

Detroit Lakes Troll Hunt ~ Giant Dambo Trolls in DL MN

In the spring and early summer of 2024, Thomas Dambo, Project 412, and hundreds of local volunteers spearheaded Detroit Lakes Troll Hunting, a burgeoning global sensation. Six towering trolls, crafted from recycled materials, now dot various locales like Detroit Lakes' City Park, Dunton Locks and Detroit Mountain. Beyond their whimsical charm, these sculptures convey a profound environmental message, showcasing Dambo's dedication to turning trash into art.

Embark on an interactive adventure to hunt down these colossal trolls! Scattered within Detroit Lakes, the six trolls beckon discovery with five conveniently located within 0.3 to 11.0 miles of The Holiday Inn Detroit Lakes Lakefront (accessible via provided driving maps to parking areas). Begin your quest with Alexa, the first troll, nestled in Detroit Lakes City Park near the beach. The sixth troll, a golden Rabbit hides in secrecy, its whereabouts unveiled only through deciphering clues embedded in the trolls' symbols and letters.

Each troll boasts a unique persona and backstory, inviting families to indulge in imaginative play and storytelling. Designed to be tactile and climbable, these sculptures promise enjoyment for both children and adults alike. Beyond their aesthetic appeal, this experience serves as an educational opportunity, blending fun with lessons in sustainability amid the beauty of the great outdoors.

Follow the order of Trolls starting with the one in City Park to accumulate clues and discover the six Dambo trolls while enjoying troll-hunting adventure in Detroit Lakes:



Begin your quest with **Alexa's Elixir**

- **Accessibility:** This troll stands proud in the city park and is easily visible from the parking lot. This is straightforward to find and offers an engaging story, making it an ideal starting point for your troll exploration.
- **Difficulty Level:** Easy

- **Location:** Detroit Lakes City Park | 1355 Washington Ave, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
- **Driving Directions**
 - Head northwest on Frontage Rd toward N Shore Dr 0.2 mi
 - Turn left onto N Shore Dr 1.1 mi
 - Continue onto Roosevelt Ave 0.1 mi
 - Turn left onto N Shore Dr 0.3 mi
 - Turn left onto Park Lake Blvd 335 ft
 - Turn right 171 ft

- **You'll find Troll Alexa's Elixir just waiting to greet you to the Detroit Lakes City park. Alexa is ready to enchant visitors of all ages with it charm and storytelling.**

Alexa's hand pushes through a special portal that allows her to reach out to: Holmes Center in Detroit Lakes, Chamber of Commerce building in Perham and Robert's Alley in Fargo ND.



Second is **Barefoot Frida** who is an outdoorsy type that loves small but fun challenges!

Step into Frida's world where nature and whimsy intertwine. Her challenge for you is to follow in her footsteps and discover the hidden treasures of Detroit lakes. Embrace the thrill of exploration as you navigate the scenic paths and rolling landscapes that lead to her domain. Along the way, keep your senses sharp for clues and surprises that she has cleverly woven into the environment.

Whether you're scaling a gentle incline or pausing to appreciate the natural beauty around you, Barefoot Frida invites you to immerse yourself fully in the adventure. Engage with her challenge and uncover the joy of discovery in the heart of this enchanting troll hunt

- **Accessibility:** Barefoot Frida is located about 1/3 mile from the parking area. The walk has mild inclines.
- **Difficulty Level:** Moderate
- **Location:** Randolph Ave & Highway 54, Detroit Lakes, MN
- **Driving directions**
 - Head south on Frontage Rd toward Co Hwy 24/Co Hwy 53 0.1 mi
 - Turn left onto Co Hwy 24/Co Hwy 53 374 ft
 - Continue onto Co Hwy 54 0.1 mi



Third and tallest Troll is **Long Leif**

Long Leif is the tallest of all of the Trolls, he towers 36 feet. His towering presence and adventurous spirit, eagerly awaits your visit amidst the natural beauty of Detroit Mountain Recreational Center.

To locate Long Leif, keep an eye out for his unique identifier necklace, featuring a distinctive symbol and number. This identifier ties into the larger treasure hunt adventure, offering clues and adding depth to the enchanting quest through Detroit Lakes.

- **Accessibility:** You can find him about a 1/3 mile from the parking lot on a wooded trail. The walk is fairly easy with slight hills.

- **Difficulty Level:** Moderate

- **Location:** Detroit Mountain Recreational Center | 29409 170th St, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501

- **Driving directions**
 - Follow Frontage Rd to US-10 W 0.2 mi
 - Turn left at the 1st cross street onto US-10 W 0.3 mi
 - Take Highland Dr to MN-34 E 1.6 mi
 - Turn right onto MN-34 E 5.6 mi
 - Continue on 335 Ave
 - Drive to 330 Ave 2.9 mi



Fourth Troll Detroit Lakes: **Ronny Funnyface**

- **Accessibility:** Ronny Funnyface is located on a fully paved trail that runs alongside the lake, easily accessible approximately a quarter mile from the parking lot.
- **Difficulty Level:** Easy
- **Location:** Dunton Locks County Park | 24878 Dunton Locks Rd, Detroit Lakes, MN 56501
- **Driving directions**
 - Head northwest on Frontage Rd toward N Shore Dr 0.2 mi
 - Turn right onto N Shore Dr 108 ft

- Turn left onto US-10 W 2.1 mi
- Turn left onto US-59 S 1.1 mi
- At the traffic circle, continue straight to stay on US-59 S 1.8 mi
- Turn right onto Dunton Locks Rd 479 ft

You will arrive at Dunton Locks County Park, Where Ronny Funnyface awaits amidst the serene beauty. Look for his whimsical features and vibrant personality as you explore the paved trails along the lake.

Ronny Funnyface, named for his endearing a playful demeanor, captures the imagination with his whimsical expression and quirky features. Standing tall amidst Dunton Locks County Park, Ronny is a testament to creativity, crafted entirely from recycled/repurposed materials. His face tells a story of fun and mischief, adorned with expressive eyes, a mischievous grin and perhaps a hint of hidden secrets waiting to be discovered.



Fifth Troll on your journey: **Jacob Everear**

- **Accessibility:** Jacob is located on a short trail approximately a third of a mile from the parking lot. The trail is mainly even in terrain
- **Difficulty Level:** Easy to moderate
- **Location:** Wannigan Regional Park | 200 N River Dr, Frazee, MN 56544
- **Driving directions**
 - Take Frontage Rd to US-10 E 0.2 mi
 - Turn right onto US-10 E 6.1 mi
 - Turn left on to County Hwy 10 to your destination 2.1 mi
 - Turn left onto 5th Str NW
 - Turn left onto Birch Ave W

Jacob Everear, with his endearing name derived from a whimsical blend of “Jacob” and “Evergreen”, embodies a deep connection to nature, particularly to evergreen trees. His distinctive features reflect his affinity for listening and wisdom, evident in his large, attentive ears and a face adorned with a long, flowing beard that hints at age and experience. Jacob’s eyes hold secrets waiting to be uncovered, inviting visitors to share stories and unravel the mysteries woven into his persona.



Congrats to finding the: **Golden Rabbit**

- **Accessibility:** Finding the Golden Rabbit is a challenge as you must solve riddles to uncover his location. The rabbit is situated a half mile from the parking lot, requiring a one mile round trip hike through woods with large, long hills.
- **Difficulty Level:** Hard
- **Location:** You have to solve the riddle to find the Golden Rabbit!

- **When you find the Golden Rabbit:** Prepare for a surprise and a sense of calm as you reach the final part of your exploration. Take in the majestic presence of the Golden Rabbit and savor the accomplishment of your journey to uncover this hidden treasure in the woods.

