



May News

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Elizabeth Kluesner

Welcome to spring at Minnesota Brownfields! I greatly enjoyed seeing so many of you along with many new members at the ReScape 2026 Gala! Thank you again to Dan Collison for being our Master of Ceremonies, to Commissioner Katrina Kessler for being the keynote speaker and to our many sponsors; our 15th annual ReScape Awards Gala was hugely successful because of all of your contributions. And, congratulations again, to our project category winners and to our three Mac Hyde Scholarship recipients.



Spring is a busy time for us at Minnesota Brownfields. Be sure to save the date for Part III of our Beer, Brownfields & the Law series. This session will be held May 18 from 3:00 - 4:00 pm at Pyles Brewing Company. Check out the details below. You'll also want to mark your calendars for our upcoming June 10 webinar where we will be learning about Mercury Vapor & Passive Sampling from Geosyntec Consultant's Spencer Washburn.

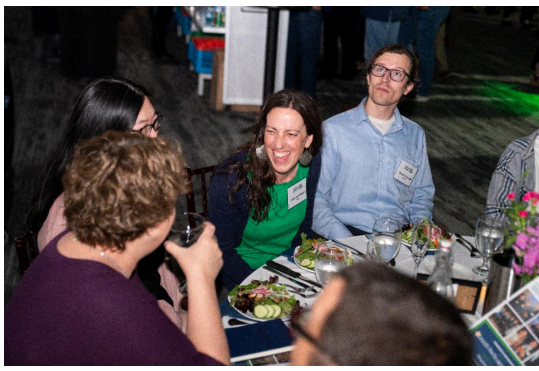
Looking ahead to the fall, set aside Thursday, Oct. 22 and Friday, Oct. 23, for the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)'s Brownfields and Beyond Conference at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN.

Enjoy this beautiful weather - finally! I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming spring events.

Warm Regards,
Elizabeth

2026 ReScape Awards Gala

It was a night to remember! Thank you to everyone who made Minnesota Brownfields' 15th Annual ReScape Awards Gala a success! On April 23, we announced the recipients of the 2026 ReScape Awards at Royalston Square in Minneapolis. Minnesota Brownfields proudly offers these awards recognizing exemplary brownfield redevelopment projects completed statewide. These recipients were chosen from a larger pool of nominees. Keep scrolling to see which projects took home awards.



[View the Gallery](#)

Congratulations to Our Project Winners!



Innovation Award Winner: Great River Children's Museum – Located in St. Cloud, MN. Project Partners include the City of Saint Cloud; Stearns, Benton and Sherburne Counties; Greater Saint Cloud; Braun Intertec Corporation; State of Minnesota; and Main Street Economic Revitalization Program.



Economic Award Winner: 60 Main Street – Located in Winona, MN. Project Partners include the Port Authority of Winona; the City of Winona; the Rivers Hotel Company; Wieser Brothers General Contractor; Merchants Bank; the Winona Area Chamber of Commerce; Landmark Environmental; DEED; and the MPCA.



Environmental Award Large Project Winner: The Heights – Located in St. Paul, MN. Project Partners include the Saint Paul Port Authority; Braun Intertec Corporation; Stoel Rives; Stinson; WSB; Loucks; Sherman Associates; Habitat for Humanity; Ever Green Energy; Minnesota Department of Agriculture; MPCA; DEED; the Metropolitan Council; Bolander; Ramsey County; and USEPA.



Environmental Award Small Project Winner: Soo Line Community Garden – Located in Minneapolis, MN. Project Partners include the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board; Braun Intertec Corporation; the MPCA; and Aune Fernandez Landscape Architects.



Community Impact, Large Project Winner: Opportunity Crossing – Located in Minneapolis, MN. Project Partners include WSB; Project for Pride in Living; Landmark Environmental; the City of Minneapolis; the Metropolitan Council; the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization; Winthrop & Weinstine; Hennepin County; and DEED



Community Impact, Small Project Winner: Voyageur's Crane Lake Visitor's Center – Located in Crane Lake, MN. Project Partners include the Town of Crane Lake; Saint Louis County; The Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board; the Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources; SEH; Historical Information Gatherers; Braun Intertec Corporation; Pace Analytical; Johnson, Killen and Seiler; MDNR; MPCA; and DEED.

Congratulations to Our Mac Hyde Scholarship Recipients!



Minnesota Brownfields is proud to name Leyla Sengul (left center), Sophia Spisak (right center) and Reina Balley (right) as the 2026 recipients of the Mac Hyde Scholarship. They are pictured with Paul Hyde, Hyde Development CEO/Owner and son of Mac Hyde, where the award gets its namesake. Maclay “Mac” Hyde (1934-2013) was a pioneering environmental law attorney and real estate developer of polluted, often abandoned, brownfield sites. Mac was an inspiration and mentor to many in the brownfield redevelopment and environmental law space. At past ReScape Awards, Mac was remembered through the Mac Hyde Leadership Award. The scholarship now honors Mac’s life and legacy by supporting the next generation of innovative brownfield redevelopment minds. To celebrate Mac Hyde, Minnesota Brownfields offers this scholarship to students pursuing studies in diverse fields related to brownfield redevelopment.

Thank you, ReScape Sponsors!

Thank you, Gold Sponsors!



Thank you, Mac Hyde Scholarship Sponsors!



BRAUN INTERTEC

Additional Mac Hyde Scholarship Sponsors!

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Thank you, Silver Sponsors!



Thank you, Champagne Toast Sponsor!



Thank you, Table Sponsors!

Bolander, Frattalone Companies, GZA, Historical Information Gatherers, Landmark Environmental, Partner Engineering and Science, Rachel Contracting, SEH, DEED, Iron Range Resources, Braun Intertec Corporation and WSB.

Hoppportunity Knocks - May 18

Join the Environmental, Natural Resources, and Energy Section and Minnesota Brownfields on Monday, May 18th from 3 pm - 4 pm at Pryes Brewing Company for a special joint program on Phase I Environmental Site Assessments and All

Appropriate Inquiry due diligence. We've assembled a multidisciplinary panel — environmental attorneys, consultants, and end users — to offer their real-world perspectives on how Phase I ESAs function in practice and where they fall short. Panelists will draw on their own experience to explore the friction points, pitfalls, and practical value of environmental property due diligence across a range of transaction types.

HOPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!

Beer, Brownfields & the Law

MAY 18
3 - 4 PM

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Topics will include:

- Selecting an environmental consultant and associated contracting and liability limitation considerations
- What actually makes something a Recognized Environmental Condition — and where practitioners disagree
- PFAS and emerging contaminant considerations in Phase I scope and reporting
- Reliance letters: who gets them, what they cover, and what they don't
- Cost versus value: when is a Phase I enough, and when isn't it?

Whether you're a transactional attorney, environmental consultant, lender, or property owner, this program will offer practical takeaways you can apply immediately.

Join us for a happy hour immediately after the CLE program!

Panelists:

Graham Hanson, Mortensen
Rick Kubler, Lathrop GPM LLP
Paul Kammueller, Bank Cherokee
Sean Leary, GZA GeoEnvironmental
Richard Manser, milepost12 LLC
Joe Otte, Landmark Environmental, LLC
Kaitlin Ouverson, Geosyntec Consultants
Lindsey Remakel, Fredrikson and Byron P.A.
Jeffery Sepesi, Environmental Law and Science, PLLC

Moderator:

Elizabeth Kluesner, Minnesota Brownfields

CLE Credits:

1.0 Standard CLE Credits applied for | Event Code: 547000

[Register](#)

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Webinar: Mercury Vapor & Passive Sampling

Join us on June 10th at 12 pm CT for a virtual MN Brownfields Lunch and Learn on Mercury Vapor and Passive Sampling. The importance of understanding vapor intrusion lies in its implications for public health and safety, particularly in residential and occupational settings. Although not as commonly encountered as volatile organic compounds, mercury vapor exposure to mercury vapor can lead to severe respiratory, kidney, and neurological effects, necessitating a vapor intrusion investigation when found to be present. Vapor intrusion assessments can be confounded by the media impacted by mercury (vadose zone, groundwater and/or building materials) and the use of generic screening levels. This presentation will equip you with practical insights into why traditional mercury vapor measurement methods often fall short—due to their non-selectivity, intrusive nature, semi-quantitative results, and misalignment of sample timeframes with exposure criteria. You will learn about an innovative passive air sampling approach that

addresses these challenges by providing more representative exposure data, reducing costs, and minimizing disruption in occupied spaces

Speaker: Spencer Washburn, Ph.D., Senior Scientist, Geosyntec Consultants, Inc.

Spencer Washburn is an environmental geochemist at the Minneapolis, MN Geosyntec office with 10+ years of experience in trace metal biogeochemistry and a particular focus on mercury cycling. Spencer has worked widely on the geochemical aspects of constituent fate and transport, including sulfate and trace metals. He uses his academic and research background to support a diverse range of projects.

WEBINAR
Mercury Vapor and Passive Sampling
JUNE 10 AT 12 PM
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF EDUCATION, RESEARCH & PARTNERSHIP
SPEAKER:
SPENCER WASHBURN,
GEOSYNTEC CONSULTANTS

[Learn More](#)

Brownfields & Beyond



The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) will be hosting the Brownfields and Beyond: 2026 Minnesota Redevelopment Conference Thursday

and **Friday, October 22 and 23, 2026**, at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN.

This conference will convene 100+ of Minnesota's leading professionals from the private, public, and nonprofit sectors engaged in all facets of brownfield and redevelopment including economic development, local and state government, environmental science, finance, law, engineering, development, real estate, advocacy and education, planning, and consulting. Our audience will range from seasoned veterans to those new to the field. Attendees will be from all corners of Minnesota including metropolitan areas, regional centers, and rural communities.

Save the date and plan to attend! A \$225 conference fee for this 1.5-day event helps offset catering and overall conference costs. Event details, including the full agenda, breakout session topics, speaker biographies, and sponsor and exhibitor information, will be updated on a rolling basis. Registration is expected to open in late summer.

2026 SRV's Update



Soil Reference Values (SRVs) are a screening tool used to evaluate potential human health risks from exposure to contaminated soil. The SRV

spreadsheet contains generic SRVs for the Residential/Recreational and Commercial/Industrial land use categories. The MPCA completes an annual review of SRVs to ensure that these screening values are current and in line with evolving toxicity information. A revised SRV spreadsheet has been posted on the MPCA's Cleanup guidance webpage. Those chemicals with updated SRVs are designated by "2026" in the "SRV Revision Year" column of the spreadsheet and are summarized below:

Table summarizing the differences between 2025 and 2026 SRVs is below.

Parameter	SRV Type	2025 SRV (mg/kg)	2026 SRV (mg/kg)	Comment
PFBA	Res/rec	20	49	Used MDH toxicity values
PFBA	Com/Ind	220	250	Used MDH toxicity values
PFHxS	Res/rec	0.0000054	0.13	Used MDH toxicity values
PFHxS	Com/Ind	0.000072	1.6	Used MDH toxicity values
PFOS	Res/rec	0.0013	0.013	Used MDH toxicity values
PFOS	Com/Ind	0.018	0.18	Used MDH toxicity values
PFOA	Res/rec	0.00016	0.00036	Used MDH toxicity values
PFOA	Com/Ind	0.00086	0.002	Used MDH toxicity values
PFNA	Res/rec	N/A	0.04	New chemical
PFNA	Com/Ind	N/A	0.54	New chemical

Environmental consultants should update any SRV reporting templates they may have to ensure current values are presented for data comparison.

If you have questions or comments about the posted materials, please contact [Amy Hadiaris](#), Redevelopment Unit Supervisor or [Laura Lyle](#), Risk Assessor.

May Fact of the Month:



FACT OF THE MONTH:

Did you know that in 2025 the Ramsey County Site Assessment Grant Program funded 12 projects totaling over \$167,000 in grant funds? Project types funded included: 4 Affordable Housing, 3 Mixed Use Commercial/Affordable Housing, 3 Youth & Family Services, 1 Park and 1 Education.

Thank you, Members!

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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
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
R&B Environmental Drilling, LLC
Ramsey County Community & Economic
Development
St. Louis County Economic & Community
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Miluska Linares Novota
Bill Opheim
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Kristin Prosocki
Kyle Romens
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Thank you, Platinum Member - Stantec!



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