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## Wisconsin's Shopping Place<sup>®</sup>

The Fox Cities are Wisconsin's shopping place. Fox River Mall, Wisconsin's second largest shopping mall, features more than 180 retailers and 1.2 million feet of retail space. Beyond the mall, the downtowns of Appleton and Neenah feature specialty retailers and galleries sure to please even the most discerning shopper with unique items and personal service. Top off your shopping experience by exploring some of the best antique dealers in Wisconsin.

### **Fox River Mall**

Major chains such as Gap, Banana Republic, Williams Sonoma, J.Jill, Coldwater Creek, Godiva and Macy's make their home in this Town of Grand Chute mall. Visit the unique Scheel's All Sports featuring a museum-like display of guns, a country store and an excellent selection of leading sporting goods and "home team" apparel.

### **Downtown Appleton**

Explore the wonderful dining, retail, gallery and nightlife options in the cultural heart of the Fox Cities. Downtown Appleton includes:

### **Fox Cities Performing Arts Center**

This state-of-the-art center serves the cultural, educational and entertainment needs of the community.

### **The Building for Kids**

The Building for Kids children's museum presents the opportunity for children and parents to play, laugh, learn and explore together. The brightly colored museum hosts hands-on exhibits that arouse children's curiosity and invite them to learn by doing. A 2-story tree house is the centerpiece of the building accompanied by a water play area, a mini Kwik Trip, "The Happy Baby Garden" designed especially for children aged 0-3, the Amazing Heart, Grandma's Attic, and other educational exhibits. Located at the intersection of College Avenue and Appleton Street in Downtown Appleton.

### **Hearthstone Historic House Museum**

Hearthstone Historic House Museum, the world's first home lighted by a central hydroelectric station, still utilizes the house's original Thomas Edison light fixtures and period "electroliers". The lower level features a hands-on hydroelectric center and intricate interior woodwork hand carved from Wisconsin woods, nine charming fireplaces and exquisite stained glass windows add to the elegance of this splendid Victorian mansion located on the banks of the majestic Fox River.

### **The History Museum at the Castle**

The History Museum at the Castle in Downtown Appleton features exhibits on early life and industry in the area and includes an extensive exhibit of the life and illusions of native Harry Houdini.

### **Appleton Art Center**

An innovative community gallery located in downtown Appleton featuring changing exhibits of international, national and local artists in all media.

### **Neenah/Menasha**

Discover the papermaking and geologic history of the Fox Cities in these “twin cities” along the shores of Lake Winnebago and the Fox River.

### **Bergstrom-Mahler Museum**

Housed in a vintage mansion on Lake Winnebago in Neenah, this museum has the world’s largest and most representative glass paperweight collection as well as an exquisite Germanic Glass display. The museum recently revealed its interactive gateway, which allows visitors opportunities to create virtual paperweights and learn paperweight and Fox Cities history. Bergstrom-Mahler Museum also hosts a variety of guest exhibitions including contemporary glass, painting, photography, sculpture, textiles and more.

### **Barlow Planetarium**

One of only 29 in the world with similar capabilities, the world-class 98-seat facility boasts state-of-the-art technology and equipment. The planetarium features awesome and exciting shows about stars, galaxies and planets in a three-dimensional setting. The new **Curler Science Gallery**, designed to inform visitors about the latest space happenings, is located in the planetarium's lobby. The Barlow Planetarium is located at the University of Wisconsin – Fox Valley.

### **Weis Earth Science Museum**

The official state museum of geology features interactive learning tools and self-guided tours offering information about fossils, geology, paleontology and agriculture. Located on the campus of UW Fox Valley in Menasha.

### **Other stops along the way:**

#### **1000 Islands Environmental Center**

Located along the picturesque Fox River in Kaukauna, 1000 Islands Environmental Center brings out the nature lover in everyone! Visitors can take in the majestic Fox River with a stroll along riverbank trails or a hike through the nearby woods. Visitors are encouraged to keep an eye to the skies for a chance to see the many bald eagles that reside at 1000 Islands. Inside the nature center visitors will find trophy mounts from North America, Africa and Asia.

#### **Wisconsin International Raceway**

Speedsters of all ages will thrill to stock car and drag racing at one of the Midwest's premier racing sites. Racers flock from all over to compete at this temple of speed in Kaukauna. In addition to stock car and drag racing WIR also features figure 8's, the exciting Red, White & Blue race series and the infamous Eve of Destruction. Racing is scheduled from April to October.

**Simon's Cheese**

Get a close up look at Wisconsin's dairy industry heritage at this large manufacturer of specialty cheeses. Watch a video of cheese production, sample a variety of freshly made cheeses, enjoy a quick lunch and shop for Wisconsin-themed gifts in the gift shop. Located in just off US Highway 41 in Little Chute.

**Funset Boulevard**

An amazing Hollywood-themed restaurant, mini golf, laser tag, video games, bumper cars, a full-size carousel and movie theatres are all housed in this 90,000-square foot family entertainment center.

**Fox Cities Stadium/Wisconsin Timber Rattlers**

Baseball the way it was meant to be, with approachable players and affordable family fun. The Wisconsin Timber Rattlers are the Class A affiliates of the Seattle Mariners. The Timber Rattlers were honored with Baseball America's 1996 Bob Freitas Award recognizing them as the top minor league club at the "A" classification.

Fox Cities Stadium has also hosted the WIAA Division III Baseball Championships, state and regional baseball tournaments, as well as many charity events and concerts.

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## **Fox Cities Stats**

### **The Fox Cities**

The Fox Cities are eighteen communities located along the Fox River in eastern Wisconsin. They are: Appleton, Clayton, Combined Locks, Kaukauna, Kimberly, Little Chute, Menasha, Neenah, Buchanan, Freedom, Grand Chute, Greenville, Harrison, Sherwood, Town of Menasha, Town of Neenah, Vandenbroek and Woodville.

### **Location**

- 90 minutes north of Milwaukee
- 30 minutes south of Green Bay
- 3 hours north of Chicago
- 5.5 hours east of Minneapolis

### **Population**

222,000

### **Total hotel rooms**

3,071

### **Exhibit space**

50,000 square feet

### **Largest room block**

350

### **Largest single meeting facility**

36,000 square feet

### **Airport**

Outagamie County Regional Airport (ATW) located in the Town of Greenville with service from Northwest, United, Delta and Midwest Airlines

### **Major Highways**

- US 41
- US 10
- US 76

### **Largest Employers (Private Sector)**

- Kimberly-Clark Corporation – personal care products
- ThedaCare, Inc – community hospital system
- Affinity Health System – health care system
- Georgia Pacific – consumer paper products
- Plexus Corp – electronics
- Thrivent Financial for Lutherans – financial services
- R.R. Donnelley (formerly Banta Corporation) – printing and supply chain management
- International Paper – paper/packaging
- Appleton, Inc. – carbonless and specialty paper product

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## **Fox Cities Backgrounder**

### **The Fox Cities of Wisconsin**

The Fox Cities are eighteen communities along the Fox River in Eastern Wisconsin. One of the state's fastest growing areas with more than 222,000 residents, the Fox Cities offer a thriving metropolitan area closely surrounded by incredible natural beauty.

A rich paper-making history that dates to the 1830's when the first settlers began to tame the wild and fast flowing river still provides the economic backbone to the area. A large, well-educated work force has drawn many other industries including health care, financial services and manufacturing.

With economic success has sprung a strong retail base, a thriving arts community and a growing mix of dining, entertainment and cultural opportunities.

Each community of the Fox Cities brings its own special history and personality, making the area a unique blend of urban style and small town warmth.

### **City of Appleton**

***Incorporated: 1857***

***County: Outagamie, Calumet, Winnebago***

***Population (2000 Census): 70,087***

The heart of Wisconsin's Fox Cities, Appleton is a community known for its quality of life. A bustling economy, low crime rate and bountiful recreational opportunities make Appleton a great place to visit and live. Appleton's eclectic downtown is home to several specialty retail shops, fine dining and a wide array of ethnic eateries. At the east end of downtown is Lawrence University, a leading liberal arts college that attracts students from around the world.

Appleton was home to escape artist Harry Houdini and celebrated author Edna Ferber. The History Museum at the Castle in Appleton highlights the lives of both in permanent displays. Another Appleton attraction is the Hearthstone Historical House Museum, the world's first home to be lit by a hydroelectric center.

### **City of Kaukauna**

***Incorporated: 1885***

***County: Outagamie***

***Population (2000 Census): 12,983***

The City of Kaukauna is located on the picturesque Fox River between the waters of Green Bay and Lake Winnebago. These fast flowing waters provide the exceptional hydroelectric capabilities that enable the city-owned electric utility to offer the lowest electrical rates in the state. The ever-flowing Fox River provides Kaukauna with outstanding scenery and fishing opportunities, as well as making it a key papermaking city.

The community offers many fine attractions such as 1000 Islands Environmental Center, a 320 acre nature and education preserve, the historic Grignon Mansion, home to Kaukauna pioneer and fur trader Charles Grignon, many fine shops and restaurants, and a trail system that features a nine piece bronze sculpture garden and the Fox Locks Heritage Trail.

### **City of Menasha**

***Incorporated: 1874***

***County: Winnebago, Calumet***

***Population (2000 Census): 16,331***

Located on the north shore of Wisconsin's largest inland lake, Menasha enjoys a beautiful waterfront setting. This navigable waterway running through the heart of Menasha provides recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike. Waterpower afforded by the Fox River helped establish Menasha as an industrial center in the mid to late 19th century. Its industrial heritage carries through to today with the paper industry providing the economic underpinnings of the city and the area.

Menasha retains elements of its historic character in a rejuvenated downtown and has reoriented itself to the waterfront with an 87-slip marina and condominium project. Impressive community parks and the Heckrodt Wetland Reserve reflect the city's commitment to provide opportunities for everyone to enjoy its abundant resources.

### **City of Neenah**

***Incorporated: 1873***

***County: Winnebago***

***Population (2000 Census): 24,507***

Whether you're looking for a place to live or do business, Neenah offers something special for everyone. The metro area's business climate has earned it the ranking of third best market for business development among all small metropolitan areas in the nation, based on a survey of entrepreneurs starting or growing a business.

Neenah's nationally recognized historic downtown is a delightful, friendly place to shop. At the end of downtown, historic mansions of the "paper barons" of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century surround Riverside Park and Kimberly Point Park offering a spectacular architectural walking tour along Lake Winnebago and the Fox River. The Bergstrom-Mahler Museum, former home to the paper industry's Bergstrom family, houses the world's largest collection of glass paperweights as well as featuring traveling displays.

### **Village of Combined Locks**

***Incorporated: 1920***

***County: Outagamie***

***Population (2000) Census: 2,422***

Combined Locks is the smallest incorporated community in the Fox Cities with a quality of life unique to the area. It is considered a quiet, peaceful "bedroom community" yet is the proud home of two of the area's most dynamic employers - U.S. Oil and Appleton, Inc.

It is growing rapidly yet retains ample acreage of wooded and ravine filled parklands to insure tranquil green spaces in an ever-expanding urban environment.

It is a small community made up of caring people . . . and a great place to live.

### **Village of Kimberly**

***Incorporated: 1910***

***County: Outagamie***

***Population (2000 Census): 6,360***

Kimberly offers the surrealism of life along the banks of the Fox River in a suburban setting that has maintained its small town atmosphere in the "Heart of the Fox Cities." One of the largest parks in the Fox Cities, Sunset Point Park, is a frequent host to the International Softball Congress (ISC) World Tournament as well as home to the Kimberly Amphitheatre, nature trails, boat landings and well-maintained recreation areas.

The quality of life has gained Kimberly a reputation for excellent housing and schools Prosperity and growth abound in this picturesque community whose citizens continue to work together to maintain their reputation as "The Progressive Community."

### **Village of Little Chute**

***Incorporated: 1899***

***County: Outagamie***

***Population (2000 Census): 10,476***

Nestled in the heart of the Fox Cities, just east of Appleton, the village of Little Chute combines a pleasant small-town atmosphere with all the amenities of a larger metropolitan area.

The village is blessed with an abundance of natural resources - including the historic Fox River on its southern border.

While larger cities are just a short drive away, the Village of Little Chute offers a wonderful quality of life and is truly "on the river and on the way."

### **Village of Sherwood**

***Incorporated: 1968***

***County: Calumet***

***Population (2005): 2,188***

Sherwood, nestled between the rolling green farmlands of Calumet County and the sparkling waters of Lake Winnebago, is overlooked by the exposed Niagara Escarpment which offers a pleasant view of the area. Sherwood features a dynamic community of retail, agricultural, and recreational businesses, with a wide selection high quality housing.

### **Town of Buchanan**

***Incorporated: 1858***

***County: Outagamie***

***Population (2000 Census): 5,827***

The Town of Buchanan was established in January 1858 at an adjourned session of the County Board of Outagamie County. The resolution creating the new town provided that the first annual meeting be held at the local schoolhouse. Buchanan's name derived from then president James Buchanan. The town continues to be one of the fastest growing residential and commercial areas in Outagamie County.

### **Town of Clayton**

***County: Winnebago***

***Population (2000 Census): 2,974***

One of the fastest growing communities in the Fox Cities, the Town of Clayton marks the western boundary of the area. Beautiful residential development and the WIOUWASH Recreational Trail add to Clayton's appeal.

### **Town of Freedom**

***Incorporated: 1852***

***County: Outagamie***

***Population (2000 Census): 5,241***

Located halfway between Green Bay and Appleton, the Town of Freedom was formed in 1852 and soon after settled by the Irish, Dutch and German. Named by a grateful runaway slave, Freedom was originally called "Sangola," an Indian name meaning "good morning." Historically a small, successful farming community, Freedom is now a booming residential area.

### **Town of Grand Chute**

***Founded: 1849***

***County: Outagamie***

***Population (2000 Census): 18,392***

The Town of Grand Chute combines the charm of a rural community with the amenities of a larger urban area. With U.S. Highway 41 intersecting the town, Grand Chute is the commercial hub of the Fox Cities. Fox River Mall, with over 1 million square feet of shopping space is one of the largest shopping centers in the State. In and around the Highway 41 corridor are a variety of shopping, dining, entertainment and indoor recreational opportunities.

For family entertainment, Grand Chute offers Fox Cities Stadium, home of the Wisconsin Timber Rattlers, the Seattle Mariners' Class "A" minor league affiliate.

Grand Chute also features a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities such as disc golf at Plamann Park and Bubolz Nature Preserve - a 600-acre environmental center.

Whether you are looking for the relaxation of a small town or something more exciting, the Town of Grand Chute has it for you.

### **Town of Greenville**

***Founded: 1848***

***County: Outagamie***

***Population (2000 Census): 6,844***

Town of Greenville, located west of Grand Chute is the fastest growing commercial area of the state, while retaining its rich farming heritage.

Greenville is home to the Outagamie County Airport (ATW), and is currently developing a 58-acre family recreation area featuring a Wisconsin agricultural theme.

Historic buildings such as the Greenville Grange now serve as a community gathering places, while the former train station and hotel has been transformed into the Greenville Station restaurant.

### **Town of Harrison**

***Founded: 1853***

***County: Calumet***

***Population (2000 Census): 5,037***

The Town of Harrison is located on the northeast shore of Lake Winnebago and represents one of the fastest growing areas of the Fox Cities. Its ideal location near the lake makes it desirable for residential and commercial development.

The Town of Harrison was chartered in 1853, at which time the township was known as the Town of Lima. Since that first Town meeting on the "Pratt" farm south of Sherwood, the Town of Harrison has become a thriving community of 5037 residents in 2000. Census information received recently indicates that the current population is now approximately 7389 individuals. Harrison encompasses some 30 square miles of land and 80 miles of town roads.

### **Town of Menasha**

***Founded: 1854***

***County: Winnebago***

***Population (2000 Census): 15,858***

Thriving on the picturesque banks of Little Lake Butte des Morts, the Town of Menasha "bridges" the Fox Cities into the future. Home to several Fortune 500 companies, the Town's dynamic growth affords its residents the charm and amenities of small town life in an urban setting. The Town's low tax rate allows for various housing opportunities and superior municipal services, including a nationally accredited police department and top-ten ranked statewide fire department.

With over 200 acres of pristine parkland, including the recent addition of three paved miles of pedestrian/bicycle trails, the Town offers year-round recreational activities for the entire family. At the center of several new transportation corridors, including US Highway 10 and County Highway CB, the Town is an ideal location for residential and commercial development. A progressive community with a proud past, the Town always encourages quality development to preserve what the residents and businesses expect as their high quality of life.

### **Town of Neenah**

***Founded: 1848***

***County: Winnebago***

***Population (2000 Census): 2,657***

Rustic, quaint and semi-rural are the adjectives best describing the Town of Neenah. The Town's fields, meadows, lakefront and wetlands lend to the Green Belt running on both sides of the City of Neenah.

Neighborhoods evolving along the shores of Lake Winnebago possess unique characteristics contributing to the Town's rural feel. Winding and rustic roads host a variety of activities from hiking to biking.

**Town of Vandebroek**

***Founded: 1902***

***County: Outagamie***

***Population (2000 Census): 1,351***

The Town of Vandebroek is located along Hwy. 41 nestled between Kaukauna and Little Chute. The township, founded in 1902, is named after Father Van den Broek, a Dutch priest who came to America in 1832 and settled in what later became the Village of Little Chute. Today the Town of Vandebroek encompasses 8-9 square miles of farmland and continues to experience steady growth.

**Town of Woodville**

***County: Calumet***

***Population (2000 Census): 993***

The Town of Woodville is located at the north end of Calumet County. A portion of the Village of Hilbert lies in Woodville, as does all of the unincorporated community of St. John. Woodville is proud of its agricultural activity and its open landscape.

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