



Minnesota Brownfields

A Message from the Chair:

The Board members of Minnesota Brownfields are proud to present our second Annual Report, summarizing our organization's key activities during 2010.

Minnesota Brownfields again offered high-quality educational and networking opportunities throughout the year. We hosted three brownfield forums: *Sustainable Redevelopment*, *The State of Brownfields Update*, and *Reclaiming Recalcitrant Brownfields* in November. We also co-hosted two regional brownfields workshops in Bemidji and Mankato, and co-hosted an event showcasing the Beacon Bluff development in St. Paul.

Minnesota Brownfields was active in policy and technical issues throughout the year: we strengthened our relationship with the National Brownfields Coalition and our congressional delegation on federal brownfield legislation. We conducted a soil reuse survey on policies and practices in the state. We assisted in updating the *Minnesota Brownfield Resource Guide* detailing available financial resources. Mid-way through 2010 we undertook ambitious research on the cumulative impact of Minnesota's public investments in brownfields from 1995-2010. Our Advisory Committee met three times during the year to advise and inform our work.

The Great Recession made 2010 an incredibly challenging year for all organizations, including nonprofits such as Minnesota Brownfields. Critical financial support by the McKnight Foundation and our members made the difference in allowing us to break even financially at year end. Hiring graduate interns and utilizing volunteers leveraged our modest capacity and resources. Our ongoing success is largely due to the hard work and efforts of our Program Administrator Martha Faust, our Board Members, and the time and commitment of our Advisory Committee. We are deeply appreciative of each one of their contributions.

We look forward to new opportunities to foster brownfields innovation in 2011.

Sincerely,



Ken Haberman
President and Chair

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Braun Intertec

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DeLuca Strategies

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Stoel Rives, LLP

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Real Estate Recycling

Sara Peterson
Dorsey & Whitney

Kristina Smitten
Smitten Group

Meredith Udoibok
MN DEED

2010 Advisory Committee

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Charlie Tiller

Heidi Timm-Bijold

John Wall

1415 Highland Parkway
St. Paul, MN 55116

www.mnbrownfields.org

Brownfield Forum Series

Minnesota Brownfields presented three educational forums: *Sustainable Redevelopment* in January, our third annual *State of Brownfields Update* in July, and *Reclaiming Recalcitrant Brownfields* in November. With the Midwest Assistance Program (MAP) and the National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals (NALGEP) we co-hosted regional brownfields workshops in Bemidji and Mankato. With the Economic Development Association of Minnesota (EDAM) we co-hosted a May Third Thursday event showcasing the St. Paul Port Authority's Beacon Bluff redevelopment project on the former 3M campus. Audience feedback indicates the forums are timely, relevant and beneficial and at the same time provide a needed networking venue.

Research and Advocacy

Minnesota Brownfields conducted research on Soil Reuse and on the Benefits of Brownfield Cleanup and Redevelopment. Both topics were identified by the Advisory Committee and were unlikely to be addressed in another venue or by another organization.

Soil Reuse Policy and Regulatory Reform

Our **Soil Reuse** work involves advocating for statewide implementation of innovative practices and policies related to reuse of minimally contaminated soil from brownfield sites on other monitored properties. In June, 2010 we surveyed over 200 brownfield practitioners across a range of fields on current state soil reuse practices and policies. This survey built on our past soil research and forums. Survey responses were used to develop a list of recommended policy and regulatory changes that Minnesota Brownfields will advocate for in 2011.

Reenergized Public Message on the Benefits of Redeveloping Brownfields

In response to the Great Recession and ongoing state budget crisis, we led research quantifying the impact of public investment in brownfield cleanup and redevelopment since 1995. Key programs funding brownfield cleanup and redevelopment in the state have been vulnerable to budget cuts, threatening the region's ability to efficiently and effectively clean up and redevelop a substantial portfolio of available infill sites. Our research aggregated national and state data on the economic, environmental and community impacts of investments in redevelopment since 1995. This research would inform a white paper and summary fact sheets to be released in 2011 as an advocacy tool. At the end of 2010, we formed a legislative partnership with the Economic Development Association of Minnesota (EDAM) to jointly advocate for funding for state brownfield programs.

Information Services: E-newsletter, LinkedIn Group and Website

Our e-newsletter continues to be a popular and unique information source for practitioners across a range of practice areas, now reaching more than 425 readers each month. The newsletter combines the most relevant national brownfield news with local updates, including legislative proposals, funding announcements, regulation and project updates. While our website serves as our main electronic foundation, we are exploring other social media tools to better serve our audience. At our audience's request, we created a Minnesota Brownfields LinkedIn Group to facilitate a more dynamic exchange of information and discussion within the community.

New Relationships and Partnerships

Our forums and research continue to yield new or strengthened relationships with individuals and organizations focused on brownfields. Following is a partial list of our partners: the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, Department of Employment and Economic Development, Department of Health, Department of Agriculture, EDAM, the Metropolitan Council, the Regional Council of Mayors (RCM), Twin City Community Land Bank, Strong Towns, the St. Paul Port Authority, Catalyst Community Partners, the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the Sustainable Urban Redevelopment Forum (SURF), the U.S. Green Building Council, the National Brownfields Coalition, and numerous Minnesota cities, counties, private developers, geologists and attorneys. Minnesota Brownfields has also continued to develop relationships with other organizations whose work affects redevelopment success such as the Minnesota Chapter of the Urban Land Institute (ULI), Minnesota Environmental Initiative, the League of Minnesota Cities, Metro Cities, BlueGreen Alliance, the Central Corridor Funders Collaborative, the University of Minnesota-Humphrey School of Public Affairs and the Center for Urban and Regional Affairs (CURA). These relationships will be a resource for future collaboration on specific issues or initiatives.

Minnesota Brownfields has been increasingly invited to participate in ongoing policy development related to redevelopment. Notable examples from 2010 include the 1000 Friends of Minnesota-led *Playbook for the Next Governor*, the McKnight Foundation’s Regional Sustainability Indicators, and the RCM/ULI-led process to update a Regional Redevelopment Toolkit.

Minnesota Brownfields Finance History and Budget Projection

Income	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Grants	\$50,000	\$0	\$27,000	\$12,000	\$20,000
Sponsorships	0	3,500	5,000	5,700	10,000
Memberships	2,050	10,000	15,235	25,400	25,000
Program Revenue	465	5,200	7,160	11,900	8,000
Total Income	\$52,515	\$19,517	\$54,466	\$55,100	\$63,000
Expenses	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Prog. Admin. Contract	\$0	\$22,558	\$35,275	\$47,100	\$50,000
Consultants	0	5,475	9,500	1,500	1,500
Forum Expense	0	5,664	7,317	4,700	6,000
Communications	0	615	1,977	1,800	1,500
Misc. Fees & Eqpt.	774	1,332	1,779	1,300	1,000
Total Expenses	\$774	\$35,778	\$55,848	\$56,400	\$60,000
Year End Assets	\$52,071	\$35,809	\$34,437	\$48,100	\$51,000*

Prepared 12-01-10 by Sara Peterson, Treasurer. Revised on 7-10-11.

* Projected.

Our Members

Membership is a fundamental source of our ongoing financial support. Without a strong membership base, Minnesota Brownfields wouldn't exist. Individual and corporate memberships support our educational forums, research, advocacy and our newsletter and website. Members receive discounted admission to Minnesota Brownfields' events, and recognition in our newsletter and on our website. Higher membership levels are recognized through priority access to Minnesota Brownfields publications and have their organizational logo on our website. We are gratified that membership continues to grow even in difficult financial times.

Thank you again to each of our members for their support – you make all the difference in the world!

Redevelopment Level - \$2500

AMEC Geomatrix / Braun Intertec Corporation / Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development / Landmark Environmental LLC / St. Paul Port Authority

Remediation Level - \$1000

Barr Engineering Company / Bonestroo / Leonard Street and Deinard / Stoel Rives, LLP

RAP Development - \$500

DCE Specialist LLC / Lindquist & Vennum PLLP / Minnesota Pollution Control Agency / Wayne Nelson Real Estate Recycling

Phase II Level - \$250

American Engineering Testing / ATC Associates / Bloomberg & Podpeskar LLC / Bonnie Balach / Bay West Inc City of Duluth / City of Minneapolis CPED / Dakota County Water Resources Department / Duluth Seaway Port Authority / Economic Development Association of Minnesota / Martha Faust / Fredrikson & Byron, P.A. GJG Environmental Consultants / Gray Plant Mooty / Historical Information Gatherers / Howard R. Green Company Mac Hyde / Liesch / Moss & Barnett / MSA Professional Services / Opus Holding LLC / Pace Analytical Peer Engineering / Pinnacle Engineering / Schleck & Associates / SEH, Inc. / Summit Enviroolution URS Corporation

Phase I Level - \$100

Cathy Capone Bennett / Jon Blaha / City of Moorhead Community Services Department / City of St Paul PED Deb DeLuca / Robert Devolve / Ken Haberman / Steve Heurung / James Kelly / George Kinney / David Liverseed Marie McCallum / Patricia Nauman / Joe Pesante / Sara Peterson / Linda Picha / Ann Reppe / Dan Rogness Kristina Smitten / Al Sunderman / Meredith Udoibok / Sherry Van Duyn / Ryan Zick / R. Eric Zimmerman