

1999 Manitou Days Treasure Hunt
Wildwood Park, Mahtomedi

Clue #1:

*The challenge is new, this we assure you
As Manitou Days returns once more.
These clues will be your guide to pull you through
And all private property you must ignore.*

Explanation:

“Challenge is new” placed the medallion at a location never previously used in the history of the hunt and instructed hunters that this location was public property.

Clue #2:

*A city on screen has a tie to the scene
So try and surmise the right name.
If you know what we mean
You could very well win this game.*

Explanation:

“A city on screen” referred to the movie *Fargo*, which had a scene filmed at the nearby Lakeside Club.

Clue #3:

*If you wander near, something will appear
Allowing people to walk where once forbidden.
Houses can also be seen when the day is clear
From the secret place our treasure is hidden.*

Explanation:

“Appear” – or A PIER – could be seen on Lost Lake from the medallion’s location, which allows people to essentially walk on water. Homes could be seen across the lake and in the Wildwood Ponds development east of the site.

Clue #4:

*Being precise could be quite nice
If you ponder a figure of three.
A number and its double are seen twice
And near them you should be.*

Explanation:

The “figure of three” is 244 (“a number and its double are seen twice”). Highway 244 is could be seen (and heard) from the site.

Clue #5:

*You should keep in mind something you can't find
Despite the face that is right before you.
There's no need to quest how its name was assigned
Or why it's one part split into two.*

Explanation:

Something that can't be found is "lost" – a tie to Lost Lake. The lake is split into two by Highway 244.

Clue #6:

*Material that's alive you must derive
Out of this puzzle you are now faced.
Staring at this clue will allow you to arrive
Successfully at inside what the medallion's encased.*

Explanation:

"Material that's alive" referred to the moss under which the medallion was slipped. "You must derive" and "staring at this clue" pointed to the fact that the first letter of each line spelled out MOSS.

Clue #7:

*If you're in White Bear, the medallion's not there
But to travel east would be right.
Another bit of information – if you care
Is that a rollercoaster could once be seen from the site.*

Explanation:

This clue put the medallion east of White Bear Lake in Mahtomedi and mentioned the old Wildwood roller coaster, which could once be found closer to White Bear Lake.

Clue #8:

*If you should roam not far from the home
Two names will surely fit the bill.
Be very careful of the deception in this poem
And find the collective identity of Ernie and Will.*

Explanation:

"Ernie" and "Will" collectively form Willernie, a small town near Wildwood Park.

Clue #9:

*Now, if you agree – think of a tree
That's irrational and hard to control.
This is the place you should be
If you are fulfill your goal.*

Explanation:

A tree that "irrational and hard to control" could be said to be WILD WOOD, the name of the park.

Clue #10:

*A grove of oak is no joke
On a Wildwood Park hill.
So find a slab of cement that broke
And you'll be nearer still.*

*The medallion will be found partially in the ground
But the one who digs will be at a loss.
For our hidden treasure that's clear and round
Resides in a soft bed of moss.*

Explanation:
Final hints to the treasure's location.

Treasure's Exact Location:

