

<u>Community</u>

The heart and life of Medford (population 4,300—with about 34,000 people within a 20-mile radius of the city) is home and family. This is a community that takes a great deal of pride in the quality of life it offers and is run with input from its citizens for the betterment of its citizens. Medford commands a community-wide commitment to the issues that touch us all: education, safety, quality health care and abundant recreational activities.

Located at the intersection of State Highway 13 & 64, in north central Wisconsin, Medford has seen many changes in its development over the years. Medford has recently added on to its sprawling riverwalk system, allowing the public a beautiful path to stroll to the library on. This expansion includes a flag field with a wall dedicated to honoring Medford area veterans. Other public building improvements include:

- Medford Area Public Schools
- Aspirus Medford Hospital
- Fire Department
- Public Library
- Northcentral Technical College
- Huey's Children's Museum

With a strong foundation built around small town values and ideals, Medford maintains a high quality of life for its citizens. At the same time, through its educational strengths, cultural diversity and economic progress, the Medford community provides the tools necessary to meet the challenges of the future and continued growth.

Educational Services and Facilities

The mission of the Medford Area Public School District is to ensure that all students learn at high levels. We will work collaboratively with colleagues, students, and parents to challenge and support all individuals to achieve success.

The Medford Area Public School District consists of:

- Medford Area Senior High School built in 1968 and has an indoor swimming pool and complete athletic facilities including a new artificial turf football field
- Medford Area Middle School built in 2001, providing students with a top-notch facility
- Medford Area Elementary School built in 1988
- Stetsonville Elementary School built in 1977

The Medford Area Public School District employs approximately 260 staff and its current enrollment is 2,100.

The Medford Area Senior High School (MASH) offers 170 individual course offerings and 24 different sports. MASH conducts a complete school-to-work program that offers an exploratory work experience program and apprenticeships, as well as career information classes to all students. Northcentral Technical College / West Campus – Medford (NTC), in full cooperation with Taylor County offers credit classes in several associate degree programs through self paces "flex-labs," interactive television and conventional classroom settings. The campus' main goal is to provide its students with the education and training they will need to enter today's skill-oriented job market or advance in their current job. NTC/West Campus- Medford is a place where lifelong learning and opportunity begin.

The Taylor County Cooperative Extension Service provides free business counseling services to owners obtaining assistance through the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire Small Business Development Center. The Extension Service also provides educational assistance in the areas of agriculture / agri-business, family living education, 4-H and youth development.

Health Care Services

Aspirus Medford Hospital is a Level III Trauma Care Hospital with Emergency room physicians onsite 24/7. Aspirus offers comprehensive primary care through its clinics in Gilman, Medford, Phillips, Prentice and Rib Lake. It has an after -hours urgent care clinic (open 7 days/week), therapy centers in Prentice and Medford, an acute care Swing Bed program, dialysis center, public fitness center and a retail pharmacy in Medford; plus a continuum of senior care services from independent living, to assisted living, to skilled nursing services.

Aspirus is a part of a regional health care system, Aspirus Inc. Through its affiliation, Aspirus has over 60 specialists and surgeons on staff. It is a satellite location for the award-winning Aspirus Heart and Vascular Institute.

Aspirus is continuously recognized for the quality of its patient care and its high employee satisfaction scores. To name a few:

- 4-star Nations Excellence awarded for quality of patient care
- Top 5-star Governmental Rating
- National Ranked Modern Healthcare's Top 100 "Best Places to Work in Healthcare"
- Top 10% in the Nation: 5-star Excellence Award for Quality of Patient Care Family Center (birthing and delivery services)
- Highest Overall Employee Satisfaction SIGMA Award
- IBM Watson Health—Aspirus is among 15 top health care systems for the 3rd year in a row

Industry

Industry plays a major role in the Medford area, with a daytime population of over 7,000! Medford has two window manufacturers, a frozen pizza factory, plastic molding plants, manufacturers of steel components, and concrete products/ supplies. Medford also has meat and cheese manufacturing / processing plants, farm equipment, machinery repair and welding.



Approximately 20,000 people live in Taylor County. Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting play a large role in the community—employing over 1,000 people.

Tourism / Recreation

Taylor County is full of sites and attraction for family fun year-round. For your use and enjoyment, there are more than 150,000 acres of public land, 94 lakes and numerous campgrounds.

County rivers and lakes melt into federal, state and county forests to offer the finest in year-round recreation. Taylor County is noted for excellent small game, deer and waterfowl hunting; game fish and pan fish are plentiful in area waters.



The Chequamegon National Forest covers 1/3 of Taylor County, providing unlimited opportunities for hiking, camping and bird / wildlife watching. Taylor County maintains an excellent forest and park system with some of the best picnicking and swimming areas in the state.

The longest unbroken stretch of the National Scenic Ice Age Trail (60 miles) is located within the county as well. The Ice Age Trail combines the 26-mile Pine Line Rail/Trail that connects Medford and Prentice to offer ideal hiking experiences, bicycling and jogging. Twenty miles of the Perkinstown motorized trails were developed for ATVs and motorcycles. Other trails exist throughout the scenic

The Taylor County Forest Trail offers beautiful hunter walking trails.

Chequamegon National Forest for mountain biking. Mondeaux Flowage Recreation Area is one of the most familyoriented areas in the Northwoods. It has something for everyone: five camping areas, a concession stand, a shelter, swimming, hiking trails, boating, fishing, historical sites and much more. In the winter months, recreational activities abound! We offer over 300 miles of snowmobile & ATV trails, and 33 miles of groomed cross country ski/snowshoe trails. Perkinstown Winter Sports Area is a great place to spend a snowy winter day with your family.

Located only a few miles from Medford in nearby Westboro, Forest Springs Camp & Conference Center is a year-round Christian camp, serving kids, youth, and families through summer camps and seasonal events. Each year, thousands of young people, families, and singles of all ages have gone to Forest Springs to soak up the wonders of creation and be instructed in God's Word.

Within Medford's city limits the City Park can be found with grills, a playground, campsites, a swimming pool, tennis, baseball and softball facilities.

The Medford Curling Club offers one of the finest curling facilities in the state. The Tee-Hi Golf Course and Pro Shop is a public nine-hole golf course and the Black River Golf Club & Pro Shop offers nine holes of golf with a clubhouse & bar. The Simek Recreation Center is dedicated to ice hockey, figure and pleasure skating for six months, and hosts part of the Badger State Games. In off-season months, the facility can accommodate groups up to 2,000 people and is perfect for car shows, flea markets and sport shows.