



June News

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

By Elizabeth Kluesner

It's officially summer in Minnesota! This is traditionally a slower time at Minnesota Brownfields as we prepare for a busy late summer and fall curriculum. This newsletter has event dates and locations for upcoming educational and networking sessions – so get out your calendars and Save the Dates!



Minnesota Brownfields would like to express our appreciation to the Environmental Law Section for partnering with us to host the May 18th Environmental Due Diligence Event at Pryes Brewing. It was a terrific event with a full house of participants. Many thanks to all of the Minnesota Brownfield Members who attended!

Please keep in mind that we have funding available in the [Ramsey County Site Assessment Grant program](#) if you have any clients who are eligible for these funds. I hope you all have a wonderful Minnesota Summer with your loved ones, enjoying the weather and the outdoors!

Warm Regards,
Elizabeth

H'Opportunity Knocks - Joint Event with the Environmental Law Section at Pryes Brewing Co.



Thank you to our Minnesota Brownfields members for serving on the panel discussing due diligence at our first-ever joint event with the Environmental Law Section:

Rick Kubler – Lathrop GPM
Lindsey Remakel – Fredrikson & Byron
Jeffery Sepesi – Environmental Law & Science, PLLC
Richard Manser – milepost12
Graham Hanson – Mortenson Construction
Paul Kammueller – Bank Cherokee
Kaitlin Ouverson – Geosyntec Consultants
Sean Leary – GZA GeoEnvironmental
Joe Otte – Landmark Environmental



Register for the June 10 Webinar!

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

A graphic for a webinar. It features a blue background with green vertical bars on the sides. At the top, the word "WEBINAR" is in large green letters, followed by "Mercury Vapor and Passive Sampling" in white. Below that, a dark blue box contains the text "JUNE 10 AT 12 PM" in white. In the center, there is a circular badge that says "CELEBRATING 20 YEARS OF" around the number "20", with "EDUCATION RESEARCH & PARTNERSHIP" at the bottom. To the right of the badge is a portrait of a man with a beard and short hair, wearing a light-colored shirt. Below the portrait, the text "SPEAKER: SPENCER WASHBURN, GEOSYNTEC CONSULTANTS" is displayed in white.

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.

[Register](#)

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.

Don't Forget the Minnesota Brownfields Happy Hour at the Bleu Duck Kitchen Oct. 21!

Mark your calendars for Happy Hour and Networking October 21 at the Bleu Duck Kitchen in Rochester, MN! We'll enjoy drinks and appetizers and get to know our colleagues in the Minnesota Brownfields redevelopment industry.



Save the Date for these Upcoming Events



Emerging Developers: October 7, 2026
State of Brownfields: November 12, 2026

[Register](#)

KSUTAB Webinar June 30 & July 1: Building Your Brownfields Team

A purple and white graphic for a webinar. On the right, a photo shows three people in a meeting. The text on the left reads "BUILDING YOUR BROWNFIELDS TEAM:" in large white letters, followed by "Acquiring Staff, Community, & Technical Experts" in yellow. At the bottom, it says "2 - 3:30 PM (CDT)" and "JUNE 30 AND JULY 1, 2026". Logos for TAB and Kansas State University are at the bottom left, and a link "Click here for more details and to register!" is at the bottom right.

BUILDING YOUR BROWNFIELDS TEAM:
Acquiring Staff, Community, & Technical Experts

2 - 3:30 PM (CDT) **JUNE 30 AND JULY 1, 2026**

[Click here for more details and to register!](#)

Join KSU TAB for a two-part webinar focused on building your project team, which will cover the key players from project inception to assessment and redevelopment.

The first part of the series covers the initial phases of the brownfields redevelopment process, including building internal support, identifying community stakeholders, and acquiring the services of a technical expert.

The second part of the series focuses on team members involved in the cleanup and redevelopment phases, including when it's appropriate to engage a real estate or environmental attorney, and how to attract a developer.

Register

May Fact of the Month:



FACT OF THE MONTH:

Did you know when Brownfields are successfully redeveloped, energy is used more efficiently? Car trips become shorter and less frequent, with a reduction of 43-67 percent in vehicle miles travelled. Definitely food for thought when one considers the high cost of gasoline!

Thank you, Members!

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City of St. Cloud Economic Development
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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
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David Schultz
Jeffery Sepesi
Jacob Smokovitz
Tigh Surdez
Mark Umholtz
Sherry Van Duyn
Stacey Van Patten
Michael Wardwell
Youmi Wrobel

Thank you, Platinum Member - Stantec!





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