

BUSINESS RESOURCES

ELY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - VISITOR & INFORMATION CENTER

Opportunities



Ask people why they visit Ely and they will share a variety of reasons, for example: "It's a long standing family tradition," to "Everyone has told them they had to visit," and "Ely is their favorite shopping destination."

Ask residents why they live in Ely and the

answers vary too, ranging from: "Generations of family keep calling this place home," to "A wonderful retirement spot," and "A beautiful place to raise a family."

A common thread running through the reasons people chose to visit and live here: the vibrant and dynamic Northwoods lifestyle.

Visitors love the Northwoods feel and warm, friendly home town reception. Residents love the strong sense of community, numerous activities, and countless points of recreation and adventure.

We may be at the end of the road, but we are

most certainly where the adventure and fun begins.

Ely was named the Sled Dog Capital of the World; and is home to the International Wolf Center, North American Bear Center, Dorothy Molter Museum, Ely-Winton History Museum, and Minnesota Canoe Museum. These attractions draw tens of thousands to our area each year. There is so much to experience.

As you review our information, please jot down your questions and ideas. We are here to assist as you consider business opportunities.

Business Resources:

- **Ely Chamber of Commerce**
- **Entrepreneur Fund**
- **Northland Small Business Development Center**
- **City of Ely**
- **Ely Economic Development Authority**
- **IRRR - Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation**
- **Northspan**
- **JET**

Health Services

Ely is the location for the Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital, which is currently expanding to become a regional health center. EBCH services include cutting-edge technology. Residents do not have to travel to 60 - 100 miles for special treatments and surgery.

We are also fortunate to have a full service clinic operated by Essentia Health. A team of general practitioners and nurse practitioners provide out patient care.

Specialists from both Virginia and Duluth provide monthly visits to further expand services.

The Ely Behavioral Health Network provides support for both behavioral and mental health needs.

Northern Lights Clubhouse offers programs for adults with chronic mental health needs who desire re-entry into the workforce.

Ely-Bloomenson Community Hospital
PH: 218-365-3271
www.ebch.org

Essentia Health Clinic
PH: 218-365-7900
www.essentiahealth.org

Ely Behavioral Health Network
PH: 218-365-7980
www.elycct.org

Northern Lights Club House
PH: 218-235-9539
www.elynlc.org



**Ely Chamber of
Commerce and
Visitor &
Information Center
1908 - 2025
117 Years of Service**

Ely Chamber of Commerce

Established in 1908 as the Ely Businessmen's Association, the Ely Chamber of Commerce has grown and changed with the Ely area business community.

As a business association, we are an organization representing the business community on economic issues. We offer several membership options to meet the needs of our diverse membership. As part of our membership package, members are promoted on our website www.ely.org, which contains a variety of business and visitor resources.

We offer a variety of business supports ranging from business development programs, to workforce assistance and workforce housing leads.

Ely has a strong economic base rising up from two distinct areas: tourism and Ely-made products. Few Iron Range communities can boast about the level of tourism and locally made

products currently in our midst.

Our area is supported by multiple industries including hospitality & tourism, manufacturing, retail, services, trade, mining, and arts & crafts. With a diverse economic base not reliant on one specific industry or sector, our area economy is set to provide long-term stability.

Locally made products are an Ely tradition, but today we have businesses from outside of the area moving here to join the locally made movement. The word is out and businesses choose to move due to the strong branding of Ely and our incredible quality of life.

The Chamber markets to the Iron Range, Duluth and Minneapolis areas for many of its promotions. Our promotions are designed to draw people to Ely for the day. Once they visit our shops and businesses, they come back for short visits and extended stays. We have a unique shopping

experience. Some of our current business promotions include: Operation Blueberry, Harvest Days, City Wide Rummage, Business Crazy Day, and Used Equipment & Watercraft Sale; Shine Bright Ely; Celebrate Ely; Small Town Christmas; and Mrs. Claus Party.

We also organize the two largest art festivals in the area: Blueberry/Art and Harvest Moon Festivals. Each event draws 40,000 and 20,000 people respectively to our area over the 3-day events.

Our winter event is the WolfTrack Classic Sled Dog Race held the last weekend in February.

New businesses or owners are encouraged to celebrate with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The Chamber will provide ribbon, scissors, Board of Director Representative and City or Township official. We also have media contacts for your press release.

We have a variety of resources available, many listed within our Business Newsletter. We are here to assist you as you consider the Ely business community and make the transition to our wonderful north woods community.

To learn more about the Ely Chamber of Commerce, please contact Eva Sebesta at 218-365-6123 or director@ely.org.

Chamber Staff

Eva Sebesta, Executive Director director@ely.org

Kristen Switajewski, Event Director events@ely.org

Lori Boes, Visitor Center Coordinator fun@ely.org

Ely Chamber of Commerce
1600 E. Sheridan Street
Ely, Minnesota 55731
PH: 218-365-6123
Website: www.ely.org

Business Resources

CITY OF ELY

The City of Ely houses a number of city offices including:

Planning & Zoning

218-226-5457

Building Official & Permits

218-226-5476

City Utilities

218-226-5528

Public Works

218-235-3082

Utilities Commission

218-226-5528

Clerk's Office

218-226-5449

Website:

www.ely.mn.us

ELY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (EEDA)

The EEDA offers a variety of resources to new and existing businesses including business lending opportunities through both traditional and non-traditional lending sources and the Business Energy Retrofit Program.

Contact Info

Harold Langowski
Clerk-Treasurer
218-226-5474
elyod@ely.mn.us

John Fedo
Economic Development
Consultant
218-969-5192
jorlfedo@paulbunyan.net

Website

eeda.ely.mn.us

ENTREPRENEUR FUND

The Entrepreneur Fund "actively partners with entrepreneurs in northeast Minnesota to spark growth and achieve success." Businesses who require marketing, business or strategic planning can receive support. They also offer a variety of training.

Contact

218-623-5747
info@entrepreneurfund.org

Website

www.efund.org

NORTHSPAN GROUP

The Northspan Group provides services including business valuation and succession planning. They also provide strategic planning facilitation, financial feasibility services, economic impact assessments, and workforce attraction services through Northforce.

Contact

Miriam Kero
218-481-7737
mkero@northspan.org

Website

Northspan.org

NORTHEAST OFFICE OF JOB TRAINING (JET)

JET offers assistance to both job seekers and employers through training and funding opportunities. They can provide disability guidance for employers who are

interested in employing individuals requiring special accommodations.

Contact

Renee Prout
218-735-6176
Renee.prout@nemojt.org

IRON RANGE RESOURCES & REHABILITATION (IRRR)

Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation is a department of the State of Minnesota offering business resources, workforce solutions, and financing for both new businesses and business expansion.

Contact

Roy Smith
218-735-3039
Roy.smith@state.mn.us

Website

Mn.gov/irrrb

NORTHLAND SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The Northland Small Business Development Center provides a variety of business planning services, financing, and business training.

Contact

Katherine Lahti
Business Consultant
218-461-9951
Katherine@northlandsbdc.org

Website

northlandsbdc.org



Let's Talk Numbers

Population (2019)

Ely	3390
Babbitt	1419
Winton	116
Embarrass	665
Tower	470
Soudan	378
St. Louis County (within 25 miles)	2526
Lake County - Fall Lake	560
Lake County - Stony River	230
Total Area Population	9754

City of Ely Sales Tax

Year	Gross Sales	Taxable Sales	Sales Tax
2015	\$109,164,107	\$45,886,793	\$3,281,073
2016	\$111,804,795	\$47,281,743	\$3,423,197
2017	\$122,453,955	\$49,520,892	\$3,571,935
2018	\$130,294,207	\$49,465,846	\$3,530,568
2019	\$126,699,954	\$48,191,236	\$3,442,982
2020	\$114,948,950	\$46,627,285	\$3,327,681

Current Sales Tax - 7.35%

www.revenue.state.mn.us

Lodging Tax

Lodging tax is collected by resorts, motels, bed & breakfasts and other facilities providing stays less than 30 days. The current lodging tax collected is 3%.

Year	Tax Collected	Approx. Revenue
2015	\$299,267	\$9,975,567
2016	\$297,598	\$9,919,933
2017	\$298,456	\$9,948,533
2018	\$317,679	\$10,589,300
2019	\$291,385	\$9,712,823
2020*	\$285,760	\$9,525,322
2021*	\$325,257	\$10,841,900

*No longer includes Lake County contributions.

BWCAW Permits

The Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness provides a variety of day and overnight recreational experiences. Reservable permits include day use motor, overnight motor, overnight hiking and overnight paddle. Day use permits include paddle and hiking permits entering and exiting on the same day. Numbers shown represent all entry points for the BWCAW.

Year	Reserved	Day Use	Total
2014	24,301	11,732	36,033
2015	26,094	13,634	39,728
2016	25,898	15,830	41,728
2017	25,773	14,496	40,269
2018	25,631	15,162	40,793
2019	25,278	14,908	40,186

Real Estate, Financial & Accountant Services



Real Estate

Bear Island Land Co.
943 E Sheridan St, Ely
218-365-2800

Ely Realty

10 N. 1st Ave, Suite 206, Ely
218-365-2100

Central Avenue Business Park

655 S Central Ave, Ely
775-781-2047

Financial

Highland Bank

601 E Sheridan St, Ely
218-365-6181

Edward Jones

150 W Sheridan St, Ely
218-365-4535

Ely Area Credit Union

2 E Chapman St, Ely
218-365-3131

Frandsen Bank & Trust

103 E Sheridan St, Ely
218-365-6121

NorthRidge Community Credit Union

1321 E Sheridan St, Ely
218-365-3297

Accountants

Charles R. Zeugner, CPA

10 N 1st Ave E, Suite 204, Ely
218-235-9234

Walker, Giroux & Hahne, LLC

225 First St N, Virginia
218-749-4880

Need other contact information? Please give us a call at 218-365-6123. We have information for a wide range of products and services.