A balmy Winter, an early Spring and a torrential beginning to Summer: Weather in Minnesota is as wild as the people who live here.

Minnesota Reflections features a number of ways Minnesotans get out into the wild, and bring the wild home. Looking to get away? We've got the guides to help you.

This 1895 “Tourist's and Sportsman's Guide to Duluth, Superior and Vicinity” has all you need: http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p16022coll6/id/139/rec/1

If city dwellers want to experience the wild in a more civilized fashion, there's always Wildwood Park on beautiful White Bear Lake: http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/compoundobject/collection/MSN/id/544/rec/1

Of course, Minnesota has ample opportunities for camping and canoeing as well.

• Here, Boy Scouts Oscar, Phil and Bob lounge in style on Basswood Lake: http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/NSM/id/46/rec/1
• A spot of idyllic fishing on the Red River: http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/NSM/id/46/rec/1
• Even priests need a little R & R time with the fishing pole: http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/BSM/id/90/rec/1
• And let us not forget the joys of sleepaway camp. Sophie Wirth Camp gave immigrant Jewish children the chance to leave the city behind – but not necessarily their mothers: http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/JHS/id/203/rec/1 Hey, Mom needs a day off too!

Minnesota’s wilderness also offered opportunity and employment such as:
• at the Clough Bros. & Hartley Camp lumber camp, 1880: [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/mhs/id/1364/rec/1](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/mhs/id/1364/rec/1)
• or through the Civilian Conservation Corps, shown here at Scenic State Park: [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/irrc/id/2492/rec/1](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/irrc/id/2492/rec/1)
• and this portage crew at Duncan Lake near Grand Marais: [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p15160coll14/id/136/rec/1](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p15160coll14/id/136/rec/1)

Of course, if you are a famous writer, you turn to the wilderness to relax, as Sinclair Lewis did in August of 1942: [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15160coll1/id/1548/rec/1](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/compoundobject/collection/p15160coll1/id/1548/rec/1)

Can’t get out into the Wild? Let the wild come to you!
• The Duluth Zoo offered elephant rides: [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/nemhc/id/3688/rec/1](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/nemhc/id/3688/rec/1)
• Circuses brought a taste of both wild animals and wild exploits to town: [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/good/id/272/rec/1](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/good/id/272/rec/1) and [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/nemhc/id/2726/rec/1](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/nemhc/id/2726/rec/1)
• No time for a full circus? Take in a bear fight on the streets of downtown St. Cloud: [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/stearns/id/201/rec/1](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/stearns/id/201/rec/1)

Minnesota’s youth did not find it necessary to head to the wilderness to indulge in a little wild behavior. Even our youth, such as Glanville Smith, age 10, have enjoyed the thrill of a strategic game of “boys caught girls”: [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/ref/collection/stearns/id/1759](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/ref/collection/stearns/id/1759)

College students demonstrated true collegiate spirit:
• with such activities as pushball at Macalester College: [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/macal/id/71/rec/1](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/macal/id/71/rec/1)
• and the annual Frosh-Soph tug-of-war at Carleton College: [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/ccn/id/219/rec/1](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/ccn/id/219/rec/1)

And don’t think the girls didn’t go in for the hijinks as well.
• Here a group of female St. Cloud State University students prepare for a snowball fight: [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/stc/id/154/rec/1](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/stc/id/154/rec/1) I wonder if the hats provided more coverage than today’s snug fitting toques?
• Or, perhaps they were not always so wild, as seen here in Night Life in Bodien’s Women’s dorm at Bethel College, 1959-1960: [http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p15160coll13/id/115/rec/1](http://reflections.mndigital.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p15160coll13/id/115/rec/1)

Whatever degree of wild you enjoy, you can find it in Minnesota Reflections!