

Camp Ripley
"The Warrior's Choice"



MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD
2026 CAMPR RIPLEY COMMUNITY BRIEF





Camp Ripley's Mission

Provide superior customer service, facilities, and resources empowering organizations to train in a realistic environment while fostering positive community relations.





Minnesota National Guard Leadership



Major General Shawn Manke

The Adjutant General of the Minnesota National Guard



Command Sergeant Major Jason Rost

Command Senior Enlisted Leader - Minnesota National Guard





34 Infantry Division Leadership



Brigadier General Joseph Sharkey

Commander of the 34th Infantry Division



Command Sergeant Major Marc Dempsey

Command Sergeant Major of the 34th Infantry Division



Camp Ripley Command



Colonel Troy Fink

Garrison Commander of Camp Ripley



Command Sergeant Major Chad Turner

Garrison Command Sergeant Major of Camp Ripley



Economic Impact



Payroll	\$	55,049,879.18
Construction Projects & Maintenance Contracts	\$	60,400,000.00
Utilities	\$	2,700,000.00
Food/Meals	\$	5,103,958.28
Amy REPI	\$	7,970,872.77
Education (Statewide)	\$	14,733,852.49
Total	\$	137,987,689.95

Camp Ripley's Economic Impact increased by 66% in 2025 when compared to 2024

Camp Ripley has 800-1,000 State & Federal Employees



Location

- 52,831 acres (21,379 ha)
 - 50,731 acres (17,237 ha) Range
 - 2,100 acres (849 ha) Cantonment
- State Owned Property
- Three Counties
 - Morrison
 - Cass
 - Crow Wing
- 18 miles (29 km) of undisturbed Mississippi River
- Level II Training Center
- 45 live and 23 non-live fire ranges





Accomplishments / Events

- In 2025, we hosted 582,225 DoW and 59,729 local/state interagency partners
- In 2025, Camp Ripley Training Center was the second heaviest utilized National Guard training center in the country.
- Hosted multiple training events with the Air Force, Navy, Marines, Coast Guard, along with the countries of Canada, Norway, and Croatia.
- Hosted DNR and State Patrol Academies
- Celebrated the 53rd Anniversary of NOREX
- Worked with area school districts to develop an Emergency Action Plan (EAP)
- Hosted the President of Croatia (2025)
- Hosted Chief of National Guard Bureau visit (2026)





Construction Update

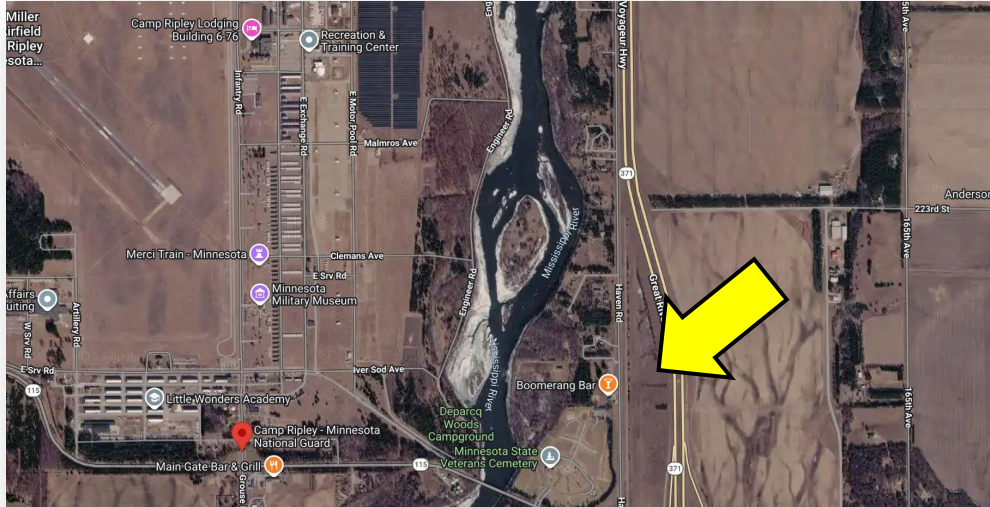


- Area 5 (BN HQ/Dining Facility/ Supply Building) (**In-Progress**)
- Cantonment Training Area (CTA) 02 Infrastructure Upgrades (**In-Progress**)
- Consolidated Maintenance Activity (CMA) North Renovation (**In-Progress**)
- Renovation of Soldier Quarters (T-Buildings) (**In-Progress**)
- U.S. Property & Fiscal Office (USPFO) 15-2 (**In-Progress**)
- CTA 17 Wash Rack Renovation (**In-Progress**)
- Range Operations Renovation (**In-Progress**)
- Aircraft Hanger Renovation (**In-Progress**)
- Access Control Point (**FY27**)



Museum Update

MN Legislature approved \$32.7M to build a new Minnesota Military and Veterans Museum



- Currently under construction (Final Completion September 2026)
- Located between Veterans Cemetery & Hwy 371
- 45,800 sq ft on 18.5 Acres
- Exhibit Galleries, Exhibit support spaces, an Environmental Learning Classroom, Exhibit Classroom, Office suite, Archival storage, and Collections Storage spaces.
- \$ 32.7M Appropriation
 - \$ 2.1M Design
 - \$ 25.5M Construction
 - \$ 1.3M Contingency
 - \$ 90K Commissioning
 - \$ 750K SIOH
 - \$ 3.0M FFE



2026 Scheduled Training

MAR – 5,600 Military (Lake Superior Scottish Regiment)
1,350 Civilian

APR – 11,300 Military (MNNG BWC, Aerial Gunnery, Artillery, MVOP Hunt)
1,150 Civilian

MAY – 11,850 Military (Artillery, Modernization)
900 Civilian

JUN – 7,650 Military (Artillery, Modernization)
550 Civilian

JUL – 6,000 Military (Aviation, Tank/Bradley Gunnery, Modernization)
1,100 Civilian (Youth Camp)

AUG – 4,300 Military (Tank/Bradley Gunnery, Modernization)
1,150 Civilian (Youth Camp)

SEP – 6,450 Military (Tank/Bradley Gunnery, Small Arms Ranges, Modernization)
2,050 Civilian (Snowplow Training, iSportsman Hunts)

OCT – 4,800 Military (Small Arms Ranges, Modernization, MVOP Hunt)
2,000 Civilian (Snowplow Training, Youth Hunt, iSportsman Hunts)





Prescribed Burns

When: Approximately March-June Approx. 15,000 planned acres for 2026

Why we conduct burns:

- To create a safe training environment for Soldiers and protect surrounding communities
- Mitigates the risk of fires starting during range firing
- Improve and enhance native fire dependent plant communities

Considerations taken before burns:

- Wind Speed/direction
- Temperature
- Relative Humidity
- Fuel/moisture content
- Training area occupancy

Those involved:

- Camp Ripley's Fire and Emergency Services
- Camp Ripley's Dept. of Public Works
- Camp Ripley's Environmental Team





Community Outreach

- Camp Ripley Open House (September 2027)
- Environmental Field Tours, Festivals and Presentations
- Little Falls Day of Caring
- Morrison County Water Festival
- Memorial and Veterans Day Speeches
- Christmas Gift Tags (58 tags)
- Food Drives (467lbs)
- Blood Drives (5134 units/pint)
- Job Shadow Program
- Archery Hunting: (ripley.isportsman.net)

Veteran Outreach:

- Disabled American Veterans Hunts
- Trolling for the Troops Fishing Event
 - www.mnvetsoutdoors.org





Environmental Program

Partnership Driven

Agencies and organizations involved with resource management and support on Camp Ripley:

- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- MN Department of Natural Resources
- MN Board of Water and Soil Resources
- Morrison Soil and Water Conservation District
- Central Lakes College
- The Nature Conservancy
- Legacy Works Group
- Tribal Relationships



Most Awarded Conservation Team

Among all Services & Installations
10-year summary

2016	NR Conservation (Large Installation)	OSD
2018	CR Management (Large Installation)	OSD
2020	NR Conservation (Team)	OSD
2022	CR Management (Team)	SecArmy
2023	NR Conservation (Large Installation)	OSD
2023	NR Conservation (Team/Individual)	SECArmy
2024	NR Conservation (Large Installation)	ARNG
2024	CR Management (Team)	ARNG
2025	NR Conservation (Small Installation)	ARNG
2025	NR Conservation (Team/Individual)	ARNG



Collaborative Wildlife Research

- **Golden Eagle:** Only mid-west eagle transmitter project in the U.S.
- **Gray Wolf:** Federal listed species; No impact to military training
- **Blandings Turtle:** At-risk species, one of largest populations in MN resides at Ripley
- **Black Bear Radio-Telemetry:** Longest continuous research project in MN. Robust private-public partnership (Medtronic and University of MN)



Sentinel Landscape Grant Funding FY24-26

- Federal
 - \$7,190,590 REPI/ARNG
 - \$5,030,000 Land and Water Conservation Fund
 - \$2,500,000 NRCS Conservation Partnership Funding
- State
 - \$6,384,000 Outdoor Heritage Fund





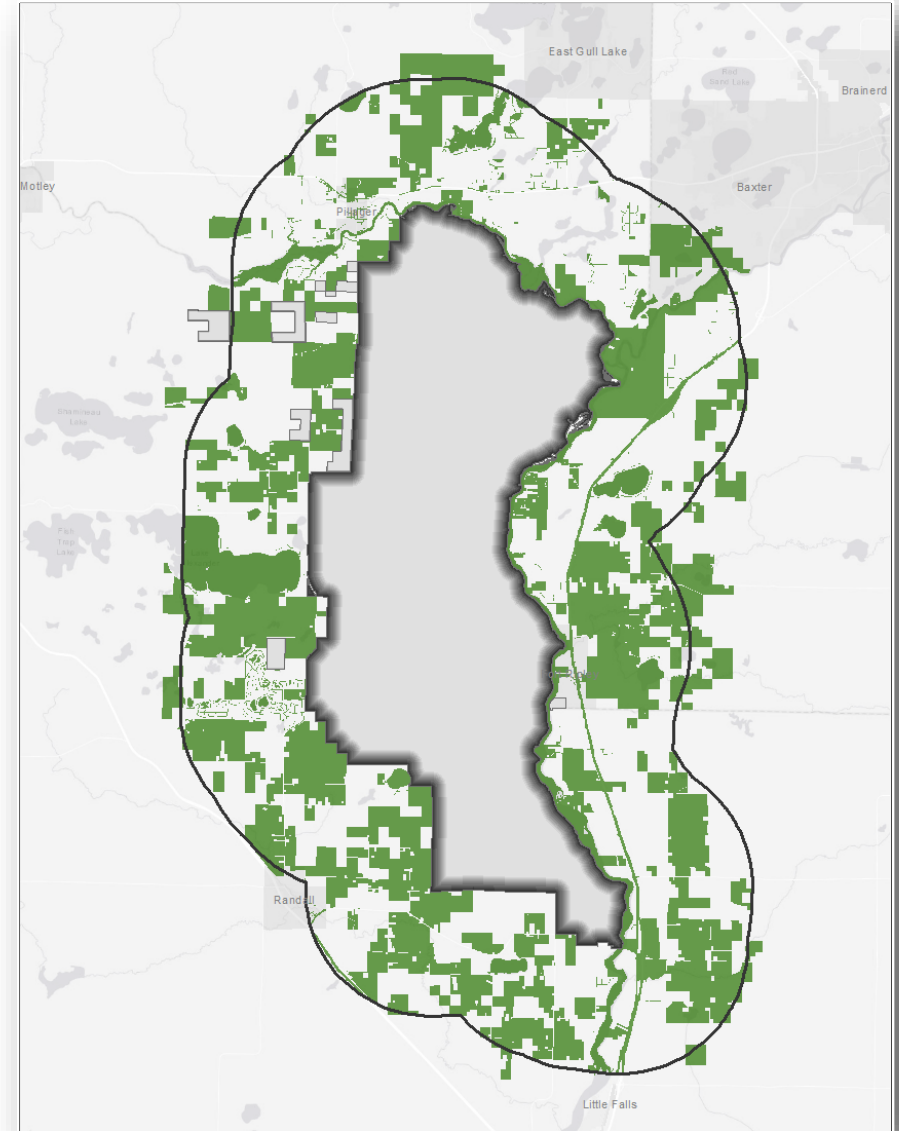
Army Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI)

Formerly Known as the Army Compatible Use Buffer (ACUB)

Conservation Easements and Acquisitions

- >40,000 acres enrolled
- Willing Landowners Only
- Maintaining Rural Landscape
- Protecting Habitat
- Protecting Agriculture
- Eliminating Training Restriction

- Land Management and Restoration
- Improve Agricultural Operations
- Manage and Improve Habitats
- Building Resiliency





State Partnerships



MN DNR

- Offices on Post
- Academy conducted
- Annual training events



MN State Patrol

- Offices on Post
- Academy conducted
- Annual training events



HSEM

- Multi-agency training events conducted



MN DOT

- Annual driver training events



Support to Civil Authorities



Typical Missions:

- Winter Storm Response
- Flood Response
- Wildfire Response
- Civil Disturbance

Typical Associated Tasks:

- Security
- Traffic Control (TCP)
- Evacuation
- Search and Rescue
- Civil Disturbance Control
- Aerial Wild land Fire Response
- Natural Disaster Relief
- Emergency Debris Clearance
- Emergency Shelter
- Mutual Aid (CRTTC)





Soldier & Family Programs

Military and Family Life Counseling
Mr. John V. Reinert
571.921.5424
john.v.reinert@leidos.com



Soldier & Family Readiness
Mr. Troy Gjerde
320.616.3119
troy.t.gjerde.civ@army.mil

Beyond the Yellow Ribbon
Mrs. Stefanie Hurt
320.616.6192
stefanie.j.hurt.civ@army.mil





Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)

- (UXO) are military munitions that failed to function properly upon use
- Do not go near, touch, move or disturb a munition or suspect munition
- Carefully, leave the area, the same way you entered it
- Document your location with GPS if available

Reporting

- Off Camp Ripley: DIAL 911
- On Camp Ripley:
 - Range Operations (320) 616-3137
 - Public Safety (320) 632-7375

- R**ecognize - when you may have encountered a munition and that munitions are dangerous.
- R**etreat - do not approach, touch, move or disturb it, but carefully leave the area.
- R**eport - call 911 and advise the police of what you saw and where you saw it.





Questions?



Follow up questions?

Please follow our social media or call 320-632-7000

