

"To develop and promote resources for Economic Growth in our community."



Photo Courtesy of McGregor Area Chamber. Captured by Stratelgent.



December 2023

Are you ready to move you, your family and/or your business to an amazing area? We welcome you to visit anytime. Tour any of our available properties, enjoy our recreational assets, amazing dining and our unique entertainment offerings. We think you will agree, it is Naturally Better here. Aitkin County is a community with momentum. We are confident once you visit, you will live here!

naturallybetterhere.com



Economic Development Priorities to Invoke Change



Priorities to Invoke Change

Promote Recreation
and Tourism

Improve
Broadband

Support
Childcare

Support Career
Development

Business Retention,
Expansion and
Attraction

Support Housing
Initiatives

County Economic Development: What you need to know:

Attention Businesses! DEED office of Small



A platform to highlight topics and ask questions to experts and peers

Join the conversation every month on the 2nd Tuesday at 2pm.

Scan to join video call



m EMPLOYMENT AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

MN Office of Small Business Development

Small Business Employers Paid Leave Q&A

Get answers to your questions about Paid Leave:

[read the document](#)

Mississippi Headwaters Board and Aitkin County Wins 2023 MAPCED Outstanding Economic Development Award



Resourcetainment is a unique concept developed by the Mississippi Headwaters Board to promote Mississippi River paddling events that bring about awareness of the natural resource and increase local economic development.

The implementation of the concept was executed by Aitkin County, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Aitkin County Water Trails committee which promotes a “Naturally Better” recreational/economic branding campaign for the cities and towns in Aitkin County.

A paddle down the Mississippi was held for the general public, and a social hour was held afterwards with beer and wine tasting to promote economic development. In the last three years, this concept has spurred nearly \$10,000 in economic activity, fostering increased patronage for local restaurants and craft breweries, greatly benefiting them.

The collaboration that led to implementation is a key factor in the success of Resourcetainment, and all partners involved worked diligently to turn this concept into a successful reality.





Aitkin County Establishes a Housing Trust Fund

December 12, 2023- The Aitkin County Board of Commissions adopted an ordinance establishing the Aitkin County Housing Trust Fund.

The next step is to finalize the implementation plan by working with cities and organizations in Aitkin County to meet the need of home owners, potential new home owners and developers.

Stay tuned for details.....

Aitkin County City Signage Opportunity

To: Cities of Aitkin County
RE: Naturally Better signage opportunity

CALLING ALL CITIES OF AITKIN COUNTY. You have an opportunity to collaborate with the County when you plan to upgrade your City signage, i.e. - City welcome signs. When you design the signs, consider using the Naturally Better wording or logo on your signs. If you would decide to use the logo or wording, the County will support the project with \$1,000, going directly to the design and/or construction of the sign.

Interested? Reach out directly to me. mark.jeffers@co.aitkin.mn.us.

Aitkin County Economic Development is committed to supporting projects in our entire County and look forward to your requests.

Thanks to the City of Aitkin for getting the ball rolling!



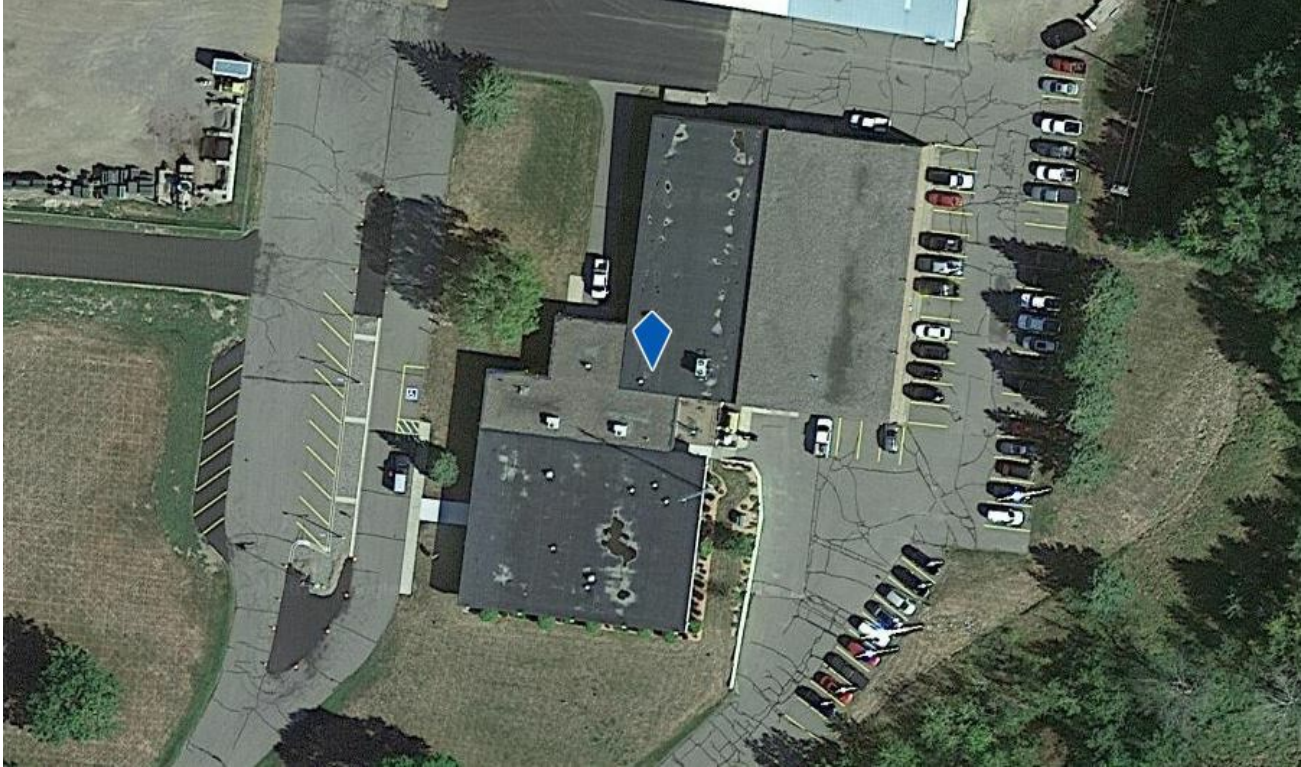
Aitkin County supports the Lakes Area United Way by celebrating the 2nd annual Chili-Cook off!





Properties Available in the Aitkin Area

[Tour the Properties](#)



Contact me directly for any details and additional opportunities: mark.jeffers@co.aitkin.mn.us.

36559 US Highway 169

County Business Spotlight



Mark's Bar

McGregor, MN

148 Hwy 210





APPETIZERS

Comes with choice of one sauce.

FRICKLES 9.99	TATER TOTS 13.99
ONION RINGS 10.99 <small>Served with Mark's Bang Bang Sauce</small>	JALAPENO POPPERS 10.99
MOZZARELLA STICKS 9.99	DRUMMIES 13.99
CHEESE CURDS 10.99	12" PIZZA FRIES 14.99
POUTINE <small>Served with Gravy 9.99 Sub Tator Tots 10.99</small>	DEEP FRIED NACHO RAVIOLI BITES <small>With pizza sauce 10.99</small>
FRENCH FRIES <small>Small 3.99 Large 5.99</small>	JALAPENO MAC & CHEESE BITES 10.99
	CHICKEN TENDERS <small>(only) 8.99</small>

PTERODACTYL WINGS 19.99
Six whole wings served with choice of two sauces

Additional sauce 75c each
Ranch | BBQ | Teriyaki | Buffalo Sweet Chili | Habanero Mango

SALADS

SIDE SALAD 5.99	GRILLED OR CRISPY CHICKEN WITH TACO SALAD 16.99 <small>Chicken or beef. 16.99</small>	BUFFALO CHICKEN SALAD <small>Ranch or Blue Cheese Dressing 15.99</small>
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BROASTED CHICKEN

1/4 CHICKEN DINNER 12.95 1/2 CHICKEN DINNER 16.95
Dinners include choice of potato. To 16's, baked, French fries, or mashed with gravy, coleslaw or cottage cheese and dinner roll

2 PIECE 7.99	8 PIECE 19.99	12 PIECE 25.99	FAMILY SIZE
4 PIECE 11.99	10 PIECE 22.99	16 PIECE 33.99	20 PIECE 39.99

SOUP OF THE DAY
CUP 5.99 | BOWL 7.99

SPECIALTY SANDWICHES

All specialty sandwiches served with French fries.
Substitute tater tots 1.25 or onions rings 1.75. Gluten free bread available.

TEXAS BEEF
Slow cooked tender roast beef piled high on a Parmesan garlic marble rye with Swiss and American cheese and a special green chili sauce 14.99

HOT BEEF SANDWICH
Slow cooked tender roast beef piled high, mashed potatoes and covered with homemade gravy 14.99

FRENCH DIP
Slow cooked tender roast beef piled high on a hoagie bun with au jus 14.99
Add cheese, onions, peppers or mushrooms for 50¢ each

REUBEN
Tender sliced corned beef piled high on fresh marble rye bread with sauerkraut, thousand island dressing and Swiss cheese 15.99

BUFFALO CHICKEN SANDWICH
Grilled chicken breast smothered in spicy buffalo sauce and topped with pepper jack cheese and Mark's famous homemade blue cheese dressing 14.99

TEXAS CHICKEN SANDWICH
Grilled chicken breast with Swiss and American cheese, fresh sliced tomato and lettuce. Served on grilled Parmesan garlic Texas toast 13.99

BLUEGILL SLIDER
2 brioche slider buns topped with lightly battered and fried bluegill fillets, a tangy citrus slaw, and American cheese. Drizzled with mango habanero 14.99

B.L.T. ON TEXAS TOAST 10.99

GRILLED CHEESE
Swiss and American cheese on Texas toast 7.99

TACOS

Two soft or hard shell tacos.

GROUND BEEF
Ground beef topped with lettuce, onion, tomato and cheese served with a side of salsa and sour cream. 11.99

SOUTHWEST CHICKEN TACO
Seasoned diced chicken with shredded lettuce, onion, tomato, jalapenos and cheese, served with a side of salsa and sour cream. 12.99

PULLED PORK TACO
Smoked pulled pork topped with lettuce, tomatoes, red onion and drizzled with sweet chili sauce. 12.99

BLUEGILL FISH TOSTADA
Bluegill tostada drizzled with mango habanero, and citrus slaw 14.99

BASKETS

SHRIMP BASKET 12.99	CHICKEN STRIP BASKET 11.99	DRUMMIE BASKET 13.99
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BURGERS & MORE

Burgers are 1/2 lb. and served with chris and pickle slices.
Add fries 2.25, tater tots 3.00, onion rings 3.50 | Gluten Free Bun Available

HAMBURGER 10.99	SWISS MUSHROOM BURGER 13.99
CHEESEBURGER 11.99	CALIFORNIA BURGER 12.99 <small>Lettuce, tomato and mayo</small>
BACON CHEESEBURGER 13.99	BANG BANG BURGER <small>1/2 lb. hamburger patty, bacon, pepper jack cheese, lettuce, tomato, jalapenos, red onion and Mark's homemade Bang Bang sauce on a brioche bun. 18.25</small>
PATTY MELT 11.99	
BLACK & BLEU BURGER <small>Burger with Cajun seasonings topped with Swiss cheese and Mark's famous blue cheese crumbles. 12.99</small>	

HOMEMADE PIZZA

Our pizzas are handmade with fresh ingredients. We offer thin crust or original.
12" California Crisps Available add 3.00

	9"	12"	16"
CHEESE	11.99	15.99	18.99
PEPPERONI	12.99	18.99	23.99
CANADIAN BACON	13.99	19.99	24.99
SAUSAGE	14.99	20.99	25.99
3 MEAT	18.99	25.99	31.99
HOUSE SPECIAL <small>Pepperoni, sausage, onion, mushroom and green pepper</small>	18.99	25.99	31.99
TACO SUPREME <small>Includes: special sauce, taco meat, black olives, onions, lettuce, tomatoes and cheddar cheese</small>	17.99	24.99	30.99
BUFFALO CHICKEN <small>Spicy Buffalo sauce mixed with ranch dressing, topped with diced chicken, diced pickles, diced red onions and mozzarella cheese. Blue cheese or Ranch.</small>	17.99	21.99	28.99

ADDITIONAL MEAT TOPPINGS

PEPPERONI	1.00	3.00	5.00
CANADIAN BACON	2.00	4.00	6.00
SAUSAGE	3.00	5.00	7.00
ADDITIONAL TOPPINGS <small>Mushrooms, green peppers, onions, black olives, green olives, jalapenos, pineapple or extra cheese</small>	1.25	1.75	2.25

BEVERAGES

1919 ROOT BEER 4.00	MILK
SODA (free refills) 2.50 <small>Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite, Dr. Pepper, Mello Yello, Orange Fanta, Lemonade</small>	<small>Small 2.50 Large 3.50</small>
TEA 1.50	HOT CHOCOLATE 3.00
	COFFEE 2.00
	APPLE CIDER 3.00

KIDS MENU

CHICKEN STRIPS & FRENCH FRIES 7.99
BEEF OR CHICKEN SOFT SHELL TACO & FRENCH FRIES 6.99
SMALL CHEESE PIZZA 5.99
GRILLED CHEESE & FRENCH FRIES 6.99
HAMBURGER & FRENCH FRIES 7.99
CHEESEBURGER & FRENCH FRIES 8.99

Mark's Bar

What makes Aitkin County Naturally Better



Community

Aitkin



Cities



Contact Us



AITKIN COUNTY

Mark Jeffers
Economic Development Coordinator
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218-513-6188

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