

2022 OFFICIAL VISITOR'S GUIDE

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(515) 677-2258

**PERRY**  
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# Events

No matter the season, Dallas County and its communities offer much to explore and enjoy. The extensive trail system is enjoyed year-round by bicyclists, walkers and runners, who enjoy the scenery and its seasonal changes. Parks and Dallas County Conservation programs draw those interested in a myriad of outdoor activities. Museums and other entertainment venues invite visitors indoors for a break from the cold — or

the heat. Community festivals showcase the small-town friendliness and family fun that make Dallas County the place to enjoy summer fun. Art festivals, the Dallas County Fair, farmers markets and more add to the offerings. And, for a special holiday season, attend the open houses, parades and other celebrations offered. Enjoy Dallas County — where you will be greeted with a smile and are sure to make lasting memories.



**Before attending events, be sure to check for the latest updates in case of cancellations or changes.**

## RECURRING:

### Redfield Legion Breakfast

Redfield American Legion Hall  
Every Saturday, 6-9 a.m.

## WINTER EVENTS (January-early March)

Dallas County Conservation Board doesn't hibernate in the winter months! Typically, it offers programs and opportunities on a variety of topics such as owls, stargazing, cross-country skiing, survival shelter building, GPS orienteering and birdwatching. For details and to sign up, go to [dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation) or follow them on Facebook.

# February

### Perry's 45th Annual Bike Ride to Rippey

Saturday, Feb. 5 • Group start at Hotel Pattee  
(515) 465-4601

[2022brr.eventbrite.com](http://2022brr.eventbrite.com) or [bikeiowa.com](http://bikeiowa.com)

BRR! It's the name and usual sentiment for the beloved winter bike ride that has become an annual tradition for thousands of bike riders since 1977. As the biggest and "coolest" annual fundraiser for the Perry Chamber of Commerce, "The Original Winter Ride" — always the first Saturday in February — this quirky tradition rolls on no matter the weather. All pre-registration packets will be mailed out ahead of time so riders can choose to join in the fun in-person or wherever they are. The frozen-filled day of biking from Perry to Rippey and back — a total of 24 miles — includes pit stops, prizes and entertainment. Group start at Hotel Pattee and live music at The Proletariat after the ride. Contact the Perry Chamber for more information: (515) 465-4601 or [PerryChamber@PerryIA.org](mailto:PerryChamber@PerryIA.org).

### Winter Wonderland Family 5k Run/Walk

Saturday, Feb. 5, 9-11 a.m.

Granger Community Center, 2200 Walnut St., Granger  
[www.facebook.com/GrangerTrails/](http://www.facebook.com/GrangerTrails/)

The Granger Trails is having a fundraiser event for trails around Granger to connect the community. There will be music, food trucks, a raffle for prizes, an award for The Most Creative Warm Weather Attire and more. The registration fee is \$25 for adults and \$20 for kids younger than 12 (a beanie hat is included).

### Perry's 18th Annual Chocolate Walk

Saturday, Feb. 19, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

[2022PerryChocolateWalk.eventbrite.com](http://2022PerryChocolateWalk.eventbrite.com)

This Valentine's Day themed shopping event encourages the exploration of Perry as a shopping destination — especially for a Girls' Day Out — as well as making it fun and easy to Shop Local! Get your event passport stamped at each participating business to be entered into a drawing! Contact the Perry Chamber for ticket information: (515) 465-4601 or [perrychamber@perryia.org](mailto:perrychamber@perryia.org).

## SPRING EVENTS (March-May)

Dallas County Conservation Board has the cure to spring fever with enriching ways to get back into nature. Topics for spring programming and events may include birdwatching, morel mushroom hunt, woodland wildflower hike, the spring equinox celebration, a prairie burn and spring constellations. For details and to sign up, go to [dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation) or follow them on Facebook.

# April

### Perry's Spring Shopping Extravaganza

Saturday, April 9, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This spring-themed shopping event is perfect for a Girls' Day Out to find fresh spring decor and apparel, as well as Easter gifts! Plus, enjoy eggstra special surprises at participating businesses. Contact the Perry Chamber of Commerce for additional information: (515) 465-4601 or [PerryChamber@PerryIA.org](mailto:PerryChamber@PerryIA.org).

### Waukee Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 16, 10 a.m. • Centennial Park, Waukee

Bring your baskets and fill up on candy. The hunt will be split up into three different age groups: 4 and younger, 5-7 and 8-10. The Easter Egg Hunt will take place rain or shine.

### Redfield Development Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 16, 10 a.m. • City Park

### Dallas Center Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 16, 10 a.m. • Heritage Park

Fun family games, Easter Bunny and egg hunt. Follow on Facebook @DCSEASONALFUN.



# May

## Perry Fiber Art Fair

Saturday, May 7 • La Poste

Featuring all forms of textile artwork, this spin off of Art on the Prairie's festival in November showcases Iowa artists who spin yarn, weave rugs, knit wearables, and much more. For more information about activities and participating artists, visit [www.ArtonthePrairie.org](http://www.ArtonthePrairie.org).

## Art in the Vineyard

Saturday, May 14

Penoach Vineyard and Winery,  
26759 N Ave., Adel

Enjoy a relaxing outing to this small, family owned winery housed in a repurposed 1917 barn. The front porch overlooks the vineyard from which many of the handcrafted wines get their start. The tasting room is welcoming and cozy. For updates, visit <http://penoach.com>.

## Sunset in the Vineyard

Friday, May 27

Penoach Vineyard and Winery,  
26759 N Ave., Adel

Enjoy a relaxing outing to this small, family owned winery housed in a repurposed 1917 barn. The front porch overlooks the vineyard from which many of the handcrafted wines get their start. The tasting room is welcoming and cozy. For updates, visit <http://penoach.com>.

## Memorial Day Services

Monday, May 30, 10 a.m.

Mound Park, Dallas Center

This annual event is sponsored by the Dallas Center Legion and Auxiliary members. Bring a lawn chair.

## SUMMER EVENTS (June-August)

Dallas County Conservation Board can help you beat the heat of summer with unique and educational opportunities and events. Explore what Dallas County has to offer with river floats, a rock bar ramble, meteor watching, Pioneer Day, and celebrating the summer solstice. For details and to sign up, go to [dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation) or follow them on Facebook.

# June

## Perry's Friday Fest

June 3, Pattee Park

Rockin' summer series of live music events. Bring a lawn chair and pack a picnic or plan to purchase from onsite food vendors.

## Dallas Center Art in the Park

Saturday, June 4,

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mound Park

Local food, live music, arts and crafts, fun and games. Follow on Facebook @DCSEASONALFUN.

## Raccoon River Days

Dates TBA, Van Meter

Enjoy food, beverages, kids' activities, live entertainment and more at this community festival. Saturday highlights include a parade and street dance. Check for updates at [www.vanmeteria.gov](http://www.vanmeteria.gov).

## Woodward Friends 'N' Neighbors Days

First weekend of June

Just a stone's throw away from the High Trestle Trail Bridge. Woodward Friends 'N' Neighbors Days is two days of family friendly activities with a parade, vendors on Main on Saturday and ending with fireworks at the park on Saturday night. Visit [www.facebook.com/WoodwardFNN/](http://www.facebook.com/WoodwardFNN/) for updates.

## ADEL — Celebrating 175 years!

# Where Charm Meets Adventure

## Adel Sweet Corn Festival

Aug. 13

A central Iowa tradition for 43 years

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For more info, visit these Facebook pages:

Adel Sweet Corn Festival  
Adel Partners Chamber  
Adel Sweet Corn 5K



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# Events June

## Grimes Governors Days

**Thursday-Saturday, June 9-11 • Water Works Park, Grimes**

Let the summer begin! This three-day festival includes carnival and midway, two parades, live bands, bag tournament, craft and food vendors and more fun than you can imagine. Bring the whole family and check out all the fun. Kick your summer off right! For updates, visit [www.governorsdays.com](http://www.governorsdays.com).

## BACoon Ride

**Saturday, June 18 • Raccoon River Valley Trail**

Like to ride bicycles? Like bacon? Like the Raccoon River Valley Trail? Put it all together and you have the BACoon RIDE starting and ending in Waukee. Take a 72-mile ride (or less by using optional starting points) on the Raccoon River Valley Trail featuring numerous bacon stops and numerous drink specials at establishments along the way. For more information and to register, go to [www.baconride.com](http://www.baconride.com).

## Redfield Old Settler's Celebration

**June 24-26 • Redfield**

The parade on June 25 starts at 11 a.m. The event includes a carnival, various entertainers, fireworks and vendors throughout the park and fun for the kids. Alumni banquet is on the 27th.

## Adel Garden Tour

**Sunday, June 26, 1-3 p.m.**

Enjoy a tour of five gardens sure to inspire and educate. A VIP package will be available with a visit to Penoch Vineyard and Winery. For updates, visit [www.adelpartners.org](http://www.adelpartners.org) or the Facebook page for Adel Partners Chamber for Commerce.

## Movies in the Park

**Dates TBD, Centennial Park, Granger • (515) 999-2140**

**[www.grangeriowa.org/parks-recreation](http://www.grangeriowa.org/parks-recreation)**

Granger Parks and Recreation presents Movies in the Park. Outdoor movies will be showing at Centennial Park. The film will be shown on a portable screen and will begin at sunset. Admission is free. Blankets and lawn chairs are encouraged.

## Yoga in the Park

**Dates TBD, Centennial Park, Granger • (515) 999-2140**

**[www.grangeriowa.org/parks-recreation](http://www.grangeriowa.org/parks-recreation)**

Yoga in the Park is designed for improving community health, energizing and relaxation. You are encouraged to bring a mat or a towel as well as some water and clothes you can move in. No registration for the class is required, just show up ready to relax, release and enjoy!

## Dallas Center

**Swimming Pool Season • June through August**

Check the City's website for updates, [dallascenter.com](http://dallascenter.com)

## Waukee Movies in the Park

**Check for dates at [www.Waukee.org/moviesinthepark](http://www.Waukee.org/moviesinthepark) Centennial Park, Waukee**

Enjoy Hollywood's biggest hits under the stars! Movies in the Park is free and provides an abundance of family fun. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and get ready to make memories with family and friends.

## Free Rollerskating

**Tuesdays and Fridays, 7-9 p.m., June through August**

**Dallas Center rollerskating rink**

Enjoy free skate rental, games and theme nights. Check the City's website for updates, [dallascenter.com](http://dallascenter.com)



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**ART ON THE PRAIRIE**

celebrating art, music, literature, and the joys of small town living... all wrapped up in a two day event in Historic Downtown Perry, IA.

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10 AM-5PM | 10AM-4PM**

**Experience the Arts during the Festival & Year Round!**

Public Art, Galleries, Studios, & Annual Events:

- Fiber Art Fair - May
- Art Harvest Tour - September
- Art on the Prairie - November

**[www.ARTonthePrairie.org](http://www.ARTonthePrairie.org)**



**BRR Bike Ride to Rippey**

**Iwiva Perry! Latino Festival**

**Downtown Farmers Market**

**Friday Fest at Pattee Park**

**PERRY CHAMBER**

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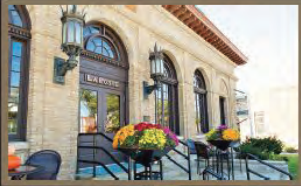
**PerryIA.org**





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# Events

## July

### Waukee Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks

**July 2-4 • Centennial Park**

Waukee will host its annual celebration in honor of Independence Day! The annual parade travels through downtown and ends at Centennial Park, where the fun continues for the rest of the day and night with inflatables, music and plenty of food! Enjoy live music and an amazing display of fireworks after dusk. For updates, visit [www.Waukee.org/FourthofJuly](http://www.Waukee.org/FourthofJuly).

### Home Base Grimes Independence Day

**Fireworks Show**

**July 4 • South Sports Complex, 600 S. James St.**

Come and celebrate the anniversary of our nation's independence on July 4th at the Home Base Grimes Independence Day Fireworks Show! As an official Home Base Iowa community, this event not only honors our great country, but also the men and women who have defended our freedoms since the nation's inception. For updates, be sure to check [www.grimesiowa.com](http://www.grimesiowa.com).

### Waukee Movies in the Park

**Check for dates at [www.Waukee.org/moviesinthepark](http://www.Waukee.org/moviesinthepark) Centennial Park, Waukee**

Enjoy Hollywood's biggest hits under the stars! Movies in the Park is free and provides an abundance of family fun. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and get ready to make memories with family and friends.

## August

### Highway 141 garage sale

**First weekend in August  
From Grimes to Manning**

Enjoy a garage sale that is miles long. Take Highway 141 and enjoy the scenery and the sales.

### Hot Rods & Hogs

**Saturday, Aug. 6, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Centennial Park, Granger (along Highway 141)**

Car and motorcycle show with hog roast. Free will donation for admission for attendees and participants. The amount is up to you! Check for the latest updates at [www.iowahotrods.com](http://www.iowahotrods.com).

### Perry's 4th of July

**July 4 - Pattee Park**

A mile-long parade kicks off Perry's Independence Day festivities which include community activities, vendors at Pattee Park serving up authentic cuisine from around the world as well as your fair-food favorites, live music at the bandshell in the evening, and a Fireworks Finale. Cool off mid-day with Perry Fine Art's Music Extravaganza and Ice Cream Social at the First United Methodist Church. Learn More at [PerryIA.org/July-4th-Celebration](http://PerryIA.org/July-4th-Celebration).

### Dallas County Fair

**July 13-17 • Dallas County Fairgrounds, Adel**

Enjoy all that a county fair has to offer, from concerts to demolition derby, races, livestock shows, exhibits and so much more.

### Waukee Arts Festival

**July 15-16**

**Waukee Area Arts Council, 405 Maple St.**

**[www.waukeeartsfestival.org](http://www.waukeeartsfestival.org)**

More than 100 artists are featured at the Waukee Arts Festival, one of the area's fastest-growing and most exciting summer events. Enjoy incredible art, great music and unique food.

### Bonnie and Clyde Days

**July 23**

**Dexter Museum, Dexter**

Car show, look-alike contest and display are featured. For updates and more information, visit [www.dexteria.org](http://www.dexteria.org).

### Adel Sweet Corn Festival

**Saturday, Aug. 13**

The Sweet Corn Festival is held in downtown Adel. Friday evening join them for the shucking of the corn and Sweet Corn Princess contest. A full day of activities is held on Saturday with the Sweet Corn 5K run at 8 a.m., parade at 9:30 a.m. followed by serving seven tons of fresh sweet corn — for free. Enjoy art, craft and food vendors around the historic square. Kids' games and live entertainment are held throughout the day on the Courthouse lawn. A street party begins at 7:30 p.m. It is a family friendly event along with a beer garden. Don't miss this fun-filled day in Adel. For updates, visit [www.adelpartners.org](http://www.adelpartners.org) or Facebook Adel Partners Chamber for Commerce page.

### Dallas Center Swimming Pool Season

**June through August**

Check the City's website for updates, [dallascenter.com](http://dallascenter.com)

### Free Rollerskating

**Tuesdays and Fridays, 7-9 p.m.,**

**June through August**

**Dallas Center rollerskating rink**

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### Dallas Center Fall Festival

**Aug. 26-27**

Activities begin Friday night and continue all day Saturday featuring a 5K run, Rotary breakfast, parade, carnival rides, car and tractor shows, garden tractor pulls, bag tournaments, sand volleyball tournament, food, vendors, live bands, fireworks and much more. Check for details online at [www.dallascentercelebrations.com](http://www.dallascentercelebrations.com) or [facebook.com/dccelebrations](https://facebook.com/dccelebrations) or email: [DallasCenterCelebrations@gmail.com](mailto:DallasCenterCelebrations@gmail.com).



# August

## Granger Days Festival

Friday, Aug. 26, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Saturday, Aug. 27, 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Outside of Bud's Pub, 1912 Main St., Granger

Saturday, Aug. 28, 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.  
Centennial Park, Granger (along Highway 141)

Enjoy this annual celebration featuring some of the following events: bounce houses, inflatable rides, kid activities, train rides, 5K run, parade, bags tournament, sand volleyball tournament, vendors, great food, live bands, fireworks and much more! Check for updates online at [www.facebook.com/GrangerDays/](http://www.facebook.com/GrangerDays/) as the date draws near or call (515) 999-2210.

## Perry's Latino Festival

Saturday, Aug. 28, Downtown Perry

Get a taste of the rich cultures that make up Perry's diverse community at the annual ¡Viva Perry! Latino Festival, featuring authentic cuisine, musical entertainment, and various activities in downtown Perry.

## Waukee Movies in the Park

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Centennial Park, Waukee

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June through August

Dallas Center rollerskating rink

Enjoy free skate rental, games and theme nights. Check the City's website for updates, [dallascenter.com](http://dallascenter.com).

## Dallas Center Swimming Pool Season

June through August

Check the City's website for updates, [www.dallascenter.com](http://www.dallascenter.com).

## Dexter Fall Festival

Aug. 26-28

For updates, visit Dexter Fall Festival on Facebook

(515) 789-4490 or (515) 975-0479

Activities include a parade followed by food, games and activities for children sponsored by the Dexter Lions Club; the Friends of the Library book sale at the library; cribbage tournament at the American Legion; and memories of Dexter at the museum. A Friday evening community potluck is held in conjunction with a pie auction with proceeds going to the Dexter Lions Club. Sunday morning, a community worship service is followed by brunch.

# DEXTER IOWA



## The Western Gateway to Dallas County



- Dexter Historical Museum
- Dexter Community House
  - a.k.a. Roundhouse
- Old Dexfield Park Historical Markers
  - Site of the 1933 Barrow Gang Shootout
- White Pole Road Scenic Byway
- Plowing Match Historical Marker
  - Site of the 1948 President Truman visit



## Rich in History





# Events

## FALL EVENTS (September-December)

Fall is an active season for the Dallas County Conservation Board. The Prairie Awakening/Prairie Awoke Native American Celebration is an event to include as a tradition. Other fall programs and events include monarch tagging, prairie seed harvest, hawk watch, fall equinox and winter solstice celebrations, and the Christmas Bird Count. For details and to sign up, go to [dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation) or follow them on Facebook.

## September

### Van Meter Visitor Festival

Saturday, Sept. 24

This festival celebrates a strange and spooky legend of a "visitor" from long ago. Enjoy a little fright. For updates, check [www.facebook.com/vanmetervisitorfestival](http://www.facebook.com/vanmetervisitorfestival).

### Waukee Movies in the Park

Check for dates at [www.Waukee.org/moviesinthepark](http://www.Waukee.org/moviesinthepark)  
Centennial Park, Waukee

Enjoy Hollywood's biggest hits under the stars! Movies in the Park is free and provides an abundance of family fun. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and get ready to make memories with family and friends.

## October

### Halloween Hayday Parade and Events

Saturday, Oct. 29

Dallas Center

Follow on Facebook Dallas Center Seasonal Fun Committee for details and time of the parade, crafts, food, and then town-wide Trick or Treating.

### Perry's Spooktacular Downtown Walk

Friday, Oct. 28 or Monday, Oct. 31, 4-6 p.m.

This Beggars' Night tradition draws more than a thousand little princesses, super heroes, monsters and more (plus their parents) to Downtown Perry for a safe trick-or-treating experience visiting more than 30 businesses and organizations before venturing on to other spooky adventures around town, including Dallas County Hospital's Safe & Healthy Halloween activities.

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**Shop Online for Curbside Pick Up**



# November

## William Bell Memorial Tuba & Euphonium Day

**Nov. 5, 12:30-5 p.m.**

**First United Methodist Church, Perry**

Held annually on the first Saturday of November since 1978, the event celebrates the life and career of Bill Bell, one of the prominent tubists of the 20th Century and an Iowa native, now laid to rest in Violet Hill Cemetery in Perry. The day includes a group ensemble rehearsal of tubists and euphoniums led by a guest instructor and ends with a public performance. Learn more at [TubaDay.org](http://TubaDay.org).

## Perry Art on the Prairie

**Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 12-13**

Art on the Prairie is a unique festival celebrating art, music, literature, and the joys of small town living, all wrapped up in a two day event in historic downtown Perry during the second weekend in November. The event showcases 100 Iowa artists — both visual and performing — in eight

venues in the Downtown Perry Historical & Cultural District, including the Hotel Pattee, La Poste and Carnegie Library Museum. Learn more at [ArtonthePrairie.org](http://ArtonthePrairie.org).

## Holiday Mini Photo Sessions

**Saturday, Nov. 19, 8 a.m. to noon**

**Jester Park Nature Center, 12130 N.W. 128th St., Granger**

The Granger Fire/EMS Department is teaming up with a talented local photographer to help you capture a Christmas family photo before the holiday. Each session will be around 5-10 minutes and capture a few professional photos. There will be a Christmas-themed setup stage to make the process easy and efficient for all. These photos will be available to you for full access online following the event. All services involved in this event are being donated. The Granger Fire/EMS Department will be accepting freewill donations the day of the event. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/GrangerFireDepartment>

## Perry's Lighted Parade & Holiday Celebration

**Nov. 25 at 7 p.m.**

The day after Thanksgiving brings the community together for a magical holiday spectacular in downtown Perry, featuring a lighted parade followed by visits with Santa.

## Perry Tinsel Trot

**Nov. 26, at 10 a.m.**

Enjoy a festive 5K Fun Run/Walk on the Saturday after Thanksgiving to get into the holiday spirit. Costumes are encouraged along with a photo opp with Santa. Check-in and start at Raccoon Valley Bank Plaza in downtown Perry.

## Small Business Saturday

**Saturday, Nov. 26**

The Saturday after Thanksgiving is all about shopping local and Dallas County communities join the nationwide movement to inspire area shoppers to purchase from small businesses, especially during the holiday season. Enjoy a day of shopping Dallas County's unique small businesses.

# December

## Waukee WinterFest

**Friday, Dec. 2, 6-8 p.m. • Downtown Triangle**

Santa Claus is coming to town! Come early and help Santa light the holiday tree in Triangle Park and then warm up with hot chocolate and cookies. Join the downtown businesses for soup and open houses and enjoy a variety of activities! For updates, check [www.waukee.org/winterfest](http://www.waukee.org/winterfest).

## Adel Hometown Holiday Celebration

**Friday-Sunday, Dec. 2-4**

Enjoy a variety of holiday fun, including Sip & Sample and Holiday Home Tour. The Adel Partners Chamber members host their holiday open houses and offer "a sip and sample" of local recipes throughout the community. The event starts with a craft and book fair at the Adel Public Library at 2 p.m. Santa is present in the evening for children to visit. For updates, visit [www.adelpartners.org](http://www.adelpartners.org) or the Facebook page for Adel Partners Chamber for Commerce.

## Van Meter Sips and Snacks

**Friday, Dec. 3**

Enjoy holiday cheer at this event and shopping at the winter market Friday and Saturday. For updates, check [www.vanmeteria.gov](http://www.vanmeteria.gov).

## Dallas Center Hometown Christmas

**Saturday, Dec. 3**

Enjoy the day starting with beautiful homes decked out for Christmas with the Beta Sigma Phi Home Tour from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. then head to Walnut Street for a festive evening of music, crafts, delicious treats, Library Basket Silent Auction, and the big jolly guy arriving. For updates, follow Dallas Center Seasonal Fun Committee on Facebook.

## Breakfast with Santa

**Saturday, Dec. 3, 8-11 a.m.**

**Granger Community Center, 2200 Walnut St., Granger**

The Granger Fire and EMS personnel will be serving pancakes, sausages, donuts, coffee, juice and milk. Proceeds from this free will donation breakfast will be used to purchase supplies and provide training for the fire department. Each child will get the opportunity to visit Santa from 9-10 a.m. and receive a special treat from him. There will also be a vendor fair from 8 a.m. to noon featuring a large selection of vendors allowing you the opportunity to do some one-stop holiday shopping. Sponsored by the Granger Emergency Services Auxiliary. For updates, visit [www.grangeriowa.org](http://www.grangeriowa.org) or call (515) 999-2210.

## Redfield Winterfest

**Saturday, Dec. 4 • 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

Including a Chili Cookoff. WCV Middle School and Redfield American Legion.

## Grimes Holiday Celebration

**Sunday, Dec. 5**

Enjoy the season with family fun.

For updates, check [www.grimesiowa.com](http://www.grimesiowa.com).

## Granger Breakfast with Santa

**Saturday, Dec. 4**

**Community Center, 2200 Walnut St., Granger**

The Granger Fire and EMS personnel will be serving pancakes, sausages, donuts, coffee, juice and milk. Proceeds from this free will donation breakfast will be used to purchase supplies and provide training for the fire department. Each child will get the opportunity to visit Santa from 9-10 a.m. and receive a special treat from him. There will also be a vendor fair from 8 a.m. to noon featuring a large selection of vendors allowing you the opportunity to do some one-stop holiday shopping. Sponsored by the Granger Emergency Services Auxiliary. For updates, visit [www.grangeriowa.org](http://www.grangeriowa.org) or call (515) 999-2210.



# Shopping

Few counties can provide such a range of unique shopping experiences as one will find in Dallas County. When a gift from the big box store simply won't do, seek out the independently owned shops and boutiques across the county.

## Adel HealthMart Pharmacy

113 N. Ninth St., Adel • (515) 993-3644  
www.adelhm.com

Adel HealthMart Pharmacy is much more than a hometown drugstore. The business hosts an ever-changing display of home décor, women's accessories including purses and jewelry, gifts, cards and candies. This is a family-owned pharmacy located in the heart of Adel's historic town square.

## Adel Winterset TV and Appliance

916 Main St., Adel  
(515) 993-4287

www.adelwintersettv.com

Serving central Iowa for more than 60 years, Adel Winterset TV and Appliance has a full line of name brand electronics, appliances, heating and cooling units, grills and smokers. The store is family owned and operated.

## Atelier at 1109

1109 Second St., Perry

This artisan gallery features textile and fiber arts, glass arts, print making, and screen printing. Classes and activities are also offered.

## Azalea Lane Boutique

705 Main St., Adel  
(515) 210-1450

www.azalealaneboutique.com

Azalea Lane Boutique is a locally owned Adel shop specializing in women's fashions. Trendy and unique, you can always find something fun. Clothing, shoes, handbags, accessories and gifts are stocked daily. The store is just a short drive from the metro and well worth the drive.

## Baker's Pantry

904 Sugar Grove Ave., Dallas Center • (515) 992-3308  
thebakerspantry.biz

The Baker's Pantry is an old-fashioned grocery and general store, locally owned and operated with quality service and a smile. Not only a unique shopping experience that features specialty and local products, they also have a coffee shop and fresh deli offering breakfast and lunch. Favorites of the locals include homemade baked goods, pies, jams, lattes, sandwiches and more!

## Ben's Five and Dime

1221 Second St., Perry • (515) 465-4825

Ben's Five and Dime is your dream store. They have everything from toys to greeting cards, gifts, jewelry, apparel, fabric, yarn, puzzles, candy, models, kitchen gadgetry and more.

## Betsy Peterson Designs

1121 Second St., Perry • (515) 657-1837 • www.betsypetersondesigns.com

Offering hand-crafted art and gifts that are beautiful in both form and function and inspired by stories, experiences, and the beauty that surrounds us.

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## Board and Batten

1412 Walnut St., Dallas Center  
(515) 992-8011

[www.facebook.com/bandbat](http://www.facebook.com/bandbat)

Located in the heart of Dallas Center, offering a wide selection of furniture and home decor made with a fusion of antiques and repurposed goods. You will find a wide array of locally made products. Looking to place an order that is custom made for you? This is your place!

## Mary Rose Collection

1215 Warford St., Perry  
(515) 465-4222

[www.maryrosecollection.com](http://www.maryrosecollection.com)

This beautifully restored building housing Mary Rose is packed with hand-crafted gifts, artwork by Iowan artisans, a stained glass studio and Purple Star Studio. For a unique shopping experience, stop by the Mary Rose.

## Picket Fence Creamery

14583 S Ave., Woodward  
(515) 438-2697

[www.picketfencecreamery.net](http://www.picketfencecreamery.net)

Picket Fence Creamery is an 80-acre, family owned and operated grass-based dairy farm, bottling plant, and country store located just off Highway 141 at Woodward exit 138. The Burkhardt family bottles milk, cream, chocolate and strawberry milk, makes fresh cheese curds every Saturday, and offers 40 ice cream flavors, all free of artificial hormones and chemicals. The country store features local foods from over 100 Iowa families including beef, pork, bison, chicken, eggs, jams, noodles, salsas, Iowa wines and much more. Picket Fence products are available at most central Iowa grocery stores.

## Real Deals

211 S. Seventh St., Adel

[www.realdeals.net/adel](http://www.realdeals.net/adel)

Here you'll find fabulous home decor, fashion and accessories in our locally-owned shoppe. Inventory changes weekly!

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antiques & art gallery

1215 Warford in Perry, Iowa  
515.465.4222 • [www.maryrosecollection.com](http://www.maryrosecollection.com)





## Map and Guide to Area Parks and Recreation

**1 Forest Park**  
Forest Park Museum and Arboretum  
This park is the location of the administrative office of the Dallas County Conservation Board, Forest Park Museum and Arboretum was originally developed in the 1940s by Eugene Hastie, a farmer, local historian and author. The arboretum was planted in straight lines to allow farming between the rows of growing trees. His love of history prompted many local residents to donate artifacts to this private collection. Mr. Hastie's museum, portraying the history of Dallas County, opened to the public in 1953.



**2 Sportsman Park**  
A forty acre tract of oak and hickory timber that offers electric and non-electric camping, year around cabins, enclosed shelter houses for reservation, an accessible playground, restroom facilities and shower building.



**3 Dawson Depot**  
Dawson Depot-Restored 1880s  
Depot is open from 8 am to 10 pm daily from May 1 to October 31. The building is adjacent to the Raccoon River Valley Trail and serves as a visitor center and restroom facility.



**4 Fazel Wildlife Area**



**5 Voas Nature Area**  
This approximately 700 acre park is west of Minburn and about 1/2 mile east of the North Raccoon River. The original 265 acres were donated to the Dallas County Conservation Board by Lyle and Mae Voas. Both brother and sister had a desire to see their family farmland restored to woodland, wetlands, and prairie similar to conditions present at pre-Euro-American settlement. Additional acres have been added to the park through generous private donations and efforts



**6 North Raccoon River Wildlife Area**



**7 Crellin Wildlife Area**



**8 Wagner Prairie**



**9 Raccoon River Valley Trail**  
Built on a former Chicago Northwestern Railroad right-of-way, this corridor is owned and managed by the Dallas Guthrie, and Greene County Conservation Boards. The completed 89 mile trail loop provides the opportunity for recreational activities such as biking, hiking, jogging, in-line skating, and cross country skiing.



**10 Dawson Boat Ramp**



**11 Puckerbrush River Access**



**12 Trindle Park**



**13 Glissman Conservation Area**  
Enjoy this 62 acres of oak and hickory woodlands with a 7 acre pond and overnight lodge facility that sleeps 8.



**14 Kuehn Conservation Area**

This 780 acre park includes native prairie, upland forest and is located on the South Raccoon River. The Bear Creek Nature Center is also on this site.



**15 Redfield Depot Trailhead**



Redfield Depot facilities include restrooms, indoor resting area, railroad display area. The building is open from 8 am to 10:00 pm daily May 1 - Oct 21. Concession stand on weekends.

**16 Grand Army of the Republic Post Historic Site**

**17 Hanging Rock**  
Located at the southwest corner of Redfield along the Middle and South Raccoon River, this site is over 600 acres and features a massive outcrop of sandstone that has been an important area landmark for many years.



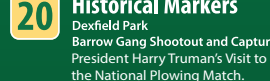
**18 Redfield Boat Ramp**



**19 Big Bend Wildlife Area**  
A joint project between the Dallas County Conservation Board and the DNR. This riparian woodland site is now approaching 1,000 acres.



**20 Historical Markers**  
Dexfield Park  
Barrow Gang Shootout and Capture  
President Harry Truman's Visit to the National Plowing Match.



**21 North Raccoon River Wildlife Area - Wagner Tract**



**22 Woodward Trail Head High Trestle Trail**

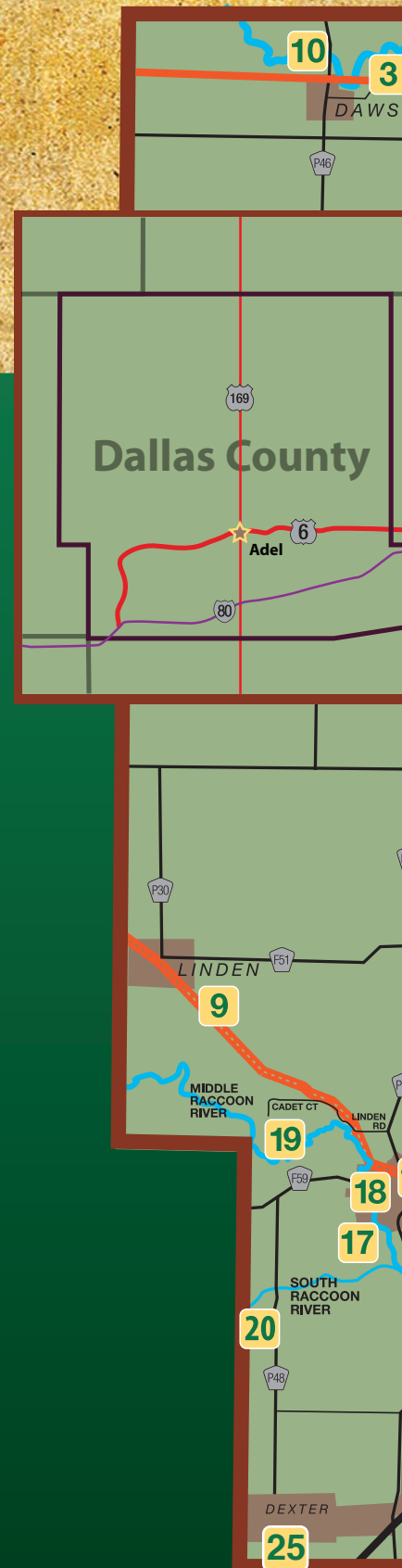


**23 Booneville Access**



**24 Dayton Stagecoach Inn**  
Located along the old Des Moines to Fort Dodge stagecoach route, the Dayton Stagecoach Inn was built in 1868 and used as a combination inn, bar and private home. It is on 10 acres of secluded land that includes 150-year-old oak trees and some limited access to Beaver Creek. The Dayton Stagecoach Inn is available for overnight rental with a sleeping capacity of up to nine in three bedrooms.

**25 Dexter Roundhouse**







- |           |            |                  |
|-----------|------------|------------------|
| Hiking    | Boat Ramp  | Picnic Tables    |
| Fishing   | Hunting    | Shelter          |
| Camping   | Bike Trail | Electric Hook up |
| Restrooms | Boating    | Play Area        |



# Museums, arts & parks

Much can be learned about Dallas County's history at its myriad of historic public buildings, cemeteries, museums, galleries, historic markers, century-old ballrooms and theaters. The arts abound and entertainment is plentiful with something for everyone. Explore and enjoy the wide range of offerings! Be sure to check for updated hours of operation!



## Adel Historical Museum

1129 Main St., Adel • (515) 993-1032

<https://adeliowa.org/visitors/adel-historical-museum/>

The property at 1129 Main St. was built in 1857 and served as the first two-story brick schoolhouse in Adel. The museum houses a collection of artifacts and documents representing a significant record of Adel history. The collection includes the desk and chair of George Clarke, an Adel native who served as governor of Iowa from 1913-1917. Clarke was the grandfather of 1939 Heisman Trophy winner Nile Kinnick, who played for the University of Iowa. The Museum also has Kinnick information on display.

## The Brenton Arboretum

25141 260th St., Dallas Center • (515) 992-4211  
[www.thebrentonarboratum.org](http://www.thebrentonarboratum.org)

An arboretum is a place where trees and shrubs are grown for research, demonstration and educational purposes. This unique 141-acre living museum in central Iowa combines the horticultural study of trees with a commitment to natural landscape management and conservation. Iowa arboretum visitors study the 2,500 trees, all suitable for planting in central Iowa, surrounded by a beautiful natural setting of native prairie, wetlands, a lake, pond and streams.

## Carnegie Library Museum

1123 Willis Ave., Perry • (515) 465-7713

<https://www.perryia.org/carnegie-library-museum.html>

The 1910 restored Carnegie Library Museum tells the story of small towns and the immigrants who settled them with exhibits, writings of local and famous authors and live interpretation.

## Dexfield Park

Historical marker 3 miles north of Dexter  
[rstanley@netins.net](mailto:rstanley@netins.net) • (641) 757-9173

Imagine one of the largest amusement parks in Iowa (circa 1916) with a huge swimming pool, dancing, skating, music, carnival rides including a Ferris wheel, ball games and camping. As many as 4,000 attended opening day each year in June.

## Dexter Community House

(aka Dexter Roundhouse)

707 Dallas St., Dexter

[mikboyle@wildblue.net](mailto:mikboyle@wildblue.net) • (515) 210-3150

<http://www.dexteriowa.org>

Built in 1916, this building celebrated its 100th birthday in 2016. The unique elliptical shaped building is listed on the National Register of Historical Places. The engineer who designed the building was Matthew Leander King, grandfather of actor Nick Nolte. The building features the original stage, box office and orchestra pit with accommodations for seating large groups for performances or for sit-down dining and dances. A display of historical pictures is now in place for all to enjoy. A historical marker on the Community House grounds was dedicated in August 2018. The Roundhouse, with a fully equipped kitchen, is available for reunions, receptions, meetings or other events small or large.

## Bonnie and Clyde Shoot-out

Historical marker 3 miles north of Dexter  
[rstanley@netins.net](mailto:rstanley@netins.net) • (641) 757-9173

Visualize the Barrow gang camping at the site of the old Dexfield Amusement Park — resting and recuperating from a prior gun battle in Missouri — and then engaging in a shoot-out with approximately 50 area men and law enforcement officers leading to the mortal wounding of Buck Barrow and the capture of his wife, Blanche.

## National Plowing Match

Historical marker 1.5 miles North of Dexter  
[rstanley@netins.net](mailto:rstanley@netins.net) • (641) 757-9173

In September 1948, President Harry S. Truman addressed 100,000 people attending the plowing match at this site.

## Dexter Museum

719 Marshall St., Dexter

[rstanley@netins.net](mailto:rstanley@netins.net) • (641) 757-9173

[www.dexteriowa.org](http://www.dexteriowa.org)

The museum will be open May 1-Oct. 30 on Sundays, 1-3 p.m. or by appointment. It will also be open the second Saturday, June 11, July 9,

Aug 13, Sept. 10 and Oct. 8, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. followed by a tour to historical markers and Stuart bank robbery site from 1:30-3 p.m. The museum will also be open the Fourth Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with no tours to follow. The Dexter Museum welcomes visitors to Dexter, located along I-80 in southwestern Dallas County. Exhibits document President Harry S. Truman's visit to the National Plowing Match held at Dexter in 1948 and the former Dexfield Amusement Park that was the site of Dallas County's Barrow gang shoot-out in 1933. Three historical markers located north of town on Dexfield Road represent a significant record of these events. The museum has an abundance of historic information, plowing match scoreboards, pictures, artifacts and scrapbooks on display.

## Dexter Centennial Park

Dexter's city park is located on the north side of White Pole Road just east of the fire station. Kids will enjoy the climbing tower, slides and merry-go-round while adults can utilize the paved walking trail around the perimeter with 10 low-impact wellness exercise stations. Kids and adults can take advantage of the interactive 10-hole disc golf course. A shelter house with picnic tables and restrooms await summer visitors. Be sure to check out the rustic bridge built in 1916 to span a creek near the cemetery. The bridge was moved to the city park where it has resided for many years.

## Iowa Veterans Cemetery

34024 Veterans Memorial Drive, Van Meter  
(515) 996-9048 • <https://va.iowa.gov/cemetery>

The Iowa Veterans Cemetery (IVC) is the only state-owned and operated veterans cemetery in the State of Iowa. The construction was federally funded. It opened in 2008 and has more than 100 acres of property and the capacity for more than 81,000 veterans and family members. The cemetery serves Iowa's veteran population, as well as veterans from other states. There is no



state residency requirement to be interred in the cemetery. It is available to families and visitors from 7:30 a.m. to sunset daily, dependent on weather conditions. The beautiful new building was built for American Legion Post #403 with a focus on providing a free venue for families of veterans before or after committal services at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery. This facility is also available for use by the general public.

### **Iowa Jewish Heritage Society Caspe Heritage Gallery**

33158 Ute Ave., Waukee • (515) 987-0899

[www.jewishdesmoines.org](http://www.jewishdesmoines.org)

The history of the Jews of Iowa is beautifully displayed in the Caspe Heritage Gallery. Located in the Bucksbaum Arts Wing, the gallery is a museum, augmented by office and archival space. Its display cases include items from the Society's permanent collection and will periodically showcase touring exhibits.

### **White Pole Road Scenic Byway**

WPR Development Corporation

[www.whitepoleroad.com](http://www.whitepoleroad.com)

Enjoy a day trip and plan your own tour along the White Pole Road (old Highway 6) starting in Dexter and traveling west. Download the map, and, when you pull up to our attractions, look for them on the Audio Tour playlist to experience the backstories.

### **Lake Robbins Ballroom**

26726 150th St., Woodward

(515) 438-2305 • [www.lakerobbins.com](http://www.lakerobbins.com)

Established in 1931, the Ballroom has been inducted into the Iowa Rock 'n' Roll Music Association's Hall of Fame for the finest dance floor in Iowa. It has hosted well-known big bands since its inception. Lake Robbins has also set a world record when its ticket-taker, "Kip" Shannon, worked at the same job for 82 years. So step back in time and experience the magic of the original ballroom made for dancing. View the event calendar online.

### **Washington Township School**

Located at the junction of F31 and P58 in Dallas County (five miles west of Minburn and seven miles south of Perry) and built in the 1920s, the Washington Township Community Building is a wonderful place to hold your next reunion, wedding reception, birthday party or big meeting. Take a trip back in time and visit the history room on the first floor and the museum on the second.

### **Perry Welcome Depot**

First and Willis Ave., Perry • (515) 465-4601

The former railroad depot was renovated by the Perry Area Chamber of Commerce as a Welcome Center and displays railroad memorabilia from its history of the M&SL rail lines that passed through Perry. It provides area residents and visitors with information about Perry and area attractions. The Welcome Depot is adjacent to the Raccoon River Valley Trail located on the corner of First and Willis Avenue. Willis Avenue features four sculptures that pay tribute to the Railroad, Agriculture, Industry and the Arts.





# Museums, arts & parks

## The Redfield Historical Museum

814 First St. • (515) 833-2929

Open Saturdays, 9-11 a.m. in the spring, summer and fall and by appointment.

Opened in 2014, the Redfield Historical Museum displays items from long ago up to not so long ago. It has a large collection of school composite photos from the 1920s to the 1990s and many other photos.

## Soumas Court

1112 Willis Ave., Perry

(515) 465-2481 or (515) 465-9941

Soumas Court is cradled between the Hotel Pattee and the Town/Craft Center. The court is named after George Soumas, son of Greek immigrants, WWII hero, a leading citizen and former mayor. A life-sized bronze sculpture of Soumas was created by Iowa artist Chris Bennett and serves as a focal point for this serene central parkway. Visitors entering Soumas Court pass through the gateways of New York's grand metal sculptures created by Albert Paley, the Reconfiguration Arches. The arches are an interpretation of Perry's history made of farm equipment, mining tools,

railroad items and metal pieces that recall the stories of men and women whose labors built Perry and kept it thriving.

## Wiese Park and Disc Golf Course

1800 Pattee St., Perry • (515) 465-5621

Wiese Park is adjacent to the McCreary Community Building. It features a shelter house, gazebo, playground equipment, sand volleyball court, soccer fields and a lighted 2-mile recreation trail. You can also play a round of disc golf on a 9-hole course. The course is open seven days a week at no charge. Maps, scorecards and golf discs are available inside the McCreary Community Center.

## Granger Homesteads

Highway 141, Granger • (515) 999-2210

In 1935, the Granger Homesteads became one of the first government housing projects in U.S. history. The project was intended for those who lived in company-owned coal mining camp slums in the area so that families could move away from the decrepit mining camps and nearer to wholesome churches and schools. This building project of 50 homes on 224 acres was

completed in conjunction with the Roosevelt Administration, the National Recovery Act, Eleanor Roosevelt and local priest Monsignor Ligutti. Many of the original homestead homes still exist. There is a National Historic Marker at the end of Estates Way located off Highway 141.

## Jester Park

11407 N.W. Jester Park Drive, Granger

(515) 323-5366

Equestrian Center • (515) 999-2818

Golf Course Clubhouse • (515) 999-2903

[www.jesterparknaturecenter.com](http://www.jesterparknaturecenter.com)

Since 1958, Jester Park, with 1,834 acres, has been one of central Iowa's favorite outdoor playgrounds. No other location in central Iowa offers such a variety in outdoor recreation opportunities such as camping, hiking, snowmobiling, horseback riding, picnicking and golfing. More than 250 campsites are available along the lakeshore and among wooded hills. There are five picnic shelters within the park, a boat ramp, eight miles of hiking trails, five miles of snowmobile trails and playgrounds and natural playscapes. At the end of a three-mile-long park drive, you'll be rewarded with a vision of the wildlife that was abundant in Iowa more



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[www.PerryLutheranHomes.org](http://www.PerryLutheranHomes.org)

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than 200 years ago. The bison and elk herds that live in the wildlife enclosures are always a popular attraction.

## High Trestle Trail

[www.hightrestletrail.org](http://www.hightrestletrail.org)

The High Trestle Trail is built on a former railroad bed, previously owned by Union Pacific Railroad. The 25-mile-long trail connects the communities of Ankeny, Sheldahl, Slater, Madrid and Woodward. Its 13-story, half-mile-long bridge over the Des Moines River is one of the largest recreation trail bridges in the world. The original 1912 railroad trestle bridge was rebuilt in 1973 with the concrete piers that still stand. Art elements at the new bridge remind visitors of the area's coal-mining history while enjoying biking, hiking or running.

## Woodward Hardware, Antiques and Toy Museum

123 S. Main St., Woodward • (515) 371-9364

The storefront was created as a general grocery store in the early 1900s and turned into a hardware store in the late 1940s. Today it

continues to serve as a hardware store for the locals. As you walk in, you'll see the history of the antique hand tools, machines, benches and parts from the early 19th century. There is also a hidden treasure in the attic of antique toys, games and rides that will take you back to your childhood and the fun you had playing as a child. Call for appointments.

## Veterans Reception Center

910 Main St., Van Meter • (515) 996-9166

[www.VeteransReceptionCenter.com](http://www.VeteransReceptionCenter.com)

This beautiful new building was built with a focus on providing a free venue for families of veterans after internment services at the Iowa Veterans Cemetery. This facility is also available for use by the general public.

## Minburn Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad Depot

Minburn's brick Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad Depot, rebuilt in 1914 after the original frame building burned down, has been relocated about a half a block but is still alongside the


Raccoon River Valley Trail at the crossing with Highway 169. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the old cargo area has restroom facilities and the waiting room and office area houses a café. Stop and have a bite to eat or drink and sit outside on the patio or stay inside to enjoy the revolving displays of Minburn area history. There is also a working phone booth if you would like to show the younger generation how we kept in touch while traveling without cell phones. A Freedom Rock is located nearby.

## Raccoon River Valley Trail

[www.raccoonrivervalleytrail.org](http://www.raccoonrivervalleytrail.org)


(515) 465-3577

The Raccoon River Valley Trail is a multi-use recreational trail built on a former railroad right-of-way and is 89 miles of paved trail passing through Dallas, Greene and Guthrie counties. The trail passes through 14 communities: Jefferson, Cooper, Herndon, Yale, Panora, Linden, Redfield, Adel, Waukee, Dallas Center, Minburn, Perry, Dawson and Jamaica. A trail user permit is required for trail users 18 years of age and older.



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## Museums, arts & parks

### Dallas County Conservation Board

14581 K Ave., Perry • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

The purpose of the Dallas County Conservation Board is to protect, preserve and enhance the county's natural resources by providing opportunities to improve the public's quality of life through environmental education, ecosystem management, outdoor recreation and historic preservation. Through a wide range of public programs and recreational venues, the board encourages an awareness and appreciation of the environment and cultural heritage.

#### • Big Bend Wildlife Area

Two miles northwest of Redfield • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

Big Bend is a 640-acre wildlife management area adjacent to the Middle Raccoon River and is open to hunting, fishing, bird watching, nature appreciation, canoeing and hiking on undeveloped trails through re-established prairie and an oak-hickory forest. The area teems with native game including rare, protected plant and animal species.

#### • Dawson Depot

307 Railroad Ave., Dawson • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

The old Milwaukee Railroad Depot in Dawson, which was built in 1889, is one of the few surviving Milwaukee Depots, possessing almost all of its original integrity. A historic restoration project on the old rail line directly connects to the Raccoon River Valley Trail and Highway 141. The Dawson Depot serves as a welcoming oasis for weary bicyclists, walkers and joggers and serves as one of the last reminders of a proud past. The old waiting room was converted into a restroom and resting area, while interpretive displays fill the former baggage room.

#### • Forest Park Museum

14581 K Ave., Perry • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

The Forest Park Museum exhibits natural, cultural and historical artifacts of central Iowa, with displays that include early transportation, farming, railroading, blacksmithing, local artists, genealogical references and library resources. On the museum grounds, visitors can explore the Alton School House, the 1860s Grabenhorst log cabin, and a 17-acre arboretum and restored prairie. The grounds connect to the Raccoon River Valley Trail, making it a great place for trail users to take a rest stop detour. Open weekdays year-round (weekends April-October). Free admission.

#### • Glissman Conservation Area

32185 Panther Creek Road, Adel • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

Glissman Conservation Area is approximately 5 miles southwest of Adel along the Raccoon River Greenbelt. The property features 60 acres of oak and hickory woodlands, 2.5 acres of grasslands, and a 7.5-acre pond with plenty of fish. Enjoy the outdoors as you experience a diversity of wildlife and plant species in peaceful seclusion. The Glissman Lodge sleeps up to eight people and features a fully-equipped kitchen, two full bathrooms, and a deck with a beautiful view. Fun for the whole family or a reunion with friends. Available to rent May 1-Oct 31, plus April and November when conditions permit.



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#### • Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Post and Military Museum

1213 Thomas St., Redfield • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

Built in the 1880s, The Grand Army of the Republic Post is the only such building remaining on its original location. The G.A.R. was created to assist widows and children of men who died during the Civil War. Veterans met here to discuss community events and honor their lost comrades. Today this completely restored structure houses a military museum on the ground floor and the refurbished Post Meeting Room on the second floor. Open by appointment.

#### • Hanging Rock

916 Redfield St., Redfield • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

A half-mile south of Redfield, Hanging Rock is comprised of 469 acres and features a landmark, massive outcrop of sandstone. The north half of Hanging Rock features a wildlife refuge and the park, with a picnic shelter, astronomical rock clock and a spur to the Raccoon River Valley Trail. The south half is open for hunting on wetland, prairie and savannah areas.

#### • Kuehn Conservation Area

32828 Houston Trail, Earlham • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

Located approximately 5 miles north of Earlham, Kuehn Conservation Area showcases 770 acres of native and reestablished prairies, riparian and upland forests, a nature center, bird blind, unique geological formations, archaeological sites and interpretive trails. Primitive camping and public hunting, including bow hunting, are available. Kuehn is the site for many outdoor and environmental education programs. Modern restrooms are available.

#### • Redfield Depot

624 First St., Redfield • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

Just as today's four-lane highways provide Dallas County residents with easy access to Des Moines, the railroads of the early part of the 19th century served the same purpose. The Redfield depot stands as a reminder of Dallas County's remarkable railroad history. The Raccoon River Valley Trail was built on the abandoned Chicago Northwestern Railroad line. Now a resting spot for trail users, the depot still provides travelers entry and exit to the town of Redfield. Facilities include restrooms, an indoor rest area and a railroad display. The Redfield Development Commission operates a concession stand on weekends from June 1 – Oct. 30.

#### • Sportsman Park

13821 130th St., Dawson • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

Adjacent to the North Raccoon River, the 40-acre Sportsman Park is ideal for nature trail hikes, picnicking and camping. Two all-season cabins and Sportsman Lodge — an enclosed shelter house that accommodates up to 120 people — are available for rent. The campground allows for primitive tent camping or RV camping and features an on-site camp host, modern shower house and restrooms, handicap-accessible playground and picnic shelters. Located minutes from the Raccoon River Valley Trail.



#### • Trindle Park

3555 Richland Circle, Van Meter

(515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

Trindle Park is a beautifully wooded, secluded park just north of Van Meter, with shelterhouses, playground and modern restrooms. One picnic shelter is available for reservation, and the other is first-come, first-served. See website for seasonal hours.

#### • Voas Nature Area

19286 Lexington Road, Minburn • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

Voas Nature Area is a 705-acre park that is diverse in habitat, including oak and hickory forest, prairies and wetlands. The park has two hunting areas, one for youth only and the other for general public hunting. The habitats create an excellent stage for learning about our natural world. Interpretive programs include tours of the museum, bird watching hikes, prairie programs, geology presentations and cross-country skiing. Modern restrooms are available and admission is free. See website for seasonal hours.

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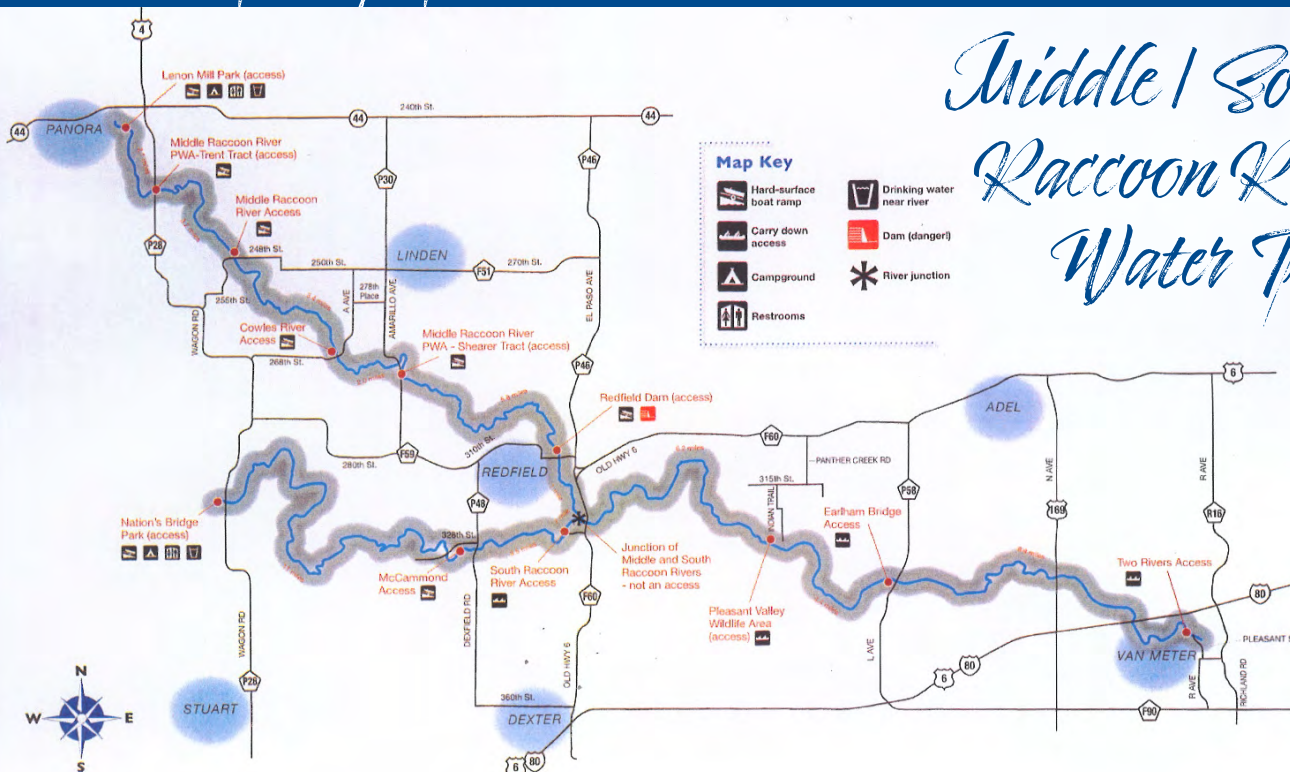
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## Middle / South Raccoon River Water Trail



### Middle / South Raccoon River Water Trail (map above)

The Middle/South Raccoon River Water Trail starts as two water trails that join midway below Redfield. Paddlers can start their float as far upstream in Guthrie County as Lenon Mill Park in Panora on the Middle Raccoon River — just over 17 miles to confluence. This route includes a lowhead dam at Redfield that must be portaged around.

Nation's Bridge Park near Stuart is on the South Raccoon River — just over 15 miles to confluence.

After the two rivers join, the trail continues approximately 19 additional miles to the confluence with the North Raccoon River near Van Meter.

There are five public access areas along this water trail in Dallas County, two of which are managed by the Dallas County Conservation Board.

The Redfield Dam Access is located on the Middle Raccoon River, just upstream from where the two rivers join. The access is below the low-head dam and has a large parking area and concrete boat ramp.

The South Raccoon River Access is located

south of Redfield, just off of F-60 before the confluence. This access area is small and users must carry their watercraft down a gravel pad.

The Pleasant Valley Wildlife Area is managed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. It is located south of F-60 at the end of Indian Trail. It includes a paved boat ramp and maintained parking area.

The Earham Bridge Access is on the southwest side of the the P58 Bridge.

The Two Rivers Access is located in Van Meter at the end of this water trail. North Raccoon River Water Trail (map on [www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)) The North Raccoon River Water Trail enables recreational paddlers to enjoy the North Raccoon River from Vogel Access in northern Sac County to the junction with the Des Moines River in Polk County, a distance of about 180 river miles.

Dallas County Conservation manages four of the nine public access areas along the North Raccoon River in Dallas County. All public accesses have a concrete boat ramp with the name of the access and the distance to the next access, including signs that point out any nearby amenities. To aide in navigation, each bridge over the North Raccoon River has visible signage on the upstream side of the bridge naming the road the paddler is passing under with the distance to

the next access.

- The furthest upstream access in Dallas County is the Dawson Boat Ramp. The Dawson Boat Ramp is located 1 mile north of Dawson along the east side of County Road P46.

- About 6 miles downstream is the Perry Boat Ramp located on the north side of the Highway 141 bridge at the west edge of Perry.

- The next stop is Spring Valley Access 4.5 miles down the river located at the east side of County Road P58.

- Another 5.6 miles takes you to Snyder Access which is on the south side of County Road F31 west of Minburn.

- Highway 44 Access is found 4.8 miles downstream.

- The next access is the Kinnick-Feller Park Access which is 6.4 miles on downstream.

- Downstream .7 mile is Adel Island Park. Both Kinnick-Feller Park Access and Adel Island Park are found at the north edge of Adel. This route includes a lowhead dam that must be portaged around.

- Traveling 7.5 miles downstream from Adel Island Park brings you to Puckerbrush Access. This access is located on the west side of County Road R16 about two miles north of Van Meter.

- Booneville Access is the last access in Dallas County and is another 8.1 miles downstream.



# Lodging & camping

Unique lodging opportunities are available throughout Dallas County. Those preferring an intimate and romantic stay will enjoy bed and breakfast options, while the outdoor types will be pleased with the camping amenities. If a traditional hotel is more your style, you will find a range of options with affordable rates and pleasant accommodations.

## • Dayton Stagecoach Inn

14750 Pecos Court, Bouton • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

Located along the old Des Moines to Fort Dodge stagecoach route, the Dayton Stagecoach Inn was built in 1868. In its history, the building has been an inn, bar and private home. The secluded 10 acres feature 150-year-old oaks, access to Beaver Creek, and is minutes from the High Trestle or Raccoon River Valley Trails. The inn sleeps nine people with three separate bedrooms, has a fully equipped kitchen, and two full bathrooms. Available to rent May 1-Oct. 31, plus April and November when conditions permit.

## • Glissman Lodge

32185 Panther Creek Road, Adel

(515) 465-3577 • [www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

Glissman Conservation Area is approximately 5 miles southwest of Adel along the Raccoon River Greenbelt. The property features 60 acres of oak and hickory woodlands, 2.5 acres of grasslands, and a 7.5-acre pond with plenty of fish. Enjoy the outdoors as you experience a diversity of wildlife and plant species in peaceful seclusion. The Glissman Lodge sleeps up to eight people and features a fully-equipped kitchen, two full bathrooms, and a deck with a beautiful view. Available to rent May 1-Oct. 31, plus April and November when conditions permit.

## • Hotel Pattee

1112 Willis Ave., Suite A, Perry • (515) 465-3511 • [www.hotelpattee.com](http://www.hotelpattee.com)

Known as one of the Finest Historic Boutique Hotels in the World, the Hotel Pattee is a Destination upon itself. The historic property boasts 40 individually decorated and themed guest rooms, a state of the art bowling center, a full service dining room and lounge, and its own dedicated library.

## • Kuehn Conservation Area

32828 Houston Trail, Earlham

(515) 465-3577 • [www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

Located approximately 5 miles north of Earlham, Kuehn Conservation Area showcases 770 acres of native and reestablished prairies, riparian and upland forests, a nature center, unique geological formations, archaeological sites and interpretive trails. Public hunting, including bow hunting, is available. Modern restroom facilities and a water pump are available. Primitive camping is allowed in designated areas.

## • Sportsman Park Cabins and Campground

13821 130th St., Dawson • (515) 465-3577

[www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation](http://www.dallascountyiowa.gov/conservation)

Adjacent to the North Raccoon River, the 40-acre Sportsman Park is ideal for nature trail hikes, picnicking and camping. Sportsman Lodge, an enclosed shelter house that accommodates up to 120 people, is available for rent year round. Two all-season cabins include a full bath, microwave, fridge, heating and air-conditioning. The park has a modern campground with electricity and also primitive tent sites near a modern shower house and restrooms. Sportsman Park has a handicap-accessible playground, on-site camp host, picnic shelters, and is minutes from the Raccoon River Valley Trail.



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# Dining, coffee shops, taverns & halls

Dallas County establishments offer the opportunity to tickle your taste buds with a variety of flavors and styles. Take your pick from cozy neighborhood pubs, intimate tea rooms, aromatic coffee houses, downhome family cafes or a variety of ethnic restaurants. If a glass of wine is what you desire, look no further than our inviting wineries.



## Big Al's BBQ

715 Main St., Adel

(515) 993-5777

1960 Grand Ave., West Des Moines

(515) 267-1227

[www.bigalsbbq.net](http://www.bigalsbbq.net)

Big Al's BBQ began with a dream, a smoker, and a deep love of Southern Style BBQ. They are a family-run, independent restaurant offering high-quality smoked BBQ and homemade sides, in a fun and relaxed environment. They offer a great place to meet, eat and shoot the breeze for lunch or dinner — or cheer on your favorite team during the big game.

## Billy's Ice Cream Store

308 Nile Kinnick Drive S., Adel

(515) 238-2302

Located along the Raccoon River Valley Bike Trail, Billy's Ice Cream Store specializes in Lemons soft serve and all your favorite ice cream treats. Beef burgers and chili dogs are served all day with lunch specials. Billy's is a great place to rest and refresh with a cool treat.

## Patrick's

211 S. Seventh St., Adel

(515) 993-3884

Patrick's Restaurant is located along the Raccoon River Valley Bike Trail in Adel. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served Tuesday through Saturday. Patrick's menu features "good Iowa food" including burgers, steaks and tenderloins. Check out the large selection of homemade pies for dessert.

## Dining list

### ADEL

- **Adel Family Fun Center**  
1526 Greene St.  
(515) 993-3350
- **Big Al's BBQ**  
715 Main St.  
(515) 993-5777
- **Billy's Ice Cream Store**  
308 Nile Kinnick Drive S.  
(515) 238-2302
- **River to River Bakery & Pizza**  
109 N. Ninth St.  
(515) 478-1187
- **Brick Yard Burgers & Brews**  
1802 Greene St.  
(515) 993-4200
- **Casey's Carry Out Pizza**  
816 Greene St.  
(515) 993-5103
- **China Village**  
628 Nile Kinnick Drive S.  
(515) 993-3383
- **Corner Tap**  
921 Main St.  
(515) 993-2240
- **Fiesta Mexican Restaurant**  
815 Main St.  
(515) 993-4404
- **Keasey's Hideaway Lounge**  
911 Court St., Suite C  
(515) 993-3001
- **Kum and Go**  
409 Nile Kinnick Drive S.  
(515) 993-4236
- **Lemon Grass Restaurant**  
909 Main St.  
(515) 993-2031
- **Patrick's**  
211 S. Seventh St.  
(515) 993-3884
- **Penoach Winery**  
26759 N Ave.  
(515) 993-4374
- **Subway**  
310 Nile Kinnick Drive  
(515) 993-3488

### DALLAS CENTER

- **Baker's Pantry**  
904 Sugar Grove Ave.  
(515) 992-3308
- **Casey's Carry Out Pizza**  
1202 Sugar Grove Ave.  
(515) 992-3698
- **The HandleBar**  
1607 Sugar Grove Ave.  
(515) 992-8014
- **Korner Kone**  
502 14th St.  
(515) 992-4053

### DEXTER

- **Casey's Pizza**  
803 State St.  
(515) 789-4284
- **Dexter Café**  
717 Marshall St.  
(515) 505-4424
- **Rusty Duck**  
723 Marshall St.  
(515) 789-4142

### GRANGER

- **Bud's Pub**  
1912 Main St.  
(515) 999-2066
- **Casey's Carry Out Pizza**  
1802 Sycamore St.  
(515) 999-2843
- **Mojitos Mexican Restaurant**  
1902 Main St.  
(515) 999-8021

### MINBURN

- **Nineteen14**  
210 Fourth St.  
(515) 677-2090
- **Lunch Box BBQ Cafe**  
417 Fourth St.  
(Highway 169)  
(515) 677-2030
- **Mudder's**  
104 Fourth St.  
(515) 677-2690

### PERRY

- **Absolutely Delicious**  
First Ave. & Willis Ave.  
(515) 991-3870
- **Bett & Bev's BBQ**  
408 First Ave.  
(515) 642-6999
- **Burger King**  
1319 Highway 141  
(515) 465-5915
- **Casa de Oro**  
1211 Second St.  
(515) 465-8808
- **Casey's Carry Out Pizza**  
2617 Willis Ave.  
(515) 465-3738  
1308 First Ave.  
(515) 465-3803
- **Common Wealth Provisions**  
1215 Second St.  
(515) 642-6200
- **El Rey Market, Restaurant and Guns**  
210 Willis Ave.  
(515) 465-3050
- **El Sabor Mexicano Taco Truck**  
1417 First Ave.  
(515) 612-3726
- **Frio Ice Cream**  
1114 First Ave.
- **Gamble Block Brewery**  
1203 Second St.  
(515) 642-0044  
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- **Hy-Vee Deli**  
1215 141st St.  
(515) 465-5323
- **La Ventura**  
1209 Lucinda St.  
(515) 465-5265
- **Lou's Diner**  
2720 Willis Ave.  
(515) 465-5941
- **Maddie Cakes Bakery**  
1014 Second St.  
(515) 642-6233
- **Mandarin Café**  
1117 Second St.  
(515) 465-2080



# Dining list

## PERRY

- **Mars Dairy bar**  
1421 Second St.  
(515) 465-5235
- **McDonald's**  
325 First Ave.  
(515) 465-9370
- **Metro Buffet**  
405 First Ave.  
(515) 465-9888
- **Mex-To-U**  
1114 First Ave.  
(515) 726-0691
- **Oasis Restaurant**  
1223 Otley Ave.  
(515) 465-4022
- **Pattee Cafe**  
1112 Willis Ave.  
(515) 465-3511
- **Perry Perk Coffee Shop**  
1201 Warford St.  
(515) 897-8035
- **Pizza Hut**  
2812 Willis Ave.  
(515) 465-5666
- **Subway**  
418 First St.  
(515) 465-3607
- **Taqueria Villa**  
1319 Second St.  
(515) 465-4266
- **The Proletariat**  
1213 Second St.  
(515) 642-6200
- **Tin Pig Tavern**  
1201 Second St.  
(515) 642-0044

## REDFIELD

- **Casey's Carry Out Pizza**  
425 Second St.  
(515) 833-2983
- **The Dairy Shoppe**  
617 First St.  
(515) 833-2815

## VAN METER

- **5th Quarter**  
420 Mil St.  
(515) 996-9258
- **Fat Randi's Bar & Grill**  
415 Grant St.  
(515) 996-9400
- **Casey's**  
700 Debra Drive  
(515) 996-2983

## WAUKEE

- **B-Bop's**  
855 E. Hickman Road  
(515) 987-9092
- **Burger King**  
450 E. Hickman Road  
(515) 987-6445
- **Caffrey's Sports Pub**  
1320 Hickman Road  
(515) 987-0512
- **Caribou Coffee**  
1025 E. Hickman Road  
(515) 987-7405
- **Casey's Carry Out Pizza**  
20 Hickman Road  
(515) 987-6753  
870 N.E. Alice's Road  
(515) 216-2297
- **Central Standard**  
1222 S.E. University Ave.  
(515) 987-0095
- **The Coffeesmith**  
770 S.E. Alice's Road  
(515) 447-5137

## WAUKEE

- **Culver's**  
455 E. Hickman Road  
(515) 410-9530
- **Dairy Queen Grill and Chill**  
220 E. Hickman Road  
(515) 987-7801
- **Dunn Brothers Coffee**  
1196 S.E. University Ave.  
(515) 987-9112

## WAUKEE

- **Echo's Cookie Shop**  
272 W. Hickman Road  
(515) 508-1273
- **Fresh Mediterranean Express**  
15 N.E. Carefree Lane  
(515) 987-6870
- **Gastro Grub & Pub**  
1378 E. Hickman Road  
(515) 300-2460
- **IHOP**  
150 S.E. Alice's Road  
(515) 518-3449
- **Indian Tadka**  
280 W. Hickman Road  
(515) 987-3165
- **Jimmy Johns**  
105 N. Warrior Lane  
(515) 987-4811  
1160 S.E. Ashworth Road  
(515) 300-2500
- **Kenny's Garage**  
605 Ashworth Drive  
(515) 987-0161
- **The Kee**  
360 Sixth St.  
(515) 518-2820
- **K'ued Smokehouse**  
245 Hickman Road  
(515) 987-4972
- **Kum and Go**  
350 S.E. University Ave.  
(515) 987-2659  
650 Hickman Road  
(515) 300-2201  
3105 Grand Prairie Parkway  
(515) 987-0556
- **Los Tres Amigos**  
63 N.E. Carefree Lane  
(515) 987-0393
- **Marco's Pizza**  
1202 S.E. University Ave.  
(515) 400-1007

## WAUKEE

- **McDonald's**  
125 E. Laurel St.  
(515) 987-3621
- **Mickey's Irish Pub**  
50 E. Laurel St.  
(515) 987-9604
- **Monterrey Express**  
757 S.E. Alice's Road  
(515) 695-0191
- **Pancheros Mexican Grill**  
757 E. Hickman Road  
(515) 987-7557
- **Pizza Hut**  
276 W. Hickman Road  
(515) 987-3637
- **Pizza Ranch**  
448 S.E. University Ave.  
(515) 978-6603
- **Poncho's**  
292 Hickman Road  
(515) 633-7226
- **Rosati's Pizza**  
1165 S.E. Alice's Road  
(515) 987-2556
- **Rube's Steakhouse**  
3309 Ute Ave.  
(515) 987-8237
- **Saints Pub + Patio**  
87 N.E. Carefree Lane  
(515) 216-1654
- **Scooters Coffee**  
122 W. Hickman Road  
(515) 452-0033
- **Scornovacca's**  
286 Hickman Road  
(515) 344-5075
- **Shanghai Chinese**  
33 N.E. Carefree Lane  
(515) 987-3111
- **Smokey Row**  
2855 Grand Prairie Parkway  
(515) 695-3092  
155 Hickman Road  
(515) 695-3143

## WAUKEE

- **Subway**  
17 N.E. Carefree Lane  
(515) 987-4448
- **Taco Bell**  
95 E. Hickman Road  
(641) 840-1717
- **Taco Johns**  
205 Hickman Road  
(515) 216-2204
- **Tropical Sno Waukee**  
465 S.E. University  
(515) 822-6955
- **Tsing Tsao**  
160 Laurel St., Warrior Plaza  
(515) 987-6017
- **Wahlburgers @ Hy-Vee**  
1005 Hickman Road  
(515) 216-2772
- **Which Wich Sandwiches**  
727 S.E. Alice's Road  
(515) 987-3143

## WOODWARD

- **Casey's Carry Out Pizza**  
906 S. Main St.  
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# Communities

With traditional population centers in the north and central portions of the county and a booming suburban area on the east, Dallas County has unique and diverse traffic patterns. Located only minutes from the Des Moines metro, but still having cornfields in many backyards, Dallas County truly provides an unmatched combination of rural and urban living.



• **Adel:** With a small-town vibe and proximity to Des Moines' metro, Adel is a vibrant, charming and thriving place to live, work and play. There's ample recreational opportunities at great city parks, the Dallas County Fairgrounds and the Raccoon River and the Raccoon River Valley Trail. Adel offers a great mix of culture and history, is the birthplace of Nile Kinnick, is the Dallas County seat and features a long-standing brickyard, brick structures and brick streets. Visit during the summer for monthly concerts and the Annual Sweet Corn Festival. Come and see for yourself why Adel is not just a place to visit, it's a place to thrive.

• **Dallas Center:** "Quietly Progressive" is the Dallas Center City motto. It was founded more than 125 years ago and has grown to more than 1,900 people. It is located about 20 miles northwest of Des Moines. The residents love and respect the past and are gently moving forward with plans to keep the city sound and fun while incorporating new ideas. The spiritual community is a comfort and collaboration of several churches and denominations that work together to make themselves better characters and provide support to those in need. Residents love the small town panache with all the seasonal activities that makes it feel like part of the Heartland.

• **Dawson:** A quiet community with 133 residents and located along Iowa

Highway 141, Dawson offers a boat ramp at the North Raccoon River, a well-maintained city park, a fun play park and an updated community center. The restored depot welcomes those using the Raccoon River Valley Trail to town. Dawson is only about 1 mile from Sportsman Park, a 40-acre park of oak and hickory timber overlooking the North Raccoon River where you might enjoy fishing, hiking along the nature trails, picnicking or camping.

• **De Soto:** Home to more than 1,000 residents, De Soto is located immediately south of U.S. Interstate 80 on U.S. Highway 169, just 15 miles from West Des Moines at exit 110. Established in 1868, De Soto residents take great pride in their small-town values.

• **Dexter:** Dexter, the "Original One Horse Town," is one of the oldest towns in Dallas County. Having been platted in 1868, it celebrated its sesquicentennial in 2018. There is an amazing amount of history to explore as you begin the drive along the White Pole Road at I-80 exit 100. Travel west into town and stop at the Dexter Museum and Historic Roundhouse. A historical marker at the Roundhouse will give you a brief history of the 100-year-old building. A quick trip north of town will bring you to three more historical markers. The first marker indicates the site of the 1948

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National Plowing Match with President Harry S. Truman in attendance. The second and third give information on the 1933 Bonnie and Clyde shoot-out and Dexfield Park, one of Iowa's largest amusement parks from 1916 to the early 1930s. With its updated main street, Dexter provides a nice escape from the busyness, noise and bright lights of the metro area, which is a quick 25 minutes away.

• **Granger:** Established in 1885, Granger's history is rooted in agriculture, railroads, coal mines, circuses and the Granger Homesteads. Because of its location close to excellent recreational activities such as three golf courses, Jester Park and Saylorville Lake, there are ample opportunities for relaxing-to-vigorous activities for individuals of all ages. Located next to Highways 141 and 17, Granger has become one of the fastest growing cities in the state of Iowa and the metro area. It maintains the charm of a small town and is only minutes from Des Moines.

• **Grimes:** Straddling the borders of Dallas and Polk counties, Grimes is a fast-growing community. As such, Grimes has many new destinations that make the community a great place to visit. Some of these destinations include: Beaver Creek Golf Club, Tournament Club of Iowa, Hyperion Golf Course, Climb Iowa, Curry's Des Moines Camping Club, Sky Zone, Pole Position Raceway, Ignit Sports & Fitness, Old School Pinball & Arcade, and AmericInn. Stay for a weekend or a week and take advantage of all the fun and exciting things the community has to offer.

• **Linden:** Located along the Raccoon River Valley, Linden has a well-maintained city park, community building, baseball field and shelter house. Water enthusiasts have two nearby access points to the Middle Raccoon River.

• **Minburn:** True to its motto, Minburn is the

"Small Town with a Big Heart." Town residents and their rural neighbors maintain a strong sense of history and community. Volunteer efforts enable the traditional celebrations and events once found in small towns everywhere to continue to be enjoyed by generation after generation here. Celebrate the holidays and enjoy the outdoor concerts and roller skating. The town's historic brick Railroad Depot was relocated and renovated into a trailhead for the Raccoon River Valley Trail and includes a cafe, which houses local museum items. Visit the Dallas County Freedom Rock nearby. Just west of Minburn is the Voas Nature Area, an excellent place to experience what the Minburn area landscape used to look like.

• **Perry:** Designated as one of Iowa's "Great Places," Perry boasts a combination of arts, history, culture, commerce and recreation, unmatched to any other of its size! Perry's walkable downtown is home to more than 30 buildings on the National Register of Historic Places, multiple arts and cultural festivals, as well as several murals and public art pieces, including four sculptures along the Willis Avenue boulevard that pay tribute to Perry's historical ties to the railroad, agriculture, industry and the arts. Discover the many treasures of the Downtown Perry Historical & Cultural District, including a boutique hotel, unique shops, destination dining, photo opportunities, and access to miles of paved trails. Whether just for a day, or as an extended stay: Perry will welcome and wow you!

• **Redfield:** Redfield, established in 1860, sits on the Middle Raccoon River, site of one of the few low-head dams remaining in Iowa. The fishing is popular and usually successful. Named for Lt. Col. James Redfield, an early settler who served in the 39th Iowa Infantry during the Civil War, the community boasts a rare Grand Army of

the Republic Post with a military museum, the Raccoon River Valley Bike Trail and Depot, a fine library and City Park and Hanging Rock Park on the Raccoon River. The Redfield Historical Museum is now open Saturdays and by appointment. Come see Redfield, and you'll find hiking, biking, canoeing, fishing, bird watching, excellent rural scenery and friendly people.

• **Van Meter:** Conveniently located just minutes from West Des Moines, Van Meter provides small-town living with access to "big city" amenities. A picturesque community situated near the Raccoon River, Van Meter prides itself on its quality of life and services provided by local foundations, volunteers and boards. It is neighbor to the Iowa Veterans Cemetery.

• **Waukee:** The City of Waukee is recognized as one of the fastest growing cities in Iowa and is located in Dallas County — one of the fastest growing counties in the U.S. The population now exceeds 20,000 residents. Waukee offers a family-friendly environment featuring quality parks, schools and trails. The City is also dedicated to economic development and expanding business opportunities. For more information, visit [www.Waukee.org](http://www.Waukee.org).

• **Woodward:** Woodward was established in 1883 as a railroad community. Today, that railroad line bed has become the High Trestle Trail, a recreational trail from Woodward to Ankeny, which crosses the Des Moines River Valley on the spectacular High Trestle Bridge located just east of Woodward. People come to enjoy the view and artwork of the bridge. The old depot has been restored as the western gateway to the High Trestle Trail and Woodward Trailhead. Woodward also offers a unique combination of shopping and dining, as well as rural businesses offering handmade items, gifts, farm-fresh products and more.

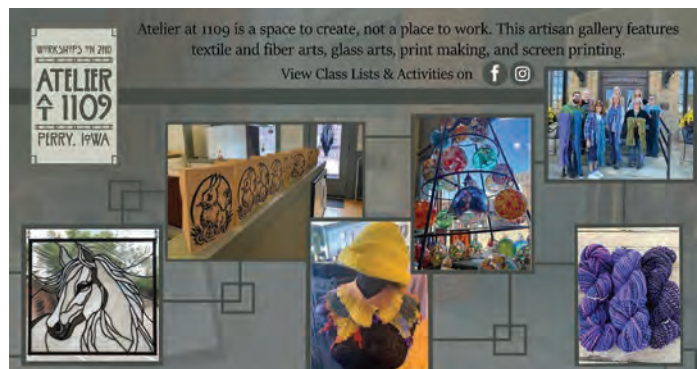


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