



# City of Wilton, Iowa COMMUNITY PROFILE



## Welcome

Located at the junction of Cedar and Muscatine Counties, Iowa, Wilton is a community whose residents have the opportunity to enjoy the many advantages of Iowa's larger cities, as well as the comforts and security of Eastern Iowa. Despite being an idyllic and safe community with small town values, Wilton has numerous amenities including an indoor swimming pool, four parks, a country club, and numerous other events and attractions. In terms of industry, Wilton is currently developing a new industrial park, has numerous large-scale employers such as Gerdau, CDS Global, and Wilton Precision Steel, and has a city-wide tax rate less than the nearby communities of West Liberty and Muscatine. Additionally, Wilton has competitive public schools characteristic of the State of Iowa, with a student-teacher ratio of 14 to 1, and a high school graduation rate of nearly 92%. Wilton is also fortunate to have numerous historical attractions, including the former Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific Railroad Depot and the Wilton Candy Kitchen, one of the oldest ice cream parlors in the world.



## Location

Just three miles south of Interstate 80, which traverses the U.S. from coast to coast, Wilton is within easy driving distance of Muscatine, the Quad Cities, and Iowa City. In terms of regional commuting options, U.S. Highway 6, State Highway 38, and Muscatine County Highway F58 all provide easy access to nearby metro areas. The city's location also benefits from freight firms local to Wilton, in addition to easy access to the Eastern Iowa Airport, Muscatine Municipal Airport, and the Quad Cities International Airport. The 300 mile market includes the seven major metropolitan areas of Chicago, Indianapolis, Kansas City, Milwaukee, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Omaha and St. Louis, reaching a total area population of 39 million. As for quality of life, residents have the benefits of being nestled nearby the Mississippi and Cedar Rivers, the American Discovery Trail, the Mississippi River Trail, and the Wiese Slough Wildlife Area, in addition to many cultural offerings in nearby Muscatine, Iowa City, and the Quad Cities.



Wilton's Historic Downtown

# Demographics

## Population

	2018	2020	2025	% change
City of Wilton, IA.....	2,833	2,993	3,026	▲ 6.0%
Muscatine County, IA.....	42,950	43,104	42,940	▼ 0.02%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 ACS 5-Year Estimates; Esri Community Analyst, 2020

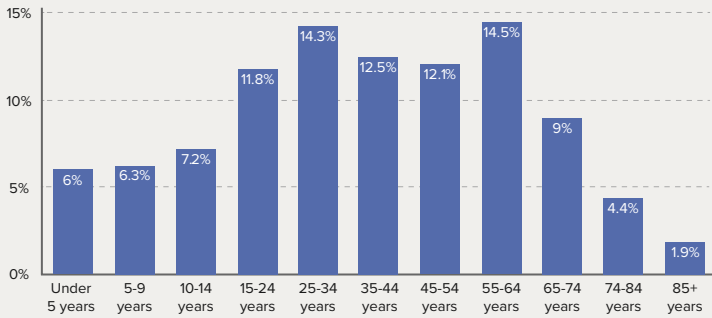
## Households

	2018	2020	2025	% change
City of Wilton, IA.....	1,196	1,234	1,247	▲ 4.26%
Muscatine County, IA.....	16,536	16,514	16,437	▼ 0.60%

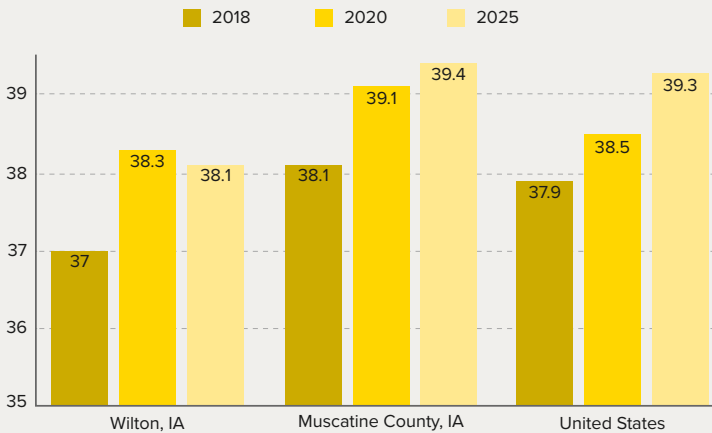
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 ACS 5-Year Estimates; Esri Community Analyst, 2020

## Age

Age Cohorts



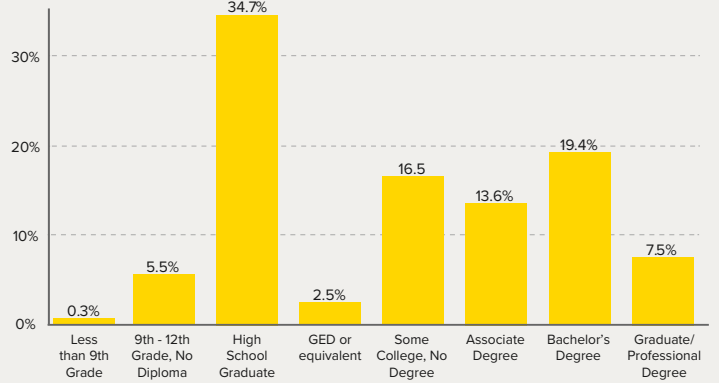
Median Age



Historic Nicolaus House, 1898.

## Educational Attainment

For the Population Age 25 and Over



	Wilton	Iowa	U.S.
High school graduate .....	34.7%	29.2%	22.8%
Bachelor's degree .....	19.4%	16%	20.2%

Source: Esri Community Analyst, 2020



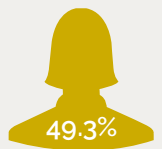
Tennis Courts at Westview Park

## Ethnicity & Gender

White .....	96.1%
Black or African American .....	0.7%
American Indian and Alaskan Native .....	0.1%
Asian .....	0.1%
Pacific Islander .....	0.0%
Some Other Race .....	1.1%
Two or More Races .....	1.9%



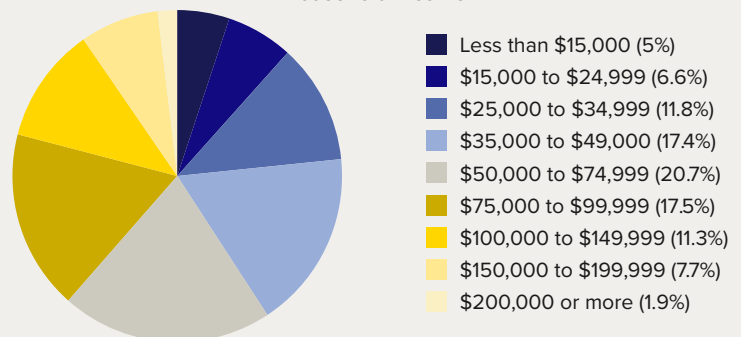
Hispanic or Latino Origin ..... 3.3%



Source: Esri Community Analyst, 2020

## Income

Household Income



Wilton Median Household Income .....	\$58,553
Muscatine Co. Median Household Income .....	\$56,752
U.S. Median Household Income .....	\$62,203

Source: Esri Community Analyst, 2020

# Transportation

## Air Service

### Eastern Iowa Airport (CID)

Distance from Wilton, IA .....	52 miles
Daily Flights .....	35 - 39
Major Airlines .....	5
Non-Stop Cities .....	15
Fixed Base Operator .....	Yes
Air Cargo Carries .....	3

### Quad City International Airport (MLI)

Distance from Wilton, IA .....	38 miles
Daily Flights .....	20 - 23
Major Airlines .....	4
Non-Stop Cities .....	11
Fixed Base Operator .....	Yes
Air Cargo Carries .....	3

### Muscatine Municipal Airport (MUT)

Distance from Wilton, IA .....	23 miles
General Aviation Provider .....	Yes
Fixed Base Operator .....	Yes

### Iowa City Municipal Airport (IOW)

Distance from Wilton, IA .....	35 miles
General Aviation Provider .....	Yes
Fixed Base Operator .....	Yes

For more information: [www.eiairport.org](http://www.eiairport.org); [www.icgov.org](http://www.icgov.org); [www.carveraero.com](http://www.carveraero.com); [www.qcairport.com](http://www.qcairport.com)



## Rail Service

### Freight

Iowa Interstate Railroad ..... through Wilton

### Passenger

AMTRAK ..... 4 stations within 1 hour, 15 minutes

(Burlington, IA • Mt. Pleasant, IA • Galesburg, IL • Kewanee, IL)

(Planned: Moline, IL • Geneseo, IL)

Source: Amtrak Routes and Stations, Illinois Passenger Rail

## Road Freight Service

### Interstate 80 • U.S. Highway 6 • State Highway 38

#### Trucking Carriers (not including independent owner-operators)

Wilton, IA .....	5
Iowa City, IA .....	19
Muscatine, IA .....	15
West Liberty, IA .....	3

Source: Infogroup, <http://www.ReferenceUSA.gov> 2020

## Water Freight Service

**Mississippi River** - Lock and Dam No. 16 near Muscatine, IA, approximately 15 miles; 9-foot channel, 10-month navigation season

Source: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers®, Mississippi River Valley Division. "Upper Mississippi River Locks & Dams." 2012

## International Trade Services

The Quad Cities region is home to one of only seven multi-state foreign trade zones in the nation. The Quad City Foreign Trade Zone offers companies the ability to locate in sites and buildings that help reduce or eliminate taxes or tariffs. Locating in a foreign trade zone can also help to reduce customs delays and costs.

Companies that are located within 60 miles or 90 minutes of the Quad Cities Port of Entry can apply to operate in Quad Cities FTZ #133.

Source: <https://quadcitieschamber.com/economic-development/business-advantages/foreign-trade-zone-international-trade>

# Utilities

Residential Electricity - Wilton Municipal Light and Power System

Industrial Park Electricity - Easter Iowa Light and Power

Natural Gas - MidAmerican Energy

Water, Sewer, Garbage - City of Wilton

Phone, Internet, and CATV - WTC Communications

The City of Wilton provides water, sanitary sewer, and storm sewer infrastructure within the corporate limits of Wilton. The city has two water towers with 800,000 gallons of capacity and will waive hook-up fees for prospective companies, with the exception of the water meter that cost between \$600 - \$700. The city also provides sewer service and will waive hook-up fees in the new industrial park.

Commercial refuse collection is provided for city and company owned dumpsters and recycling pick-up is available at no additional charge. Electricity is provided at the industrial park by Eastern Iowa Light and Power in either 120/240 V Single Phase AC or 120/208 - 277/480 V Three Phase AC. Natural gas is provided by MidAmerican Energy.

## Competitive Utility Rates

Utility	Rates
<b>Electricity</b>	
First 500 kwh .....	\$0.1070 per kwh
For all kwh's consumed over 500 kwh's per month, the charge is \$0.0926 per kwh. *Minimum monthly charge is \$7.25	
<b>Natural Gas</b>	
First 250 therms .....	\$0.14300 per therm
Next 750 therms .....	\$0.09508 per therm
1,000 therms + .....	\$0.07120 per therm
<b>Water</b>	
First 2,000 gallons .....	\$17.76
Each additional 1,000 gallons .....	\$5.54
<b>Sewer</b>	
First 2,000 gallons .....	\$25.84
Each additional 1,000 gallons up to 9,000 gallons .....	\$27.81
Each additional 1,000 gallons over 9,000 gallons .....	\$29.69

Rate Sources: City of Wilton and individual providers, 2020



Eastern Iowa Light & Power Cooperative

# Media

**Local Newspapers:** Wilton-Durant Advocate News

**Regional Newspapers:** Muscatine Journal, Iowa City Press-Citizen, Cedar Rapids Gazette, Quad City Times, Dubuque Telegraph Herald, Des Moines Register

**Radio Stations** (within 20 miles):

KALA (88.5 FM; Davenport, IA; Owner: St. Ambrose University)

KSUI (91.7 FM; Iowa City, IA; Owner: The University of Iowa)

KMAC (92.5 FM; Muscatine, IA; Owner: Muscatine Seventh-Day Adventist Church)

KMCS (93.1 FM; Muscatine, IA; Owner: Wpw Broadcasting, Inc.)

KWPC (95.1 FM, AM 860; Muscatine, IA; Owner: Wpw Broadcasting, Inc.)

KBEA (99.7 FM; Muscatine, IA; Owner: Townsquare Media Quad Cities License, LLC)

Source: <http://www.radio-locator.com>, accessed 09 July 2015.

# Economy

## Major Employers

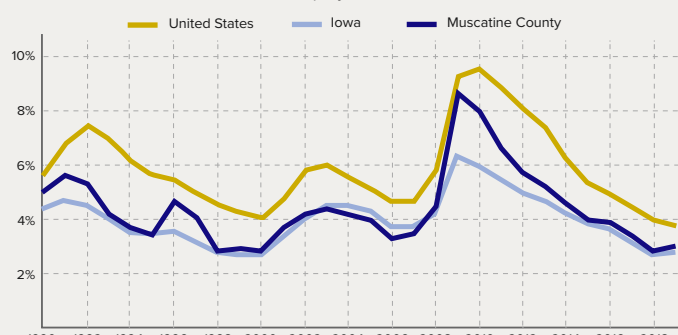
Wilton	
Gerdau	250
HWH Manufacturing	225
CDS Global	150
Wilton Precision Steel	125
Eastern Iowa Light & Power Coop	90
Hy-Line NA	80
Wilton Jr.-Sr. High School	55
Wilton Volunteer Fire and EMS Department	38
J M Manufacturing Company	34
Micro-Surfacing Finishing	25
Jeff's Market	24
West Liberty (13 miles)	
West Liberty Foods	1200
Muscatine (13 miles)	
HNI Corporation	3200
Grain Processing Corporation / KENT Feeds	1011
Muscatine Community Schools	823
UnityPoint Health-Trinity Muscatine	483
Ssab Steel, Inc	410
Bayer Cropsience	365
MUSCATINE Power & Water	301
Stanley Consultants Inc	300
Musco Lighting	300
The Raymond Corporation	220

## Iowa City (32 miles)

University of Iowa	14000
University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics	13000
Iowa City Community School District	2200
Iowa City VA Medical Center	1803
ACT Inc	1632
Pearson Education	1000
Mercy Iowa City	961
International Automotive Component	948
Mercy Emergency Care Unit	903
Iowa City City Government	600

Source: Infogroup USA, Greater Muscatine Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Iowa City Area Development Group

Annual Unemployment, 1990 - 2019



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

## Taxes

**Federal Taxes Deductible:** Corporate - 50%, Individual - 100%

**State Corporate Income Tax:** Based solely on in-state sales.

**State/Local Sales Tax:** Current state sales tax is 6% with an additional local option sales tax of 1% bringing the total to 7%.

FY 2019 Revenue from Property Tax	\$1,422,363
FY 2019 Revenue from Tax Increment Financing (TIF)	\$568,661
FY 2019 Revenue from Local Option Sales Tax	\$192,567
FY 2020 Total Tax Rate (per \$1,000 Assessed Value)	14.20697
FY 2020 Total Muscatine County Property Valuation	\$2,063,474,82
FY 2020 Total Wilton Property Valuation	\$183,861,059

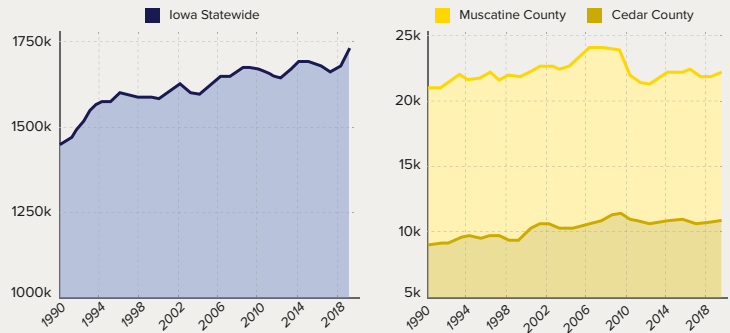
Source: Iowa Department of Revenue, Sales Tax Rates Lookup, <https://www.co.muscatine.ia.us/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/515>, <https://www.co.muscatine.ia.us/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/1546>

## Workforce

Muscatine County Labor Force	22,175
Muscatine County Employed	21,539
Muscatine County Current Unemployment Rate	2.9%
Cedar County Labor Force	11,010
Cedar County Employed	10,738
Cedar County Current Unemployment Rate	2.5%

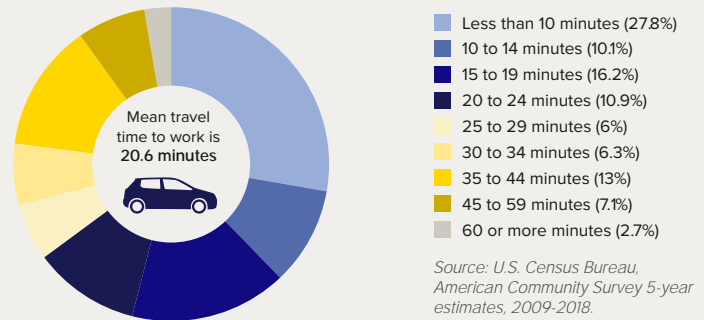
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics, 2019.

Local Labor Force Numbers: 1990 - 2019



Bureau of Labor Statistics, Local Area Unemployment Statistics

## Commuting



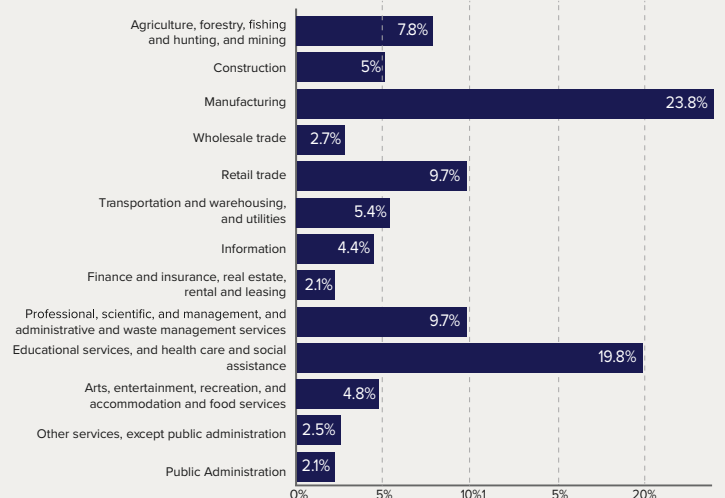
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-year estimates, 2009-2018.

## Retail Sales

City	2018 Population Estimate	2019 Retail Sales
Eldora, IA	2664	\$17,600,931
Clarion, IA	2772	\$29,989,441
Tama, IA	2793	\$13,626,261
Onawa, IA	2830	\$37,783,781
Wilton, IA	2833	\$43,470,399
Milford, IA	2989	\$39,623,764

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2018 ACS 5-Year Estimates. <https://data.iowa.gov/Taxes-Tax-Credits/Quarterly-Retail-Sales-Tax-Data-by-County-and-City/55fz-vque/data>

Employment by Industry for Residents



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 2018 5-year estimates

# Quality of Life

## Primary and Secondary Education

### Public Schools

#### Wilton Community School District 7038

Type of School	Number of Schools	Enrollment
Elementary	1	558
Jr./Sr. High Schools	1	382
Total	2	940

Graduation Rate	94.6%
Student-Teacher Ratio	14 to 1
Average Total Salary per Teacher	\$59,645
K-12 Average Daily Attendance Rate	94.4%

Source: Iowa Department of Education, Education Statistics, 2019 -2020.



Wilton High School

### Private and Parochial Schools

Zion Lutheran School (Pre-K) • Cornerstone Christian School (Wilton) • Adventist Christian School • Bishop Hayes Catholic School • Faith Academy • Saints Mary & Mathias Catholic School (Muscatine)

Source: Yellowpages.com

## Post-Secondary Education

### Institutions of Higher Learning with 50 miles of Wilton:

Augustana College • Black Hawk College • Coe College • Cornell College • Iowa Wesleyan College • Kirkwood Community College • Muscatine Community College • Palmer College of Chiropractic • Scott Community College • St. Ambrose University • Trinity College of Nursing • University of Iowa • Western Illinois University-Quad Cities

Source: Collegeboard.org

## Health Care

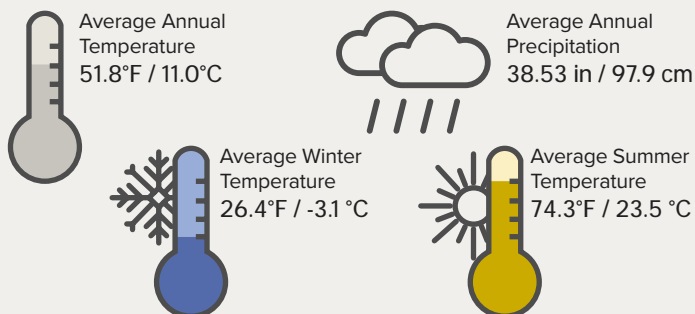
Family Doctors (Wilton)	2
Dentists (Wilton)	1
Dentists (Muscatine)	23
Surgeons (Muscatine)	11

Hospitals	Distance	Beds
Unity Point Health, Trinity - Muscatine	13 miles	80
University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics	34.5 miles	811

Source: Unity Point Health, Wilton Dental Care, University of Iowa Healthcare, Healthgrades.com

## Climate

Source: National Climatic Data Center- Muscatine, IA (1981-2010 Normals). Muscatine is the closest weather station.



## Average Home Sales Price

Place	2020 Average Sales Price
Bettendorf & Riverdale, IA	\$312,000
Cedar Rapids (Northeast), IA	\$189,100
Cedar Rapids (Northwest), IA	\$160,500
Cedar Rapids (Southeast), IA	\$185,300
Cedar Rapids (Southwest), IA	\$160,800
Coralville, IA	\$363,600
Davenport, IA	\$156,000
Dubuque, IA	\$221,900
Iowa City, IA	\$301,500
Moline, IL	\$124,900
Muscatine, IA	\$131,700
Rock Island, IL	\$103,300
<b>Wilton, IA</b>	<b>\$154,600</b>

Source: Ruhl&Ruhl Realtors (Spring 2020 Facts and Trends Report) www.ruhlhomes.com

## ACCRA Cost Of Living

	Composite	Grocery	Housing	Utilities	Transportation	Health	Misc. Goods & Services
Ames, IA	98.8	96.9	100.6	91.2	100.9	102.8	99.2
Burlington, IA	84.7	94.6	63.9	108.1	90.7	99.2	87.4
Cedar Rapids, IA	95.8	94.5	82.1	102.2	96.4	107	103.8
<b>DMRI, IA-IL*</b>	<b>91.7</b>	<b>99.5</b>	<b>76.1</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>105.7</b>	<b>105.2</b>	<b>93.6</b>
Des Moines, IA	89.6	95	79.3	90.2	98.9	95.3	92.2
Mason City, IA	88.9	95.8	62.8	109.7	97.2	97.4	97.6
W-CR, IA**	88.6	90.3	81.9	83.5	93.3	93.2	91.8

\* DMRI, IA - IL = Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, Iowa-Illinois Metropolitan Statistical Area

\*\* W-CR, IA = Waterloo-Cedar Rapids, Iowa Metropolitan Statistical Area

Source: The Council for Community and Economic Research (C2ER); 2019 ACCRA Cost of Living Survey

## Lodging

Type	Facilities	Rooms
Hotel/Motels (Wilton)	1	12
Hotel/Motels (Muscatine)	9	614
Bed & Breakfasts (Muscatine)	2	8

Source: Muscatine Convention and Visitors Bureau



Wilton Library and Community Center

## Meeting Facilities

Wilton	Capacity
Wilton Library and Community Center	422 seats
Muscatine	
Geneva Country Club	250 seats
Hotel Muscatine Meeting Room	400 seats
City of Muscatine Pearl City Station	175 seats
Rendezvous Reception Facility	400 seats
The Merrill Hotel and Conference Center	500 seats

Source: Wilton Development Corporation, Muscatine Convention and Visitors Bureau

# Quality of Place

## Parks and Recreation

### Four City Parks - Westview, City, Cherrydale, and Elder

With tennis courts, shelters, playground equipment, baseball and softball fields, and an indoor/outdoor community swimming pool in City Park.

### Muscatine County Conservation Areas

Cedar Bluffs Recreation Area - 176 acres  
Deep Lakes Park - 435 acres  
Gedney Lake - 18 acres  
Jack Shuger Memorial Park - 4 acres  
McKeown Bridge River Access - 7 acres  
Muscatine County Discovery Park - 85 acres  
Nye Cemetery - 1 acre  
Pike Run Wildlife Area - 182 acres  
Richardson Wildlife Area - 77 acres  
Saulsbury Bridge Recreation Area - 675 acres  
Shield Prairie - 80 acres  
Wiese Slough Wildlife Area - 1,871 acres

## Mississippi River

Enjoy magnificent views of the nation's preeminent waterway from the Mark Twain overlook and beautiful downtown in nearby Muscatine, or take advantage of the many recreational opportunities the Mississippi offers.

## Arts and Culture

### In nearby Muscatine:

Muscatine Art Center (Located in 1908 Musser Mansion and including the Stanley Gallery) • Muscatine History and Industry Center • Muscatine Center for the Performing Arts • Muscatine Symphony Orchestra • Pearl City Players Theatrical Society • Masquers Community Theatre • Outdoor sculpture and fountains: Folded Circle Arc, Mississippi Harvest, Prayer of Peace, and Mississippi Mist



Historic Star Drug, 1876.

## Historic Route 6

What do Bonnie & Clyde, Jesse James, Nancy Drew, John Wayne, Jack Kerouac, Gary Cooper, a meteorite strike, and the inventor of barbed wire have in common? U.S. Highway Route 6 in Iowa. Built in one day by 10,000 farmers and businesses across the state, Iowa's Route 6 is part of the second largest transcontinental highway in America.

U.S. Route 6 runs right through Wilton. Durant-born Mr. Ashton T. Nelson lived and worked in downtown Wilton. In 1922, he planted a 5-mile row of Walnut trees on U.S. Route 6 linking his two home towns (Durant & Wilton). These trees are at the crossing of "Little Elkhorn Creek", and there is a sign that reads, "Walnut Tree Lane". It is posted on the north side of the highway, east side of the creek.

## Historical Sites

### Wilton Depot

This station was built in 1898 when 100 trains would pass through the town daily. After use of the depot by the Rock Island Railroad ended in 1967, the depot was used as a storage building by various individuals. The Wilton Historical Society acquired the depot in 1987, restored it, and turned it into a museum of local history. It is open on weekends through the summer.

### Civil War History

In 1861, at the beginning of the Civil War, Wilton men hurried to enlist, and the entire county of Muscatine sent more men to war than any other county in Iowa. Later, in April 1862, the casualty list from the Battle of Shiloh in Tennessee touched every neighborhood in town. Muscatine County remembered these brave young men by putting up monuments and markers throughout the county. As a result, Wilton has its own Civil War Monument at Oakdale Cemetery.

### Wilton Candy Kitchen

Built in 1856, this quaint shop is on the National Register of Historic Places and is the oldest working soda fountain in the Midwest.

### Wilton's Historic Commercial District

To an observer shopping, banking, or sipping a cup of coffee from the downtown café, the Wilton Historic District offers a solid sense of time and place grounded in Midwest commercial buildings that date from the mid-19th to the mid-20th century--buildings that long served local residents and area farmers, as well as travelers passing through town on the main line of the Rock Island railroad. The T-shaped commercial district is located in the heart of Wilton.

### Historic Homes of Wilton

The rise of industrialism and railroad transportation after the Civil War affected the design and convenience of Victorian-Queen Anne housing and made them available to Americans. The Nicolaus House (circa 1895) and Leith House (circa 1904) are two examples of Victorian Queen Anne "free classic" homes. With their corner towers, dentils, columns, porches, bay windows, stained glass and intricate detailing these two beautiful historic homes are prime examples of this age and time.

## Famous Citizens

### Perry Nelson, 1903 – 1929

He was a pioneer air mail pilot died in a plane crash while flying mail from New York to Cleveland on December 2, 1929. He was known by his co-pilots as the "King of Airmail Pilots."

### Charles H. Gabriel, 1856 – 1932

One of this country's most influential and prolific gospel song writers of the twentieth century. Charles would write hymns along with his good friend, Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain).

### Grace Noll Crowell, 1877 – 1969

Credited with more than thirty books of prose and poetry. In 1938, she received National recognition when she was given Mother of the Year by New York Poetry Center, One of the Ten most Outstanding Women of America by American Publications, and Honor Poet of the Year by the New York Poetry Center. She was a Poet Laureate of Texas.

### Walter Hilgenberg, 1942 – 2008

A professional American football player. Hilgenberg was born in Marshalltown, Iowa. His family moved to Wilton where he grew up and graduated from Wilton High School. He attended the University of Iowa, where he starred on both sides of the line of scrimmage, as a linebacker and as a guard. He played 16 seasons in the National Football League with the Detroit Lions and Minnesota Vikings.

### Bobby Fischer, 1935 –

Songwriter, is known for his songs that were recorded by famous artists such as Eddy Arnold, George Jones, Conway Twitty, Charlie Pride, Faron Young, and Reba McEntire.

For more information on Wilton, Iowa, please contact:

**Wilton Development Corporation**  
104 East 4th Street  
PO Box 443  
Wilton, IA 52778  
Phone: (563) 732-5002  
Toll Free: (877) 477-5002  
Email: [wiltondev@netwtc.net](mailto:wiltondev@netwtc.net)



**Wilton Chamber of Commerce**  
118 W 4th Street  
PO Box 280  
Wilton, IA 52778  
Ph. (563) 732-2330

**City of Wilton**  
104 East 4th Street  
PO Box 27  
Wilton, IA 52778  
Ph. (563) 732-2115

<http://www.wiltoniowa.org>