

July Newsletter

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Elizabeth Kluesner

Although it is summer, our thoughts are turning to planning for ReScape 2026. We are excited to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the ReScape Awards in 2026. And, we are thrilled to announce that the venue for next year's event will be Royalston Square in Minneapolis. This venue has been called the "Sphere of the Midwest" and will be an inspiring space to share content about the history of the ReScape Awards.



We are already planning for a blow out celebration of 15 years of ReScape! Please share any ideas you may have about making the 15th anniversary special.

Thanks to some excellent work by our Programming Committee, Minnesota Brownfields has applied to have our September 9th ASTM CEP training be eligible for 1 CLE credit. Please share the registration information below with your interested colleagues. And, a huge thank you to WSB for sponsoring this event and hosting us at their beautiful training facility in Golden Valley. Space is limited, so [register soon!](#) I hope you are all having a wonderful and relaxing summer!

Warm Regards,
Elizabeth

Registration Now Open! ASTM Training Coming in September



Thank you to WSB Engineering for hosting our September 9 ASTM Certified Environmental Professional Session. Learn more about the CEP and why it could be advantageous for you or your brownfield project! Minnesota Brownfields has applied to have the ASTM CEP training be eligible for 1 CLE credit.

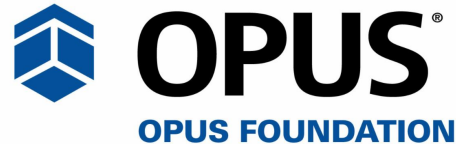


[Register Now](#)

Save the Date! Emerging & Diverse Developers Workshop



Through the generosity of the Opus Foundation, Minnesota Brownfields is excited to continue our emerging and diverse developer curriculum. This year's program will be held on October 9 at a new location, the Westwood Hills Nature Center. The session will focus on financing options for Brownfield Projects. Registration opening soon!



Budgeting for 2026? Review Your Member Type & Benefits

As you start thinking about your 2026 budget, consider if you or your company has the correct Minnesota Brownfields membership. Are you getting the most of your membership? Is there anyone from your company that should be added to your membership? Have you reviewed your current membership type benefits? Start planning now and consider upgrading to get more benefits and staff involvement!

Platinum Executive | \$10,000

Corporate profile in the Minnesota Brownfields Newsletter

Corporate logo featured on home page of the Minnesota Brownfields Website

10 organizational memberships for staff to receive discounted rates to attend Minnesota Brownfields events and educational forums

Recognition in the monthly Minnesota Brownfields Newsletter

Automatic Gold Sponsor for Annual ReScape Event (includes Gold Sponsor recognition and two complimentary tables at ReScape Event)

Recognition on MN Brownfields Social Media four (4) times per year

Exhibit booth space at our events

Opportunity to speak at one of Minnesota Brownfields Educational Forums

Opportunity to publish a brownfield-related article or project-specific story. Publishing content is subject to editorial review and approval by Minnesota Brownfield's staff.

Gold Leader | \$5,000

Corporate logo featured on home page of the Minnesota Brownfields Website

Recognition in the monthly Minnesota Brownfields Newsletter

5 organizational memberships for staff to receive discounted rates to attend Minnesota Brownfields events and educational forums

Recognition on MN Brownfields Social Media two (2) times per year



Opportunity to publish a brownfield-related article or project-specific story. Publishing content is subject to editorial review and approval by Minnesota Brownfield's staff.

Silver Supporter | \$2,500

Recognition in the monthly Minnesota Brownfields Newsletter

5 organizational memberships for staff to receive discounted rates to attend Minnesota Brownfields events and educational forums

Opportunity to publish a brownfield-related article or project-specific story. Publishing content is subject to editorial review and approval by Minnesota Brownfield's staff.

Bronze Partner | \$1,500

Recognition in the monthly Minnesota Brownfields Newsletter

2 organizational memberships for staff to receive discounted rates to attend Minnesota Brownfields events and educational forums

Public Sector, Non-Profits & One-Person Company | \$300

This level includes all the basic benefits listed above. Rates are established for organizational memberships allowing two (2) representatives to receive discounted rates and attend "members only" events throughout the year.

Individual | \$150

Enjoy the high-quality programs and unique events offered throughout the year as a member, while promoting the innovative work creating efficient redevelopment across the State of Minnesota.

As an individual member you recognize the important role that each individual plays in supporting brownfield initiatives.

Student | FREE

If you are interested in pursuing a profession in the field of brownfields development, becoming a student member is a way to network with future employees and access up-to-date technical information in the field.

Questions on membership, email Minnesota Brownfields staff at:

info@mnbrownfields.org.

Volunteers Needed at MPCA Brownfield State Fair Exhibit!

The MPCA's brownfield exhibit is returning to the Eco Experience building at the Minnesota State Fair for 6 full days this year! The exhibit is a great all-ages introduction to the world of brownfields. From hands-on fun in a kid-focused brownfield dig site, to a flip book highlighting brownfield success stories from across the state – there's something for everyone!



MPCA is looking for help from the brownfield community in staffing the exhibit. Signing up for a shift comes with free entry to the fair and a chance to share your brownfield knowledge with interested fair-goers! Shifts run from 3 -9 pm on August 24, 26, 27 and 29. If you'd like to sign up, please contact Shannon Martin at shannon.martin@state.mn.us.

Check Out What's Happening at the National Brownfields Conference in Chicago!

Additional Minnesota-focused sessions are announced for the upcoming EPA Brownfields 2025 conference in Chicago:

- [Recentering and Reclaiming Power for Community in Brownfield Redevelopment](#) (Topic Talk) August 7 – given by Rondo Community Land Trust
- [Using an All-In Approach to Redevelop Distressed Sites within the Leech Lake Reservation and the City of Cass Lake, Minnesota](#) (Panel) August 7 – featuring the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe, City of Cass Lake, USEPA Region 5 and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Join Your Minnesota Brownfields Colleagues for Happy Hour in Chicago

Are you attending the National Brownfields Conference in Chicago next month? Join your Minnesota Brownfields colleagues at the Marriot Marquis Chicago, Woven & Bound, for an informal get-together as the conference kicks off on Tuesday, August 5th.



We will be gathering at 6:15 pm. The Marriot Marquis Address is: 2121 S Prairie Ave, Chicago, IL 60616.

No need to register, just come as you are and enjoy networking with colleagues.

And, don't forget to attend the topic talk: Regional Brownfields Groups, What can they do for you? On Wednesday, August 6th at 11:45 am. Our very own Elizabeth Kluesner and Melina Ambrosino (President, Brownfields Coalition of the Northeast) will be speaking.

Brownfield Fact of the Month: Phytoremediation



FACT OF THE MONTH: PHYTOREMEDIATION

Phytoremediation uses plants to clean up environmental contaminants like metals, pesticides, explosives, and oil.

Phytoremediation uses plants to clean up contaminated environments. Plants can help clean up many types of contaminants including metals, pesticides, explosives, and oil. However, they work best where contaminant levels are low because high concentrations

may limit plant growth and take too long to clean up. Plants also help prevent wind, rain, and groundwater flow from carrying contaminants away from the site to surrounding areas or deeper underground.

How Does It Work? Certain plants are able to remove or break down harmful chemicals from the ground when their roots take in water and nutrients from the contaminated soil, sediment, or groundwater. Plants can help clean up contaminants as deep as their roots can reach using natural processes to:

- Store the contaminants in the roots, stems, or leaves.
- Convert them to less harmful chemicals within the plant or root zone.
- Convert them to vapors, which are released into the air. (Source: USEPA)

Thank you, Members!

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Anne Lazo
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Richard Manser
Shannon Martin
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Ania McDonnell

Public Sector, Non-Profit Organizations and One Person Company

City of Minneapolis - CPED
City of Rochester
City of St. Cloud Economic Development
Condition Services LLC
Dakota County CDA
Dakota County Water Resources
DEED-Brownfields and Redevelopment
Duluth Economic Development Authority
Duluth Seaway Port Authority
Hennepin County

HTB Project Navigation LLC
Metropolitan Council
MN Dept of Transportation
Parkway Law LLC
Port Authority of St. Paul
Ramsey County Community & Economic
Development

Crystal Mogensen
Andrew Nichols
Chris Niemand
Miluska Linares Novota
Joe Otte
Ian Peters
Kristin Prosocki
Kyle Romens
Rebecca Ryser
Madison Scheer
Betsy Schmiesing
Shanna Schmitt
David Schultz
Jeffery Sepesi
Jacob Smokovitz
Jerry (Gerald) Strub
Mark Umholtz
Sherry Van Duyn
Stacey Van Patten
Charlie Vander Aarde
Michael Wardwell

Student Members

Ashley Crowl
Wendy Erickson
Lucille Hugunin
Peter D. Michel



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