATIONAL OWL CENTER

Open Fri–Mon with  
live owl programs daily

Admission:  
Adults \$9 • Ages 4–17 \$6  
Seniors, military and veterans \$8

Houston, Minnesota  
507-896-OWLS (6957)  
InternationalOwlCenter.org

PHOTO CREDIT USFWS



Elevate Media Group



# Fish, Boat, Paddle

There's no better way to experience the water, wildlife, and natural beauty of the Driftless region than by boat, kayak, or paddleboard. With a variety of water trails to choose from, you can explore the open waters of the Mississippi River, the calm backwaters, and the serene shores of nearby tributaries and streams. The river is home to many fish species, including walleye, perch, northern pike, catfish, bass (both large and smallmouth), bluegill, carp, and crappie.

Two public boat landings provide access to both the main channel of the Mississippi and its backwaters.

One landing is just south of Lock and Dam #7, and the other is Sportsmen's Landing, located at 1570 US-14, La Crescent, MN.

Fishing on the Mississippi River is as impressive as its views, offering abundant game fish year-round.

For a unique experience, check out the "Best Dam Fishing Float," a floating dock located just south of Lock and Dam #7, across from the Dresbach Welcome Center. Find more details on their Facebook page or visit [www.bestdamfishingfloat.com](http://www.bestdamfishingfloat.com).

For ice fishing, ensure the ice is at least four inches thick, and always use an ice spud. For more ice fishing info, consult the Minnesota DNR. Even in the coldest months, ice fishing remains a popular activity, with numerous ice fishing houses along the Mississippi River's backwaters.

Visitors are encouraged to check with local bait shops for ice conditions and fishing tips.

The Driftless Area is also known for its cold, clear waters and world-class trout streams, home to brown, brook, and rainbow trout.

The trout season opens in mid-April, and with over 700 miles of naturally cold streams, including Whitewater River, Root River, and the famous Trout Run Creek, anglers have plenty of opportunities. A trout stamp and fishing license are required when fishing designated trout waters.



All Fishing licenses can be purchased through the Minnesota DNR. [www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishing](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishing).

150 Years of Dreams.  
150 Years of Trust.

Merchants Bank  
(800) 944-6285 | [www.merchantsbank.com](http://www.merchantsbank.com)  
Member FDIC

Welcome to healthcare that's all about caring

The same trusted care from the same great providers, now with even more heart.

emplify  
HEALTH  
by Gunderson

Emplify Health by Gundersen  
La Crescent Clinic  
(507) 895-6610

OUR PURPOSE IS HELPING YOU ACHIEVE YOURS.

BANKERS. BELIEVERS.

ALERUS  
BANKING • WEALTH • RETIREMENT

ALERUS.COM

*Ready Bus Company, Inc.*

**Rochester Bus Service, Inc.**

AN AFFILIATE OF *Minnesota Coaches*

LOCATIONS

Duluth, Faribault, Farmington, Fergus Falls, Harmony, Hastings, La Crosse, La Crescent, Lindstrom, Minneapolis, Rochester, Saint Paul, Centerville, 507-284-8960 or [info@mncoaches.com](mailto:info@mncoaches.com)

## Driftless Terrain

The "Driftless" terrain offers outdoor enthusiasts a diverse playground for all types of recreation, regardless of skill level. Steep hills, forested ridges, deep river valleys, and karst geology define the region, with spring-fed waterfalls and cold-water trout streams enhancing the landscape. The Driftless region spans over 24,000 miles across Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Illinois, with elevations ranging from 600 to 1,200 feet. This unique geography provides a perfect setting for outdoor adventure and exploration.

## Biking The Driftless Area

The Driftless Area's Apple Blossom Scenic Byway is a biker's paradise, offering some of the best biking in the country. With rolling hills, scenic bluffs, and quiet country roads, cyclists can enjoy picturesque views and exhilarating rides. In the spring, the air is filled with the fragrance of blooming apple blossoms as riders take in stunning views of the Mississippi River valley below.

Whether you're mountain biking, road cycling, or tackling gravel trails, Southeast Minnesota has routes for all preferences and abilities. The region's steep bluffs draw cyclists seeking a challenge, with many training on these hills for races or fitness. Greg LeMond, the first American to win the Tour de France, honed his skills on these same bluffs. La Crescent's new Wagon Wheel Trail, accessible via the bike/pedestrian bridge on Walnut Street, takes cyclists through the Mississippi's backwaters and connects to various trails in La Crosse, WI. The Root River Trail, a 60-mile paved path starting in Houston, MN, winds through 500-foot bluffs, attracting cyclists year-round.

For gravel enthusiasts, Southeast Minnesota offers some of the best routes in the state, including the Old Fashioned Gravel ride in Hokah, MN. Visit <https://driftlesscycling.com/gravel> for more options.

## Paddling the Driftless

Paddling through the Driftless region is an unforgettable experience, with the majestic bluffs framing the waters of the Mississippi River and its tributaries. Kayaking, canoeing, and paddleboarding are perfect ways to explore the quiet backwaters and smaller lakes of the area. Two boat landings on the Mississippi provide easy access to the river, while canoe/kayak launch points are located at Blue Lake, nestled between La Crescent and La Crosse, and in Reno Bottoms, where you can explore Pool 9. Be sure to grab a water trails map to guide your adventure across these serene waters.

Whether you're seeking a peaceful paddle or a scenic challenge, the Driftless region's waterways offer a unique experience for all water lovers.



**OUTBACK RANCH INC.**  
*Jake & Family*  
Family

**Event Center**

*rustic romance on the ranch*

- 3-Day Wedding Celebration (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)
- Lodging and Camping
- Indoor/Outdoor Venue
- Breathtaking Views
- Green Space for Ceremony & Yard Games

VISIT [WWW.OUTBACKRANCH.NET](http://WWW.OUTBACKRANCH.NET) FOR MORE DETAILS

7750 TT Road, Houston, Minnesota  
(507) 896-5550 • [Holly@OutbackRanch.com](mailto:Holly@OutbackRanch.com)





  
**AMBER THORSON**  
photography

creating memories in the moments  
[amberthorsonphoto@gmail.com](mailto:amberthorsonphoto@gmail.com)  
[amberthorson.com](http://amberthorson.com)  
la crescent, mn

# OUTDOOR EXPLORATION

## Abnet Field

1200 Spruce St., La Crescent, MN



## Apple Blossom Overlook

169 County Hwy 1, Dakota, MN



## Como Falls + Spring Pool

9 Mill St., Hokah, MN



## Great River Bluffs State Park

43605 Kipp Dr, Winona, MN



## Eagles Bluff Park

422 Red Apple Dr. La Crescent, MN



## La Crescent Aquatic Center

608 S 7th St., La Crescent, MN | Kistler Park



## La Crescent Community Arena

520 S. 14th St., La Crescent, MN



## Old Hickory Park

1200 Johnathan Ln., La Crescent, MN





**185** ———  
**Acres of  
 Parks + Recreation**  
 ——— **in the city!**

### Pettibone Campground

333 Park Plaza Dr., La Crosse, WI 54601



### Vetsch Park

722 N 2nd St., La Crescent, MN



### Vet's Park

144 Timm Ln., La Crescent, MN



### Wieser Memorial Park

1817 County 6, La Crescent, MN



### Wildcat Landing + Campground

11011 MN-26, Brownsville, MN 55919



- Shelter
- Camp
- Overlook
- Landing
- Bike Trails
- Baseball
- Basketball
- Ice skating
- Swim
- Tables
- Grill
- Pass Req.
- Hiking
- Playground
- Nets
- Pickleball
- Snowshoe

**BUY -  
 SELL -  
 TRADE**

Quality Used Equipment  
 Tooling/Overstocks  
 Surplus Electrical

**4905 Hwy 16, Hokah, MN  
 (507) 894-7770**

Mon-Fri: 9:00 am-5:00 pm  
 Saturday: 9:00 am-3:00 pm  
 Sunday: 12:00 pm-3:00 pm

[www.7riverssurplus.com](http://www.7riverssurplus.com)

**Dewey Enterprises**  
 Rentals · Trucking

Dewey Severson  
 608.769.5177

743 Johnathan Ln,  
 La Crescent, MN 55947  
[dmseverson@acegroup.cc](mailto:dmseverson@acegroup.cc)

# GOLF



## Ma Cal Grove Country Club | 9

15939 State 76  
Caledonia, MN 55921  
507.725.2733

Nestled in the bluffs of Southeastern Minnesota, Ma Cal Grove Country Club is a par 36 course offering nine challenging holes of golf. Clubhouse with full-service bar and a short order grill for lunch. Full service kitchen and grill available for catered events.



## Pine Creek Golf Course | 9

38155 North Pine Creek Road,  
La Crescent, MN  
507.895.2410

Pine Creek offers a unique experience for golfers young and old. The club house features a bar and grill and patio. Situated in the beautiful Pine Creek Valley, just outside the west side city limits. Not only are the green fees low, but profits are pumped back into youth recreations programs for the city.

©Eugene Alberts



## Valley High Golf Course | 18

9203 Mound Prairie Drive,  
Houston, Minnesota  
507.894.4444

Located just off the Historic Bluff Country Scenic Byway between Hokah and Houston, this 18-hole course is designed to make golf fun again for any player at any age. After golf, take a break and enjoy the full restaurant and bar in the clubhouse.



**LA CRESCENT-HOKAH**  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The needs of our students come first, driving our commitment to provide a high-quality education that enables all students to reach their full potential.



**CONNECT WITH US!**

 [www.isd300.k12.mn.us](http://www.isd300.k12.mn.us)  
 507-895-4484





## La Crescent Montessori & Stem School

**LMSS is a public Montessori school for grades PK-12**



- Certified Montessori Teachers
- Montessori Curriculum and Pedagogy
- Tuition Based Preschool
- Integrated Stem Education

**Call today for a tour**  
**507-895-4054**  
[lacscentmontessori.com](http://lacscentmontessori.com)



Special education services are available to students that qualify

## Rest Assured Your Family Will Be Safe At All Times



**PAT'S INSURANCE AGENCY**  
Serving La Crescent Area Over 30 Years

**Pat Gruntzel, Agent**  
patsinsuranceagency.com - (507) 895-6400  
104 S. Walnut St - La Crescent, MN





#LA CRESCENTMN | #EXPLORELACRESCENT 23



# USA CYCLING GRAVEL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

9.20.25

explore  
**LA CROSE**  
com

Applefest

LEARN MORE

LA CRESCENT, MN | APPLEFEST WEEKEND | SCAN QR FOR DETAILS

explore  
**LA CROSSE**  
.com



# ELEVATED ADVENTURE

**IT'S IN OUR NATURE**

Nestled between ancient bluffs and along the Mississippi River, the La Crosse Region of Wisconsin bursts with inspiring heights, picturesque landscapes, and 100 miles of epic trails. Immerse yourself in spirited communities alive with vibrant festivals and a savory scene overflowing with flavor and authenticity. From charming, historic downtowns to waterway adventures, the La Crosse Region offers something for every explorer.

Discover Your Roadmap to Adventure Today!

**EXPLORELACROSSE.COM**



This market has a wonderful variety of farm goods, meats, honey, eggs, fruit, mushrooms, baked goods, crafts, jewelry, tea plants, and more!!

Mid May through October the market is held outdoors, every Tuesday from 4-7pm in the event center parking lot. 595 Veterans Parkway, La Crescent, MN.

November through March the market moves indoors at the La Crescent Area Event Center and is held the second Tuesday of the month 4-7pm.



2025 Home Game Schedule -  
Old Hickory Park, 1135 Jonathan Lane, La Crescent, MN

6.06.25 6:15 pm  
8.16.25 TBA  
9.20.25 TBA

Apple Jacks is a community outreach program of the La Crescent Area Historical Society. Established in 2004, the Apple Jacks are members of the Vintage Base Ball Association (VBBA). Players follow the rules of 1860. You'll hear the bell clang when they reach home base. There are no gloves, the pitcher throws underhand (like horseshoes) and the uniforms are crisp white shirts and long black pants. It's great fun for players and spectators.



At the La Crescent Area Event Center, our team is experienced, with an eye for detail and passion for making your vision come to reality. We look forward to working with you from start to finish to ensure your day goes as perfect as it should!

Packages available for: Meetings, Weddings, Birthdays, Retirements, Anniversaries, Gala Events, Baby Showers, Fundraisers, Church Retreats, Celebrations of Life, Family Reunions, and more!



3 beautiful meeting rooms to choose from • Best Western Plus Hotel & Swing Bridge Pub onsite • Plenty of free parking • State-of-the-art AV • A one-stop-shop experience • Inclusive packages • 5,600 square feet

595 Veterans Parkway, La Crescent, MN 55947 • [events@lacrescentareaeventcenter.org](mailto:events@lacrescentareaeventcenter.org) • 608.799.0179

# Neighboring Communities

## 17.5 City of Houston

The City of Houston is located in the beautiful Root River Valley of Southeastern Minnesota. Houston is home to the International Owl Center and the Trailhead to the Root River Bike Trail System which provides access to over 60 miles of paved trails for bicycling, hiking, and in-line skating in Southeast Minnesota.

## 10 City of Brownsville

Brownsville is situated on the magnificent Mississippi River. Wildcat Landing, a Houston County park, has a public boat landing and well-maintained riverside campsite facilities. Up the channel, Lawrence Lake Marina offers bait, boat slips, and rentals.

## 6 City of Hokah

Hokah was originally an Indian Village named after their leader, Chief Wecheschatope Hokah. Situated between the bluffs and the Root River, this small community is home to Como Falls, a popular and peaceful venue for picnics and weddings or just relaxing.

## 5.7 Dresbach Township

Just a few miles north of La Crescent is Dresbach, which is home to a Minnesota Department of Transportation welcome center and Lock & Dam #7.



MA CAL GROVE  
COUNTRY CLUB

Nestled in the bluffs in Southeastern Minnesota in Houston Country, Ma Cal Grove is a par 36 course with a driving range, putting and chipping greens, a golf simulator during the winter, and a full service clubhouse with lunch and dinner available. We are open to the public. Book your tee times or your next event now.

507.725.2733  
15939 State 76  
Caledonia, MN 55921



Excellent

"I wanted the best Realtor® in La Crescent."

Angie Wilson  
angiewilson@ghrealtors.com  
608-769-7208

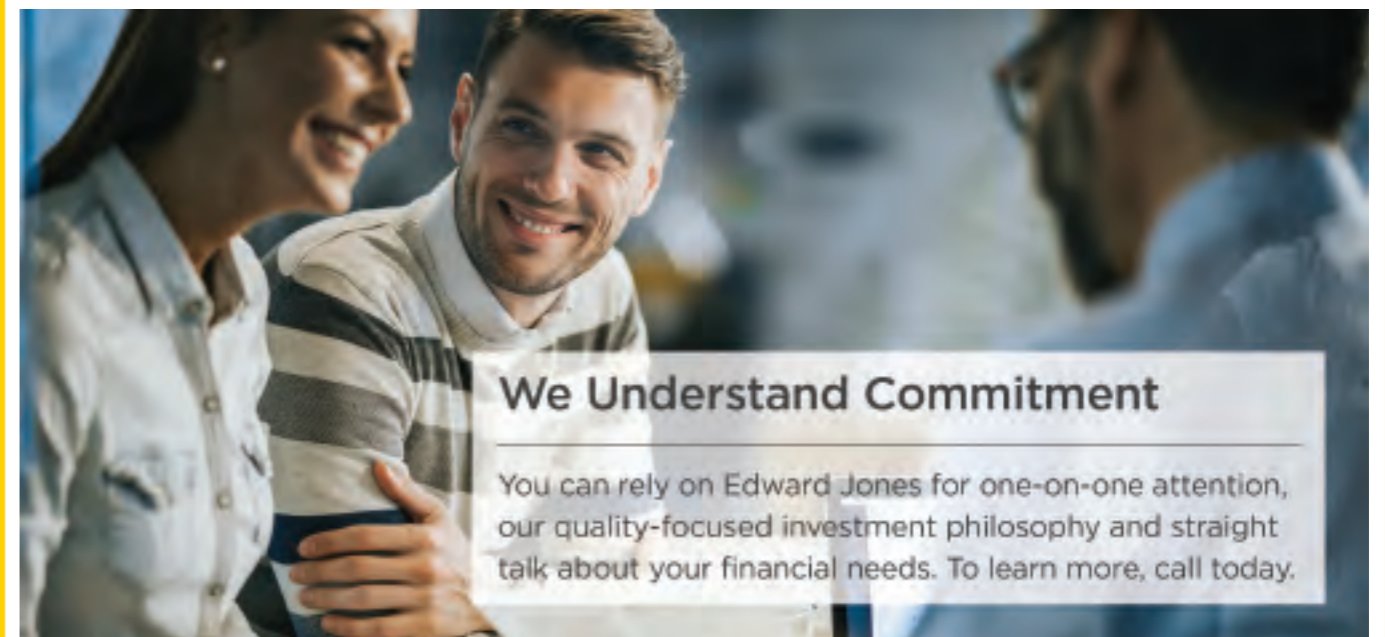
- Chad Kingsley

*the best story in real estate*

Assisting buyers and sellers since 2005, Angie Wilson is a Licensed Realtor in Minnesota + Wisconsin.

Angie was Gerrard - Hoeschler's top Sales agent in 2016 and 2018, and reached the highest sales level of Platinum in other years.

Angie can assist you with all of your real estate needs, including residential, commercial, vacant land + agricultural.



## We Understand Commitment

You can rely on Edward Jones for one-on-one attention, our quality-focused investment philosophy and straight talk about your financial needs. To learn more, call today.



**Eric Minor**  
Financial Advisor  
111 S Walnut St Suite A  
La Crescent, MN 55947  
507-895-2341



**Ryan Hennessy**  
Financial Advisor  
104 South Walnut Suite B  
La Crescent, MN 55947  
(507) 895-3086  
www.edwardjones.com

edwardjones.com  
Member SIPC

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

# La Crescent History



Perched on a high plateau with the great river's channels spread below, a small settlement grew into a thriving town, thanks to the determination of its residents. The Hopewell and Oneota peoples, the area's first inhabitants, were the forerunners of today's farmers. They mastered survival in harsh winters, fished and hunted year-round, and cultivated crops like corn. These early settlers moved on in 1685 as explorers passed through, but other indigenous peoples soon followed, drawn by the region's abundant hunting grounds.

In 1803, this area became part of the Louisiana Purchase, which brought explorers, fur traders, and later settlers from the East, and eventually immigrants from Europe. Many of these early settlers now rest in Prospect Hill Cemetery or Pine Creek Catholic Cemetery. The town's picturesque location and its proximity to La Crosse attracted leaders with vision.

One of the first was Peter Cameron, a New York native who established a lumber business in La Crosse before opening a trading post in La Crescent. Cameron envisioned La Crescent as a major port, planning to build a canal to divert the Mississippi River through the town. However, he passed away shortly after work on the canal began in 1851, and the project was never finished. Despite this, his dream of a bustling town and vibrant commerce was carried on by others. The Kentucky Land Company, a group of local businessmen, platted the town.

In 1856, John S. Harris arrived and began cultivating orchards, developing apple varieties hardy enough to survive the harsh winters. This sparked the birth of the apple industry. Today, the City of La Crescent, the La Crescent Public Library, and the La Crescent Area Historical Society are working in partnership with the Ho-Chunk Nation, Dakota Nations, and area tribal members to ensure indigenous history is a vital part of La Crescent's story.

Visit our websites for updates on this important work to honor the past, present, and future of the indigenous people who have deep roots in this region now known as La Crescent. <https://lacscenthistory.org/>



La Crescent History Center +  
Apple Museum  
Saturday's 10am-2pm

Saxon Hall is your destination for the best pizza around.

# Saxon Hall

702 MAIN STREET, BROWNSVILLE, MN 55919  
507-482-4255  
saxonhallpizza.com

ROOM AND BEER GARDEN AVAILABLE FOR RENT  
WE DO NOT ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS(ATM is available)

You may come as a stranger, but will leave as a friend!

*In Your Time of Grief, We're Here to Help.*

SCHUMACHER KISH  
Funeral and Cremation Services

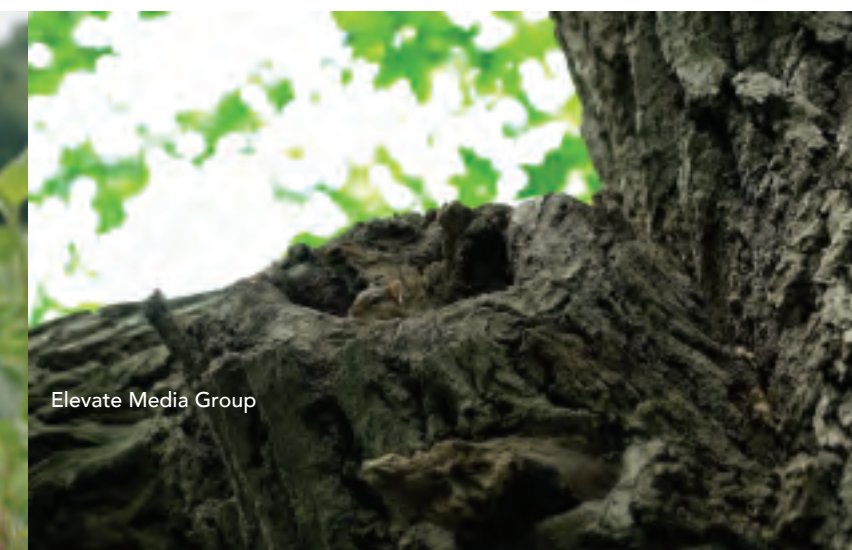
Contact Any Location

La Crosse, WI 608-782-1252 200 West Ave S	La Crescent, MN 608-782-1252 111 S. Oak St	Onalaska, WI 608-782-1252 907 Sand Lake Road
-------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------

[schumacher-kish.com](http://schumacher-kish.com)



Elevate Media Group



Elevate Media Group



APPAREL, DESIGN,  
PROMOTION + BOUTIQUE  
LA CRESCENT, MN  
507.895.8411



**Pine Creek**  
9 Hole Golf Course

507-895-2410  
3815 N Pine Creek Rd. La Crescent, MN

**WIESER**  
SEPTIC & EXCAVATING

Give us a call for all your  
**SEPTIC & EXCAVATING** needs!

Plan ahead- call early to get on the schedule!

507-895-8213

MN Lic. #2929 & Bonded • Len Wieser Jr.  
www.wieserseptic.com • La Crescent

- Septic design work
- Septic inspections
- Septic consultation
- Sewer & waterline laterals
- Excavator/Dozer work with full GPS
- Basements & driveways
- Drain tile systems
- City water & sewer
- Conservation work

Facebook icon, Instagram icon, QR code

The fastest speeds to meet your internet needs, plus Wi-Fi that puts you in control.

**NEW CUSTOMER OFFER:**

**MAXIMUM VELOCITY**

**1 GIG**  
FIBER INTERNET

1 Gig download | 1 Gig upload  
ExperienceIQ and ProtectIQ included

~~\$99.95~~ **\$79.95** per month for first year  
plus free installation

**OPTIMUM VELOCITY**

**750 Mbps**  
FIBER INTERNET

750 Mbps download | 750 Mbps upload  
ExperienceIQ and ProtectIQ included

~~\$64.95~~ **\$44.95** per month for first year  
plus free installation

**EXTREME VELOCITY**

**500 Mbps**  
FIBER INTERNET

500 Mbps download | 500 Mbps upload

~~\$49.95~~ **\$29.95** per month for first year  
plus free installation

**New Customer Velocity Internet Offer:**

Promotional pricing available to new customers only, who have not had Internet services with AcenTek for at least 30 days and whose account is in good standing. Choose from 500Mbps Fiber Internet for just \$29.95/month, 750Mbps Fiber Internet for just \$44.95/month or 1 Gig Fiber Internet for just \$79.95/month. Promotional pricing valid for first 12 months of service only. After promotional period ends, regular pricing applies.



Enhance your Wi-Fi with AcenTek  
**MyHOME**

AcenTek MyHOME is a free app for all AcenTek Internet customers. Upgrade to get more features with ProtectIQ or ExperienceIQ. AcenTek Wi-Fi puts you in charge! Call or visit our website to learn more.

www.AcenTek.net 888.404.4940  
Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 4:30pm

# Minnesota Apple Varieties

La Crescent is home to a variety of successful industries, but one that stands out with a rich and colorful history is the apple industry. In the 1940s, the area boasted around 40 small orchards scattered throughout the city and its surroundings. While the number of orchards has since decreased to fewer than a dozen, the apple industry remains strong in La Crescent. Approximately 80 percent of locally grown apples are sold within Minnesota, with the remaining harvest being exported to neighboring states and Canada. Since 1868, the University of Minnesota has played a key role in developing nearly 30 apple varieties, many of which are hardy enough to endure the region's cold winters.

## Early Season Harvest

### State Fair

Harvested in mid to late August, just before the Minnesota State Fair, the State Fair apple boasts a firm, creamy flesh. Its juicy aroma and slightly tart flavor make it an ideal choice for both fresh eating and cooking. Introduced in 1977 by the University of Minnesota, this apple is hardy enough to endure the cold Minnesota winters.

### SweetTango®

SweetTango® is a sweet, juicy apple with subtle fall spice notes. Its thin skin makes it perfect for snacking, while its crisp texture (inherited from Honeycrisp) and juiciness (from Zestar®) provide a delightful eating experience. Ripening in early September, it's one of several apples developed at the University of Minnesota.

### Zestar®

Zestar® apples are large, crunchy, and juicy with a slightly sweet-tart flavor and a hint of brown sugar. These apples are perfect for fresh eating or cooking. Known for their strong shelf life of over a month, Zestar® apples provide both convenience and delicious taste as an early-season variety.

## Mid Season Harvest

### Honeycrisp

Harvested in mid-September, Honeycrisp apples are known for their exceptional crispness and juiciness, with just a touch of tartness that makes them perfect for eating fresh off the tree. Named Minnesota's State Fruit in 2006, Honeycrisp was developed from a 1960 cross of Macoun and Honeygold apples and is now one of the top 10 best-selling apples in the U.S.

### Sweet Sixteen

Introduced in 1977, Sweet Sixteen is another standout apple from the University of Minnesota. This crisp, juicy apple features yellow flesh and a unique, very sweet flavor reminiscent of sugar cane or spicy cherry candy. It stores well for 5 to 8 weeks, making it a convenient and flavorful choice.

### La Crescent

Ripening in late August, the La Crescent apple is a tart variety with a soft texture. First grown in La Crescent by orchardist Frank Van Lin, who was originally from Holland, the apple was named after his new hometown. Van Lin Orchards helped popularize this distinctive variety in the region.

## Late Season Harvest

### Honeygold

A cross between Haralson and Golden Delicious apples, Honeygold is a sweet, crisp, and juicy variety that's perfect for eating, baking, and freezing. Ripening in late September, this apple can be stored for two to three months, offering long-lasting flavor.

### Haralson

Introduced by the Minnesota Horticulture Research Center in 1922, Haralson apples are crisp and juicy with a tart flavor. Named after Charles Haralson, the superintendent of the University of Minnesota Fruit Breeding Farm, these apples are great for eating fresh, as well as in apple crisps and pies.

### Frostbite™

Developed in 1978, Frostbite™ apples offer a crunchy, hard texture and a spicy-sweet flavor that makes them perfect for eating fresh or cooking. Their unique taste adds depth to many recipes, especially in baked goods.

### Fireside/Connell Red

Harvested in mid-October, Fireside/Connell Red apples are large, sweet, and crisp with a chunky texture, making them ideal for cooking and making sauces. This University of Minnesota variety, first introduced in 1943, delivers a flavorful punch in every bite.

### Pazazz

A descendant of the Honeycrisp, Pazazz offers a distinctive look and taste with every bite. Enjoy its sweet yet tart flavor and famous crunch that make this apple a unique treat for any time of year. descendant of the Honeycrisp, Pazazz offers a distinctive look and taste with every bite. Enjoy its sweet yet tart flavor and famous crunch that make this apple a unique treat for any time of year.

### Regent

Developed in 1963, Regent is an heirloom variety known for its semi-sweet, crisp texture. It offers a soft slice perfect for baked pies and tarts, making it a favorite for creating delicious desserts.

## Hein Apple Stand

Family Owned since 1972  
Just South of the Stoplights on Hwy 16



Open Daily  
August-December  
Hwy 16, La Crescent  
(507) 895-4495

# What's Your Favorite Apple

## State Fair

Flavor: Tart/Mild  
Enjoy fresh or for cooking

## Sweet Tango®

Flavor: Sweet/Crisp  
Enjoy fresh for eating

## Zestar®

Flavor: Sweet-tart, crisp, juicy  
Enjoy fresh or baked

## Honey Crisp

Flavor: Sweet-tart, crisp, juicy

## Sweet Sixteen

Flavor: Sweet, crisp

## La Crescent

Flavor: Tart, mild

## Haralson

Flavor: Tart, crisp

## Frostbite™

Flavor: Tart, mild

## Fireside

Flavor: Rich, sweet and crisp  
Perfect for applesauce

## Regent

Flavor: Semi-Sweet and crisp  
Great for baking pies



Recipes

**Over Two Dozen Varieties of MINNESOTA-GROWN APPLES**  
including First Kiss, Honey Crisp, Sweetango, Pazazz!

**Open Daily, Mid-August to Mid-November**

**SOUTHWIND ORCHARDS**

Cider ~ Honey ~ Salsa ~ Caramel Apples & much more!  
Plan your wedding ceremony with us!

45440 County Road 12, Dakota, MN 55925  
| southwindorchards.com | 1-90 Exit 271 | 507.643.6255

*Unique Decor & Gifts*

**Check out our Boutique Selection of Jewelry, Scarves, Purses, Tops, Jackets & Slippers**

- Minnesota Souvenirs
- Refurbished Furniture
- Goat Milk Soaps & Lotions
- Willow Tree Angels
- Naked Bee Lotions
- Joy Susan Purses
- Milkhouse Candles
- Kitchen Linens & Gadgets
- Garden Decor, Flags, Mats
- Baby Gifts, Wreaths, Signs
- Gourmet Coffees, Dips, Soups, Candy
- Greeting Cards & Inspirational Plaques

**APPLE VALLEY Gifts**  
*to Share Your*

Located in a picturesque 1918 house at...  
329 Main Street - La Crescent, MN - 507.895.4268  
HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 11-5 Sat. 10-4

Find us on Facebook

**VAN LEIN Orchards**  
Since 1993

- Just Minutes from La Crosse
- You Pick Apple & Pumpkins
- Free Wagon Rides on Sundays
- 15 Apple Varieties including:
  - La Crescent
  - Honeycrisp
  - Sweetango
  - Pazazz
  - Zestar!

OPEN FRIDAY-SUNDAY • 12 - 6 PM • SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

4002 TSCHUMPER ROAD, LA CRESCENT, MN • (507) 895-4492



**BAUER'S MARKET & GARDEN CENTER**  
*A Reason For Any Season*

- Area's Largest Selection of Fresh Local Apples (mid August-March)
- Fresh, Seasonal Local Produce • Local Honey, Jams, & Jellies
- Colorful Selection of Hanging Baskets, Annuals & Perennials
- Seasonal Giftware
- Lawn Statuary
- Christmas Trees, Wreaths, Roping & Fruit Baskets
- Colorful Holiday Poinsettias

Open Daily: Year-Round • Highways 14 & 61, La Crescent, MN  
Phone: 507.895.4583 • www.bauersmarketplace.com

Gift Certificates Available  
facebook

**River View VINEYARD AND WINERY**

River View Vineyard and Winery is nestled in the scenic Minnesota bluffs above the beautiful Mississippi River Valley on Apple Blossom Drive.

32882 County Rd 1 La Crescent, MN 55947  
river.view.winery@gmail.com  
608.385.1209



[schmittystimeout.com](http://schmittystimeout.com)

# TimeOut Tavern

Est. 2014 • La Crescent, MN

#getschmittfaced

**You gotta try our Award Winning Wings**

Won First Place in Wingfest 2 years running!

Great burgers, wraps & pizza!

Daily Food & Drink Specials

Happy Hour M-F 4pm-6pm

Relaxed casual atmosphere

Open daily at 11 am

444 N Chestnut St  
La Crescent, MN

507-895-4239



## CORKY'S PIZZA

Established 1985

### LEGENDARY PIZZA

507-895-6996 • [CorkysPizza.net](http://CorkysPizza.net)  
25 South Walnut Street • La Crescent, MN



PHOTO CREDIT USFWS

**JL Bookkeeping Design**

<http://jllbookkeepingdesign.com>  
 jeff@jllbookkeepingdesign.com  
 608.713.1344

Intuit Certified

## Splish Splash Auto Bath

Self-service car wash, including one touch-free bay.  
23 S Chestnut St, La Crescent, MN 55947



**Locally Sourced, Farm to Table,  
Farmer's Market Co-op**

46 Main Street, Hokah • 507-894-1111

# Local Dining

## Impact Nutrition

608.385.9082  
111 S. Walnut St., La Crescent  
Drop by for: Energizing Lit Teas, Tasty Protein Shakes. The boost you need to own the week. Mondays feel better when you're fueled right!

## Corky's Pizza

508.895.6996  
25 S Walnut St, La Crescent, MN 55947  
Dine In + Carryout  
Pizza dough is handmade daily from scratch. Topped with fresh ingredients, homemade sauces, and a mozzarella/provolone blend. Variety of specialty pizzas or create your own.

## Free Range Exchange

507.894.1111  
46 Main St., Hokah MN, 55941  
Carry Out + Outdoor Seating Available  
Locally sourced, organic, seasonal produce, eggs, meats. Grab-n-go breakfast sandwiches, quiche, lunch options, scratch-made baked goods, full coffee + espresso drink service.

## Kaddy's Kafe

507.895.2900  
236 E Main St., La Crescent  
Dine In + Carry Out  
Breakfast is served all day long! Enjoy breakfast, burgers, homemade soups, salads, sandwiches, and locally made pies, cinnamon rolls, and cheesecakes. Friday night fish fry!

## Saxon Hall Pizza + Pub

507.482.4255  
702 Main St, Brownsville, MN 55919  
Dine In + Carry Out  
Your destination for great pizza. Beer garden with an event room available for rent. You may come as a stranger, but will leave as a friend!

## Schmitty's Time Out Tavern

507.895.4239  
444 N. Chestnut Street, La Crescent  
Dine In + Carry Out  
A variety of specialty burgers, appetizers, wings, and sandwiches. Original, award-winning wing sauces, try the Tatonka sauce. Outdoor upper deck and volleyball in the summer.

## Sports Hub Bar + Grill

507.895.2715  
25 N. Walnut Street, La Crescent  
Dine In + Carry Out  
Sports bar with a variety of specialty burgers, appetizers, wings, and sandwiches. Great selection of beers on tap. Trackman golf simulator with leagues, special events, and t-times.

## Swing Bridge Pub

507.895.1110  
595 Veterans Parkway, La Crescent  
Dine In + Carry Out  
Located at the hotel and convention center. Lunch menu available until 3pm with salad bar, and a variety of salads and sandwiches. Dinner menu includes pub burgers, sandwiches, salads and dinner entrees.



**Breakfast When You Want It**

**Kaddy's Kafe**

Like Us

**Serving 6am - 2pm Daily & 4pm - 8pm for Friday Fish Fry**

236 Main Street, La Crescent, MN | (507) 895-2900

ASK ABOUT OUR **BURGER OF THE MONTH!**

**BOTM**

**SPORTS HUB**

**GOLF SIMULATOR AVAILABLE NOW!**

Follow us on Facebook + Instagram to see the BOTM, daily specials, upcoming events, and more!

25 N WALNUT ST. LA CRESCENT, MN | WWW.SPORTSHUBBAR.COM



The La Crescent Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism is a 501(c)(6) nonprofit organization that is a partially funded by your valued and dedicated membership.

Since 1958, the La Crescent Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism has been helping member businesses, professionals & individuals stay informed and connected. Our mission is to strengthen and promote our members by building community alliances and working as business advocates, making La Crescent, MN an even greater place to visit, work and live.



- 32 Thirty Financial
- 7 Rivers Mechanical
- 7 Rivers Surplus
- A.B.L.E., Inc.
- ABC Works
- Ace Hardware
- AcenTek
- Al's Concrete Products
- Alerus Financial
- Altra Federal Credit Union
- American Land & Log
- Apple Auto Repair
- Apple Valley Gifts & Antiques
- Apple Village Liquor
- Barry and Cindy Zenke
- Bartsch Tax & Accounting
- Bauer's Market
- Best Western Plus
- Buehler Landscaping, Inc
- Caledonia Area Comm Charities 4 Seasons
- Caledonia Haulers
- CCF Bank
- Chiropractic First of La Crescent
- Coey Consulting
- Connected Family Chiropractic
- Copperhead Carts
- Corky's Pizza Restaurant
- Crescent Moon Retreat
- Crest Precast Concrete
- Crucifixion Church & School
- Dewey Enterprises
- Don Bissen
- Edward Jones Eric Minor
- Edward Jones Ryan Hennessy
- Elevate Media
- Engelson & Associates
- ESB Eitzen State Bank

- Explore La Crosse
- Free Range Exchange
- Gerrard Hoeschler
- Globe Life Family Heritage Division
- Graf Electric
- Gundersen Clinic
- Hein Orchard
- Hesch Insurance
- Houston County Historical Society
- HSR Associates, Inc.
- Impact Nutrition
- JL Bookkeeping Design
- Johnson Livings
- Cherryl Jostad
- Kaddy's Kafe
- Kwik Trip
- La Crescent Animal Care
- La Crescent Animal Rescue
- La Crescent Applefest
- La Crescent Area Event Center
- La Crescent Area Healthy Community Partners
- La Crescent Auto Repair,
- La Crescent Farmers Market
- La Crescent Historical Society
- La Crescent Montessori & STEM School
- La Crescent United Methodist Church
- La Crescent-Hokah Schools
- La Crescent Wine and Spirits
- La Crosse Sign Group
- Lancer Village Apts & Townhomes
- Magnum Broadcasting / Magnum Radio
- Mayo Clinic Health System
- Merchants Bank
- MiEnergy Cooperative
- MN Energy Resources Corp.
- Ness Pumping Service

- Outback Ranch
- P & T Electric
- Pat's Insurance Agency
- Pettibone Resort
- Poellinger, Inc.
- Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
- Quillin's
- Ready Bus Lines
- River View Winery
- Sarah DeLacy
- Saxon Hall
- Schumacher-Kish Funeral & Cremation Services
- Skyward Counseling LLC
- Southwind Orchards
- Splish Splash Auto Bath
- Sports Hub
- SpringBrook Village of La C
- State Farm Honor Didonato
- Sterling Pharmacy
- Swing Bridge Pub
- Thorson Graphic LLC
- Time Out Tavern
- Truss Specialists, Inc.
- TJ's Auto Glass
- Valley High Golf Course
- Van Lin Orchard
- Verve, A Credit Union
- Vision Design Group
- Wieser Brothers General Contractors
- Wieser Precast - Doric Vault
- Wieser Law Office
- Wieser Septic
- Xcel Energy
- Zenke, Inc.

\*Current members as of print May 2025

## Proud to support the neighborhood

Being a good neighbor means being there for my community. As your local State Farm® agent, I'm ready to help whenever you need me. Give me a call.



**DiDonato Ins and Fin Svcs Inc**

Honor DiDonato, Agent  
306 Main St Ste 2  
La Crescent, MN 55947-1828

Bus: 507-895-8424  
www.planwithhonor.com  
honor@planwithhonor.com



State Farm  
Bloomington, IL