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A Field Guide to the Natural World of the Twin Cities [book review]

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This unique resource is a field guide to the seven-county metropolitan region surrounding the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul, Minnesota. In this densely populated area, most natural habitats are on public parks and refuges. The book is organized by habitats. For each of the nine habitats, four public lands are given as good examples. Each public land includes a map of key habitats present, a brief description of the property, contact information, special features, and an overview of available species. Following public land examples are descriptions of common plant and animal species found in that habitat. Species are briefly described on one page and include a few colored pictures, known habitats, and natural history information. Appendix A provides a county listing of public sites and available habitats for each site. Appendix B lists all species described in the book by known habitats. Appendix C provides a checklist of vertebrates found in the seven-county region. Finally, a list of resources directs readers to more detailed descriptions of species and habitats described in this book. Overall this a really nice guide for amateur naturalists in the Twin Cities region. Recommended for all public libraries.