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# & Sauk

Counties Wisconsin

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**2018 Resource & Relocation Guide**





# Cory Otto

REALTOR®

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608-697-4098

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

I am your premier real estate expert in Portage, and I am here to provide you with all the resources and information you need to buy or sell real estate. I work with buyers and sellers in Portage, Sun Prairie, Deforest, Madison, Waunakee, and I have had extensive training in the latest real estate strategies. I am confident that I can offer you knowledge and tools most other agents can't. Contact me so I can keep you updated on the latest real estate activities in our community and answer any questions you may have.

I look forward to assisting you in all of your real estate needs!



309 DeWitt St. • Portage, WI 53901

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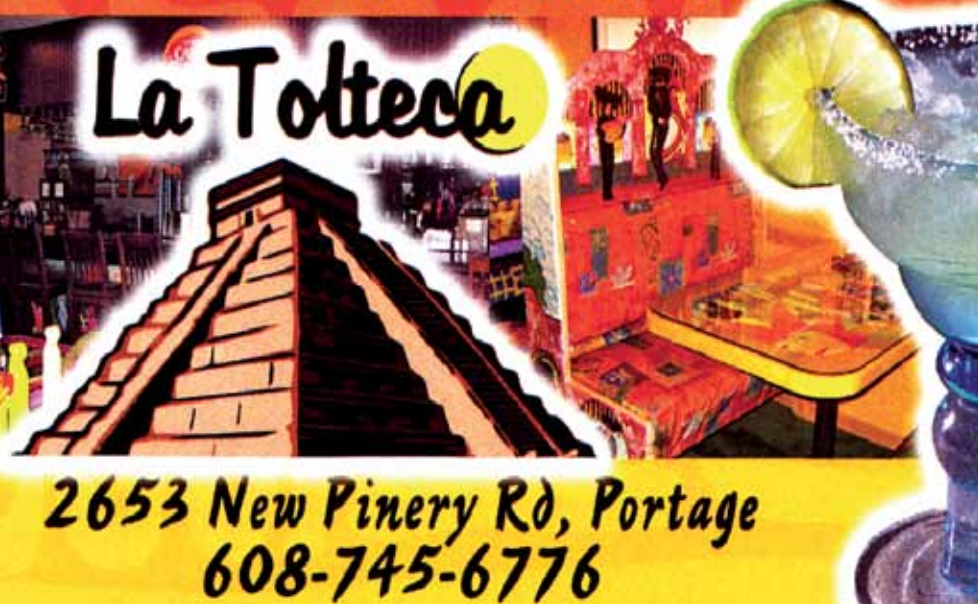
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# Newcomer Information

## Post Offices

**US Post Office**  
215 W. Conant St.  
Portage, WI  
(608) 742-5012

**US Post Office**  
303 Broadway St.  
Baraboo, WI  
(608) 356-1253

**US Post Office**  
103 Lincoln Ave.  
Rio, WI  
(920) 992-5311

**US Post Office**  
215 N. Walnut St.  
Reedsburg, WI  
(608) 524-2211

**US Post Office**  
102 W. Walnut St.  
North Freedom, WI  
(608) 522-3622

**US Post Office**  
205 Main St.  
Arlington, WI  
(608) 635-2288

## Courthouse



**Columbia County Courthouse**  
400 De Witt St. - Portage, WI  
(608) 742-9654



**Sauk County Courthouse**  
515 Oak St. - Baraboo, WI  
(608) 355-3287

## Utilities

**Baraboo Water Department**  
(608) 355-2740

**Prairie Du Sac Utility Service**  
(608) 643-2421

**AT&T**  
(608) 356-9051

**Columbus Water & Light**  
(920) 623-5912

**Arizona Public Services**  
(928) 425-4451

**US Cellular**  
(608) 745-4771

**Sauk City Water Department**  
(608) 643-8336

**Southwest Gas Corp.**  
(928) 425-8191

**Verizon**  
(608) 566-1812

## Police

**Columbia Co. Sheriff**  
(608) 742-4166

**Poynette Police**  
(608) 635-2588

**Sauk Co. Sheriff**  
(608) 356-4895

**Randolph Police**  
(920) 326-4620

**Baraboo Police**  
(608) 355-2720

**Reedsburg Police**  
(608) 524-2376

**Dane Police**  
(608) 850-7225

**Rio Police**  
(920) 992-5454

**DeForest Police**  
(608) 846-6756

**Sauk Prairie Police**  
(608) 643-2427

**Fall River Police**  
(920) 484-3707

**Spring Green Police**  
(608) 588-2125

**Pardeeville Police**  
(608) 742-4166

**Wisconsin State  
Patrol**  
(608) 846-8500

**Plain Police**  
(608) 546-2034

**Portage Police**  
(608) 742-2174



## Fire

**Arlington Fire**  
(608) 635-4717

**Reedsburg Fire**  
(608) 524-3174

**Baraboo Fire**  
(608) 355-2710

**Rio Fire**  
(920) 992-5655

**Columbus Fire**  
(920) 623-5914

**Rock Springs Fire**  
(608) 522-5900

**Lake Delton Fire**  
(608) 254-8404

**Sauk City Fire**  
(608) 643-8282

**Merrimac Fire**  
(608) 493-2722

**Spring Green Fire**  
(608) 588-2030

**North Freedom Fire**  
(608) 522-4570

**Pardeeville Fire**  
(608) 429-2282

**Portage Fire**  
(608) 742-2172

**Poynette-Dekorra Fire**  
(608) 635-4466







# HELP is ALWAYS within your grasp... with a simple phone call.

The Crisis Hotlines/Helplines are here for you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year - ready to lend a helping hand.

### Cancer

Cancer Information Service ..... 800-422-6237

### Children/Youth (Abduction, Abuse, Adoption, Runaway/Exploited, etc.)

- Child Abuse National Hotline ..... 800-25-ABUSE (252.2873)
- Child Find of America Hotline - [www.childfindofamerica.org](http://www.childfindofamerica.org) ..... 800-I-AM-LOST (426.5678)
- CONFIDENTIAL Runaway Hotline ..... 800-231-6946
- Missing Children Network ..... 800-235-3535
- National Hotline for Missing & Exploited Children - [www.missingkids.com](http://www.missingkids.com) ..... 800-843-5678
- ChildHelp USA - [www.childhelp.org](http://www.childhelp.org) ..... 800-4A-CHILD (422.4453) / 800-2A-CHILD (222.4453, TDD)
- National Runaway Switchboard - [www.1800runaway.org](http://www.1800runaway.org) ..... 800-RUNAWAY (786.2929)
- National Youth Crisis Hotline ..... 800-448-4663
- New York Parent & Kin Connection Helpline - [www.ocfs.state.ny.us](http://www.ocfs.state.ny.us) ..... 800-345-KIDS (345.5437)
- Parent Abduction Hotline ..... 800-292-9688
- Parent Hotline - [parenthotline.net](http://parenthotline.net) ..... 800-840-6537
- Thursday's Child's National Youth Advocacy - [www.thursdayschild.org](http://www.thursdayschild.org) ..... 800-USA-KIDS (872.5437)

### Crisis Intervention / Suicide

- Boys Town Suicide & Crisis Line - [www.boystown.org](http://www.boystown.org) ..... 800-448-3000 / 800-448-1833 (TDD)
- Covenant House Hotline - [nineline.org](http://nineline.org) or [www.covenanthouse.org](http://www.covenanthouse.org) ..... 800-999-9999
- National Adolescent Suicide Hotline ..... 800-621-4000

### Domestic Violence

National Domestic Violence Hotline - [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org) ..... 800-799-SAFE (799.7233) / 800-787-3224 (TTY)

### Eating & Associated Disorders

- National Association of Anorexia - [www.anad.org](http://www.anad.org) ..... 847-831-3438 (long distance)
- National Mental Health Association - [www.nmha.org](http://www.nmha.org) ..... 800-969-6642

### HIV/AIDS/STDs

- National AIDS Hotline ..... 800-342-AIDS (342.2437) / 800-243-7889 (TDD)
- National AIDS Hotline in Spanish ..... 800-344-SIDA (344.7432)
- National HIV/STDs Hotline ..... 800-227-8922
- National Prevention Information Network (CDC) - [www.CDCNAC.org](http://www.CDCNAC.org) ..... 800-458-5231

### Poison Control

- Poison Control (Any Kind of Substance) ..... 800-662-9886
- Poison Control - [www.poison.org](http://www.poison.org) ..... 800-222-1222

### Rape

Nationwide RAINN National Rape Crisis Hotline - [www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org) ..... 800-656-HOPE (656.4673)

### Substance Abuse/Alcoholism

- 24/7 Drug Addiction Hotlines ..... 866-675-4912
- 24/7 Drug & Alcohol Rehab Referral Service ..... 800-521-7128
- Alcohol Abuse & Crisis Intervention ..... 800-234-0246
- Alcohol & Drug Abuse Helpline & Treatment ..... 800-234-0420
- Alcohol Hotline Support & Information ..... 800-331-2900
- Al-Anon / Alateen - [www.al-anon.alateen.org](http://www.al-anon.alateen.org) ..... 800-352-9996
- National Drug Info Treatment & Referral Hotline - [www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov) ..... 800-662-HELP (662.4357)
- National Cocaine Hotline - [800cocaine.com](http://800cocaine.com) ..... 800-COCAINE (262-2463)
- The Alcohol & Drug Addiction Resource Center ..... 800-390-4056

# Health & Hospitals



### Columbia County Health Department

2652 Murphy Rd.  
Portage, WI  
(608) 742-9227

### Sauk County Health Department

505 Broadway St.  
Baraboo, WI  
(608) 355-3290

# Dial 911 for Emergencies

### Columbus Community Hospital

1515 Park Ave.  
Columbus, WI  
(920) 623-2200

### Sauk Prairie Hospital

260 26th St.  
Prairie du Sac, WI  
(608) 643-3311

### Divine Savior Hospital

2817 New Pinery Rd.  
Portage, WI  
(608) 742-4131

### St. Clare Hospital Health Services

707 14th St.  
Baraboo, WI  
(608) 356-1400

### Reedsburg Area Medical Center

2000 N. Dewey Ave.  
Reedsburg, WI  
(608) 524-6487









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5950 Golf Course Rd.  
Spring Green, WI  
(608) 588-7401
  - Bluegreen Odyssey Dells**  
1701 Wisconsin Dells Pkwy. N.  
Lake Delton, WI  
(608) 253-2015
  - Cascade Mountain**  
W10441 Cascade Mountain Rd.  
Portage, WI  
(608) 742-5588
  - Circus World Museum**  
550 Water St.  
Baraboo, WI  
(608) 356-8341
  - Columbus Antique Mall & Museum**  
239 Whitney St.  
Columbus, WI  
(920) 623-1992
  - Dells of the Wisconsin River**  
10th Ave.  
Wisconsin Dells, WI  
(888) 936-7463
  - Delton Grand Resort & Spa**  
670 E. Lake Ave.  
Lake Delton, WI  
(608) 253-6049
  - Devil's Lake State Park**  
55975 Park Rd.  
Baraboo, WI  
(608) 356-8301
  - Gibraltar Rock State Natural Area**  
Gibraltar Rock Rd.  
Lodi, WI  
(608) 266-0394
  - H. H. Bennett Studio**  
215 Broadway  
Wisconsin Dells, WI  
(608) 253-3523
  - Historic Indian Agency House**  
1490 Agency House Rd.  
Portage, WI  
(608) 742-6362
  - Ho-Chunk Casino**  
S3214 U.S. Highway 12  
Baraboo, WI  
(608) 356-6210
  - Hooker's Resort**  
County Road V  
Poynette, WI  
(608) 635-7867
  - House on the Rock Tours**  
5754 Wisconsin 23  
Spring Green, WI  
(608) 935-3639
  - Kalahari Resorts**  
1305 Kalahari Dr.  
Baraboo, WI  
(608) 254-5466
  - Lake Delton Water Sports**  
255 Wisconsin Dells Pkwy.  
Lake Delton, WI  
(608) 254-8702
  - Lodi Ag Fair**  
700 Fair St.  
Lodi, WI  
(608) 592-4499
  - Mirror Lake State Park**  
Fern Dell Rd.  
Baraboo, WI  
(608) 254-3333
  - Mr. Marvel's Wondertorium**  
817 Broadway  
Wisconsin Dells, WI  
(608) 402-3322
  - Museum at the Portage**  
804 MacFarlane Rd.  
Portage, WI  
(608) 742-6682
  - Parfrey's Glen State Natural Area**  
1377 County Rd. DL  
Merrimac, WI  
(608) 266-2621
  - Portage Theatres**  
322 W. Wisconsin St.  
Portage, WI  
(608) 742-6900
  - Poynette Museum**  
116 N. Main St.  
Poynette, WI  
(608) 635-9849
  - Ringling Theatre**  
136 4th Ave.  
Baraboo, WI  
(608) 356-8864
  - Rio Lanes**  
211 Lincoln Ave.  
Rio, WI  
(920) 992-5225
  - Taliesin Tours**  
Route 23  
Spring Green, WI  
(608) 588-7900
  - Thunderbird Lanes**  
1117 8th St.  
Baraboo, WI  
(608) 356-9111
  - Tower Hill State Park**  
5808 County Road C  
Spring Green, WI  
(608) 588-2116
  - Willow Mill Campsite**  
N5830 County Hwy. SS  
Rio, WI  
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- .....and so much more!



# WISCONSIN

The Badger State

WISCONSIN



1848

*The 30th state to be admitted into the Union, Wisconsin is named after a native american word "Ouisconsin," which means either "grassy place," or "gathering of the waters.", and the state motto is "Forward."*

*The first known European explorer to come to the Wisconsin area was the French Voyageur Jean Nicolet in 1634, who was given the task of finding a water route to Asia, or "The Northwest Passage." Later, French trappers settled in the area as part of the fur trade, until the British began takeover of the area once the French and Indian War ended in 1763.*

*Wisconsin has more than 8,000 lakes and 77,000 farms. Over half of those farms are dedicated to the production of milk, cheese, and other dairy products, earning the state the title of "America's Dairyland."*



## - STATE FACTS -



**CAPITAL:** Madison

**STATE INSECT:** Honey Bee

**POPULATION:** 5,556,506

**HIGHEST POINT:** Timms Hill - 1,951 ft

**STATE BIRD:** Robin

**AREA:** 65,498 sq mi

**STATE FLOWER:** Wood violet

**LARGEST CITY:** Milwaukee

**STATE TREE:** Sugar maple

**ENTERED THE UNION:** May 29, 1848 (30th)

**STATE SONG:** "On, Wisconsin!"

**TOP INDUSTRIES:** Manufacturing, Agriculture, Mining, & Shipping

# A BIT OF HISTORY...



Columbia County was created in 1846 from Portage County. The County Seat is Portage. The County was named in honor of Christopher Columbus. It appears to indicate that the name was taken from Columbia River. It was probably given because of the town of Columbus, which was first established as Columbus precinct in 1842, and was the first county seat of Columbia County.

Portage emerged at this place because of its unique position along the one and a half mile strip of marshy floodplain between the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers. By the end of the 17th century, the Fox-Wisconsin waterway, linked at The Portage, served as the major fur trade thoroughfare between Green Bay and Prairie du Chien. It was not until the 1780s and 1790s that traders built their posts and warehouses at each end of The Portage. In the early 19th century Portage was primarily populated by Métis. In 1828, the federal government recognized the strategic economic importance of The Portage and built Fort Winnebago at the Fox River end. After 15 years of controversy, Winnebago settlement (now Portage) won the county seat in 1851. The community incorporated as Portage City in 1854.

In the years 1840 through 1860, Sauk County was in a pioneering phase. The population increased from a few hundred residents to almost 19,000 during that 20-year time frame. Principal activities included wheat farming and the raising of hops. The 1860's and 1870's saw another economic boom stimulated by the expansion of railroads through the County. Villages and cities were chartered and the number of farms in the county peaked at 3,886. By the turn of the century, the county population had exceeded 33,000 and the production of dairy products and row crops became more predominant in agriculture.

## G-Line Fence

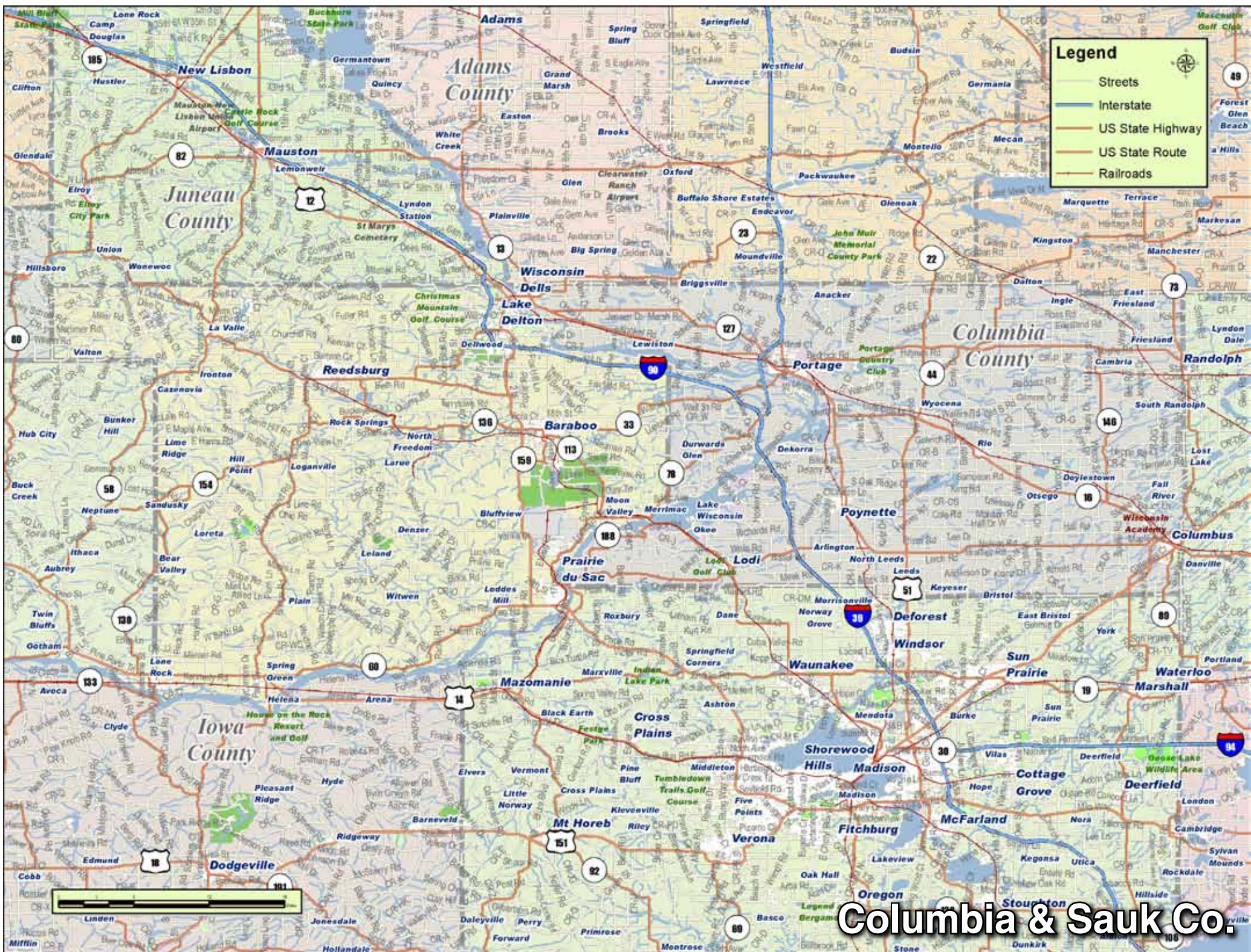
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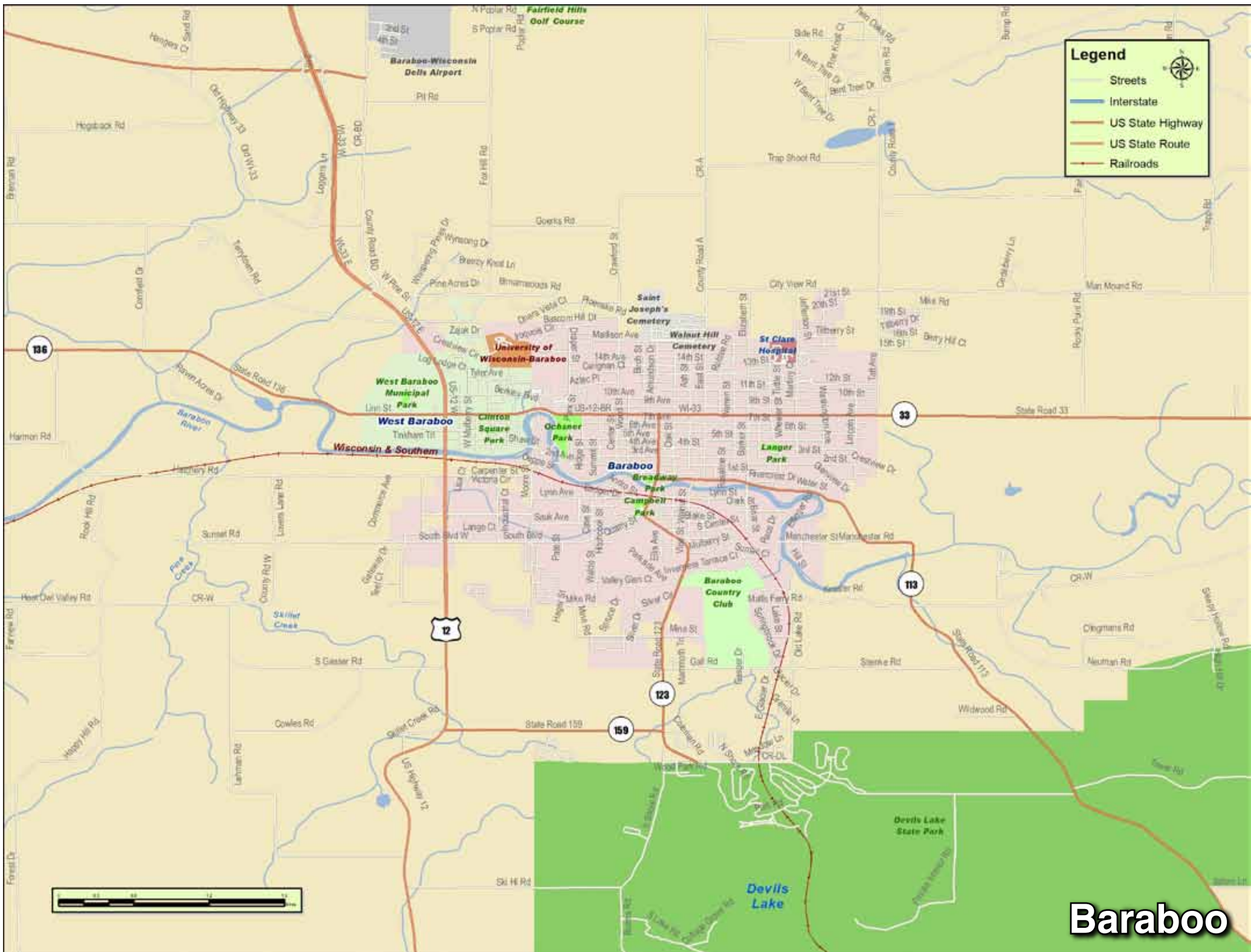
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Columbia & Sauk Co.





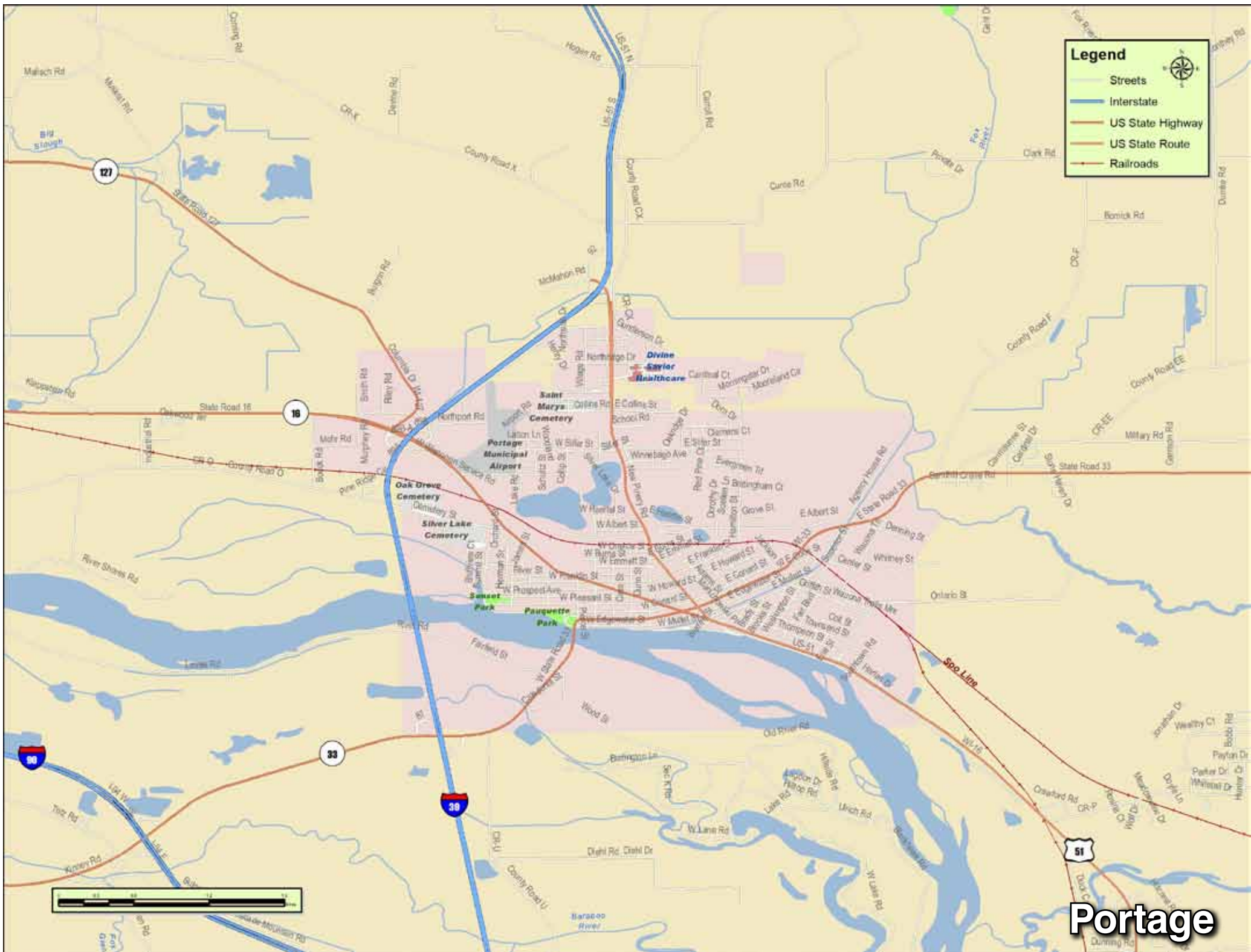
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-  Streets
-  Interstate
-  US State Highway
-  US State Route
-  Railroads



**Baraboo**





**Legend**

- Streets
- Interstate
- US State Highway
- US State Route
- Railroads



**Portage**



# HOME PURCHASING PROCEDURE

## General Overview of Steps Involved With Buying Your New Home

**START**

**GET PRE-APPROVED**

Work with a loan professional. Submit application & documents for review. Determine how much you can afford.

**DECIDE TO BUY A HOME**

Make sure you are ready both financially & emotionally.

**MEET WITH REAL ESTATE AGENT**

Define what type of home you're looking for (style, price, neighborhood).



Go to [mprhomes.com](http://mprhomes.com) to get a list of documents needed for loan application.

**YOU'VE FOUND THE HOUSE**

Work with your real estate agent to make an offer. Review the comps. Put in price & terms you're comfortable with.

**SUBMIT THE OFFER**

Work with your agent to put together the offer package (purchase contract, copy of initial deposit, loan approval)

**LOOK AT PROPERTIES**

Take notes. Which properties meet most of your wishes/needs. Be open.

**NEGOTIATE**

It may take a few rounds to get an offer accepted. Be patient. Don't over pay.

**SUBMIT LOAN TO LENDER**

Your loan agent will submit complete loan package to lender. Also order the appraisal.

**GET TRANSACTION CALENDER**

Your agent will provide a calender of important dates. Keep track of contingency deadlines!

**CONDUCT INSPECTIONS**

Perform all inspections (general home, pest, etc). This is the time to find out everything you can about the home.

**OFFER ACCEPTED**

Set up escrow. Get initial deposit to them.

**REVIEW WITH LENDER**

Make sure the appraisal is ok. Make sure loan is ok. See final approval and review final conditions.

**REMOVE CONTINGENCIES**

Time to remove all contract contingencies. Make sure you understand ramifications. Make final deposit.

**REVIEW INSPECTIONS & APPRAISAL**

If there are any issues, this is time to possibly re-negotiate with seller.

**ORDER LOAN DOCUMENTS**

Lender prepares and sends loan documents to escrow.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Once the recording is final, the house is yours!

**CLOSING**

The title company will send signed loan documents to lender. Lender wires money to title company.

**SIGN LOAN DOCUMENTS**

Sign loan documents at title/escrow company. Bring in balance of your down payment.



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# 10 Common Mistakes Home Buyers Make

## 1. Choosing a real estate agent who is not committed to forming a strong business relationship with you.

### Here's how to avoid it:

Making a connection with the right real estate agent is crucial. Choose a professional who is dedicated to serving your needs-before, during and after the sale.

## 2. Making an offer on a home without being pre-qualified.

### Here's how to avoid it:

Pre-qualification will make your life easier-take the time to talk with bank or mortgage representatives. Their specific questions with regard to income, debt and other factors will help you determine the price range that you can afford. It is one of the most important steps on the path to home ownership.

## 3. Not knowing the total costs involved.

### Here's how to avoid it:

Early in the buying process, ask your real estate agent or mortgage representative for an estimate of closing costs. Title insurance and lawyer fees should be considered. Pre-pay responsibilities such as homeowner's association fees and insurance must also be taken into account. Remember to examine your settlement statement prior to closing.

## 4. Limiting your search to open houses, ads or the Internet.

### Here's how to avoid it:

Many homes listed in magazines or on the Internet have already been sold. Your best course of action is to contact a real estate agent. They have up-to-date information that is unavailable to the general public, and they are the best resource to help you find the home you want.

## 5. Thinking that there is only one perfect home out there.

### Here's how to avoid it:

Buying a home is a process of elimination, not selection. New properties arrive on the market daily, so be open to all possibilities. Ask your real estate agent for a comparative market analysis. This compares similar homes that have recently sold or are still for sale.

## 6. Not considering long-term needs.

### Here's how to avoid it:

It is important to think ahead. Will your home suit your needs 3-5 years from now? How about 5-10 years?

## 7. Not following through on due diligence.

### Here's how to avoid it:

Make a list of any concerns you have relating to issues such as crime rates, schools, power lines, neighbors, environmental conditions, etc. Ask the important questions before you make an offer on a home. Be diligent so that you can have confidence in your purchase.

## 8. Not having a home inspection.

### Here's how to avoid it:

Trying to save money today can end up costing you tomorrow. A qualified home inspector will detect issues that many buyers can overlook.

## 9. Not examining insurance issues.

### Here's how to avoid it:

Purchase adequate insurance. Advice from an insurance agent can provide you with answers to any concerns you may have.

## 10. Not purchasing a home protection plan.

### Here's how to avoid it:

This is essentially a mini insurance policy that usually lasts one year from the date of sale. It usually covers basic repairs you may encounter and can be purchased for a nominal fee. Talk to your agent to help you find the protection plan you need.



## How much House Can You Afford?



How much you can afford is determined by a relatively simple formula. Lenders generally figure that no more than 28 percent of your income should be for total housing costs. In addition, they require that your total monthly debt be less than 36 percent of your income. (Note: These are general numbers. Other loan programs may allow higher percentages.)

For example, if you make \$48,000 a year, divided by 12 months, your monthly income is \$4,000. (Remember, that's \$48,000 in gross pay, before federal and state taxes are removed.) Twenty-eight percent of \$4,000 is \$1,120. That is the most you can make in a monthly mortgage, taxes, and insurance payments.

Generally, to qualify, the self-employed buyer must have been self-employed in the same line of work for at least 24 months before applying for a loan. Lenders use your net income, the figure at the bottom of schedule C of your federal income tax form, to decide how large a mortgage you can carry. But they don't look at what you earn now or what you made last year. Rather lenders figure the monthly average of your income over the past 24 months. Also, overtime pay & bonuses sometimes may not be figured into your average income.

Don't forget that points, closing costs & other out-of-the-pocket expenses probably will come out to about one percent of the mortgage amount.

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# Secrets for Selling Your Home

### **Selling Secret #1: The first impression is the only impression**

No matter how good the interior of your home looks, buyers have already judged your home before they walk through the door. You never have a second chance to make a first impression. It's important to make people feel warm, welcome and safe as they approach the house. Spruce up your home's exterior with inexpensive shrubs and brightly colored flowers. You can typically get a 100-percent return on the money you put into your home's curb appeal. Entryways are also important. You use it as a utility space for your coat and keys. But, when you're selling, make it welcoming by putting in a small bench, a vase of fresh-cut flowers or even some cookies.

### **Selling Secret #2: Always be ready to show**

Your house needs to be "show-ready" at all times – you never know when your buyer is going to walk through the door. You have to be available whenever they want to come see the place and it has to be in tip-top shape. Don't leave dishes in the sink, keep the dishwasher cleaned out, the bathrooms sparkling and make sure there are no dust bunnies in the corners. It's a little inconvenient, but it will get your house sold.

### **Selling Secret #3: The kitchen comes first**

You're not actually selling your house, you're selling your kitchen – that's how important it is. The benefits of remodeling your kitchen are endless, and the best part of it is that you'll probably get 85% of your money back. It may be a few thousand dollars to replace countertops where a buyer may knock \$10,000 off the asking price if your kitchen looks dated. The fastest, most inexpensive kitchen updates include painting and new cabinet hardware. Use a neutral-color paint so you can present buyers with a blank canvas where they can start envisioning their own style. If you have a little money to spend, buy one fancy stainless steel appliance. Why one? Because when people see one high-end appliance they think all the rest are expensive too and it updates the kitchen.

### **Selling Secret #4: Take the home out of your house**

One of the most important things to do when selling your house is to de-personalize it. The more personal stuff in your house, the less potential buyers can imagine themselves living there. Get rid of a third of your stuff – put it in storage. This includes family photos, memorabilia collections and personal keepsakes. Consider hiring a home stager to maximize the full potential of your home. Staging simply means arranging your furniture to best showcase the floor plan and maximize the use of space.

### **Selling Secret #5: Don't over-upgrade**

Quick fixes before selling always pay off. Mammoth makeovers, not so much. You probably won't get your money back if you do a huge improvement project before you put your house on the market. Instead, do updates that will pay off and get you top dollar. Get a new fresh coat of paint on the walls. Clean the curtains or go buy some inexpensive new ones. Replace door handles, cabinet hardware, make sure closet doors are on track, fix leaky faucets and clean the grout.

### **Selling Secret #6: Conceal the critters**

You might think a cuddly dog would warm the hearts of potential buyers, but you'd be wrong. Not everybody is a dog- or cat-lover. Buyers don't want to walk in your home and see a bowl full of dog food, smell the kitty litter box or have tufts of pet hair stuck to their clothes. It will give buyers the impression that your house is not clean. If you're planning an open house, send the critters to a pet hotel for the day.

### **Selling Secret #7: Play the agent field**

A secret sale killer is hiring the wrong broker. Make sure you have a broker who is totally informed. They must constantly monitor the multiple listing service (MLS), know what properties are going on the market and know the comps in your neighborhood. Find a broker who embraces technology – a tech-savvy one has many tools to get your house sold.

### **Selling Secret #8: Light it up**

Maximize the light in your home. After location, good light is the one thing that every buyer cites that they want in a home. Take down the drapes, clean the windows, change the lampshades, increase the wattage of your light bulbs and cut the bushes outside to let in sunshine. Do what you have to do make your house bright and cheery – it will make it more sellable.

### **Selling Secret #9: Half-empty closets**

Storage is something every buyer is looking for and can never have enough of. Take half the stuff out of your closets then neatly organize what's left in there. Buyers will snoop, so be sure to keep all your closets and cabinets clean and tidy.

### **Selling Secret #10: Pricing it right**

Find out what your home is worth, then shave 15 to 20 percent off the price. You'll be stampeded by buyers with multiple bids – even in the worst markets – and they'll bid up the price over what it's worth. It takes real courage and most sellers just don't want to risk it, but it's the single best strategy to sell a home in today's market.





# PACKING STRATEGIES

## Supplies:

- Plastic bags and labels for easy identification.
- Plastic foam peanuts or pellets
- Tissue or Kraft paper for delicate packing jobs.

- Corrugated paper rolls for figurines and fragile items.
- Gummed tape (1 to 2 inches wide) and /or twine for sealing cartons.
- Markers for identifying contents of cartons.
- Notebook and pencils to log cartons.
- Scissors and/or sharp knife.

## Preparing to move:

### A strategy for packing:

- The bottoms of all cartons should be secure.
- Packing tape or gummed tape is better than masking tape.
- A general rule to remember on carton size: the heavier the item, the smaller the carton.
- Try to keep a per-box weight of 50 pounds or less.

## Packing for efficiency:

- Pack one room at a time. (It will help with the unpacking.)
- Mark all boxes, assigning them numbers and specifying the room.
- Fill a couple of cartons a day, starting well ahead of the move.
- Make a log showing the number of boxes packed per room and the total number of cartons packed.
- Leave space in your log for special comments, such as carton conditions or location of high-valued goods.
- Notify your mover of any high-value items.
- Have plenty of "filling" material available. Specially made cartons, for everything from mattresses to clothing and mirrors, can generally be purchased from your mover.



# Moving Checklist

## Moving Out

### Moving Preparations

- Buy boxes
- Schedule movers
- Arrange transportation needs for the move
- Reserve storage unit
- Acquire school transcript for children

### Utilities to cancel/transfer

- Telephone\*
  - Water
  - Garbage removal
  - Gas & electric\*
  - Cable/internet\*
- \*check for refunds

### Address changes

- Forward new address to post office
- Notify work contacts/human resources
- Update bank account/investment information
- Modify credit card account data
- Change delivery for publications/newspapers

### Medical services updates

- Medical records
- Prescription transfers
- Dental records
- Veterinarian records

### Closer to moving day

- Defrost refrigerator
- Hand-carry jewelry and valuables
- Withdraw travel cash or prepare checks
- Leave keys/garage door openers

## Moving In

### Address change

- Arrange for post office to hold mail for new address until move-in date

### Utilities to activate

- New telephone number
- Water
- Garbage removal
- Gas & electric
- Cable/internet

### Government licenses/services

- Change address on driver's license
- Register children in new school

### If moving to a different state:

- Apply for new driver's license
- Register car
- Register to vote (and find new polling place)

### Medical services updates

- Find new doctor
- Find new pharmacy
- Find new dentist
- Find new veterinarian





# HOME FINDER NOTE PAD

Looking for the right home takes a fair amount of work, this page is here to help you weigh your options.

	House #1	House #2	House #3
Address			
Year Built			
Price			
Yearly Insurance			
Monthly Payment			
Avg. Utility Payment			
Square Footage			
Lot Size			
Style of House			
# of Bedrooms			
# of Baths			
Garage / Carport			
Neighborhood Quality			
Closet Space			
Heating & A/C			
Separate Dining Room			
Kitchen Space			
Refrigerator			
Stove			
Garbage Disposal			
Dishwasher			
Washer / Dryer			
Laundry Area			
Attic			
Condition of Windows			
Insulation			
Electrical Wiring & Age			
Deck, Patio & Fence			
Type of Siding			
Exterior Condition			
Notes:			



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