



WISCONSIN CITY QUESTIONNAIRE

1 What is the meaning of your City's name?

Located at the western end of Lake Superior, Superior is named after the Lake.

2 Describe your City government.

The City of Superior is run by a Mayor and a ten-member City Council. For further information, log on to www.ci.superior.wi.com.

3 Name your City's natural resources.

Lake Superior—the largest, deepest and cleanest of the five Great Lakes. The City has within its limits the 4,500 acre Superior Municipal Forest. The Forest is the second largest municipal forest in the United States and includes summer and winter recreational activities and trails. Further, the City is bounded by three bays and two rivers: St Louis Bay, Superior Bay and Allouez Bay and the St Louis and Nemadji Rivers.

4 What are your city's main industries?

Superior has the only oil refinery in the State—Murphy Oil. Additionally, there are a number of businesses involved in shipping iron ore, grain and coal. Originally a shipbuilding business, Fraser Shipyards has the largest dry dock on Lake Superior and now repairs and converts ships.

5 What type of educational opportunities (including museums, nature centers, historical sites and schools) does your City provide?

Museums: There are three public museums in Superior operated by Superior Public Museums. They are Fairlawn Mansion and Museum, a 42-room Victorian mansion built in 1890; the S S Meteor Maritime Museum, the world's only remaining whaleback ship built in Superior in 1896; and The Old Firehouse and Police Museum, built in 1898, and is the home of the Wisconsin State Fire and Police Hall of Fame.

The Richard I Bong World War II Heritage Center honors Major Bong, "America's Ace of Aces" and all of the brave men and women who defended American's freedom during World War II.

The World of Accordions Museum is the only accordion museum in the United States. It houses a unique collection of accordions, concertinas, button boxes and other accordion-family instruments and boasts a 350-person capacity concert hall.

The Douglas County Historical Society whose home is the historic Swedish Vasa Hall, serves as guardian to the history of immigration, industry and daily life in Superior and Douglas County. They provide archival research & community programs, perform history theater and always have permanent and changing exhibits on display.

Historical Sites: The first log cabin was built in Superior in 1853 on the banks of the Nemadji River at what is now 31st Avenue East. During the Summer of 1862, a stockade was built near the current intersection of 18th Avenue East and East Second Street to protect the citizens of Superior during the Sioux Uprising. While he was staying in the area in 1928, President Calvin Coolidge established the Summer White House in the Central Junior High School building.

Schools: There are five pre-schools, seven elementary, one middle and one senior high public schools; three parochial schools; and two post-secondary schools—the University of Wisconsin-Superior and Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College-Superior.

6 What is the climate (average temperature and precipitation)?

A humid continental type climate, modified by the tempering influence of Lake Superior and by local variations in topography. Lake Superior acts as a large storage basin for heat or cold and thus tends to increase the number of frost-free days along the Lake, but also acts as a coolant in the Summer. The average yearly precipitation is 32.1 inches. In the Summer, Douglas County away from the Lake is considerably warmer.

Seasonal average temperatures:	Season	Low	High
	Winter	1°F	25°F
	Spring	17°F	59°F
	Summer	46°F	78°F
	Fall	23°F	66°F

7 What is the population of your City? Describe your City's ethnic background and any related topics.

The population is 27,368 (2000 census). Two early explorers, Radisson and Grossiellier, arrived at the site where Superior now stands in 1661. Originally settled by Scandinavians, Belgians and Germans, Superior is a "melting pot" of most nationalities.

8 What are the main systems of transportation that your City provides?

All areas of the City are accessible by public buses and taxi cabs. Superior's Richard I Bong Airport and the nearby Duluth International Airport provide air service.

9 What recreational opportunities does your City offer (Sports, Festivals, Parks)?

There are City-sponsored basketball, baseball, soccer and hockey leagues. All of the schools provide opportunities for students to play in a variety of sports. The Superior Municipal Forest has an archery course and hiking, biking, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling trails. Nemadji is a 36-hole public golf course. The Superior Skate Park is free and has a variety of ramps, pipes and launch boxes for beginner and advanced skateboarders and in-line skaters. The City has 19 parks scattered throughout the City's neighborhoods and on Barker's Island.

The Lake Superior Dragon Boat Festival is held each August. The Superior Curling Club sponsors a curling league and holds an international bonspiel each year. Additionally, there are a variety of small running and biking events held throughout the year.

10 What are your City colors?

Our City colors are Blue and White.

11 Do you have a City symbol?

The City symbol is a lighthouse.

12 Did anyone famous come from your City?

Professional football players Ernie Nevers, Tuffy Lemans and Doug Sutherland. Bud Grant, who for many years was the head coach of the Minnesota Vikings. Professional baseball players Dave Bancroft and Dan Morgan. Ice Capades star Bess Ehrhart. World Championship Curling Team. Olympic Curling Team. Arnold Schwarzenager attended the University of Wisconsin-Superior.

13 Why did people settle in your City?

Spurred by the prospect of lucrative shipping and the iron ore industry, businessmen from Chicago and St Paul laid claim to the Superior site and began planning a city. The locks and ship canal at Sault Ste Marie, Michigan, opened allowing ships to pass through the entire chain of the Great Lakes to Superior. This inspired the building of a railroad from Superior to the Pacific Ocean, which made a rail and water highway from coast to coast.

14 Do you recycle? What do you recycle?

Yes. There is a mandatory recycling of plastics, aluminum, paper, cardboard, glass and tin.

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