

# Minnesota B.O.L.D

**BRILLIANT • OUTDOOR • LEARNING • DESTINATIONS**

*Excursions Et Meetings*

By Wendy Porter Events



Wendy Porter Events, LLC

# Minnesota B.O.L.D

## Introducing Minnesota B.O.L.D. Excursions & Meetings by Wendy Porter Events, LLC

It all started in a coffee shop. Two women, one an events expert, the other a Minnesota outdoor expert, were networking for the first time. They asked a question: How do we showcase the great state of Minnesota, in WINTER, to all the business leaders coming into town for the 2018 Super Bowl and give them an experience they will never forget? The answer: Create a series of events that highlight the best of what Minnesota has to offer. Let's get people out of hotel ballrooms and the four walls of office conference rooms. Let's get them into some of the coolest facilities in the Twin Cities for business meetings and special events... and then get them OUTSIDE to experience Minnesota at its finest!

Minnesota B.O.L.D. is a collection of unique Twin Cities locales in the natural world, where you can host meetings and events for 20-300 people before heading outside where the real creativity happens. From dog sledding to skiing, snowshoeing, horse drawn carriages

and more, these are Minnesota experiences like no other. That's exactly what B.O.L.D.'s exciting and unique activities provide – one of a kind opportunities for meetings, team building and employee engagement. We will create an event that highlights the best of what Minnesota has to offer, in a setting that is safe and comfortable for guests that love the outdoors and for those that are new to it. We specialize in making even the most-timid guests feel inspired. Let Wendy Porter Events take care of all of the details so you and your guests can show up, learn and enjoy!

The Minnesota B.O.L.D. series will soon expand to include options for year-round events. Remember Wendy Porter Events beyond Super Bowl LII, and contact us for all your business meeting and special event needs. Let's get your guests out of the ballroom and into Minnesota's best classroom...  
The Great Outdoors!



Wendy Porter Events, LLC

# *Unique Twin Cities Locales*

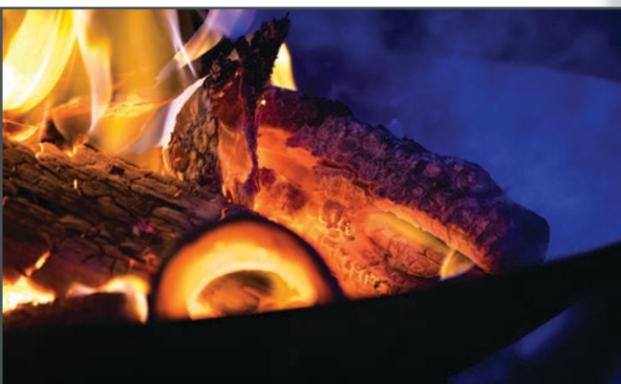
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DOG SLEDDING: READY, SET, MUSH!

## Elm Creek Park Preserve

The great north is calling to you – and it sounds like a dog’s howl. Experience what it’s like to race across the snow behind a working dog team. The dogs will be your guide as you share in their excitement before the ride, their exhilaration when they hear “Ready, Let’s GO!” and their satisfaction in doing what they love. A real dog sled musher will be your guide as you meet the dogs, learn about the history of dogsledding and even get to drive the dog team yourself. To round out your experience, participate in the other activity stations where you can snowshoe on park trails, create a winter survival shelter, warm up by the campfire with hot cocoa and s’mores, and enjoy time inside the cozy gathering center for a warm meal. There’s no experience necessary to take advantage of this quintessentially northland kind of day.



THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT

# Elm Creek Park Preserve • Maple Grove



### LOCATION

Elm Creek Park Reserve  
Eastman Nature Center  
Maple Grove, MN

### CAPACITY

Up to 24 people

### AVAILABILITY

Tuesday, Jan. 30 – Saturday, Feb. 3  
9:00 am – 5:00 pm

### RECOMMENDED LENGTH

1.5 – 6 hours, based on group size.



### COST INCLUDES\*

- Room rental and program fees
- Snowshoe rental and guided snowshoe hike
- Firepit use/wood and fire host
- Naturalist host from Elm Creek
- Musher and dogs
- Winter survival shelter building station

\* Food/beverage and transportation extra





WINTER FUN FOR EVERYONE:  
SNOW TUBING & CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING AT

## *Elm Creek Park Preserve*

Glide through the snow with two of Minnesota's favorite winter activities – snow tubing and cross-country skiing. Elm Creek Park Reserve is one of most expansive winter recreation areas in the Twin Cities and is known for winter fun and beauty. These activities are designed for whichever "speed" you like. For those who want to go fast, snow tubing is just the thing. You'll ride a moving sidewalk up a hill 10-stories high and soar back down on a specially designed inner tube. There are steeper chutes for the more daring and easier chutes for those looking for a more laid-back ride. All are designed for safety and fun. For those looking something a little slower, try cross-country skiing. You'll receive a 2-hour ski lesson where you can explore some beautiful, groomed trails throughout the park. The serene trails will offer winter solitude and possible wildlife sightings. A blend of modern and rustic, the warm and inviting Elm Creek Chalet is a beautiful facility for your event. The building features a huge stone fireplace built of timbers and fieldstone, a cathedral-style ceiling, and large glass windows overlooking Elm Creek Park Reserve.



THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT  
*Elm Creek Park Preserve · Maple Grove*



### LOCATION

Elm Creek Park Reserve  
Maple Grove, MN

### CAPACITY

Two options for a seated meal:  
1) 125 max - Shared use of facility with public  
2) 175 max - Exclusive use of facility

### AVAILABILITY

Wednesday, Jan. 31 - Saturday, Feb. 3  
10:00am - 9:00pm  
(Open 9:00am on Friday/Saturday)

### RECOMMENDED LENGTH

Two hours for tubing or a two-hour ski lesson;  
plus time for the meal

### COST INCLUDES\*

- Chalet rental fees (free if shared use)
- Snow tubing: two hours. No max size
- Nordic ski lessons: equipment included

\* Food/beverage, transportation and skate rental extra





WINTER'S INSPIRATION –  
INDOORS OR OUT ON SILVER LAKE

## Silverwood Park

Escape to one of the Twin Cities' most unique and most tranquil parks. Silverwood Park, on the shores of beautiful Silver Lake, is designed to connect people with the natural world through artistic expression in all seasons of the year.

The elegant and modern Visitor Center features cathedral-style ceilings and large glass windows providing spectacular vistas of Silver Lake and a mature upland oak forest. It's also home to an art gallery, great hall, coffee and gift shops. Silverwood supports and promotes artists of all levels to learn and be inspired.

During this unique winter escape, you will enjoy a meal in the scenic Great Hall and then choose from one of two wintry experiences.

Option 1: Head out onto the ice on Silver Lake for Ice fishing, kick-sledding and a bonfire on Silver Lake. Kick-sledding is a traditional Scandinavian sled style that's fun for all ages and perfect for beginners.

Option 2: Stay inside the cozy visitor center and take a nature-inspired art class in one of the center's classrooms.

The Visitor Center is also available for a dinner-only option.



THREE RIVERS PARK DISTRICT  
*Silverwood Park • St. Anthony*



### LOCATION

Silverwood Park  
St. Anthony, MN

### CAPACITY

50-80 people for meal and program options

Great Hall:

- Up to 375 people for meeting only
- Up to 270 people for meal only

### AVAILABILITY

Wednesday, Jan. 31 - Saturday, Feb. 3

### RECOMMENDED LENGTH

Two-hour program time; plus time for meal

### COST INCLUDES\*

- Great Hall and classroom room rental
- Ice fishing, kick sledding and a bonfire on Silver Lake
- Art class

\* Food/beverage and transportation extra





ICE SKATING AT  
*The Oval*

Discover the largest man-made outdoor ice skating surface in North America. Whether you're a lifelong skater or new to the ice, this unique facility welcomes you to experience outdoor skating in the great north! "The Oval" has hosted national and international competitions in speed skating and bandy\*, a forerunner to hockey that dates back more than 200 years. Participants will enjoy a meal in the Fireside Room overlooking the ice and get the chance to skate on this unique outdoor rink.

Ice skates are provided and no experience needed.

\*Bandy and the Roseville Oval were both featured in the *New York Times* article "It's not hockey, it's bandy."



GUIDANT JOHN ROSE MN OVAL

*Roseville*



LOCATION

Guidant John Rose MN Oval  
Roseville, MN

CAPACITY

Up to 200  
Ice skating rentals limited to 50

AVAILABILITY

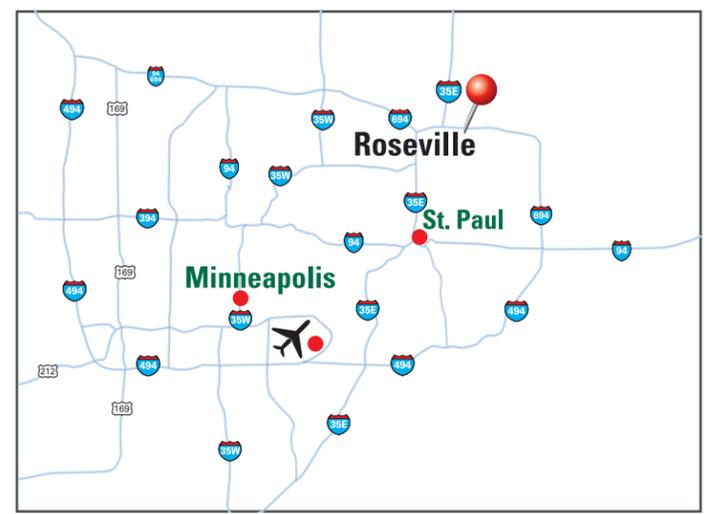
Monday, Jan. 29 - Friday, Feb. 2  
10:00am - 1:00pm

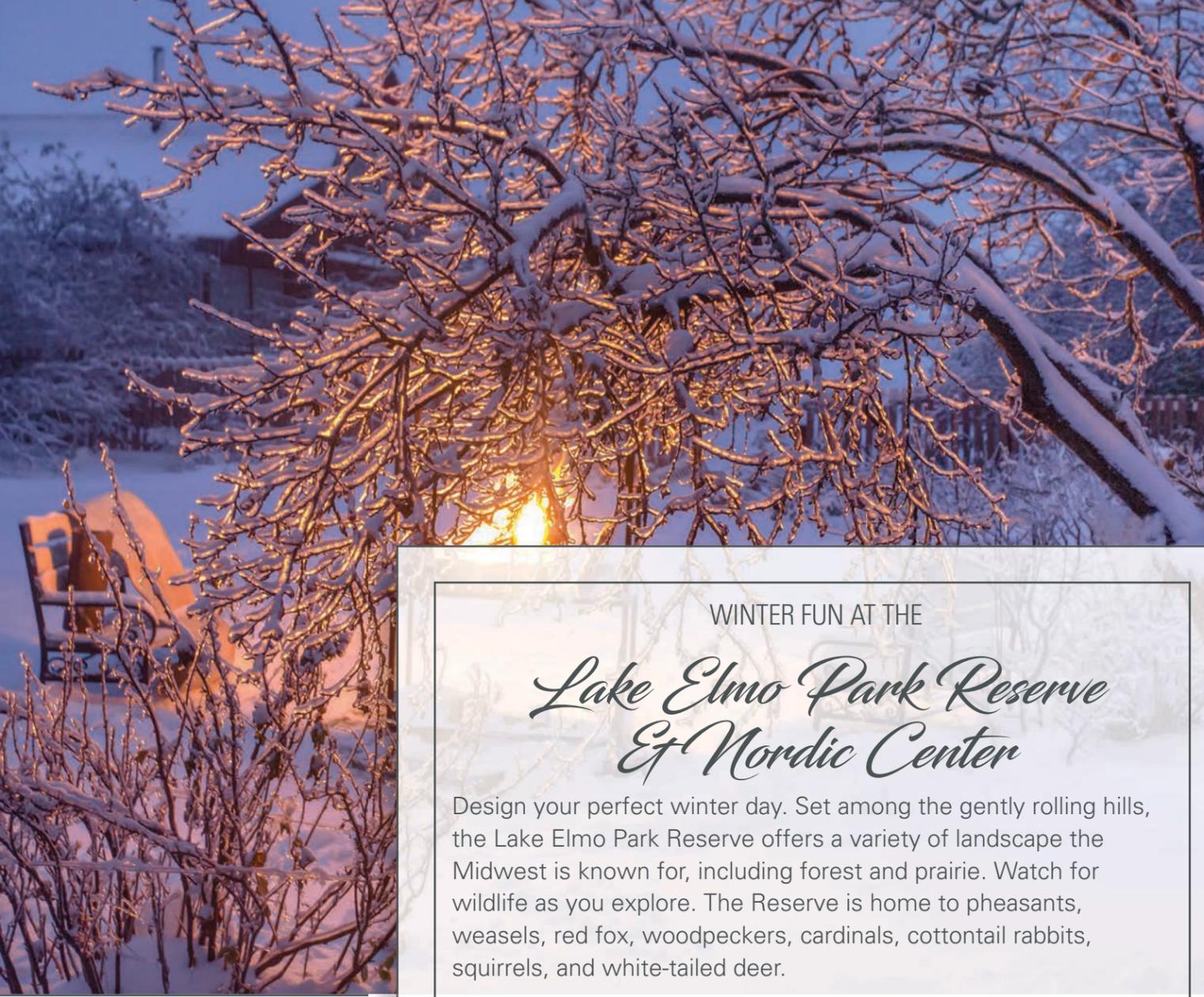
RECOMMENDED LENGTH

Three hours for skating and meal

COST INCLUDES\*

- Room rental
- Skating - Admission and skate rental
- \* *Food/beverage and transportation extra*





WINTER FUN AT THE

## Lake Elmo Park Reserve Et Nordic Center

Design your perfect winter day. Set among the gently rolling hills, the Lake Elmo Park Reserve offers a variety of landscape the Midwest is known for, including forest and prairie. Watch for wildlife as you explore. The Reserve is home to pheasants, weasels, red fox, woodpeckers, cardinals, cottontail rabbits, squirrels, and white-tailed deer.

Your experience will include time in the park's Nordic Center – a delightful retreat accented by the natural beauty of the woods and waters of the park. This unique, dynamic facility offers the cozy warmth of a fire from the majestic fireplace on cold winter days.

Your winter experience can include any combination of these activities (weather permitting):

- Cross-country skiing on more than five miles of lighted ski trails
- Fat tire trail biking
- Ice fishing on Lake Elmo
- Winter fitness hike
- Bird watching hike
- Snowshoe hike
- Guided nature program with a park naturalist
- Local storyteller
- Bonfire and s'mores



WASHINGTON COUNTY PARKS

## Lake Elmo Park Reserve



### LOCATION

Lake Elmo Park Reserve – Nordic Center Great Room\*  
Lake Elmo, MN

*\*Bathrooms and trails will be open to the public during public during time of rental*

### CAPACITY

Up to 60 people

### AVAILABILITY

Tuesday, Jan. 30 - Saturday, Feb. 3  
Maximum four hours, 8:00am – 9:30pm  
Thursday until 3pm only

### COSTS INCLUDES\*

- Park vehicle permits and entry fees
- Staff ambassador
- Event insurance
- Room rental and state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment
- Up to three activities and equipment rental

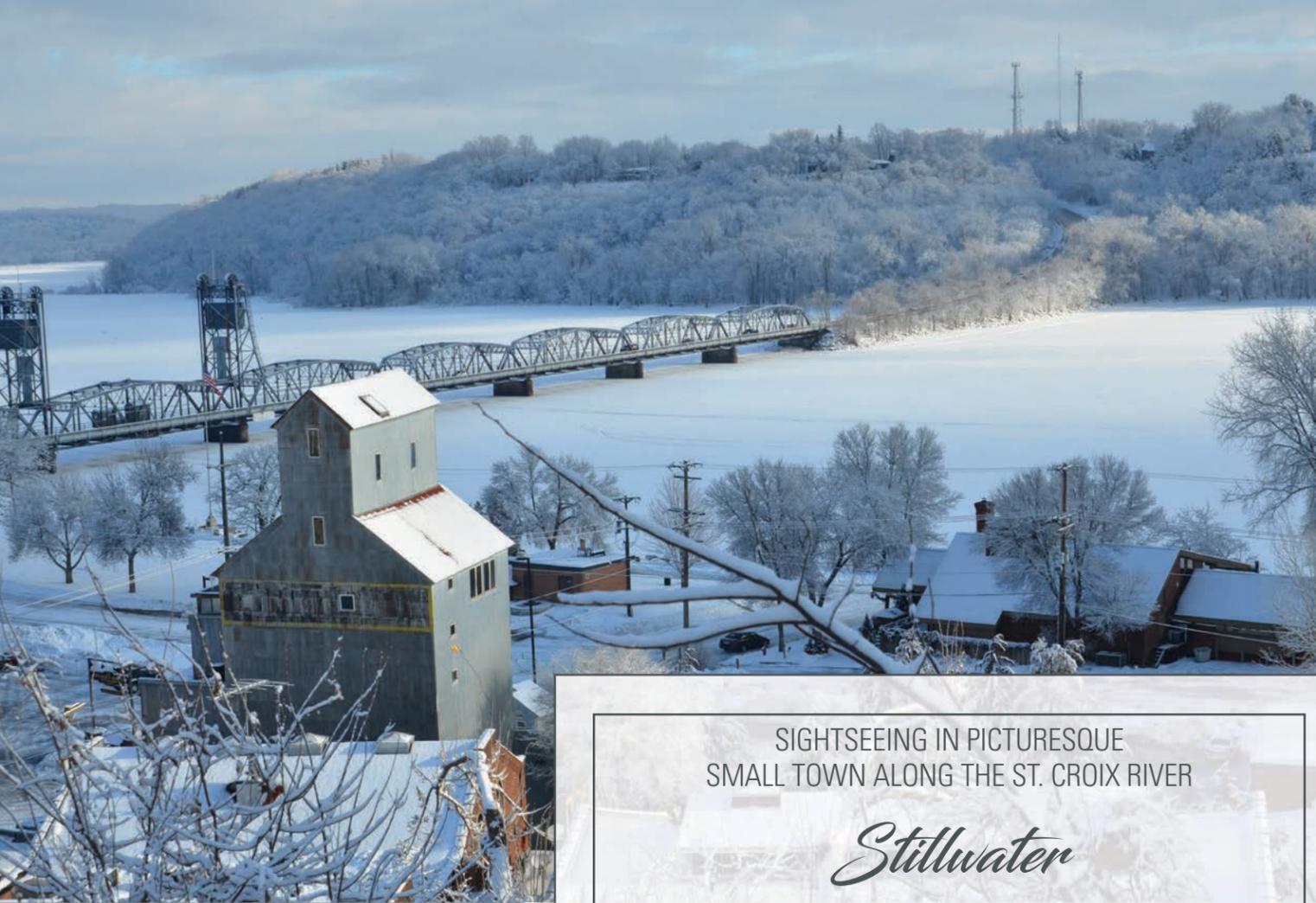
*\* Food/beverage and transportation extra*

*\* Quantity of rental equipment varies*



Washington  
County



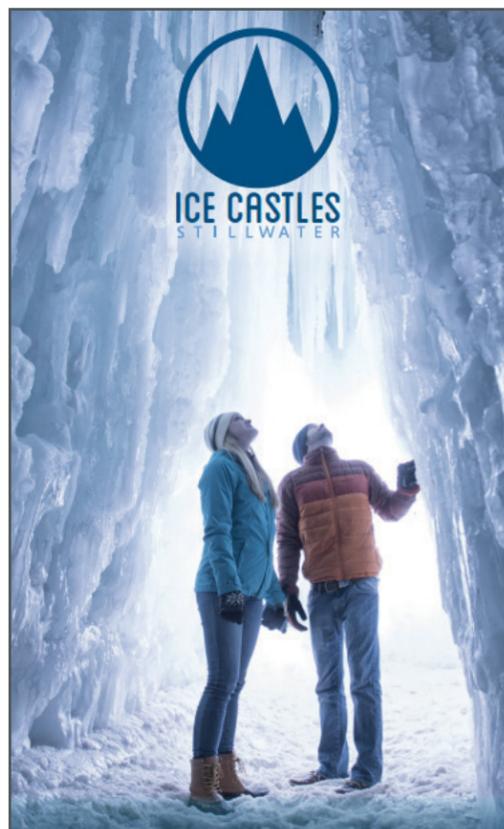


SIGHTSEEING IN PICTURESQUE  
SMALL TOWN ALONG THE ST. CROIX RIVER

## Stillwater

Visit the Birthplace of Minnesota for a day of sightseeing, history and fun in what *USA Today Travel* says is one of America's Most Picturesque Small Towns. A historic lumber town, Stillwater's Main Street is alive with 100 independently owned boutiques, art galleries, specialty gift stores, breweries, wineries and culinary stops like pubs, wine bars, restaurants and artisan cheese shops. Take in the beauty of the winter snowscapes, find the hidden historic steps with views, and enjoy a stroll through the beautiful and ethereal Ice Castles\* on the river front. After exploring and shopping, warm up at one of Stillwater's fabulous restaurants for a great meal. For corporate groups, Stillwater offers 20 different meeting spaces, including The Idea Pad, which is a unique downtown option for intimate small group retreat-like gatherings.

\*Ice castles availability will be confirmed in summer 2017.



# Stillwater



## LOCATION

Stillwater, MN  
(along the St. Croix River on the MN/WI border)

## CAPACITY

55 for most restaurants

## AVAILABILITY

Sunday, Jan. 28 - Saturday, Feb. 3  
Hours vary based on activity selected

## RECOMMENDED LENGTH

Six hours for activity and meal

## COST INCLUDES\*

- Ice castles admission
- \* Food/beverage and transportation extra
- \* Room rental for a business meeting can also be arranged.



## RESTAURANT OPTIONS

- The Dock Cafe
- Lowell Inn  
Matterhorn Room with 4-Course Swiss Fondue
- Water Street Inn
- Lion's Tavern
- The Green Room
- Domacin
- Reve Bistro & Bar

## AFTER DINNER STOP

- The Velveten Speakeasy (said to open this summer in lower level of JX Venue)
- Pub 112 (Whiskey Lounge)
- Maple Island Brewing

## BUSINESS MEETINGS

20 Stillwater venues supporting meetings for 25-300 people





SLEIGH AND PLAY AT  
*The Outing Lodge*  
 Nestled in the middle of quiet wooded park, just 25 minutes from Minneapolis, enjoy winter inside and outside The Outing Lodge. Snowshoe along glowing ice luminary trails or follow snowy trails by horse drawn wagon as you experience winter's splendor. Enjoy the roaring outdoor bonfire or move inside and meander through this turn-of-the-century hideaway including a 7-foot fireplace! Appetizers, dinner of house-made pot pie, and signature Belgium truffles top off this magical evening.  
 Full cash bar available.



WAHOO ADVENTURES  
*Outing Lodge at Pinepoint · Stillwater*



**LOCATION**

Outing Lodge at Pine Point  
 Stillwater, MN

**CAPACITY**

Pricing based on a minimum of 50 participants  
 Maximum group size is 100

**AVAILABILITY**

Monday, Jan. 29 - Saturday, Feb. 3  
 Recommend 5:00pm-9:00pm  
 Daytime hours can be accommodated

**RECOMMENDED LENGTH**

Four hours for activity and meal

**COSTS INCLUDE**

- Venue rental fees
- Food, including tax and gratuities  
 Full cash bar available
- Snowshoes and horse drawn wagon  
 \* Transportation extra

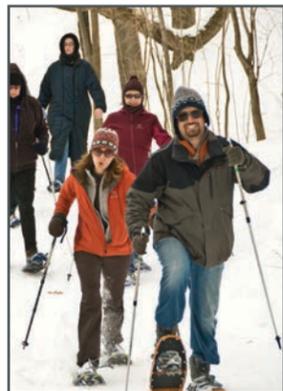




EXPERIENCE THE WONDERS OF  
WINTER AT THE

*Arboretum*

Named #1 Botanical Garden by *USA Today* Readers Choice 2017, the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum is a year-round, in-town getaway. It boasts more than 1,100 acres of beautiful gardens and tree collections, prairies, woods and miles of walkways and trails that can inspire creativity and team-building. The Arboretum's unique indoor spaces offer distinct venues for meetings, business retreats, breakout sessions and corporate functions. Whatever your reason to visit, the Arboretum offers a place to escape for reflection, to re-energize or to plan for the future while enjoying an extraordinary connection with the wonders of the season.



# Minnesota Landscape Arboretum · Chaska

## EXPERIENCES

- Insights into the Arboretum Presentation
- Plant-Maker Studio
- Make-and-Take: Seasonal Planting Buffet
- Flowers for Pollinators: Catch the Buzz! Presentation
- Apple Breeding Presentation and Orchard Display (Feb) in Great Hall. (Home of the world-famous Honeycrisp)
- Grape Breeding Presentation and MN Wine Tasting
- Snowshoeing or Cross Country Skiing on Arboretum trails
- Photography classes, including tips on sports photography for the Big Game!
- *Amazing Race* activity – Indoors or Out
- Cooking classes in the Harvest Kitchen – Tailgating with MN recipes
- AND MORE!

## LOCATION

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum  
Chaska, MN

## CAPACITY

10-300, depending on activity

## AVAILABILITY

Sunday, Jan. 28 - Saturday, Feb. 3  
Hours flexible based on group size and activity

## RECOMMENDED LENGTH

Two-hour program time; plus time for meal

## COST INCLUDES\*

- Admission fee
- Venue rental fees
- Activity guides and supplies as needed
- Audio-visual equipment
- Food/beverage, including tax and gratuities.

\* *Transportation extra*





*The Experts*

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# MEET THE EXPERTS

## Wendy Porter uses her brand of magic to create yours!



Wendy Porter  
Owner/Chief Events Officer  
Wendy Porter Events, LLC  
(S/WBE)

Wendy Porter is the Owner and Chief Events Officer at Wendy Porter Events, LLC, where she has executive oversight for professional event management, marketing programs and experiential brand management. Wendy is a highly creative, consultative, success-driven marketing and event management professional with a track record of organizing and managing high-profile national events and marketing campaigns from proposal through execution, both in the U.S. and internationally. She is a strong team leader and mentor with a passion for excellence, and a unique ability to integrate strategic, creative, operational and financial resources to achieve desired results.

Wendy has more than 25 years of experience in corporate America, serving in marketing and event leadership roles for Fortune 100 companies, most recently as the Director of Marketing and Events for UnitedHealthcare Medicare & Retirement for a decade.

*"We strive for perfection,  
but we settle for excellence!"*

Walt Disney

Through years of managing high-level events, Wendy has fostered event partnerships with major national brands, including: AARP, New England Patriots, Green Bay Packers, Miami Dolphins, Atlanta Falcons, Dallas Cowboys, PGA, CBS Sports & News, Boston Celtics, Walgreens, Chase Bank, iHeart Radio, Turner News, LPL Financial, the Grammy Foundation, the Entertainment Industry Foundation (EIF), and KaBOOM!, among others.

Wendy has received accolades for her event management, including personal recognition from one of *Fortune's* 50 Most Powerful Women in Business, former CEO of UnitedHealthcare, Gail Boudreaux. In 2011, Wendy was the recipient of a UHC Innovation Award for improving employee engagement through a variety of organizational and leadership effectiveness initiatives, including the bi-annual UHC Medicare & Retirement CEO Leadership Meeting.

Wendy is a member of two event Associations: MPI (Meeting Professionals International) and SPiN (Senior Planners Industry Network) and is an occasional attendee at the local ILEA (International Live Events Association) meetings. She is an active community volunteer, previously serving on the alumni reunion committee at St. Olaf College, the community garden and grounds keeping committees with St. Joseph Home for Children and with UnitedHealthcare employee volunteers.

Wendy graduated cum laude from St. Olaf College with BA degrees in both Mathematics and German. She holds a certificate to study for masters' level credit at any German university. Wendy is an award-winning home gardener and enjoys attending art fairs and supporting local artists. She is an avid traveler, both in the U.S. and Internationally.



Wendy Porter Events, LLC

A Certified Small Woman-Owned Business Enterprise

Wendy excels in all types of events: VIP Hospitality Events, Leadership Retreats and Conferences, Trade Shows, National Sales Meetings, Social Responsibility Volunteer Initiatives, Sporting Events and Fundraisers/Galas.

# MEET THE EXPERTS

**Connected, experienced recreation leader for the world's largest playground – outdoors!**



Stephanie LeGros  
Outdoor Educator Enthusiast

Stephanie LeGros is an experienced leader who is passionate for programs that develop teams and promote the great outdoors. Her signature wilderness programs help people and teams feel renewed, engaged and inspired while connecting in beautiful natural surroundings. The results of her programs speak for themselves: Participants report an increased level of self-confidence, stronger connections with one another and enthusiasm for the great outdoors.

Stephanie works with all types of groups including work teams, schools, women, seniors and children. She believes in getting people outside to enjoy the abundant opportunities in all seasons of the year.

Stephanie developed her professional skills and passion through more than 25 years of experience in outdoor education including planning, developing and leading programs for the National Park Service in Alaska, Washington State and Minnesota; Dakota County Parks, community education, school districts, public and private sector groups and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. She is the host of the local TV show, "Community Parks Connection," which has been in production for the past 12 years.

Through her work she has developed a focus in organization development, helping individuals and teams shine through StrengthsFinder coaching, facilitation and training. Her top five strengths from StrengthsFinder 2.0: Strategic, Maximizer, Activator, Belief, Relator



# MEET THE EXPERTS

## Wild inspiration to think and work differently – daringly – together



Chris Heeter  
Founder of The Wild Institute



An award-winning speaker and renowned wilderness guide, Chris Heeter is the founder of The Wild Institute and openly admits that much of what she's learned about humanity comes from dogs and rivers — from her team of 16 sled dogs, who she helped breed, raise, and train – to her decades of guiding whitewater canoe trips. Combined, they create the perfect back-drop for memorable, easy to apply, lasting, and life-changing tools for teams, leaders and organizations.

Chris combines business expertise with hilarious stories from her three decades of working in the wild. She has a deep understanding of how teams work and draws on these experiences to illustrate remarkable parallels to the working world. Wild at Work enlivens organizations through perspective, hilarious stories, interaction, and easily memorable and applicable principals that help leaders, teams, and individuals be more creative, courageous, and collaborative.

Chris' work has been featured on The Discovery Channel's "National Geographic Today," and she has been named Top Ten Speaker of the year by MeetingsNet. She was the highest rated speaker of Meeting Professional International's 2014 World Education Congress, as well as being a finalist for Minnesota Meetings and Events Magazine's "Best Teambuilding Facilitator."

Chris sits on the board of the University of Minnesota's Raptor Center, is a Wilderness First Responder and a graduate of NOLS (National Outdoor Leadership School). She holds a bachelor's degree in Recreation and Social Work from George Williams College, where she recently received the Distinguished Alumnae Award. She is a poet and shares her writing and Wild Dares through her newsletter, Wild Thoughts. Chris challenges and inspires organizations and individuals toward Wild leadership, compassionate presence, and daring authenticity.

\*\* Chris Heeter is offering special discounted rates for groups associated with MN B.O.L.D events. Ranging from 1 hour presentations to half- or full-day sessions, Chris' humorous, engaging and dynamic presentations will assist you and your team in thinking differently and working together more cohesively. Rates vary based on length of session. Contact Wendy Porter Events for details.





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

 (612) 310-7107

 [wendy@wendyporterevents.com](mailto:wendy@wendyporterevents.com)