



Appleton, WI



Appleton, Wisconsin, is one of 18 communities known as the Fox Cities. The Fox river runs through the center of the town. The city was named for Sarah Appleton, the wife of Amos Lawrence, who donated money for the Lawrence Institute, the predecessor of Lawrence University, which is located in the city. Appleton is a center of the paper-making industry.

Appleton's museums include the History Museum at the Castle, which has collections representing the history of the Fox Valley dating back to the 1840s and exhibits of performance paraphernalia and historic documents related to Harry Houdini, who lived in the city. The Paper Discovery Center, located in the former Atlas Mill, is home to the Paper Industry International Hall of Fame and focuses on the science and technology of paper. Other Appleton museums include The Trout Museum of Art; The Building for Kids Children's Museum; Coventry Glassworks & Gallery, which features original fine art, crafts, and custom architectural art glass; and Hearthstone Historic House Museum, which was the first house in the world lit by a hydroelectric central station based on the Thomas A. Edison system.

Fox Cities Performing Arts is home to the Fox Valley Symphony Orchestra, Broadway touring shows, and family entertainment. The Attic Theatre offers community theater shows. The White Heron Choral, Appleton Boychoir, and Chaminade Women's Chorus hold concerts in various locations every year. The Lawrence University Conservatory students perform opera, jazz, symphonic, and other musical concerts.

NEIGHBORHOODS

Residential options in Downtown Appleton include apartments and historic homes along the Fox River, apartments above College Avenue's shops, and other luxury condominiums and apartments, which are located in rehabilitated historical buildings or are newly constructed.

Homes in the Old Third Ward were built between 1851 and 2004, although most were built before 1930. Architectural styles include Italian Villa, Prairie School, American Four-Square, Colonial Revival, Revival Cottage, and Queen Anne. Several Old Third Ward buildings, such as the Hearthstone Historic House Museum, and one district are listed on the state and National Register of Historic Places. Many Appleton neighborhoods are defined by their local parks. The Appleton City Park Historic District contains one of the city's largest concentrations of Victorian architecture, in particular residences in the Queen Anne, American Craftsman, and American Foursquare styles. Most of the houses date between 1881 and 1910. Other neighborhoods include Erb Park, Pierce Park, and Alicia Park. Housing styles in the Erb Park neighborhood, near the Appleton Medical Center, include revival cottages, Craftsman Bungalows, Four Squares, and Mid-century Moderns. Houses in the Pierce Park and Alicia Park neighborhoods were built in similar styles. These neighborhoods offer easy access to the Fox River, and the Appleton Yacht Club is located in the Pierce Park neighborhood. Some older homes in Alicia Park have been demolished and replaced with much larger homes. The River Drive neighborhood is on the opposite side of the Fox River and is near St. Elizabeth Hospital. Many homes in this neighborhood also have access to the river.

Newer neighborhoods, such as Maple Hills, Apple Hill Farms, and Evergreen Meadows, have been developed over the past 15 years on the north side of Appleton. Apple Hill Farms, for example, is currently under construction and has high-end and medium-priced single-family homes and condominium units.

PARKS AND RECREATION

The Appleton Parks and Recreation Department operates 31 parks, 2 outdoor pools, an indoor pool, more than 8 miles of recreation trails, an 18-hole golf course, a central city plaza, and historic sites. Community park amenities include a swimming pool, disc golf courses, fishing ponds, tennis courts, a ball diamond complex, large pavilions and open space for individual and community events, gardens and an arboretum, an indoor ice arena, sledding hills, skating rinks, and playgrounds.

Appleton Memorial Park is home to the Appleton Family Ice Center, an indoor ice skating rink; The Gardens of the Fox Cities, a 38-acre public garden; The Miracle League of the Fox Valley, an organized baseball league for children with physical or mental disabilities; and the Universal Playground, which is designed with ramps and rubber turf to allow wheelchair access and has other accommodations for physically disabled children. The park also has 7 baseball or softball fields, an open ice skating rink, a sledding hill, and a fishing pond.

Erb Park features open play areas, a basketball court, an outdoor swimming and wading pool, volleyball courts, an ice skating rink, a sledding hill, ADA accessible playground equipment, and lighted tennis courts.

The Wisconsin Timber Rattlers is a minor-league baseball team that plays in Appleton.

EDUCATION

Appleton Area School District educates 15,000 students in 15 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, and 3 high schools. The city is also served by 15 charter schools.

Higher education is available at Lawrence University, a private, liberal arts university and a conservatory of music. Fox Valley Technical College offers associate degrees, technical diplomas, certificate programs, and instruction related to apprenticeship trades. Globe University prepares students for careers in medical, legal, computing, business, and creative fields. Marian University Appleton Center has academic programs designed for adult students. Rasmussen College, Appleton Campus, is a private, career-focused college that offers associate and bachelor degrees. All programs at Concordia University–Appleton, which grants certificates and associate, bachelor, and master degrees in selected fields, are offered in an accelerated format with classes that meet one night a week.

HEALTH CARE

Appleton is served by two hospitals with more than 500 licensed beds.

CITY STATS

2010

City Population	72,623
Metropolitan Statistical Area Population	225,666
Per Capita Personal Income, Appleton, WI, MSA	\$27,334