



A Brief Look at Chisago County History

Chisago County was established in 1851, seven years before Minnesota became a state. The county seat, first at Taylors Falls, moved to Chisago City in 1865

and to Center City in 1875. The wood-frame courthouse built at Center City in 1876 stood at the site of the new Government Center until 1990 when it was moved to Taylors Falls.

The St. Croix River which forms the county's eastern boundary brought the earliest settlers to the area. The Dakota and Ojibway were largely gone when the first white settlers appeared. Europeans arrived from the north as early as 1680. French fur traders following the same route southward from Lake Superior established trading posts along the river as far south as Taylors Falls in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. In the late 1880s the first sawmills were built along the St. Croix. The logging industry boomed into the twentieth century.

Among the first permanent settlers was a party of Swedes who traveled upriver from Illinois in 1851 and established a colony at Center City. This colony was made famous by Swedish writer Vilhelm Moberg in his novels the *Emigrants*, *Unto a Good Land* and *The Last Letter Home*.

Farming, begun in the 1850s, was a focus until the 1890s when vacationers discovered the county's bountiful lakes and rivers. Today it is the beauty of the Dalles of the St. Croix, its park system and abundant recreational areas that bring visitors to the county.

By Lloyd Hackel

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County of Chisago

2018 INFORMATION GUIDE



Visit our Website at:
www.chisagocounty.us

**For Employment Opportunities:
Call our Job Line at: 651-213-8860**

Chisago County Government Center

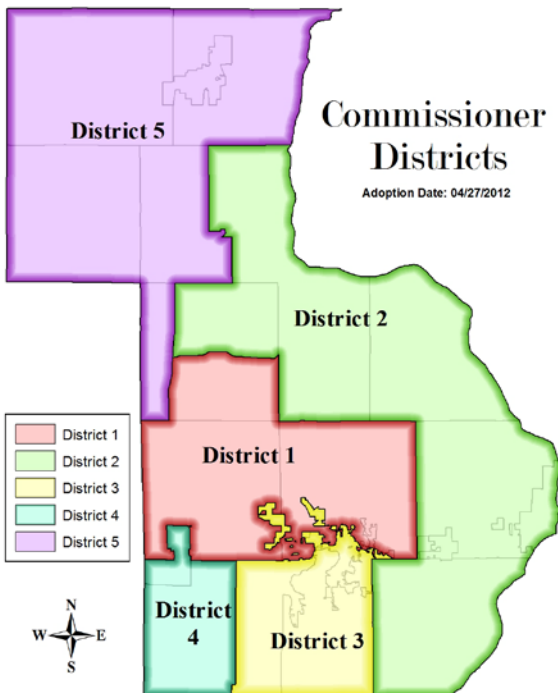
313 North Main Street
Center City, MN 55012

651-257-1300

674-4433

888/234-1246

DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY



CHISAGO COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS

District #1 (213-8831)
Lora Walker
P. O. Box 105
Stacy, MN 55079
651-462-9308

District #2 (213-8832)
Rick Greene, Vice
37655 Oriole Avenue
North Branch, MN 55056
651-583-2513

District #3 (213-8833)
George McMahon, Chair
27720 Woodland Drive
Chisago City, MN 55013
651-257-2701

District #4 (213-8834)
Ben Montzka
P. O. Box 307
Wyoming, MN 55092
651-464-8515

District #5 (213-8835)
Mike Robinson
P.O. Box 23
Rush City, MN 55069
320-358-3223

Administration	Bruce Messelt
.....	651-213-8830
Board of Commissioners.....	651-213-8830
Assessor	John Keefe
.....	651-213-8550
Attorney	Janet Reiter
.....	651-213-8400
Auditor-Treasurer.....	Dennis Freed
.....	651-213-8500
Court Administration	Kathleen Karnowski
.....	651-213-8650
Emergency Management.....	Scott Sellman
.....	651-775-9973 or 651-213-6313
Extension Services	651-277-0151
Heartland Express	
Transit Director	Paul Smith
.....	763-689-8130
Human Resources	Renee Kirchner
.....	651-213-8866
HHS - Human Services.....	Nancy Dahlin
.....	651-213-5600
Household Hazardous Waste Facility, North Branch	
.....	651-237-0912
Parks Services.....	Laird Mork
.....	651-674-2345
Probation	Amy Chavez
.....	651-213-8350
Public Health/Nursing	Courtney Wehrenberg
.....	651-213-5200
Public Works/Highway	Joe Triplett
.....	651-213-8700
Recorder	Janet Converse
.....	651-213-8580
Sheriff	Brandon Thyen
.....	651-257-4100
Veterans Services.....	Bryan Brown
.....	651-213-5600
Zoning/Environmental.....	Kurt Schneider
.....	651-213-8370
HRA-EDA Executive Director.....	Nancy Hoffman
Located in North Branch	651-674-5664

City Offices

Center City	651-257-5284
Box 245, 300 N. Center Avenue, Center City, MN 55012	
Chisago City	651-257-4162
Box 611, 10625 Railroad Ave, Chisago City, MN 55013	
Harris	651-674-7546
Box 111, 43970 Ginger Avenue, Harris, MN 55032	
Lindstrom	651-257-0620
13292 Sylvan Ave, Lindstrom, MN 55045	
North Branch	651-674-8113
Box 910, 6408 Elm St, North Branch, MN 55056	
Rush City	320-358-4743
Box 556, 325 S. Eliot, Rush City, MN 55069	
Shafer	651-257-4726
17656 303 rd Street, Shafer, MN 55074	
Stacy	651-462-4486
30955 Forest Blvd, Stacy, MN 55079	
Taylor Falls	651-465-5133
637 First Street, Taylor Falls, MN 55084	
Wyoming	651-462-0575
Box 188, 26855 Forest Blvd, Wyoming, MN 55092	

Township Offices

Amador	651-583-3108
37475 Park Trail, Almelund, MN 55012	
Chisago Lake	651-257-6906
Box 649, 12400 316 th Street, Lindstrom, MN 55045	
Fish Lake	651-674-7709
2170 Brunswick Road, Harris, MN 55032	
Franconia	651-257-5855
Box 175, 25156 St. Croix Trl N, Shafer, MN 55074	
Lent	651-462-3009
33155 Hemingway Ave., Stacy, MN 55079	
Nessel	320-396-2702
49205 Acacia Trail, Stanchfield, MN 55080	
Rushseba	320-358-3543
51445 Forest Blvd., Rush City, MN 55069	
Mailing Address: Box 481, Rush City, MN 55069	
Shafer	651-583-2168
18259 St Croix Trail, Shafer, MN 55074	
Sunrise	651-674-6046
Box 933, 41275 Oak St, North Branch, MN 55056	