



## Home of the Friendly Ducks

I am sure at one point in time many of you have been driving North on Hwy 4 headed to Okoboji to enjoy their beautiful blue waters or headed South to do some shopping in Des Moines. On your journey along Hwy 4 you eventually passed a giant Mallard duck atop a sign saying "Home of the Friendly Ducks". This sign probably made you smile and think I have never seen anything like that before but when we see this sign we think "home"!

Mallard, Iowa is a small rural town in Northwest Iowa that has around 275 residents. Most of the population is affiliated with some type of agriculture whether it is being a grain farmer, raising cattle, or working in one of the many pig barns. When our hard working residents are ready to relax many of them head out to The Spring Hills Country Club. This 9 hole course is one of the best small town Iowa golf courses around featuring irrigated fairways, greens and tee boxes. The course is always in great shape with challenging greens!

On the day of Ragbrai Mallard will be having a variety of events going on. A local band will be playing at The Duck Stop entertaining all who stop in for a cold drink. Ron's Tap and their friendly staff will also be serving cold beverages to cure anyone's thirst. One block South of Inman Street you will find the Mallard park. The park will be providing a beer garden where people can sit in the shade and enjoy a beverage as well as partake in some lively games and activities. On the day of Ragbrai there will be numerous food vendors to satisfy everyone's cravings. The local Cattlemen's Association will be grilling ribeye sandwiches and Edgewater BBQ from our neighbor Emmetsburg will be serving up their famous BBQ. And of course there will be plenty of photo ops with the giant duck and many other ducky things.

We feel that every duckling needs a puddle to splash in and with the money we raise during Ragbrai that is exactly what we will give them. The community of Mallard is trying to raise money to put in a splash pad at the park. Residents of all ages will be able to come to the park to cool off and have fun while creating lifelong memories.

To learn more about our community and find out why we are called the friendly ducks you can visit our website at [mallardiowa.com](http://mallardiowa.com) or follow [Mallard Ragbrai](#) on facebook for all of our events and updates for July 24th!