



March News

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Elizabeth Kluesner

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the March 5th Vapor Workshop. This event is a great example of the public/private sector collaboration that makes this organization great.

A big thank you to Jennifer Borski, Vapor Intrusion Team Leader at the Wisconsin DNR, for travelling to Minnesota and sharing the Wisconsin perspective on vapor remediation. It was instructive to hear how the Minnesota and Wisconsin regulatory agencies are working together and updating vapor guidance.



Thank you to Jill Mikelson and Josh Kadrmas (Braun Intertec) for kicking off the Minnesota Brownfields Webinar Series on February 9th. We had 71 people on the webinar for this talk! In case you missed it, [here's a link to the recording](#).

If you have not already, get your tickets for the 15th Anniversary ReScape Gala at Royalston Square which is fast approaching on April 23rd. We have a number of fun surprises on tap for the evening and can't wait to share this evening with all of our members. This year's ReScape Nominees are:

- 60 Main Street, Winona
- Granite Works II Apartments, Dalano
- Opportunity Crossing, Minneapolis
- Kyle Garden Square Apartments, Minneapolis
- Soo Line Community Garden, Minneapolis
- Voyageurs National Park Crane Lake Visitor Center, Crane Lake
- The Rosalyn, Bloomington
- The Williams, St. Paul
- The Heights, St. Paul
- Great River Children's Museum, St. Cloud
- Hwy 35, LLC (former Ainsworth Mill), Grand Rapids
- Debre Selam Medhanealem Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church, Minneapolis

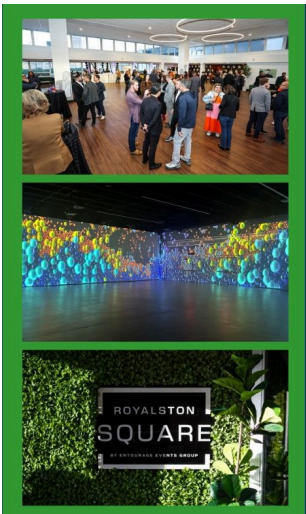
Congratulations to all of this year's nominees!

Warm Regards,
Elizabeth

Vapor Guidance Workshop



Sponsor the 15th Annual ReScape Awards Gala and Get Your Tickets Today!



Save the Date

2026 ReScape Awards

Thursday,
April 23, 2026
at Royalston Square

RESCAPE AWARDS **15** YEARS

We're looking for 2026 ReScape Award sponsors to help mitigate costs of the annual ReScape Awards Gala! Join us in celebrating redevelopment professionals and their work to forward Minnesota Brownfields' mission of promoting the efficient cleanup and reuse of contaminated land as a means of generating economic growth, strengthening communities and enabling sustainable land use and development. Lock in your ReScape Sponsorship today!

Lock in Your Sponsorship!

And, of course, be sure to register for the ReScape Awards! This event would not be what it is without all of you. Don't miss this opportunity to network with your peers in the redevelopment space and recognize your work and the work of your colleagues and partners.

[Register Today!](#)

The Importance of Due Diligence in Downstream Energy Property Transactions & Development



Check out the article below authored by Minnesota Brownfields Members Elizabeth Schmiesing and Christopher Cerny (Winthrop & Weinstine). A great take on the importance of quality environmental assessments in real estate transactions.

[Read the Article Here](#)

Source: StudyGroups.com

MPCA Remediation & Guidance Web Page Survey Now Open - Submit Responses by March 13

If you utilize the technical guidance and/or web pages of the MPCA's Remediation Division programs, we are seeking your feedback!



Throughout 2024 and 2025, the Remediation Division published over 40 new or updated technical guidance documents and web pages. Our suite of guidance-related resources looks very different today than it did in October 2023, when we first surveyed users on their experience. We incorporated the valuable input we received from that survey to help inform our guidance updating project. Our goal was and is to have up-to-date, clear, organized, complete guidance and web content for those who work in our Remediation programs. Now that we have substantially completed our 2-year project, we'd like to know: how did we do?

The survey linked below asks a series of questions about your experience with Remediation web pages, Divisional guidance, and Program-specific guidance. The survey only asks you to answer program-specific questions based on the program you work in the most (a little different – and shorter! – than the October 2023 survey). If you are familiar with Remediation guidance and web pages, the survey should take you about 10 minutes to complete; a bit longer if you are willing to provide elaboration on your answers.

[The survey will remain open until March 13, 2026.](#)

[Remediation Guidance and Web Page Survey](#)

We greatly appreciate you taking the time to complete the survey! We are committed to ongoing maintenance of our guidance and web pages, and continuing to work toward that goal of up-to-date, clear, organized, complete guidance and web content for those who work in our Remediation programs. Some of the guidance activities planned in 2026

include updating our Vapor Intrusion guidance and releasing some new Brownfield guidance. We will use the survey results to help us understand other information gaps and updating needs. If you have any questions, feel free to [contact Jessie Ebertz](#).

Call for DEED Applications!



The Contamination Cleanup and Investigation and the RAP Development Grant Program are now accepting applications! Due date: May 1, 2026.

Contamination Cleanup and Investigation and RAP Development Grant Program

The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), through its Brownfields and Redevelopment Unit, is accepting grant applications through the Contamination Cleanup and Investigation and RAP Development Grant Program.

This grant program assists local communities with the investigation and cleanup of soil, soil vapor, and groundwater contamination at previously or currently developed sites. Sites where significant barriers exist to redevelop contaminated properties into a different and/or more productive use are complex and more costly to redevelop than undeveloped parcels. This program is not intended for parties that have operated on the site long-term, but rather to assist new parties with site redevelopment. Grants are awarded based on statewide, statutory criteria.

Call for Applications

• [Call for Applications](#)

Three complete sets of applications (application form and required attachments) are required for each site. One paper copy and two electronic copies (two separate flash drives) are required. All three copies must be complete and submitted by the deadline to be considered for funding. Applications may be sent by mail or courier to the following address but must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on May 1, 2026. Alternatively, applications may be delivered in person on May 1, 2026. If delivering in person, please take the 5th Street elevators (by the guard's desk) to the 12th floor and leave the applications on the cart located in the DEED elevator lobby. Applications will be retrieved promptly.

Brownfields and Redevelopment Unit
Great Northern Building
180 East Fifth Street, Suite 1200
St. Paul, MN 55101

Applications submitted by email will NOT be accepted. Applications should be in a binder with all attachments labeled and tabbed.

Technical Assistance

For questions regarding the application process or to seek clarification on application instructions/questions, please contact the Brownfields and Redevelopment Unit at 651-259-7451. Individuals requiring an accommodation to attend this event should contact [Amber Merritt](#), at least 3 days prior to the session.

National Brownfields Conference Calling for Educational Session Ideas



The 2027 National Brownfields Conference Call for Ideas is now open!

[Submit your ideas](#) for dynamic educational sessions that explore the latest and greatest tools, methods, trends and case studies in brownfields redevelopment and revitalization.

Conference Topic Areas (Tracks):

- Brownfields Financing
- Healthy and Resilient Redevelopment
- Future Economic Trends and Transformation
- Community Involvement and Public Participation
- Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Approaches
- Tribal Brownfield Programs

The Call for Ideas will close on May 31, 2026. Learn more about the [2027 National Brownfields Conference here](#).

Minnesota Green Corps Site Application Open

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is accepting host site applications for the 2026-2027 Minnesota GreenCorps program year.

Minnesota GreenCorps is an environmentally focused AmeriCorps program that places members with host site organizations throughout the state. Members address critical environmental issues while gaining experience and learning valuable job skills. Members serve full-time from September 2026 to August 2027. [Learn more](#) about how an MN GreenCorps member can help your community or organization.

[Apply to be a Host Site](#)

March Fact of the Month:



FACT OF THE MONTH:

Did you know that Minnesota Brownfields has partnered with Hennepin County since 2012 to administer the Brownfield Gap Financing Program, providing small grants to do Phase I and Phase II Environmental Assessments?

Thank you, Members!

Platinum Executives

Stantec

Silver Supporters

American Engineering Testing
Bay West
Braun Intertec
Geosyntec
SEH
Terracon Consultants

Bronze Partners

Barr Engineering
Bolander
Carlson McCain
Fredrikson
GZA GeoEnvironmental
Inland Development Partners
The Javelin Group
KLJ Engineering
Landmark Environmental, LLC
Lathrop GPM
Loucks
Merjent, Inc.
The Opus Group
Pace Analytical Services, LLC
Ramboll Engineering
Rock Leaf Water Environmental LLC
Stinson LLP
Stoel Rives LLP
Tankenoff Families Foundation
Vonco
Winthrop & Weinstine

Individual Members

Chris Anderson
Steven Banovetz
Tom Binsfeld
Jonathon Blaha
Eric Blodgett
Thomas Braun
Christopher Cerny
Sara Collova
Alana Crawford
Jim Crowl
Wilmar Delgado
Jessie Ebertz
Dain Fisher
Jason A. Gelling
Amanda Guertin
Amy Hadiaris
Shannon Hahnen
Jayme Hammond
Victor Henao
Steve Heurung
Erica Jarchow

WSB

**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
milepost12 LLC
MN Dept of Transportation
Parkway Law LLC
Port Authority of St. Paul
Ramsey County Community & Economic
Development
St. Louis County Economic & Community
Development

Emeritus Members

Charlie Vander Aarde

Retired Members

Gary Krueger

Student Members

Sean Bartlett
Lucille Hugunin

Holly Johnson
Kevin Johnson
Paul Kammueler
David Knight
Chuck Krueger
Rick Kubler
Anne Lazo
David Liverseed
Shannon Martin
Jeri Massengill
Nick McCabe
Ania McDonnell
Crystal Mogensen
Andrew Nichols
Chris Niemand
Miluska Linares Novota
Bill Opheim
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
Tigh Surdez
Mark Umholtz
Sherry Van Duyn
Stacey Van Patten
Michael Wardwell
Youmi Wrobel

Thank you, Platinum Member - Stantec!



Minnesota Brownfields | 4248 Park Glen Road | Minneapolis , MN 55416 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!