

Senators Vickerman, Frederickson and Kubly introduced--

S.F. No. 405: Referred to the Committee on Finance.

1                                   A bill for an act  
2       relating to appropriations; appropriating money for  
3       floodplain management.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:  
5       Section 1. [APPROPRIATION.]  
6       \$140,000 in fiscal year 2006 and \$140,000 in fiscal year  
7       2007 are appropriated from the general fund to the Board of  
8       Water and Soil Resources for a grant to Area II, Minnesota River  
9       Basin Projects, Inc., for floodplain management, including  
10      administration of programs. If the appropriation in either year  
11      is insufficient, the appropriation in the other year is  
12      available for it.



**FUTURE FUNDING NEEDS OF  
AREA II  
MN RIVER BASIN PROJECTS, INC.**

Funding for construction and administration continues to be the limiting factor in the installation of flood damage reduction projects throughout this 9-county region of SW Minnesota. Area II has proven through its 27 years of operation that structural flood control measures area a beneficial and widely accepted means of lessening flood damages. The Board of Directors and 9-county membership firmly believe in taking a proactive approach to recurrent, annual flooding rather than a reactive approach which relies much too heavily on state and federal governments.

Area II's work goes hand in hand with the counties' highway improvement plans, coinciding with scheduled culvert and bridge replacements. Other projects, not related to highways, are more local in nature and require greater funding assistance. For culverts and bridges with spans less than 10', no replacement funding is available through the State, although many of these sites are ideal for flood damage reduction projects. Within the drawers of Area II, there lie \$2.3 million of projects that are designed and awaiting funding and construction.

**AREA II  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
(County Commissioners)**

**BROWN COUNTY**

Mr. Andrew Lochner (507) 794-7740  
Mr. Charles Guggisberg (507) 354-5797

**COTTONWOOD COUNTY**

Mr. Gary Sorenson (507) 445-3224  
Mr. Norman Holmen (507) 877-3243

**LAC QUI PARLE COUNTY**

Mr. Harold Solem (320) 769-2063  
Mr. Todd Patzer (320) 668-2626

**LINCOLN COUNTY**

Mr. Curt Blumeyer (507) 223-7339  
Mr. Larry Hansen (507) 247-596

**LYON COUNTY**

Mr. Philip Nelson (507) 629-3375  
Mr. Clarence Buysse (507) 428-3532

**MURRAY COUNTY**

Mr. Robert Moline (507) 763-3702  
Mr. Kevin Vickerman (507) 629-3369

**PIPESTONE COUNTY**

Mr. Luke Johnson (507) 825-4404  
Mr. Marvin Tinklenberg (507) 442-4631

**REDWOOD COUNTY**

Mr. Joseph Schouvieller (507) 249-3815  
Mr. John Schueller (507) 342-5621

**YELLOW MEDICINE COUNTY**

Mr. Louis Sherlin (507) 223-5558  
Mr. Ron Antony (507) 223-5529



**AREA II  
MINNESOTA RIVER  
BASIN PROJECTS, INC.**

1400 East Lyon Street  
P.O. Box 267  
Marshall, MN 56258

Telephone: (507) 537-6369  
Fax: (507) 537-6368  
E-mail: [area2@starpoint.net](mailto:area2@starpoint.net)  
website: [www.area2.org](http://www.area2.org)



## ORGANIZATIONAL PURPOSE

Area II is a grant-in-aid program pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 103F.173-103F.187 that administers the joint powers agreement signed by the nine counties of Brown, Cottonwood, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, Murray, Pipestone, Redwood, and Yellow Medicine in southwestern Minnesota.

The primary function of the organization is to provide technical and financial assistance to local units of government within Area II for the engineering, land rights acquisition, construction costs for the installation of floodwater retarding/retention structures within a general plan for floodplain management. This also includes wetland restorations and streambank stabilizations.

Area II's purpose is to implement the flood control recommendations outlined in the Minnesota River Basin Report and Public Law 87-639 Study, both structurally and nonstructurally, as governed by the Articles of Incorporation and in cooperation with local, state, and federal units of government.

*Area II is nine counties united, working in conjunction with one another since water does not stop at county boundaries, and neither do the benefits of flood damage reduction.*

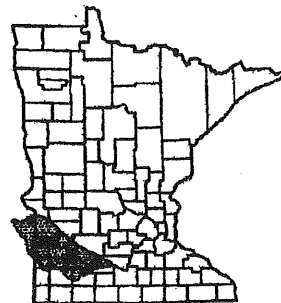
## HISTORY

Flooding damages are very severe within Area II as caused by the steep escarpment formed by the Coteau des Prairies (*Buffalo Ridge*). This escarpment ranges from 4 to 6 miles in width with elevation ranging from 90 feet/mile in the Yellow Bank River watershed to 50 feet/mile in the Redwood River watershed.

The Public Law 87-639 Study revealed total annual damages of \$4,197,448\* by flooding alone. These damages vary from \$197,000 for the Redwood subbasin to \$2,847,960\* for the Lac qui Parle subbasin.

*\*Monetary figures are in 1989 dollars.*

Approximately 112,500 acres are flooded during -year storm events with 30,100 acres being currently flooded every two years. Flooding of croplands and pasturelands account for 80% of the flood damages while road and bridge destruction comprise the remaining 20%.



## WATERSHEDS

Cottonwood River • Little Cottonwood  
Lac qui Parle River • Redwood River  
Yellow Bank • Yellow Medicine River

## PAST BONDING APPROPRIATIONS AND RESULTS

Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects, Inc. received bonding appropriations during the 1996 and 1998 Legislative Sessions. Appropriated funds provided for construction and land acquisition while engineering and administration were provided for through the Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects, Inc. annual budget.

• • •

ML 1996, Chapter 463, Section 11, Subd. 2  
*For grant-in-aid on roadside stormwater retention projects initiated by local governments in Area II of the Minnesota River basin.*

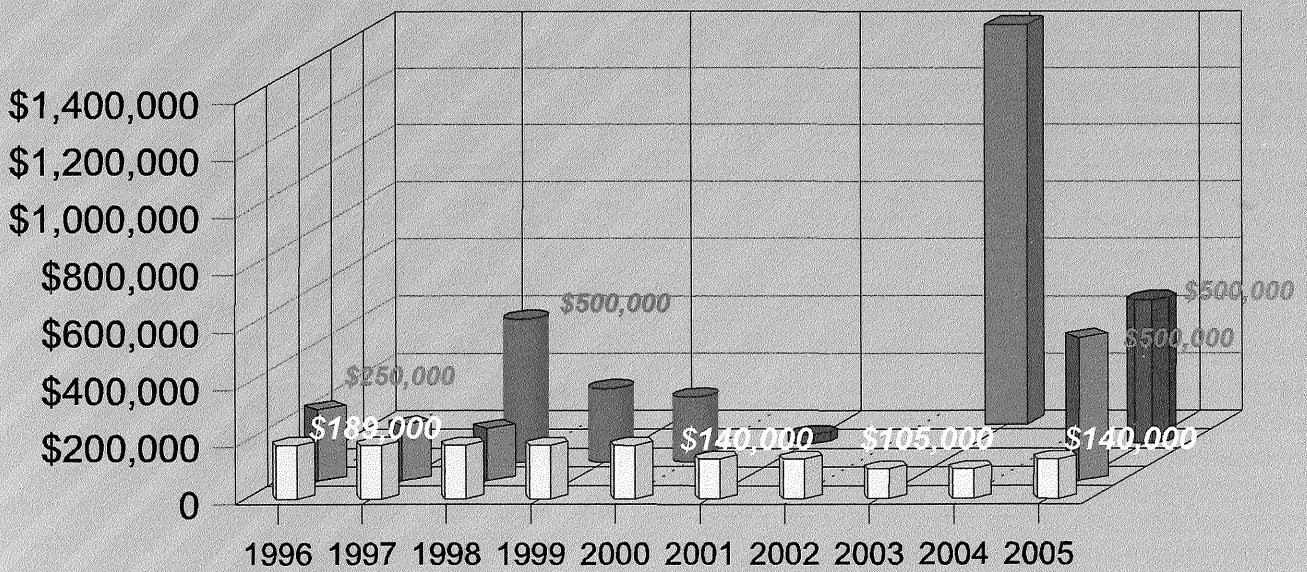
Appropriation:	\$250,000
Local Match Required:	\$83,333.33 (3:1)
Local Match Provided:	\$195,426.47 (1.3:1)
Floodwater Storage Created:	2,759 acre-feet

• • •

ML 1998, Chapter 404, Section 10, Subd. 6  
*For grants to assist local governments in acquiring and construction of floodwater retention systems in Area II of the Minnesota River basin. Projects may include flood control reservoirs, road retention structures, and other floodwater mitigation improvements. This appropriation must be matched by at least \$333,000 from nonstate sources. Grants under this subdivision are exempt from the requirements of MN Statutes, Section 16B.335.*

Appropriation:	\$500,000 (\$496,559.00 used)
Local Match Required:	\$333,000.00 (1.5:1)
Local Match Provided:	\$329,586.84 (1.51:1)
Floodwater Storage Created:	1,775 acre-feet

# STATE FUNDING SYNOPSIS



- Lazarus Creek Bonding*
- LCMR Funds*
- Capital Budget*
- Bonding - Retention*
- Annual Appropriation*

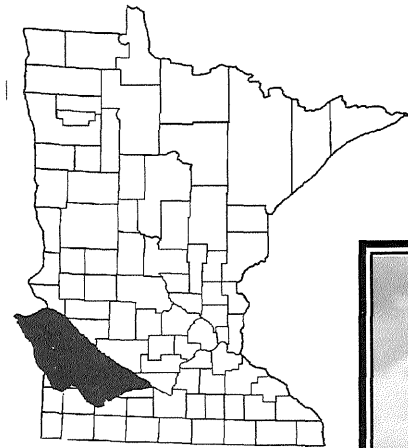
**\*2005 Funds are anticipated**



# AREA II

## MINNESOTA RIVER BASIN PROJECTS, INC.

1400 East Lyon Street • P.O. Box 267 • Marshall, MN 56258 • 507-537-6369



**AREA II MINNESOTA RIVER BASIN PROJECTS, INC.**

**1400 East Lyon Street**

**P.O. Box 267**

**Marshall, Minnesota 56258**

Phone: (507) 537-6369, 537-7086      Fax (507) 537-6368

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# AREA II

## MINNESOTA RIVER BASIN PROJECTS, INC.

1400 East Lyon Street • P.O. Box 267 • Marshall, MN 56258 • 507-537-6369

### FUNDING NEEDS OF AREA II MINNESOTA RIVER BASIN PROJECTS, INC.

BLUE EARTH  
Courthouse  
Mankato, MN

BROWN  
Courthouse  
New Ulm, MN

COTTONWOOD  
Courthouse  
Windom, MN

LAC QUI PARLE  
Courthouse  
Madison, MN

LINCOLN  
Courthouse  
Ivanhoe, MN

LYON  
Courthouse  
Marshall, MN

MURRAY  
Courthouse  
Slayton, MN

PIPESTONE  
Courthouse  
Pipestone, MN

REDWOOD  
Courthouse  
Redwood Falls, MN

YELLOW MEDICINE  
Courthouse  
Granite Falls, MN

The construction funding needs of Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects, Inc. continue to be the limiting factor in the installation of flood damage reduction projects throughout this nine-county region of southwestern Minnesota. Area II has proven through its 27 years of operation, that structural flood control measures are a beneficial and widely accepted means of lessening flood damages. The Board of Directors and nine county membership firmly believe in taking a preventative approach to recurrent, annual flooding rather than a reactive approach which relies too heavily on state and federal governments.

Area II's work goes hand in hand with many of the counties' highway improvement plans. Most of the projects undertaken by our engineering office are designed to coincide with scheduled culvert and bridge replacements a few years away. Other projects, not relative to highways, are more local in nature and need greater financial assistance. For example, culverts and bridges with spans less than 10' are not eligible for replacement funding available through the State, although many of these sites are ideal for smaller flood damage reduction projects. Within the file drawers at Area II, there lie approximately \$2.2 million of projects that are designed and awaiting funding appropriations before construction can commence. Project identification is continuous as is the need for flood damage reduction.

Secondly, administrative funding has become an issue in the last few years. Since 1978, the State of Minnesota has provided 75% of the administrative costs for operating the Area II organization with the remaining 25% coming from the nine member counties. In 2003, Governor Ventura attempted to cut all joint powers organizations from the State budget. A few organizations, including Area II, were able to restore partial funding to stay in operation with their share of cuts being made. Many at the State level have taken the position that counties should fund the administrative costs alone, however with levy limits implemented, the counties have no feasible way of doing so. Statute also provides a professional engineer to Area II, but that too was taken away several years ago due to budget constraints. The local legislators that serve the Area II region can attest to the invaluable work we perform and the importance of our projects to the sustainability and productivity of our region that suffers from regular and recurrent flood damages.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and nine counties of Area II, we greatly appreciate your time and consideration of our requests. Should any further questions or concerns arise, please do not hesitate to contact our office at the above address.

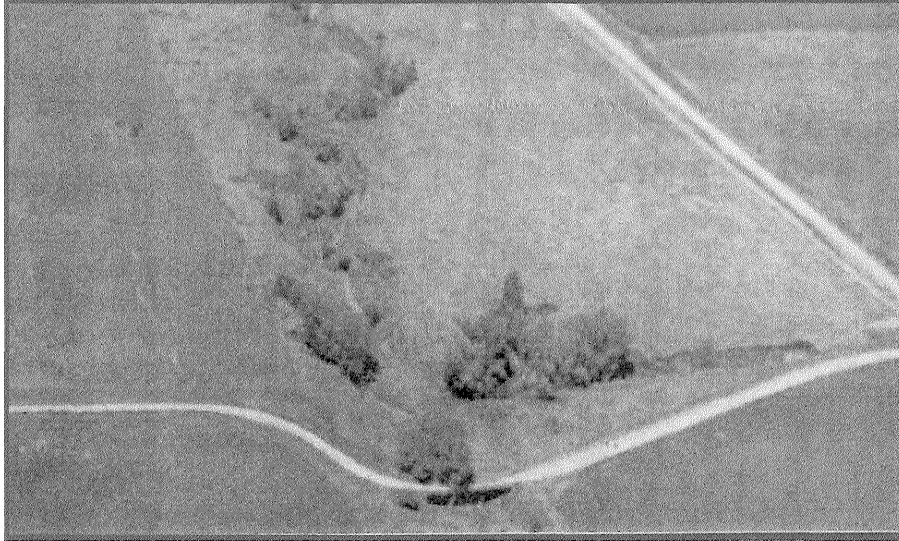
Thank you.

## PROPOSED PROJECTS FOR 2005 BONDING PROPOSAL

PROJECT NAME	LOCATION	ESTIMATED COST
Alta Vista 36 Road Retention <i>(300 acre-feet)</i>	Lincoln County	\$ 774,000
Drammen 5 Small Dam Repair	Lincoln County	\$ 27,000
Amiret 19 Road Retention	Lyon County	\$ 85,000
Lake Marshall 31 Small Dam	Lyon County	\$ 245,000
Lake Marshall 28 Small Dam Repair	Lyon County	\$ 7,000
North Hero 32 Road Retention	Redwood County	\$ 170,000
North Hero 34E Road Retention <i>(390 acre-feet)</i>	Redwood County	\$ 240,000
Springdale 21 Road Retention <i>(147 acre-feet)</i>	Redwood County	\$ 230,000
Springdale 30 Road Retention <i>(214 acre-feet)</i>	Redwood County	\$ 290,000
Springdale 32 Road Retention	Redwood County	\$ 55,000
Florida 4 Road Retention	Yellow Medicine County	\$ 80,000
Total of Projects Awaiting Construction Funding		<b>\$2,203,000</b>
<b>TOTAL REQUESTED FOR 2005</b>		<b>\$500,000</b>

*NOTE: Shaded projects are likely to receive funding through this appropriation.*

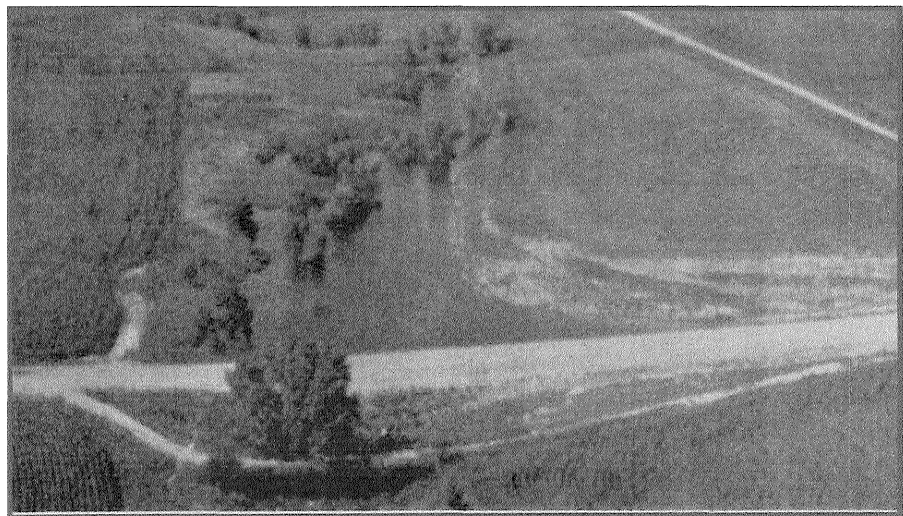
## *ROAD RETENTIONS*



*BEFORE*

Road retentions are constructed by replacing a deficit bridge or culvert and replacing it with a smaller sized culvert. The roadway is built up to serve as a temporary dam embankment to store floodwaters during periods of heavy rainfall or snowmelt. The floodwaters are “metered” out over a period of time up to 48 hours. In most situations, road conditions are greatly improved from a safety and road stability standpoint. MNDOT Township Bridge Funds and State Aid Funds can be utilized for these projects as there are typically considerable savings in using smaller diameter culverts to compensate for the cost of additional road fill.

*AFTER*





**AREA II FLOODWATER RETENTION PROJECTS  
IN ACTION  
~ APRIL 23, 2001 ~**



**Ann 6 Road Retention  
Cottonwood County**



**Rock Lake 15 Road Retention  
Lyon County**



**Rock Lake 21 Dam  
Lyon County**

# PAST BONDING APPROPRIATIONS AND RESULTS

Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects, Inc. has received bonding appropriations during the 1996 and 1998 Legislative Sessions. Appropriated funds provided for construction and land acquisition while engineering and administration were provided for through the Area II Minnesota River Basin Projects, Inc. budget.

## ML 1996, Chapter 463, Section II, Subdivision 2

*For grant-in-aid on roadside stormwater retention projects initiated by local governments in Area II of the Minnesota River basin.*

State Appropriation	Local Match Required	Local Match Provided	Floodwater Storage Created	Cost-Share Ratio	
				Initial	Final
\$250,000	\$83,333.33	\$195,426.47	2,759 acre-feet	3:1	1.3:1

### **Projects Funded:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1) Lyons 3 Road Retention (351.5 ac-ft)          | 4) North Hero 10 Road Retention (87.2 ac-ft)     |
| 2) Ann 6 Road Retention Modification (333 ac-ft) | 5) Coon Creek 28 Dam (598.7 ac-ft)               |
| 3) Island Lake 22 Road Retention (1130.2 ac-ft)  | 6) Lake Marshall 19 Road Retention (258.4 ac-ft) |

## ML 1998, Chapter 404, Section 10, Subdivision 6

*For grants to assist local governments in acquiring and construction of floodwater retention systems in Area II of the Minnesota River basin. Projects may include flood control reservoirs, road retention structures, and other floodwater mitigation improvements. This appropriation must be matched by at least \$333,000 from nonstate sources. Grants under this subdivision are exempt from the requirements of Minnesota Statutes, Section 16B.335.*

State Appropriation	Local Match Required	Local Match Provided	Floodwater Storage Created	Cost-Share Ratio	
				Initial	Final
\$500,000 \$496,559.00	\$333,000.00	\$328,586.84	1,774.7 acre-feet	1.5:1	1.51:1

### **Projects Funded:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) Banks Small Dam Repair                          | 8) Steffes Small Dam Repair                 |
| 2) Black Rush Lake Wetland Restoration (370 ac-ft) | 9) Citterman Small Dam Repair (12 ac-ft)    |
| 3) Anderson Wetland Restoration (61 ac-ft)         | 10) Sodus 4 Small Dam Repair (23 ac-ft)     |
| 4) Coon Creek 28 Dam (599 ac-ft)                   | 11) North Hero 35 Road Retention (88 ac-ft) |
| 5) Amiret 33E Road Retention (120 ac-ft)           | 12) Pankonin Dam Repair (41.2 ac-ft)        |
| 6) Amiret 33W Road Retention (282 ac-ft)           | 13) Norman 16 Dam (65 ac-ft)                |
| 7) Fortier 8 Small Dam Repair (25.5 ac-ft)         | 14) Monroe 14 Road Retention (88 ac-ft)     |

## AREA II PROJECTS COMPLETED SINCE 1978

### Brown County

Wellner-Hageman Reservoir	1992
Stately 6 Small Dam Repair	2001
Wellner-Hageman Shoreline Stabilization	2003

### Cottonwood County

Schooper-Bush Reservoir	1987
Ann 6 Road Retention	1990
Germantown 30 Road Retention	1994
Storden 2 Road Retention	1995
Germantown 4 Road Retention (Phase I)	2004

### Lac Qui Parle County

Lac qui Parle Diversion Channel	1998
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### Lincoln County

Hauschild-Thange Reservoir	1980
Limestone 3 Road Retention	1989
Dandurand Road Retention	1993
Marble 13 Road Retention	1994
Diamond Lake 32/33 Small Dam	1995
Marshfield 2 Small Dam	1995
Trautman Small Dam Repair	1995
Carlson Small Dam Repair	1996
Gorecki-Jeremiason Road Retention	1996
Hendricks 35 Road Retention	1996
Shaokatan 11/12 Road Retention	1998
Ash Lake 21 Road Retention	1999
Marshfield 5 Small Dam	1999
Steffes Small Dam Repair	1999
Traen Small Dam Repair	1999
Citterman Small Dam Repair	2000
Southwest Sportmen's Club Repair	2002
Alta Vista 16 Small Dam Repair	2003

### Pipestone County

Minett-Krantz Reservoir	1987
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### Redwood County

Walnut Grove Reservoir (Lake Laura)	1979
North Hero 31 Road Retention	1995
Gales 16 Road Retention	1996
North Hero 10 Road Retention	1998
North Hero 35 Road Retention	2000

### Lyon County

Sonstegard-Telste Reservoir	1983
Island Lake 13/14 Road Retention	1994
Lyons 3 Road Retention	1996

### Lyon County (continued)

Monroe 24 Road Retention	1996
Nordland 7 Road Retention	1996
Nordland 30 Road Retention	1996
Rock Lake 21 Small Dam	1997
Banks Small Dam Repair	1998
Black Rush Lake Wetland Restoration	1999
Coon Creek 28 Road Retention	1999
Lake Marshall 19 Road Retention	1999
Island Lake 22 Road Retention	1999
Amiret 33 East/West Road Retentions	1999
Sodus 5 Small Dams #1 & #2	2000
Monroe 14 Road Retention	2001
Monroe 36 Road Retention	2001
Lynd 16 Road Retention	2001
Amiret 17 Small Dam Repair	2001
Sodus 4 Small Dam Repair	2001
Sodus 5 Small Dam #3	2001
Lake Marshall 29 Small Dam	2002
Monroe 20 Small Dam Repair	2004
Monroe 25 Small Dam Repair	2004
Rock Lake 32 Small Dam Repair	2004
Minneota Recreational Trail	2004

### Yellow Medicine County

Fales-Vanhofte Reservoir (Lake John)	1981
Del Clark Lake	1985
C.S.A.H. 16 Road Retention	1994
Fortier 15 Road Retention	1997
Fortier 8 Small Dam Repair	1999
Norman 16 Small Dam	2001
Normania 32 Stream Bank Stabilization	2002
Lazarus Creek Floodwater Control Project	2004

### Deuel County, South Dakota

Labolt Lake Restoration	1986
Mud Creek Small Dam Repair	2002

### 27 YEAR SUMMARY

29	Road Retentions
10	Multi-Purpose Dam Constructions
8	Small Dam Constructions
16	Small Dam Repairs
2	Wetland Restorations
2	Shoreline/Streambank Stabilizations

**2005 BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
(COUNTY COMMISSIONERS)**

<i>COUNTY</i>	<i>DELEGATE</i>	<i>ALTERNATE</i>
<b>BROWN</b> (VICE CHAIRMAN)	Mr. Andrew Lochner 28814 County Road 10 Sleepy Eye, MN 56085 (507) 794-7740	Mr. Charles Guggisberg 24274 County Road 11 New Ulm, MN 56073 (507) 354-5797
<b>COTTONWOOD</b>	Mr. Gary Sorenson 4016 United States Avenue Storden, MN 56174 (507) 445-3224	Mr. Norman Holmen 28606 County Road 1 Comfrey, MN 56019 (507) 877-3243
<b>LAC QUI PARLE</b>	Mr. Harold Solem 2225 ~ 361 <sup>st</sup> Avenue Montevideo, MN 56265 (320) 769-2063	Mr. Todd Patzer 1617 ~ 161 <sup>st</sup> Avenue Marietta, MN 56257 (320) 668-2626
<b>LINCOLN</b>	Mr. Curtis Blumeyer 1775 County Hwy 19 Canby, MN 56220 (507) 223-7339	Mr. Larry Hanson P.O. Box 305 Tyler, MN 56178-0305 (507) 274-5968
<b>LYON</b> (SEC/TREASURER)	Mr. Phil Nelson 1616 County Road 11 Tracy, MN 56175 (507) 629-3375	Mr. Clarence Buysse 3673 County Road 61 Minneota, MN 56264 (507) 428-3532
<b>MURRAY</b>	Mr. Robert Moline 2107 U.S. Hwy 59 Currie, MN 56132 (507) 763-3702	Mr. Kevin Vickerman 2252-211 <sup>th</sup> Street Tracy, MN 56175 (507) 629-3369
<b>PIPESTONE</b>	Mr. Luke Johnson 224 W. Main Street Pipestone, MN 56164 (507) 825-4404	Mr. Marvin Tinklenberg 500 Mechanic P.O. Box 5 Edgerton, MN 56128-0005 (507) 442-4631
<b>REDWOOD</b> (CHAIRMAN)	Mr. Joseph Schouvieller 29124 Saratoga Avenue Morgan, MN 56266 (507) 249-3815	Mr. John Schueller 29157 - 250 <sup>th</sup> Street Wabasso, MN 56283 (507) 342-5621
<b>YELLOW MEDICINE</b>	Mr. Louis Sherlin P.O. Box 83 Canby, MN 56220-0083 (507) 223-5558	Mr. Ron Antony 2535 - 230 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Canby, MN 56220 (507) 223-5529

# MINNESOTA STATUTES

## EMPOWERING AREA II MN RIVER BASIN PROJECTS, INC.

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### 103F.171 ~ SOUTHERN MN RIVERS BASIN AREA II BOUNDARIES.

For the purposes of sections 103F.171 to 103F.187, the term "southern Minnesota rivers basin area II" means the area within the watershed of rivers and streams that are tributaries of the Minnesota River from the south between the cities of Ortonville and Mankato. Major rivers included within the watershed are the Yellow Bank, Lac qui Parle, Yellow Medicine, Redwood, and Cottonwood. All of the Lac qui Parle, Yellow Medicine, and Redwood counties, and parts of Lincoln, Lyon, Pipestone, Murray, Cottonwood, and Brown counties are included within the boundaries of the area. *HIST:1990 c 391 art 6 s 16*

**103F.173 ~ PROGRAM.** There shall be a state grant-in-aid pilot program of providing financial assistance to units of local government, including counties, soil and water conservation districts, and watershed districts, located in the southern Minnesota river basin area II for project and construction costs for the building of floodwater retarding and retention structures within a general plan for floodplain management. *HIST:1990 c 391 art 6 s 17*

**103F.175 ~ AID FORMULA.** Grants may be made by the Board of Water and Soil Resources to local governmental units for the purposes of sections 103F.171 to 103F.187 in an amount not to exceed 75 percent of the total cost of each project, including site acquisition, engineering, and construction. If federal funds are being utilized for a portion of the project costs, the state contribution may not exceed 50 percent of the remaining nonfederal costs equally. Money granted by the state may not be used for any project of stream channelization. *HIST:1990 c 391 art 6 s 18*

### 103F.177 ~ OPERATION WITHIN AGENCY.

*Subdivision 1. Board of Water and Soil Resources.* The Board of Water and Soil Resources shall supervise the grant-in-aid pilot program pursuant to sections 103F.171 to 103F.187.

*Subdivision 2. Procedures and Forms.* The Board shall devise procedures and forms for application for grants by local units of government, and review of and decision on the applications by the state board.

*Subdivision 3. Staff Position.* A professional engineer shall be employed by the Board to work exclusively on the technical implementation and engineering of the pilot project established pursuant to sections 103F.171 to 103F.187. The engineer shall assist local units of government and the board to achieve the purposes of the project, and shall have duties including: (1) field review and analysis of projects and project sites; (2) preparation of permit applications, including evaluation of environmental effects; (3) development of recommended pertinent provisions of permits for specific projects; (4) preparation of plans for further consideration of remedial flood control structural measures as part of a general rural floodplain management effort; and (5) evaluation of the effectiveness of completed projects constructed under this program. *HIST: 1990 c 391 art 6 s 19*

### 103F.179 ~ SELECTION OF PROJECTS.

*Subdivision 1. Evaluation of area and sites; federal cooperation.* Before a grant is made, a priority system shall be devised for the selection of projects to receive the aid. The Board of Water and Soil Resources is the granting authority and shall cooperate with the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the Department of Natural Resources, the United States Soil Conservation Services, and the Area II Action Committee in analysis of the general floodplain management plan for the area and in hydrological and engineering studies on specific proposed sites. From that information, the Board of Water and Soil Resources shall determine the relative severity of the flooding problem which would be wholly or partly solved by each project. The range of priorities based on these findings shall provide a basis for selections of project sites.

## 103F.179 ~ SELECTION OF PROJECTS.

*Subdivision 2. Project requirement for each watershed.* Notwithstanding the requirement in subdivision 1 that project selection be based on a priority system, not more than one project may be located within any one of the Cottonwood, Lac qui Parle, Redwood, Yellow Medicine, and Yellow Bank rivers' watersheds unless agreed upon by the Area II Action Committee composed of representatives of each of those watersheds. *HIST: 1990 c 391 art 6 s 20*

## 103F.181 ~ CONDITIONS FOR GRANTS

*Subdivision 1. Local expression of willingness.* The local unit of government shall apply for a grant by a resolution requesting state funding assistance for the construction of a floodwater retention or retarding structure within its jurisdiction. The resolution shall include provisions concerning local funding, if any. The local unit of government shall state its intent to obtain necessary land rights for proposed construction sites and to assume responsibility for maintenance of the structure on its completion.

*Subdivision 2. General Plan.* The local unit of government shall demonstrate that the construction project that it proposes is consistent with its general plan for floodplain management. The general plan of the local government unit shall be in conformity with the policy and objectives of this chapter and shall, where reasonable and practicable, include nonstructural means of floodplain management.

*Subdivision 3. Federal aid availability.* The Board of Water and Soil Resources shall complete a detailed analysis of the availability of federal funds and programs to supplement or complement state and local efforts on each project and include the eligibility requirements and time frame for receiving federal aid.

*Subdivision 4. Environmental Impact Statement.* The local unit of government, assisted by the project staff engineer, shall make a comprehensive evaluation of the positive and negative environmental effects which would be reasonably likely to take place if the particular proposed project would be constructed.

*HIST: 1990 c 391 art 6 s 21*

## 103F.181 ~ APPROVED PROJECTS.

*Subdivision 1. Contracts.* When a proposed project is approved to receive a grant, the Board of Water and Soil Resources shall negotiate a contract with the local unit of government involved. The contract shall specify the terms of state and local cooperation, including financial arrangement for construction and an agreement on maintenance of the structure after completion.

*Subdivision 2. Permits.* Before grant money is spent on construction of the structure, permits required for construction must be obtained from state agencies. *HIST: 1990 c 391 art 6 s 22*

## 103F.185 ~ INTERSTATE COOPERATION.

The Board of Water and Soil Resources and the staff engineer may enter into a working agreement with the South Dakota-Minnesota boundary waters commission, or successor organization, in regard to flood retention and retarding structures, constructed pursuant to sections 103F.171 to 103F.187 that involve territory of the state of South Dakota as well as this state.

*HIST: 1990 c 391 art 6 s 23*

## 103F.187 ~ REPORT TO LEGISLATURE.

When the project has been in operation for a period of two years, the Board of Water and Soil Resources and the staff engineers shall prepare and deliver a report to the legislature on the program and its consequences with an evaluation of the feasibility and benefit of continuing the project.

*HIST: 1990 c 391 art 6 s 24.*



## **Governor's FY 06-07' Budget for Metropolitan Regional Parks Operations and Maintenance**

**Metropolitan Council**

### **Overview**

- ◆ What's Metro Regional Parks System?
- ◆ Governor's budget for Metro Regional Parks operations and maintenance.
- ◆ Why funds are needed.
- ◆ How funds benefit the State.



## **1974 Metropolitan Parks Act**

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- ◆ Metropolitan Council should identify land and grant funds to cities, counties and special park districts to acquire, develop and manage park land, which together with state parks and trails will serve metro area residents and visitors (MS 473.145)



## **What is the Metropolitan Regional Parks System?**

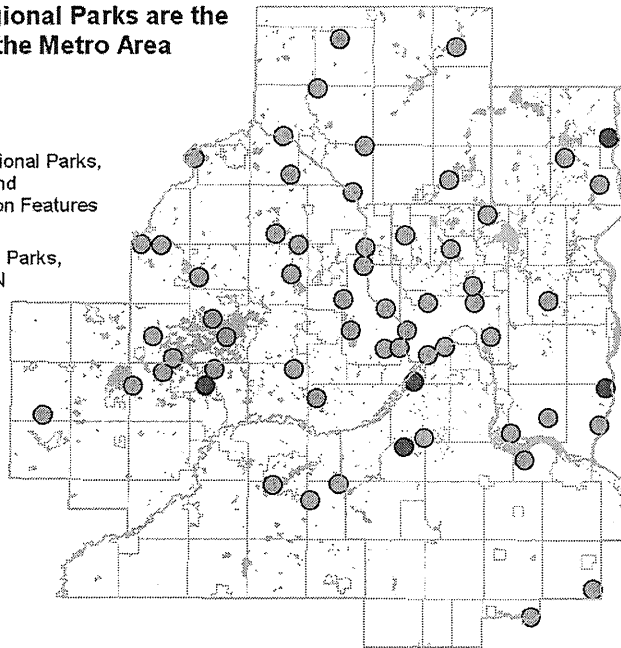
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- ◆ 52,000 acres (31,000 in 1974)
- ◆ 46 regional parks and park reserves (200 to 5,000 acres per park)
- ◆ 6 - Special Recreation Features
- ◆ 22 - Regional Trails  
(200 miles currently open to the public)
- ◆ 30.5 million visits annually (2003)

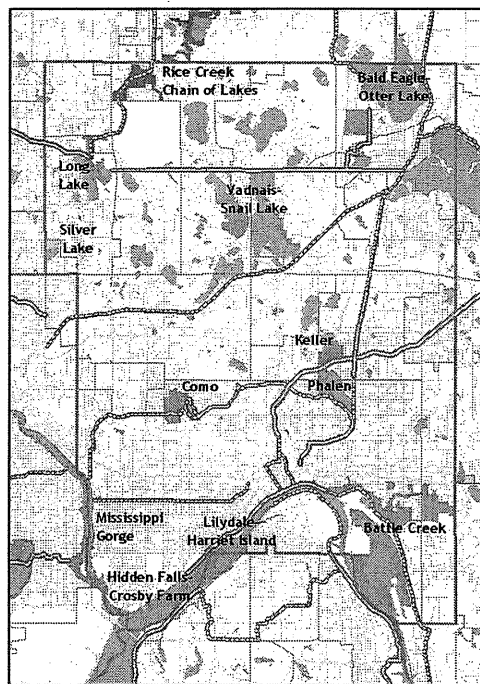


**Metropolitan Regional Parks are the "State Parks" in the Metro Area**

- Metropolitan Regional Parks, Park Reserves and Special Recreation Features
- State Land (State Parks, State Zoo and MN Arboretum)



- Regional Park
- Regional Park Reserve
- Special Recreation Feature
- State Land
- Federal Land
- ~ Regional Trails (Existing)
- ~ Regional Trails (Planned or Proposed)
- ~ State Trails (Existing)
- Street Centerlines (TLG, 2002)

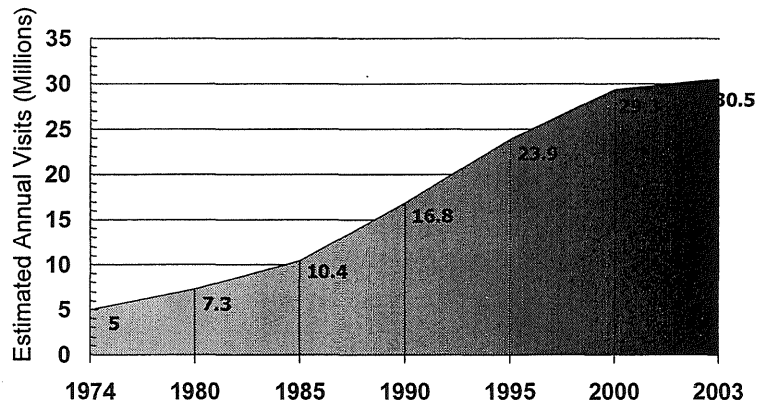


## Who operates and maintains Metro Regional Parks System



- ◆ Anoka County
- ◆ Carver County
- ◆ Dakota County
- ◆ Ramsey County
- ◆ Washington County
- ◆ City of St. Paul
- ◆ Three Rivers Park District
- ◆ Scott County
- ◆ Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
- ◆ City of Bloomington

## Metro Regional Park System: visitation growth 1974-2003

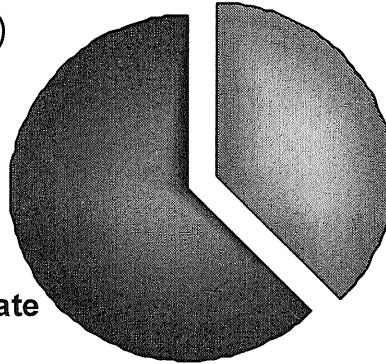


## Funding for Metro Regional Parks capital projects--not operations & maintenance

1974-2004  
(\$ millions)



LCMR  
funds  
and State  
bonds:  
\$226.5



Metropolitan  
Council  
bonds and  
interest:  
\$140.4

**\$367  
Total**

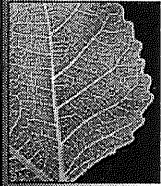
## Governor's FY 2006-07 budget Metro Regional Parks operations & maintenance



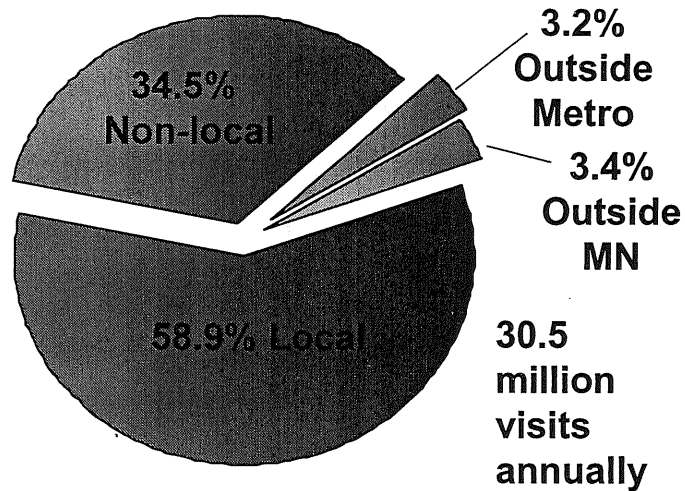
- ◆ \$14.9 million per biennium  
(\$7.45 million per year)
  - ◆ \$6.6 million General Funds (\$3.3 million per year)
  - ◆ \$8.3 million Lottery in Lieu of Sales Tax revenues (\$4.152 million per year)

## Why State funds needed for Metro Regional Parks operations and maintenance

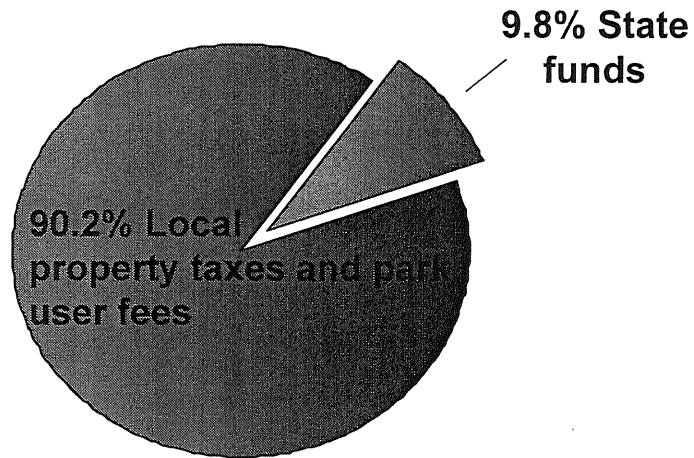
- ◆ MS 473.351 recognizes non-local use of Metro regional park system
- ◆ 40% visitors come from outside park agency's tax jurisdiction
- ◆ Park visitors pay proportional to their use of parks



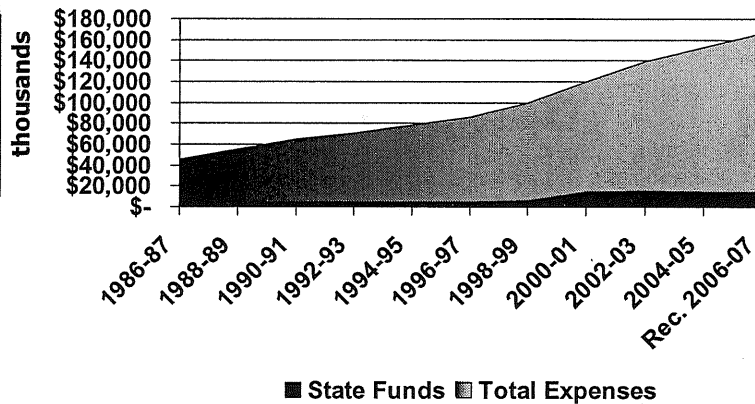
## Visitor origin Metro regional parks serve State and Region



## Projected Revenue Sources for Metro Regional Parks O&M FY 2006-07



## State funding relative to total expenses for Metro Regional Parks operations & maintenance (FY 1986 to 2007)





**Governor's FY 2006-07 budget  
Metro Regional Parks operations &  
maintenance**

- ◆ Maintains State funding level from FY 2004-05 biennium
- ◆ Helps fairly allocate costs among those who benefit



**Governor's FY 06-07'  
Budget for  
Metropolitan Regional  
Parks Operations and  
Maintenance**

**Metropolitan Council**



# TOURISM WORKS FOR MINNESOTA

TOURISM AND THE ECONOMY 2005

# Minnesota Tourism Outlook

Minnesota tourism is stronger than it has been in the past four years, with business gradually improving as consumer confidence grows. Tourism in Minnesota, and in the U.S., is slowly recovering from the impact of the recession.

After a strong year in 2000, tourism began declining in 2001 due to the downturn in the economy. The September 11 attacks added to the decline in travel that year. In Minnesota, occupancy rates at lodging businesses declined in 2001 and 2002, were fairly flat in 2003, but began to increase in 2004.

Occupancy, or room demand, increased more than 4% in 2004, while room revenues increased more than 6% (Smith Travel Research). The Travel Industry Association of America is projecting continued, slow but steady growth for U.S. travel in both 2005 and 2006 (2% travel increase in each year).

## CONTENTS

Tourism & the Minnesota Economy .....	1
Tourism Jobs .....	2
Travelers & Destinations .....	3
Tourism Impact on Minnesota Communities .....	4
Travel Expenditures & Seasons .....	6
Travel Activities .....	7
Travel Trends .....	8

# Tourism & the Minnesota Economy

## ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

### Travel/tourism in Minnesota generates:

- \$9.2 billion in gross receipts/sales
- \$1.0 billion in state & local tax revenue

### Travelers in Minnesota:

- 28.6 million

2003 data, includes direct, indirect and induced spending. Travelers are measured in person-trips (see pg 3 for more details).

Source: Travel Industry Association of America, TravelScope; analysis of data completed with REMI model.

## TOURISM A KEY PART OF OUR ECONOMY

- Tourism diversifies the Minnesota economy and adds economic activity by bringing new money into state and local communities.
- Minnesota tourism generates over \$25 million in gross receipts/sales per day.
- Tourism is a key sector of Minnesota's economy, comparable to agriculture in its contributions to the gross state product.

## RETURN ON TOURISM INVESTMENT

Tourism marketing provides a measurable return on investment. Every \$1 invested in tourism marketing returns an estimated \$4.60 in new state and local taxes, \$20.40 in wages, and \$53.00 in gross sales. (Based on Minnesota Office of Tourism advertising expenditures, 2000)

### For Every \$1.00 Invested in Tourism Marketing:

\$ 4.60	Taxes generated
\$20.40	Wages generated
\$53.00	Gross sales generated



# Tourism Jobs

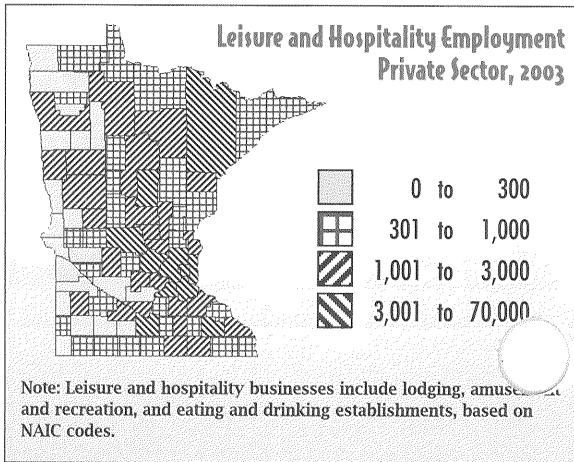
The leisure and hospitality industry employs over 230,000 Minnesotans and is a key provider of tourism services.

## Employment in Leisure and Hospitality

1993	199,700
1995	204,100
1997	208,600
1999	216,700
2001	226,800
2002	228,900
2003	233,000

Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor, data based on NAICS codes.

- The leisure and hospitality industry is projected to add more than 46,000 jobs between 2002 and 2012, a growth rate of 19%.
- This projected growth in leisure and hospitality jobs (19%) is comparable to the job growth projected for the construction and information industries, and exceeds projections for manufacturing (6%), financial activities (12%) and trade, transportation and utilities (13%).
- Tourism jobs are in a range of business, from small family-operated resorts to major corporations such as Carlson Companies and Northwest Airlines.
- Positions range from entry level to executive.



Sources: Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED)

# Travelers and Destinations

## TRAVELERS IN MINNESOTA

The number of travelers in Minnesota is almost five times the total population of the state.

Person-trips to and through Minnesota, 2003:

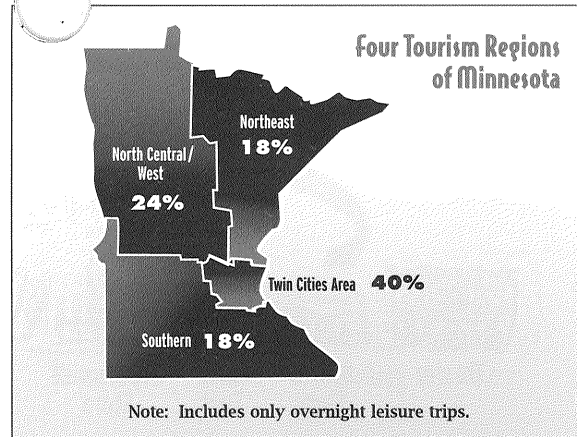
*(One person on one trip; includes overnight trips and day trips over 50 miles)*

- U.S. leisure travelers ..... 23.8 million
- U.S. business travelers ..... 3.9 million
- International travelers ..... 0.7 million
- Total U.S. and international travelers in Minnesota\* ..... 28.6 million

\*Total includes 0.2 million for U.S. travelers not specifically identified as leisure or business travelers.

Source: Travel Industry Association of America, TravelScope

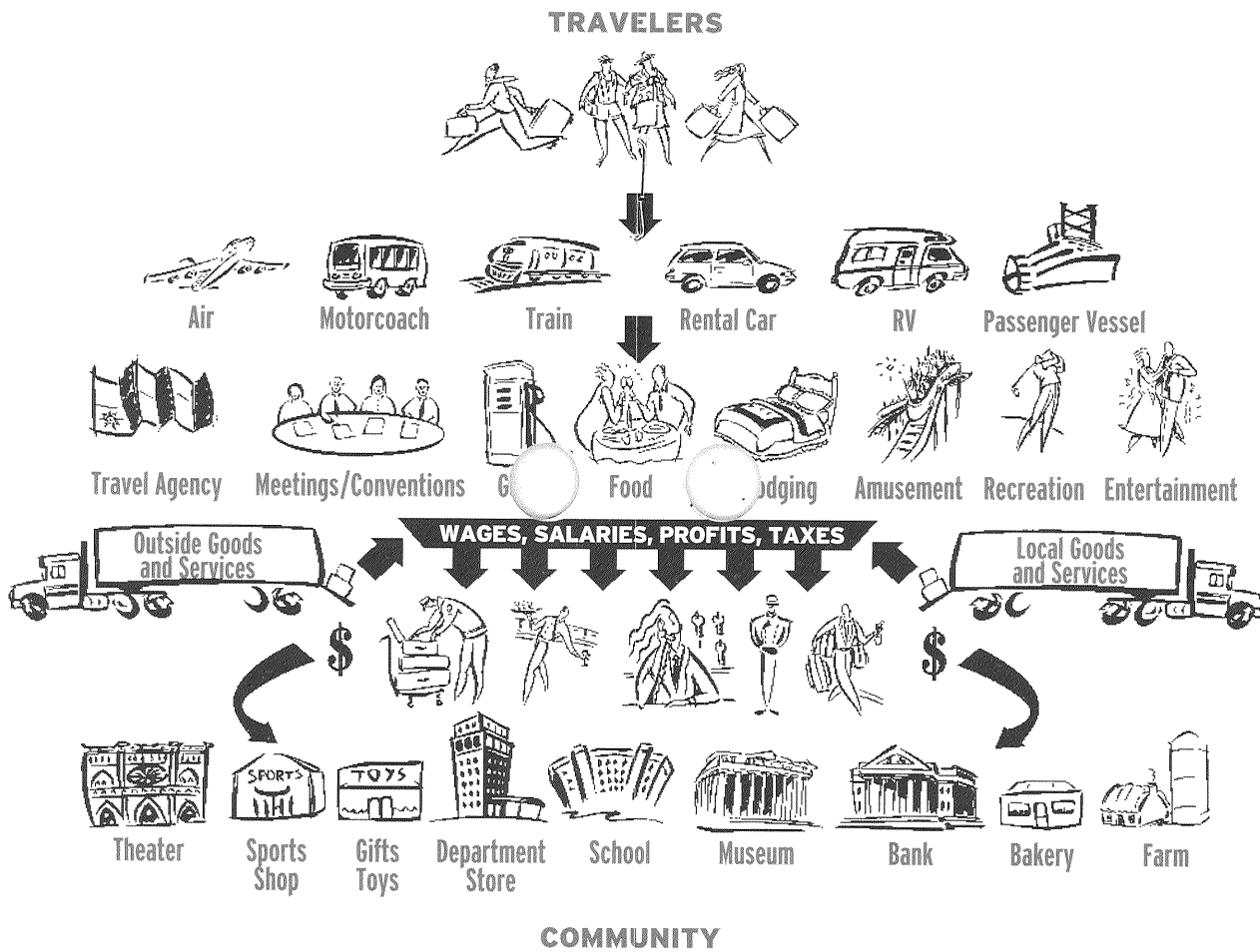
## MINNESOTA TOURISM REGIONS VISITED



Source: Travel Industry Association of America, TravelScope

- **Top destination:** The Twin Cities Metro area is the top destination in Minnesota.
- **Resident travelers:** 50% of U.S. leisure (non-business) travelers in Minnesota are residents of the state.
- **Out-of-state visitors:** 11.1 million visitors to Minnesota travel from other states, including 78% of business travelers in Minnesota. Out-of-state visitors outspend resident travelers in Minnesota.
- **Top home states** of non-resident travelers (in order): Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Illinois, Missouri, Michigan, Texas, Nebraska and California. About 84 percent of all overnight pleasure travel to Minnesota comes from the North Central region.

# Tourism Impact on Our Minnesota Communities



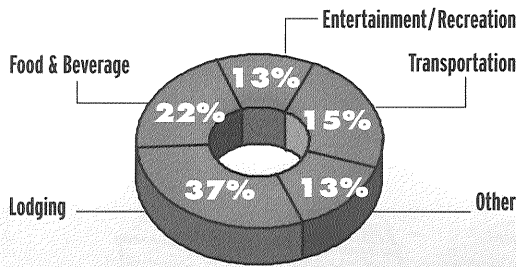
## The dollars travelers spend in Minnesota circulate widely into our local and state economies.

- Travelers spend money directly at lodging business, restaurants, service stations, shops, museums, theaters, and a host of other services, as well as for airfare and car rental.
- This spending, in turn, generates spending on a wide variety of other goods and services, including construction, printing, food processing, hospitals and much more, supporting many jobs indirectly throughout the economy.

- The tax revenues generated by this spending help pay for our roads, schools, libraries, parks and airports.
- Many of the recreational and cultural amenities enjoyed by community residents receive significant revenue from visitors. These include theaters, museums, galleries, historic sites, specialty shops and restaurants, and community events.
- The businesses and amenities supported through tourism add to the quality of life of our communities and our state.

# Travel Expenditures & Seasons

## Minnesota Tourism Expenditures

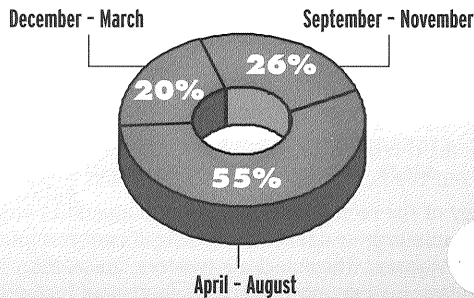


Note: Data reflect only those travelers who contacted the Minnesota Office of Tourism (now Explore Minnesota Tourism) for spring/summer travel planning information.

Source: 2003 Spring/Summer Seasonal Survey, Office of Tourism, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

- **Lodging business revenues** (revenue per a room) declined 2% in 2003, but increased over 6% in 2004. (Smith Travel Research)
- **Travel purpose:** 85% of travel is for pleasure and 14% is for business. (TravelScope)
- **Business travel:** Business travel is slowly recovering, up 5% in 2003 over the previous year. There had been a steep decline in business travel in 2002. (TravelScope)
- **Length of stay:** Both Minnesotans and non-Minnesotans stayed a median number of 3 nights on pleasure trips within the state. (Office of Tourism 2003 Spring/Summer Seasonal Survey)

## Tourism: A Year-Round Business



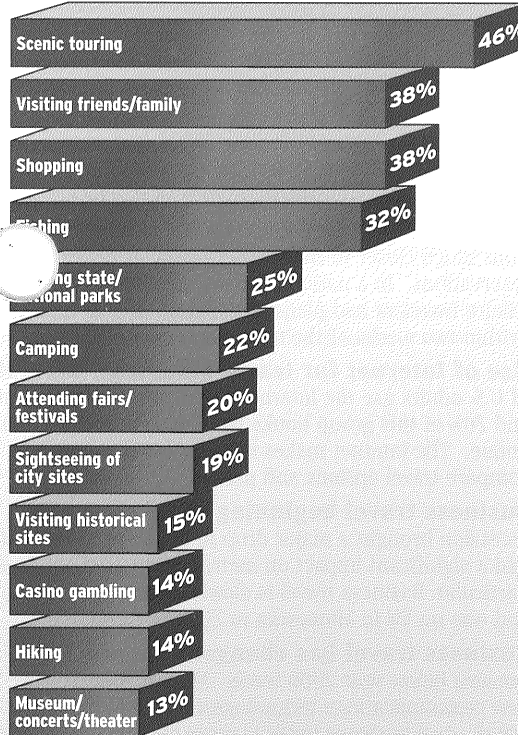
Source: TravelScope

- Just over half of Minnesota travel takes place in spring and summer; almost half of travel in Minnesota occurs in fall and winter.

# Travel Activities

- Scenic touring is the favorite activity for travelers in Minnesota.
- Visiting family and friends is a major reason for travel in Minnesota.
- Fishing and camping are other major reasons that travelers choose Minnesota.

## Top Activities for Travelers in Minnesota



Note: Data reflect only those travelers who contacted the Minnesota Office of Tourism (now Explore Minnesota Tourism) for spring/summer travel planning information.

Source: 2003 Spring/Summer Seasonal Survey, Office of Tourism, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development

# Travel Trends

## CHANGING TRAVEL PATTERNS

The Minnesota travel picture has changed somewhat as travelers responded to the recent recession. These Minnesota trends reflect national travel trends, as well.

- **Travel is closer to home:** Day trips (more than 50 miles one-way) in Minnesota were up 7% in 2003. They now account for over one-fourth of all travel in the state.
- **Trips are shorter in length:** Most trips continue to be only a few days long (a median of 3 days).
- **Cost-conscious spending:** Travelers are very cost- and value-conscious and are looking for good deals. Room rates declined about 2% in 2003, but were back up 2% in 2004.
- **More last-minute planning:** Lodging businesses continue to report that customers are making reservations much closer to the time of travel, or arrive reservations. In a national survey, almost two-thirds of leisure travelers had planned a trip at the last minute (within two weeks of the trip).
- **Use of Internet for travel planning:** Nearly 30% of U.S. adults use the Internet to get travel information, and 70% of this group books plane tickets and/or rooms online. The Internet makes it easier for consumers to compare travel options and prices.
- **Business travel beginning to recover:** The recession brought a major drop in business travel that had a significant impact on metropolitan area hotels, in particular. Business travel is slowly beginning to grow, and was up 5% in Minnesota in 2003.
- **Business travel has changed:** Business travel remains below year 2000 levels. More businesses use new communications technologies in place of some travel. And business travel is more cost-conscious than in the past.

Sources: Travel Industry Association of America, TravelScope, 2003 data; Smith Travel Research

## ROOM FOR GROWTH

Although tourism remains a strong part of the Minnesota economy, there is plenty of potential for growth.

- Of the 12 states in the North Central region, Minnesota is in the middle of the pack in terms of market share of overnight pleasure travel (10%). It ranks 7th in the region in number of travelers. (TravelScope)
- More Minnesotans leave the state to take trips elsewhere in the U.S. than there are travelers to Minnesota from other states. This represents a "travel deficit" of 2.8 million travelers (person-trips). (TravelScope)
- The available capacity of Minnesota's lodging properties represents a potential to add travel business. With a statewide average occupancy rate of approximately 60%, there are sufficient rooms available to grow tourism business, especially during off-peak periods. (Depending on the business, this may mean mid-week or spring and summer months. Source: Smith Travel Research. Note: National occupancy is 62.7%, TravelScope, Aug. 2004)
- A growth in tourism would result in an increase in jobs, tax revenue and expenditures in communities across Minnesota.

# Explore Minnesota Tourism

100 Metro Square  
121 7th Place East  
St. Paul, MN 55101-2146

1-800-657-3637 or 651-297-2333

Fax: 651-296-7095

For TTY/TDD users: 1-800-627-3529  
(ask for 651-296-2333)

[www.exploreminnesota.com](http://www.exploreminnesota.com)

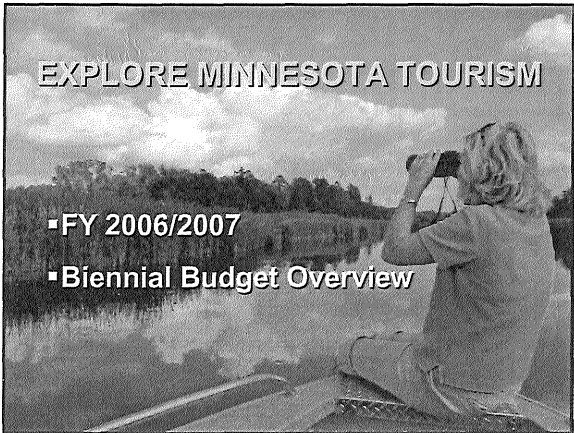


The tourism economic impact data in this brochure  
are also available at:

[www.deed.state.mn.us/tourism](http://www.deed.state.mn.us/tourism)

EMT-0034  
1/05 11M


## EXPLORE MINNESOTA TOURISM



- FY 2006/2007
- Biennial Budget Overview

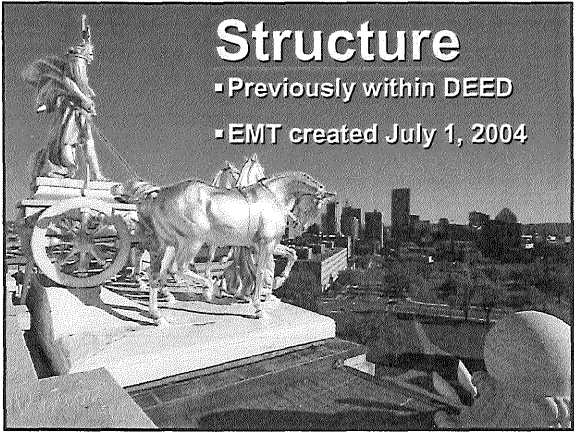
## Mission

- To promote and facilitate increased travel to and within the state of Minnesota.



## Structure

- Previously within DEED
- EMT created July 1, 2004

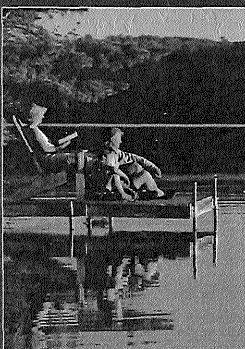


## History

- Since 2001, our budget has gone from an annual budget as high as \$10 million per year and over 75 FTE's to current budget of \$8 million with 49 FTE's.

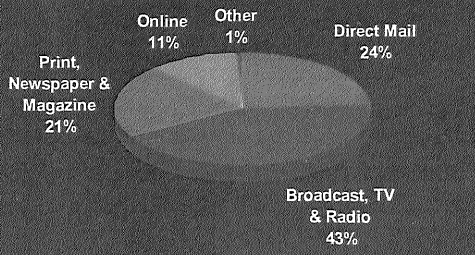


## EMT Annual Budget Breakdown



- Advertising and Marketing - \$3.7 million
- Consumer Services - \$1.7 million
- Partnership Grants and Industry Relations - \$1.5 million
- Travel Information Centers - \$.8 million

## Explore Minnesota Tourism FY 05 Advertising



Category	Percentage
Broadcast, TV & Radio	43%
Direct Mail	24%
Print, Newspaper & Magazine	21%
Online	11%
Other	1%

## Return on Investment

- \$9.2 billion
- \$1 billion state and local tax
- 230,000 jobs
- 28.6 million travelers in MN
- Every dollar invested in tourism
  - Provides \$4.60 in new tax revenue,
  - \$20.40 in wages, and \$53.00 in gross sales.



## Budget Overview

- Current Biennium Appropriation - \$16.1 million
- Governor's Recommendation - \$16.2 million

## Budget Changes

- New Public Private Enhancement Funding - \$1 million
- Base Transfer - \$1.1 million
- Base Budget Reduction - \$2 million

## Public Private Enhancement Funding

- Supplemental funding available annually beginning in FY 2007.
- Incentive appropriation will match private sector contributions that exceed a \$4 million match requirement (up to half may be in-kind).
- The incentive is capped at \$1 million per fiscal year.

## Background

- This is part of long-term funding strategy to ensure continued growth with reduced dependence on general funds. This strategy is industry driven, rewards innovative partnerships and increases the private sector's involvement in the state's tourism marketing efforts.

## Relationship to Base Budget

- This funding strategy provides the opportunity to increase the annual budget for Explore Minnesota Tourism marketing.
- Match is defined as revenue to the state or documented cash expenditures directly expended to support Explore Minnesota Tourism programs.
- The budget book incorrectly reflects an increase to \$3 million/year in special revenue funds.
- Not all cash match will pass through a revenue account.
- Rider language provides a clarification of the match definition.

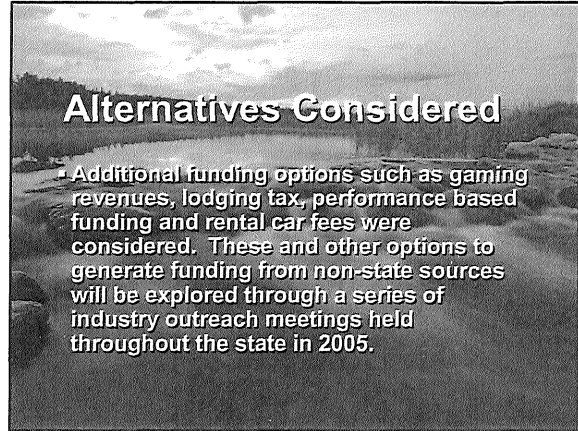
## Key Partnership Measures

- EMT develops public/private partnerships
- Monitored annually to ensure match requirement reached
- Agreements establish partnership value



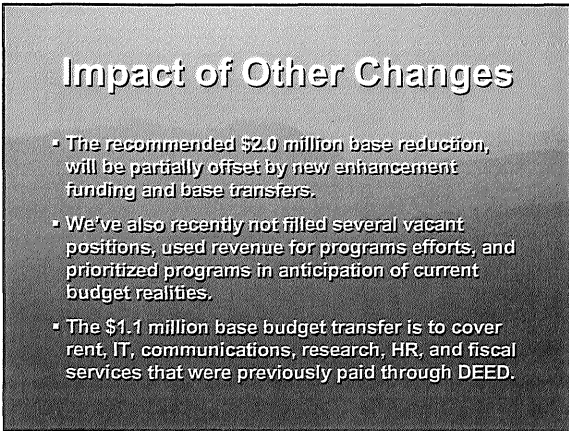
## Alternatives Considered

- Additional funding options such as gaming revenues, lodging tax, performance based funding and rental car fees were considered. These and other options to generate funding from non-state sources will be explored through a series of industry outreach meetings held throughout the state in 2005.



## Impact of Other Changes

- The recommended \$2.0 million base reduction, will be partially offset by new enhancement funding and base transfers.
- We've also recently not filled several vacant positions, used revenue for programs efforts, and prioritized programs in anticipation of current budget realities.
- The \$1.1 million base budget transfer is to cover rent, IT, communications, research, HR, and fiscal services that were previously paid through DEED.



## Conclusion

- Explore Minnesota Tourism is now positioned in a new way to grow tourism in Minnesota. The new public/private enhancement fund is the key change in the FY 06/07 budget that rewards innovative partnerships and leverages the state's investment in tourism in Minnesota.





**Electricity Board Budget Hearing Before The Senate Finance Committee,  
Environment, Agriculture and Economic Development Budget Division  
March 15, 2005**

The Board is a Special Revenue Fund agency, totally funded by license and inspection fees, and does not receive any funding from the State's General Fund.

The Board licenses approximately 27,000 persons as electricians and technicians as well as approximately 3,500 companies as contractors. In addition, the Board registers approximately 1,000 employers. These licenses and registrations are all on a two-year term.

The Board is the electrical inspection authority in all areas of the State that have not adopted local electrical inspection ordinances. Approximately 40 political subdivisions have adopted local electrical inspection ordinances. The Board is the electrical inspection authority for approximately two-thirds of the state by population and for approximately 99% of the state by land area.

In Fiscal Year 2004, contractors and other installers of electrical wiring filed 162,000 Requests for Electrical Inspection (permits) and the Board completed inspections on over 173,000 installations. Based on an average of 2.25 inspection trips per installation, approximately 1,600 separate inspections were performed each day.

The Board is greatly concerned about the Governor's budget proposal to transfer of \$4,000,000 from the Electricity Board Special Revenue Fund to the State General Fund. Based on January 2005 figures, this is equivalent to inspection fees for 80,000 installations, one-half of the installations for which REIs were filed in Fiscal Year 2004. These fees were paid by contractors and other installers of electrical wiring for direct service -- inspection of their projects.

These projects include hospitals and other health care facilities, homes, schools, manufacturing facilities, elderly housing, restaurants, agricultural facilities, office buildings, ethanol plants, condominiums and townhomes, retail facilities, as well as scores of other types of projects. The transfer of the \$4,000,000 fees dedicated to offset direct expenses related to the inspection of these projects results in these projects being dependent on inspection fees submitted for similar projects to pay for direct inspection service that has already been paid for.

This funding shift undermines a very stable funding model and places it at significant risk. The dedicated fund account or inspection escrow account would be transformed from an escrow account to a cash flow account. As demonstrated over the last 2 fiscal years, the Board completes more inspections each year than are filed, making the "cash flow" model even less practical. If the total number of "open" REIs is reduced by 20,000 (very probable considering the Board completed over 23,000 more inspections than were filed over the last 2 fiscal years) the cash flow model fails in the second fiscal year unless there is a very significant increase in overall construction activity. Transferring \$4,000,000 from the Board's inspection escrow account places it in a permanent \$4,000,000 deficit and future downturns in construction activity would also cause the cash flow model to fail.

The Board believes placing its inspection escrow account at significant risk has no benefit to the contractors and other installers who submitted inspection fees to offset direct inspection service, to their customers who indirectly paid for the service, nor to the general public. The benefit to the General Fund is barely measurable and the Board believes does not even begin to offset associated risk.

The Board believes the Governor's recommendation was made without full understanding of the Board's inspection escrow account operation and requests that the Governor's recommendation to transfer \$4,000,000 from the Electricity Board's Special Revenue Account be not approved.

The attached report provides month-to-month detail regarding the Board's inspection escrow account.

The spreadsheet found on page 2 and 3 documents Board inspection escrow account activity beginning in Fiscal Year 2000 and extending through January 2005. Except for the obvious, the columns include the following information: "REIs Filed" is the total number of Requests for Electrical Inspection (permits) received in the corresponding month; "Contract Inspections Completed" are the number of jobs for which inspections were completed in the corresponding month by contract electrical inspectors (see the note at the bottom of the page); "Board Staff Inspections Completed" are the number of jobs for which inspections were completed by Board employees; "Refunded REIs" are the number of REIs for which inspection fees were refunded; "Inspections in Progress" is the total number of REIs (jobs) where work and inspections are in progress and have not been completed; and "Value of REI Escrow Fund" is the dollar value of the submitted inspection fees that directly relates to the "Inspections in Progress" total.

There is an approximate \$36 average REI value at the end of FY2000 that increases to an approximate \$50 average at the end of FY2003. This is due to the inspection fee increase that became effective July 1, 2000. This increased average value relates directly to the increase in the overall fund balance. Over the last 4½ years, the total number of "Inspections in Progress" has varied from a low of 82,000 to a high of 110,000, a difference of 28,000. When applying current average REI value, it equates to a difference of \$1.4 million. The total number of "Contract Inspections Completed" has exceeded the "REIs Filed" total number over the last two years, evidence that the Board is completing inspections in a shorter time frame. The possibility of a reduction in the number of REIs filed and increased inspections completed is very real and would have the effect of reducing the inspection escrow balance below the remaining balance if \$4 million was transferred to the State's General Fund, precluding the Board from meeting its statutory obligation to provide licensing and the inspection service.

## Electricity Board Inspection Escrow Account Monthly Activity Data

Page 2 of 3

Year	Month	REIs Filed	Contract Inspections Completed*	Board Staff Inspections Completed*	Refunded REIs	Inspections in Progress	Value of REI Escrow Fund
1999	July	18,279	11,424	0	311	82,640	\$3,006,273
<b>low total</b>	August	12,366	12,957	267	175	<b>82,122</b>	\$2,973,279
	September	17,592	13,400	7	91	86,975	\$3,113,461
	October	13,737	12,976	157	242	87,789	\$3,192,268
	November	14,088	12,051	0	149	89,961	\$3,297,344
	December	12,294	12,453	204	69	89,954	\$3,319,417
2000	January	10,369	11,523	86	165	88,826	\$3,218,303
	February	10,368	9,561	3	141	90,743	\$3,305,749
	March	10,398	18,218	2	234	83,485	\$3,079,660
	April	10,852	11,567	33	92	82,960	\$3,085,861
	May	11,460	12,198	50	36	83,103	\$3,106,337
	June	20,221	13,333	0	3	90,799	\$3,302,672
<b>FY 2000 TOTALS</b>		<b>162,024</b>	<b>151,661</b>	<b>809</b>	<b>1,708</b>	<b>90,799</b>	<b>\$3,302,672</b>
2000	July	18,082	9,984	50	290	99,151	\$3,633,397
	August	15,100	16,367	114	136	98,274	\$3,719,318
	September	12,876	12,141	72	797	100,098	\$3,859,686
	October	13,134	12,270	184	163	100,794	\$4,064,997
	November	13,802	14,569	31	198	99,935	\$4,162,622
	December	11,400	11,005	10	209	100,182	\$4,214,315
2001	January	9,663	10,707	87	188	99,946	\$4,227,206
	February	6,613	12,980	3	93	93,792	\$3,988,794
	March	10,349	11,183	32	216	92,893	\$4,034,531
	April	9,507	11,480	2	155	90,927	\$4,048,773
	May	13,482	13,669	32	60	91,530	\$4,045,332
	June	14,147	13,977	4	218	92,402	\$4,112,877
<b>FY 2001 TOTALS</b>		<b>148,155</b>	<b>150,332</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>2,723</b>	<b>92,402</b>	<b>\$4,112,877</b>
2001	July	15,984	19,310	8	157	96,092	\$4,010,577
	August	16,855	14,441	4	106	98,618	\$4,207,822
	September	13,623	13,511	0	237	98,659	\$4,313,025
	October	17,568	12,548	3	154	103,610	\$4,635,043
	November	14,639	14,359	0	172	103,907	\$4,777,359
	December	11,531	10,703	23	154	105,367	\$4,894,762
2002	January	13,490	14,987	9	175	104,974	\$4,867,635
	February	9,900	11,146	3	191	103,634	\$4,793,255
	March	9,715	11,726	5	116	102,471	\$4,724,888
	April	10,977	11,674	4	273	101,701	\$4,725,237
	May	13,927	14,443	4	167	101,163	\$4,745,895
	June	16,339	12,475	1	123	106,941	\$4,919,525
<b>FY 2002 TOTALS</b>		<b>164,548</b>	<b>161,323</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>2,025</b>	<b>106,941</b>	<b>\$4,919,525</b>



Senators Vickerman, Sams, Rosen, Kubly and Bakk introduced--  
S.F. No. 958: Referred to the Committee on Finance.

A bill for an act

relating to labor; appropriating money for grants to  
the Vinland Center for rehabilitation services.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. [APPROPRIATION.]

\$150,000 in fiscal year 2006 and \$150,000 in fiscal year  
2007 is appropriated from the workers' compensation fund to the  
commissioner of labor and industry for grants to the Vinland  
Center for rehabilitation services. These grants include the  
Vinland employment program and must address multiple barriers to  
employment, a self-sufficiency lifestyle, and physical, mental,  
emotional, or cognitive work injuries or disabilities. This  
appropriation is part of the budget base for the Department of  
Labor and Industry.

VINLAND CENTER



Lake Independence  
PO Box 308  
Loretto, MN 55357-0308

Committed to full lives for  
people with disabilities.



Committed to full lives for  
people with disabilities.

**Carol Jackson**

Executive Director

Tel: 763 479 4516  
TDD: 763 479 3555  
Fax: 763 479 2605

[cjackson@vinlandcenter.org](mailto:cjackson@vinlandcenter.org)

Lake Independence  
PO Box 308  
Loretto, MN 55357



### The Organization

Vinland Center is a nonprofit rehabilitation center located in western Hennepin County on 178 acres of restored natural prairie with 2,000 feet of lakeshore on Lake Independence. Founded in 1976 with seed money given as a bicentennial gift to the United States from the government of Norway, Vinland was created to replicate Beitostolen, a Norwegian rehabilitation center that is one of the most innovative and holistic facilities in the world. Through a variety of programs designed to meet specialized rehabilitation needs in our community, Vinland strives to ensure full lives for people with disabilities.

### The Employment Program History

The Vinland Employment Program was developed in the late 1980s in collaboration with the Department of Labor and Industry and the Department of Veterans Affairs specifically to address the multiple barriers to employment experienced by a particular group of potential workers.

The Employment Program was designed for people whose obstacles to greater independence and self-sufficiency include physical, mental, emotional and/or cognitive work injuries or disabilities, poor motivation and dysfunctional lifestyle habits as well as self-defeating attitudes. For this target population, traditional rehabilitation approaches are not sufficient to facilitate a return to work.

In a residential setting at Vinland, clients receive vocational rehabilitation, wellness and work conditioning services designed to provide clinically complex and chronically unemployed people with the skills, motivation and direction they need to go back to work.

### The Employment Program Today

Demand for the Employment Program through the contracts housed in the Department of Labor and Industry and the Department of Veterans Affairs have historically been high, and this year is no exception.

**By the end of January, with five months remaining in the contract fiscal year, 100% of the services of the Department of Veterans Affairs contract and 100% of the services under the Department of Labor and Industry contract have already been provided.**

The original intent of the legislature in appropriating the funding for this contract was to enable Minnesota workers and Veterans with injuries and disabilities who have serious barriers to employment to re-enter the workforce.

### The Employment Program Success

Client surveys completed during 2004 found **79% of the clients reached for follow-up six months post graduation were working or engaged in work related education, training or volunteer activities.** This exceeds the programs overall rate since its inception of 70% of the graduates who were reached for six month follow-up were employed, in school or training or in a volunteer position.

These success rates demonstrate the program's unique capacity to accomplish what more traditional programs could not for Minnesota's citizens facing overwhelming challenges.

Vinland National Center  
P O Box 308 3675 Ihduhapi Road Loretto MN 55357  
Telephone 763 479 3555 Fax 763 479 2605





Voice & TDD: 763-479-3555  
Fax: 763-479-2605  
www.vinlandcenter.org

Lake Independence  
PO Box 308  
Loretto, MN 55357-0308

## Vocational Services

- **Vinland National Center was established in 1976 by a gift from Norwegian government to the US government in honor of our bicentennial.**
- **The MN legislature matched the gift and as a result Vinland National Center was located in Minnesota.**
- **From then to now.....Vinland provides services for people with disabilities who have fallen through the cracks of traditional systems.**
- **Vocational programs have been a key offering since the late 1980's at which time the Dept of Labor and Industry established a contract with Vinland to provide services for injured and disenfranchised workers with complex disabilities.**
- **The Department of Labor contract provides for 60 weeks of service per year or 120 weeks per biennium.**
- **The core program is a three-week "back to work" program that focuses on the whole person, includes interest and skill testing as well as job seeking and job keeping skill training.**
- **The results over all of these years have been excellent. In the most recent evaluation 79% of the clients that could be reached for 6month follow-up were working, in school or training, or engaged in work related volunteer activities.**
- **The program gets people back on their feet and the result is a productive citizen.**

# **Vinland National Center Loretto, Minnesota**



**Main Campus**



**Welcome to Vinland**

# Vinland National Center Loretto, Minnesota



**Stordahl Center**



**Vinland Waterfront**



Senators Sams, Dille and Kubly introduced--  
S.F. No. 691: Referred to the Committee on Finance.

1                                   A bill for an act

2           relating to agriculture; providing funding for mental

3           health counseling for farm families; appropriating

4           money.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

6           Section 1. [MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING FOR FARM FAMILIES.]

7           \$100,000 in fiscal year 2006 and \$100,000 in fiscal year

8           2007 are appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner

9           of agriculture for transfer to the Board of Trustees of the

10          Minnesota State Colleges and Universities for mental health

11          counseling support to farm families and business operators

12          through farm business management programs at Central Lakes

13          College and Ridgewater College.

## STRESS & ANXIETY

*Many of us can relate to the feelings described below. It is not unusual to feel stressed or anxious from time to time. The first important step in tackling stress is recognizing that it is affecting you and your family.*

### *Are you experiencing?*

- *Problems: frustration with processes, major burdens, domestic violence, sexual assault, etc.*
- *Relationship changes: increased tension, marital and family problems*
- *Work Disruption: lost jobs or hours, work demands and schedule changes, etc.*

## WHO CAN WE CONTACT?

Ted Matthews, M.S., Director  
Mental Health Support,  
(320) 589-3323 [tdmatt@infolink.net](mailto:tdmatt@infolink.net)

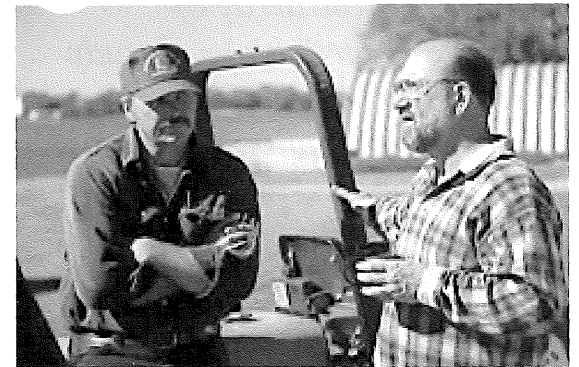
Ted has worked with rural issues in counseling for over 20 years. He has been director of mental health services during two natural disasters in the 1990's. Ted also has extensive counseling experiences in the areas of domestic abuse, suicidology, crisis intervention and family issues.

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*Minnesota State Colleges  
and Universities  
Farm Business  
Management Education*

*Rural Mental Health  
Support Program*



*The Rural Mental Health Support Program is an integrated multifaceted approach addressing the importance of mental health in helping farm families achieve their business and family goals.*

## PROGRAM DEFINED

*The Rural Mental Health Support program seeks to reduce the mounting stress, anxiety and depression experienced by farmers, Farm Business Management Instructors, farm service providers, and their respective families by complimenting the array of educational contributions already offered through the Farm Business Management education program with mental health support. All sorts of situations cause stress and anxiety. The objective of the Rural Mental Health Support program is to work towards reducing the overall stress and anxiety on farms. Taking positive action to help reduce stress levels can lead to more satisfied and productive lives for the farmer and the family.*

## NEED FOR PROGRAM

*Farmers are known for their work ethic and strong sense of pride. While these traits can be virtues, there is a downside in that they can cloud perceptions and lead to a denial of problematic situations:*

- *Frustration with agencies and bureaucratic hassles*
- *Stress from seeking financial assistance*
- *Concern about weather*
- *Uncertainty over markets and their trends*
- *Working with other farmers for more profitability*
- *Fear of losing the family farm*
- *Feelings of dread or hopelessness*
- *Serious problems such as depression, suicide, or domestic use*

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- *Outreach, coordination and case management* –provide immediate access to a counselor through phone or personal consultation. Farmers, instructors and agri-businessmen rate counselor accessibility as a key to the success of this program.
- *Access to mental health services* – in addressing the root causes of anxiety, depression, and stress among farmers, we will promote healthier well-being and productivity of both farm families and FBM instructors.
- *Dissemination of information* – informing key members of the agriculture community in problem identification and referral processes w create an appropriate help network to catch problem situations before they impair problem-solving capabilities of either the farmer or FBM staff.
- *Mental health training* – Instructors will be better able to assist farmers, handle complicated and sometimes emotionally charged situations, and perform their jobs, all more effectively.

## WHAT DO WE NEED TO KNOW - RURAL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM?

The initial pilot program funding (1997) was provided through the Otto Bremer Foundation, Phillips Foundation, Laura Jane Musser Foundation, Minnesota Agriculture Education Leadership Council and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. The continuing program was funded as a part of the Minnesota Health and Human Services budget in the 2001 legislative appropriation. The legislative funding for the project ended June 30, 2002. A bill was sponsored in the 2002 legislative session, however no action was taken. Since 2002 the program has been operating under limited partial funding through private grants. The funding request for the project is \$200,000 for the biennium.

Successful farm businesses are vital to the economy our rural communities. The Farm Business Management Education Program is a tool that farmers can use to improve their chances for success. The addition of the Rural Mental Health Program has added an important component to this program in helping farm families continue as productive members of their community.

The average Minnesota Farm Family contributes over \$400,000 of spending to their local community through the operation of their business. There are many factors that influence the success or failure of that average a farm business, including mental health. Mental health issues have traditionally been an overlooked, misunderstood and underserved need in rural communities. In addition this program can address the many human resource issues that are now becoming a part of a changing agriculture economy.

The integration of the Rural Mental Health Program into the Farm Business Management Education curriculum has resulted in several key outcomes:

- **Access:** Serves a population that would not typically seek out mental health services.
- **Prevention:** Emphasizes the importance of mental health/human resources as a part of business management just as the farmer would consider other key business factors.
- **Trusted Resource:** Because the Farm Business Management Education Program is a trusted resource in rural communities, the instructor is typically a trusted advisor and source of help when farmers are facing a crisis situation. FBM students are more willing to make use of this resource.
- **Proven Results:** Offering mental health counseling to farmers through traditional methods does not mean that farmers and their families will seek out therapy. Immediate access to the counselor has proven to be a delivery method that works in the farm and rural community.
- **Cost Effective:** Mental health services in rural Minnesota typically range for \$100 to \$150 per hour of time spent in counseling. Due to the efficiency of an integrated approach, the established program is able to provide the program at a cost of \$45.70 per counseling/training hour.

In January of 2002 the Rural Mental Health Project was featured as the national cover story for Successful Farming. This publication is regarded as one of top farm publications in the country. As a result of this article, we were inundated with phone calls and requests from across the country. As we experienced many heartfelt requests from other states, hearing about their unmet need, we were reminded of the value this program provides to Minnesota. A copy of the Successful Farming article is attached for your educational use.

For further information contact John Murray or Jim Molenaar

[John.murray@roch.edu](mailto:John.murray@roch.edu)

[jim.molenaar@ridgewater.edu](mailto:jim.molenaar@ridgewater.edu)



# SUCCESSFUL FARMING

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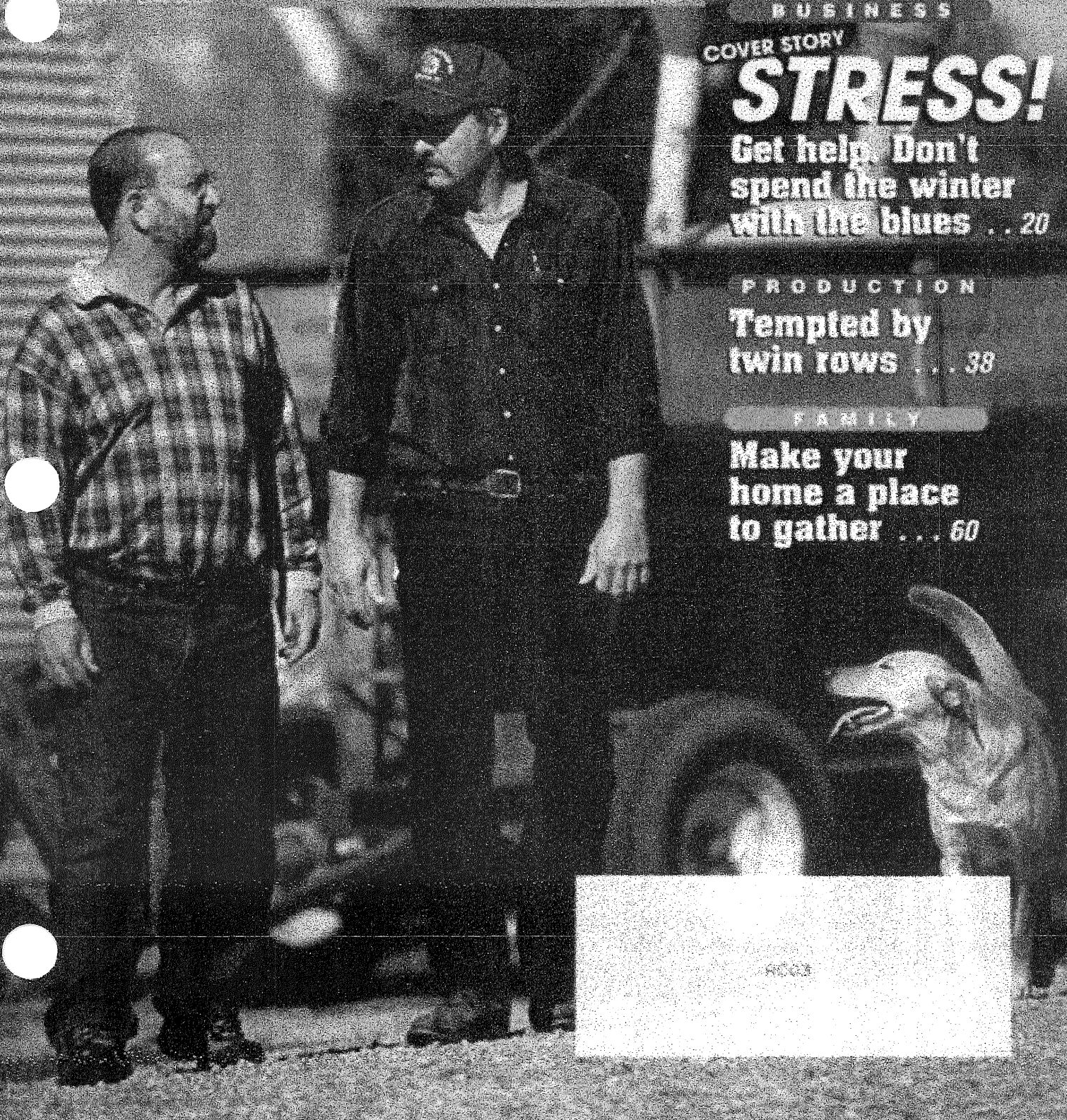
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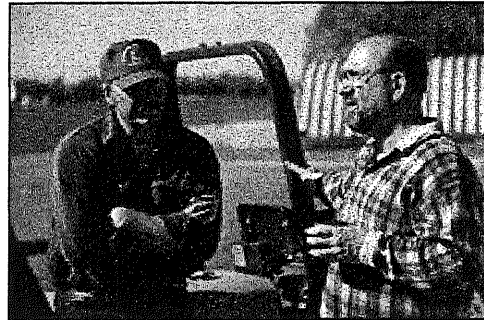
media



## Getting help with stress

Don't spend the winter with the blues, says this farm therapist

By Betsy Freese  
Livestock Editor



Minnesota grain farmer Jim Wink (left) receives help with troubling issues from therapist Ted Matthews (right).

If you make one New Year's resolution this year, it should be this: Don't suffer in silence.

With low farm commodity prices and lingering worries from September 11, we could see a record-breaking winter for farm stress, says therapist Ted Matthews.

Help is available.

Don't be shy or afraid about making an appointment with a therapist to talk things over, says Matthews, who practices in Morris, Minnesota. His farm-related clients – hundreds of them – have gotten help with life issues, thanks to an innovative program involving Matthews, the state of Minnesota, and the Farm Business Management (FBM) group.

Farmers in an 18-county area who are members of their local FBM group (a \$700 annual fee) have the option to meet with Matthews for free therapy sessions. Because he is paid by grants and the state of Minnesota, there are no insurance companies involved, and no paperwork. It's a no-hassle way for farmers to get help with issues like financial stress, depression, divorce, family conflicts, and more.

### Crucial and essential

Matthews was first assigned by the state of Minnesota to treat farmers during the floods of 1993. He enjoyed the work, and his services caught the attention of the FBM group, which snagged funding to pay for his services. (Minnesota legislator Dallas Sams was a major player in getting the program funded on the state level).

Having a mental health therapist available for his clients is priceless, says Jim Molenaar, director of the Ridgewater College Farm Business Management program in Willmar and Hutchinson, Minnesota.

"It's an indispensable and essential program," says Molenaar.

"Farmers are known for their work ethic and strong sense of pride. While these traits can be virtues, there is a downside in that they can cloud perceptions and lead to a denial of problems."

Some of Matthews' clients are groups of producers, such as multi-family farm corporations and farm co-ops. A typical example is a farm corporation where three families are involved. They want to expand, but can't get six personalities (including wives) to stop fighting.

"These farmers can put together sow co-ops, but they can't get along with each other," says Matthews. Through counseling, he is able to help.

One reason the program has been so successful, say both Molenaar and Matthews, is that it is low-key and nonthreatening. An FBM instructor dealing with a client on problem issues might simply suggest, "See Ted."

"We've taken away the stigma with therapy," says Matthews, who is on the Minnesota Governor's Council for Suicide Prevention. "Farmers see me as Ted, not as a therapist."

The therapy program is now "part of everyday life for our farm clients," explains Molenaar.

### **It's mental HEALTH**

One trouble with mainstream mental health therapy, says Matthews, is that insurance companies require a diagnosis. "If

### **Making a risky job less risky**

Production agriculture is a high-risk occupation. There are physical dangers, market uncertainties, volatile commodity prices, and constant weather concerns.

A recent Iowa State University survey identified what farmers feel are the greatest risks they face, and ways educational programs can help manage those risks.

Market and price risks, including price volatility and narrowing operating margins, are the top concerns of producers.

Institutional risks, including government programs and policies, make up the second category of concern. The third category is crop production risk, including weather, disease, and insects.

### **A long-term problem**

The results highlight one long-term problem, says Larry Trede, an agricultural education and studies professor at Iowa State.

"Producers rate market and price risk as the most important source of risk, but they only slightly agree that hedging, options, and forward contracting are important tools to reduce this risk," he says. "This illustrates the need for more educational programming."

The producers in the survey strongly agree that having adequate health insurance is of utmost importance. And they indicate fairly strong agreement on the need to maintain a low debt-to-asset ratio. Also rating high is the need for adequate liability insurance and crop insurance.

The survey also sheds light on how farmers view content and delivery of educational programs, says Trede.

"They see the need to develop better problem-solving and critical-thinking skills, with less emphasis on production skills," he says.

I give a diagnosis, that stays with them, so I don't diagnose."

If your father has died, for example, you may go through a tough time and be sad and depressed, says Matthews. "But you are not mentally ill." It's unfortunate, he says, that the term mental health for many people means mental illness.

"That's not right. Mental health is mental HEALTH," says Matthews. "People think there has to be something really wrong with them before they will see a therapist. We are breaking down that stigma."

The terrorist strikes heightened the need for mental health counseling, says Dan Perkins an FBM instructor in Morris. "There is volatility out there with what's happened since September 11. The economy, bioterrorism, multi-career families, spouses with different goals . . . I don't know what we'd do without this program."

Often, says Perkins, a family farm can be doing well financially and productively, but the members are fighting all the time. He had one case like that recently. "They knew they could not have a successful operation for the long run if they didn't get help refocusing on what was really important," he says. He recommended Matthews.

Matthews first trains local instructors like Perkins to deal with their own mental health issues. "Then we can recognize these issues in the farmers we work with," says Perkins.

The instructors are told how to react when a farmer expresses emotion about issues. "You just let them cry and let them talk," says Matthews. "You don't need a brilliant answer or to know how to fix their dilemma.

## **Making a risky job less risky**

A new Web site (<http://www.uwyo.edu/%20ces/pubs2.htm>) by the University of Wyoming Extension service provides information on how farmers and ranchers can overcome stress and find the time for rest.

Topics include:

- Identifying stress on a ranch or a farm
- Importance of a healthy attitude
- Learning to relax
- Eating and activity for health and pleasure
- Finding your team of experts
- When do you need a counselor?

## **A new hotline**

In Kansas, a new hotline is helping farmers struggling with family and farm issues. The Kansas Rural Family Helpline (toll free: 866/327-6578) provides confidential emotional support, advice, and referrals to rural families struggling with unmet emotional, medical, financial, and legal needs.

The Family Studies and Human Services program of Kansas State University operates the Helpline. This team combines an understanding of the unique needs of farmers with training in family assistance.

The Helpline provides access to health providers, churches, financial and legal advisers, farm and family mediation services, educators, ag production and agribusiness specialists, as well as government agencies that serve rural families.

They are showing emotion because they trust you, and they only want you to listen. Just support them."

### **Get personal**

The goal of the FBM program, says Perkins, is to help farm families achieve their goals. This has always included help with record keeping, taxes, and production issues. Now, thanks to Matthews, it also includes help with personal issues.

Often an instructor like Perkins will be working with a farmer on financial issues and another issue – like divorce or depression – will come up. That's when Matthews steps in. The result may be that a family farm is kept intact through a divorce.

"We don't say, 'You need to see a therapist,' " says Molenaar. "We just tell them that there is a person involved with our program who can help with their situation. We keep it low-key.

"Just because someone goes to talk to Ted doesn't mean that person is clinically depressed or schizophrenic. He or she is just dealing with issues."

The goal of the mental health program, says Molenaar, is to help farmers keep their lives in balance. They learn to manage the many stressors they face and their reaction to them.

### **The biggest stresses**

What's the number one stress Matthews sees in farmers? Family issues. The changing role of women and difficulty with in-laws both rank right up there. Retirement, or lack of retirement, also adds stress. Matthews sees farmers who are 60 and still taking orders from their parents. Having the latest technology and best production won't solve family issues, says Matthews.

"The reason we call them family farms is because of the family. Sometimes we get so involved in our work and everything else, that we forget why we are doing it all."

No issue is too small. "If you are the one going through that issue, it's bad to you. Your issue is really important," says Matthews. "A small crisis may not be small to you."

Some people commit suicide for what looks to others to be a stupid reason. "But it wasn't stupid to them," says Matthews.

One of Matthews many clients, Jim Wink, agreed to share how therapy has helped him, because he hopes other farmers will follow his example and seek counseling.

Wink, who grows corn and soybeans in partnership with a neighbor near Morris, Minnesota, was struggling with marital problems two years ago when he sat down with his FBM adviser, Dan Perkins.

"Dan could see that I was getting bent out of shape," says Wink. Perkins suggested he talk to Matthews.

"I had never talked to a psychologist before. I wouldn't have sought it out on my own," says Wink. "I was trying to deal with my problems on my own, and it wasn't going well at all."

After a few sessions with Matthews, things started to improve. It's a misconception that farmers are stoic and won't open up, says Matthews. "You get farmers in a comfortable environment, and they never shut up."

### **Women have issues, too**

It's not just the men who can use the help, says Matthews. He has as many women clients as men. "It's important that everyone involved in the farm be involved in the therapy. Otherwise we all waste our time, because the husband will nod his head for an hour, then go home, and the wife says no and that's the end of that."

Women have their own issues, says Matthews. "In general, women are more worried about finances and family issues, and they personalize things more." Women are usually quicker to the point, he says. "Men need more time to open up and talk about what they feel."

### **Think of the children**

Some of the most important and difficult work he does, says Matthews, is with children, especially adolescents.

"We tend to look through adult eyes, and kids have their own issues," he says. Children are going to have energy to burn, he says, and parents need to help them burn it in a healthy way.

In Jim Wink's case, he had three children who were being affected by their parents' divorce. Wink took them to see Matthews, and he helped them refocus. Matthews has a special kinship with teenagers who are unfocused and unmotivated, he says with a grin.

"In high school I didn't care what my grades were as long as I was eligible to play hockey," he explains.

Years later, after a professional hockey career left him with a broken nose, four concussions, a fractured skull, and only six real teeth, he worked his way through college (as a single parent), eventually earning a master's degree in psychology.

Maturity comes later to some people than others, he says with a laugh, pointing out that the average American male doesn't mature mentally until he is 25 years old.

Matthews encourages his clients to contact him at any time. He even lists his home telephone number in the phone book. "I want people to get ahold of me. If I wanted an 8-to-5 job I would be working somewhere else."

For Jim Wink, counseling meant he could finally talk to his ex-wife without it becoming a shouting match.

"I changed my reactions, and we started having decent conversations," says Wink. "When my marriage crumbled, I nearly crumbled with it. By talking with Ted I learned patience and self-esteem."

Trying to put a figure on what Matthews' services mean to farm families in western Minnesota is impossible, says Molenaar. "This is one program we can't lose. It is crucial."

**Contact Betsy Freese at [bfreese@mdp.com](mailto:bfreese@mdp.com).**

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Senator Moua introduced—

S. F. No. 460 Referred to the Committee on Finance

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A bill for an act

relating to appropriations; appropriating money for grants to organizations representing minority populations.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. [APPROPRIATION.]

\$1,500,000 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of employment and economic development for grants of \$500,000 each to the Chicanos Latinos Unidos En Servicio (CLUES), American Indian Family Center (AIFC), and Hmong American Partnership (HAP) for renovations to their facilities in St. Paul. This appropriation is available until expended.



1 Senator ..... moves to amend S.F. No. 460 as follows:

2 Page 1, line 11, delete everything after "for" and insert  
3 "capacity building funds for collaborative programs among the  
4 three organizations and with Metropolitan State University."

5 Page 1, line 12, delete "in St. Paul."