

Minnesota Sex Offender Program
Minnesota Department of Human Services
Visitor Information

Welcome to the MSOP!

As you can imagine, your safety and comfort during your visit is very important to us. The following guidelines will help to ensure that you enter the facility prepared and informed. Please be aware that we consider the visiting room environment as an extension of our therapeutic community at this facility. We encourage you to maintain healthy boundaries and to report any behavior that makes you feel uncomfortable. Feel free to ask questions if there is anything you do not understand and we will do our best to help you.

The Visiting Policy will give you information on application, registration and visitor processing.

The Visiting Room Rules are specific to the Moose Lake and St. Peter sites.

1. Visits are available daily on a first-come, first-served basis. Visiting room hours are:
 - * Moose Lake:
Wednesday – Sunday (including holidays): 12:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

 - St. Peter:
Friday – Tuesday: (including holidays): 12:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Phase III clients, tier level 4 and 5 clients:
Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Saturday/Sunday: 12:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

2. Visitor Dress Code: This is a family visiting room. Any visitor wearing clothing that staff deem inappropriate for the visiting room will not be allowed to visit. Visitors who are turned away will have the opportunity to leave the facility to change clothes and return for a visit if within visiting hours. Staff will refer questionable situations to the Officer of the Day (OD) whose decision is final. The following requirements must be met prior to a visit:
 - * All shorts, skirts or dresses must be mid-thigh or longer when seated. Slits on dresses or skirts must be no longer than mid thigh when seated.
 - × Undergarments must be worn.

 - * The following clothing items are not allowed:
 - × Sheer or see-through; or other tops that allow cleavage to show; or that reveal undergarments;
 - × Gang-related; alcohol or drug advertising;
 - × Coats; jackets;
 - × low-rise pants where the bare midriff or undergarment is visible; or
 - × Sunglasses or head wear of any type (only exception: for religious custom as demonstrated on valid photo ID).

 - * The following items typically cause difficulty with passing metal detection and should be avoided to expedite the security search process:
 - × Jewelry, especially heavy necklaces, bracelets, rings and belt buckles;
 - × Shoes with metal shanks or eyelets;

- × Button fly jeans, pants/shirts with metal ornamentation, underwire bras, clothing with sequins, clip on ties; or
- × Body piercings, and hair ornaments with metal.

* Please refrain from wearing strong fragrances.

3. Entrance to grounds

- * Visitors must bring a valid photo ID, matching the ID number listed on the visit application. Minors must be accompanied by guardian unless otherwise authorized.
- * Visitors are subject to a search upon entrance onto facility grounds or before a visit.
- * If a visitor refuses to be searched, the visit will not be allowed and the person must leave the grounds.
- * All visitors must pass a security check (e.g., a metal detector, hand-held wand, or pat search) before entering the visiting room.
- * Visitors with medical conditions (such as metal implants, etc.) which may cause them to not pass metal detection must consent to a pat search. These visitors are metal-detected using a hand-held wand and a localized pat search is conducted in the area of the condition. (See MSOP Division Policy 415-5012, “Searches – Employees and Visitors.”)
- * Visitors who are unable, for non-medical reasons, to successfully pass through the metal detector may be asked to submit to a pat search and allowed to visit on non-contact status for one visit only. Failure to comply with the requested pat search may result in the visit being denied subject to determination by the Officer of the Day (OD) or administrator on call. Subsequent metal detector failures result in denied visits.
- * All visitors and clients are informed that the introduction of illegal contraband to the facility or its grounds is a felony offense. Felony contraband items include, but are not limited to: any controlled substance; firearms; weapons and explosives of any kind; and any items that could be used in the commission of a crime or escape.
- * The introduction of any intoxicating alcoholic or malt beverages into this facility or on its grounds is a gross misdemeanor.
- * The secure treatment facility is a tobacco-free area. Lighters, matches, cigarettes and tobacco of any kind are not allowed on the facility grounds.
- * Visitors are not allowed to bring electronic devices into the facility secure perimeter, including but not limited to personal data devices, cell phones, pagers, or recorders. Cameras are allowed in the visit room only as outlined in MSOP Division Policy 420-5100, “Visiting” section E.7.
- * Visitors may leave items in their vehicles. Vehicles must have windows rolled up and doors locked.
- * Visitors are prohibited from communicating through the living unit, fence, or bedroom windows of the secure treatment facility.

- * Visitors who walk outside the secure perimeter of the building in areas other than the front sidewalks or who do not leave the grounds and parking lot may be subject to arrest for trespassing.
 - * No minors or vulnerable adults may wait in the lobby, in a vehicle or on MSOP grounds, without a parent or guardian present.
 - * Pets may not be left unattended on MSOP grounds (including in vehicles).
 - * If not left inside vehicle, all personal items (including but not limited to: cell phones, keys, wallets, purses, etc.) must be locked in provided lockers.
4. In addition to what is noted in policy, only the following items are allowed into the visiting room; all items are searched and inventoried before they are allowed in and prior to the visitor leaving:
- * infant/toddler may have one of each of the following: pacifier, plastic baby bottle, receiving blanket;
 - * spiritual items – may not be contraband, edible or liquid;
 - * visitor medications such as nitroglycerin, inhalers, insulin pump (not hypodermics); oxygen etc. Medications are counted upon entry and exit of the visiting room.
 - * visitors may bring up to ten loose photographs (photos) into the visit room. Photos are subject to search and review for appropriateness consistent with MSOP Division Policy 420-5230, “Media Possession by Clients.” All photos must leave the facility with the visitor;
 - * Moose Lake – staff are available to take photographs using the visiting room camera during the last five minutes of a visit. No other camera(s) are allowed in the visit room.
 - * St. Peter - camera(s) are allowed in the visit room for photography. Staff maintain possession of the camera and take pictures during the last five minutes of the visit. (St. Peter only – for clients in Phase III, Control Center staff will maintain possession of the camera and take pictures.)
5. Items for clients: visitors may bring completed checks or money orders.
6. Socially-appropriate physical contact is permitted between clients and visitors. Visitors are allowed one greeting and departing embrace and a brief closed mouth kiss. Holding hands above the table is permitted. Clients and their visitors may not engage in verbal or physical sexually suggestive, sexual, or assaultive contact. No other contact is allowed.

We take our safety and security responsibilities very seriously. We respect and appreciate your cooperation in this process and welcome your questions and concerns.

For questions related to visitors to the Minnesota Sex Offender Program in St. Peter, you can call 507-985-3001. For Moose Lake, please call 218-565-6000.