

2007 Manitou Days Treasure Hunt  
Ramsey County Beach, White Bear Lake

Clue #1:

*This year's busy place will be a change of pace  
And it was quite a challenge to hide the puck.  
Put down that book, get on out and look  
Just ask the other outdoor lovers if you get stuck.*

Explanation:

"Busy place" and "ask the other outdoor lovers" put the medallion in a public location that draws many summer visitors.

Clue #2:

*Spreading forth, a creature from the north  
Now a regular in and around these parts.  
You'll take the cake if you can stay awake  
Now go to task and exhibit your smarts.*

*In your perambulation take this invitation  
To pick up any trash you see.  
Let's keep our parks tidy, but first look inside-y  
And you could be shouting with glee.*

Explanation:

"Creature from the north" and "now a regular in and around these parts" referred to the zebra mussel, an invasive species that entered Minnesota waters through the Great Lakes and spread south. Signs warning about zebra mussels can be found in the parking lot near which the medallion was hidden. "Awake" hinted at the No Wake Zone instituted near the boat launch. "Pick up any trash you see" and "look inside" told hunters that the medallion was tucked inside an item that may appear as trash (a bag of chips).

Clue #3:

*In a daze see through the haze  
A presidential name hides at a distance.  
Think of a variety of fun under the sun  
All will help give your hunt some assistance.*

Explanation:

"See through the haze" and "presidential name" referred to Rutherford Beach, which can be found to the northeast of Ramsey County Beach. "A variety of fun under the sun" pointed to the many activities that people can do in the park.

Clue #4:

*Pardon the cliché, but as one does say  
Some big fish might be swimming here.  
Don't get yourself wet, 'cause it's a safe bet  
That the medal is dry but somewhere near.*

Explanation:

This clue put the medallion near White Bear Lake (where “big fish” might swim) but in a dry location.

Clue #5:

*In a little more than a week here they'll seek  
With attention paid to the nighttime sky  
Oohs and ahhs, an occasional applause  
A colorful explosion captivates their eyes.*

Explanation:

This clue referred to the crowds that gather every Fourth of July to watch the city's fireworks.

Clue #6:

*A letter combination for your application  
Just capture the code with your eye.  
A great clue, a system that has bid ado  
Simply solve the series XCV and I.*

Explanation:

“XCV and I” are roman numerals that can combine to form the number 96, the major highway within yards of the medallion's hiding spot.

Clue #7:

*Go for a spin jump on your Schwinn  
Pedal on over to the wild, wild west.  
Watch children play or throw trash away  
Choose which of these that you like the best.*

Explanation:

This clue referred to the bike path connecting West Park (“wild, wild west”) and Ramsey County Beach. The third line also instructed hunters, once again, to focus on discarded objects in the park.

Clue #8:

*The hungry grill steak while sun-bathers bake.  
Combers just wander beside the water.  
Hunters should run towards the smaller one.  
If you're away from sand, you're getting hotter.*

Explanation:

The first line spoke to the picnic grounds and beach. The second two lines provided information on the location of the treasure within Ramsey County Beach. “Run toward the smaller one” instructed hunters to seek a small pond near the parking lot – not the lake. “Away from the sand” told hunters to avoid the beach.

Clue #9:

*Find our bounty, go to land owned by the county.  
Come and relax move at a slower speed.  
You'll be feeling divine if you see signs in a line  
And follow them into the high weeds.*

Explanation:

The medallion was hidden in high weeds in line with four handicapped signs in the parking lot.

Clue #10:

*Find those blue signs that form a line  
In a lot at Ramsey beach.  
Go forth, from the line march north  
A bag holding the prize is now in reach!*

Explanation:

Final directions to the 2008 hunt.

Treasure's Exact Location:

