

1998 Manitou Days Treasure Hunt
Bald Eagle Lake Park, White Bear Township

Clue #1:

*Get to the root of this Manitou quest
Join us in our White Bear fest.
If over treasure you hope to stand
Search on city or township land.*

Explanation:

"Get to the root" hinted at the fact that the medallion was placed near the above-ground roots of a very slanted oak tree. "If over treasure you hope to stand" also told hunters to keep their search toward the ground.

Clue #2:

*An elevated tank should have some rank
In the plans that you may ponder.
You'll will never draw a blank
If you set your focus yonder.*

Explanation:

A water tower "elevated tank" could be seen to the east of the medallion's hiding space.

Clue #3:

*If these trees could tell a tale
A lot they would have to say.
People arriving by road and rail
In an earlier day.*

Explanation:

This clue referenced the very old trees found in the park and major road (Highway 61) and rail routes very near the site.

Clue #4:

*A road that is prime at any time
Lies just out of view.
If you hope to solve this rhyme
The sum of seven is a clue.*

Explanation:

Highway 61 was the focus of this clue. 61 is a prime number and $6+1=7$. The road lay just beyond a hill.

Clue #5:

Vertical is the way that most of them go
But there are exceptions to the rule.
So remember to keep your search ever-low
And yours is the precious jewel.

Explanation:

This clue referred to the slanted tree under which the medallion was tucked.

Clue #6:

*A symbol of our nation strong
Melts in the warmth of spring.
There is no way that you can go wrong
If you get to the right wing.*

Explanation:

"A symbol of our nation strong" is the Bald Eagle, a clue for Bald Eagle Lake – which "melts" each spring. The lake looks like a Bald Eagle and hunters were told to get to the "right wing" of the lake where the park is located.

Clue #7:

*A road whose name and destination are the same
Will set your spirits high.
In order to win this puzzling game
Notice moving objects in the sky.*

Explanation:

Hugo Road could be found very near the treasure site, which runs north to Hugo ("name and destination are the same"). "Moving objects in the sky" referred to planes coming and going from Benson Airport, to the northeast of our hiding spot.

Clue #8:

*The medallion is hidden near lots of H2O
Offering fun all around.
Though crafts often use the water's flow
Warning signs can be found.*

Explanation:

There is popular boat launch at Bald Eagle Lake Park and near the launch are several signs instructing boaters to inspect their crafts for Eurasian Milfoil.

Clue #9:

*A lake with the initials of B and E
Will allow your ideas to soar.
Faithfully search the trees that you see
While standing quietly on the shore.*

Explanation:

The slanted tree of our choosing was easily spotted by standing at the shore and looking toward Hugo Road.

Clue #10:

*Bald Eagle Lake park is where you should be
With your mind in treasure mode.
Laying at the base of a "slouching" tree
Between a parking lot and Hugo Road.*

Explanation:
Final hints to the treasure's location.

Treasure's Exact Location:

NOTE: The parking lot was expanded since the treasure was hidden here in 1998. The "slanted tree" was removed in the reconstruction.

