



Laurentian 2004 Annual Report

The Laurentian Resource Conservation & Development Council

2004 Board of Directors

James Hall, President
Lenore Johnson,
Vice President
Albert Moline, Treasurer
Phillip Goutermont,
Secretary

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Gene Erickson
Darrell Lauber
Ted Lovdahl
Catherine McLynn
Keith Nelson
Marty Nosie
Peggy Pearson
Kenneth Sherer
Don Simons (alternate)
Bill Vogel
Gerald Wick

Laurentian Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council, Inc., is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation serving northeastern Minnesota. The RC&D Council is sponsored by the Boards of County Commissioners and Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) in the five north-eastern counties of Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake and St. Louis, as well as the Grand Portage Reservation Tribal Council.



John Deere Slashbundler Demonstration

The John Deere Timberjack 1490D Energy Wood Harvester (Slashbundler) was a featured piece of equipment at demonstrations in the Grand Rapids, Sandstone and Alexandria Minnesota areas. The Slashbundler takes formerly wasted logging slash and bundles it into 28 inch diameter, 10 foot long logs that can be stored in the woods until needed by a biomass power plant or refinery. Bundled logs can be easily transported by conventional logging equipment and loaded onto semi trailers for over-the-road hauling. Each bundle is the equivalent of approximately 28 gallons of petroleum. Biorefineries can utilize these logs to create electricity, hydrogen, and other synthetic fuels and products. Cars, diesel trucks and even chain saws could be operated by these synthetic fuels created from "waste products" derived from logging.

Laurentian Project Highlights

Sustainable Energy Project



Indigenous Energy Partners and Laurentian RC&D continue to develop their partnership of providing a sustainable green energy, biomass generation plant. As this project evolves, it will introduce new businesses to tribal lands and provide employment both on and off tribal reservations.



Above Photo: Machinery involved in the Plasma Torch process.

Organic Foods Grant

A Minnesota Department of Agriculture sponsored "Organic Short Course for Agriculture Professionals" was held in July 2004. Professionals and producers from Northeastern Minnesota and Wisconsin were presented information on the steps they could take to become organically certified. Various companies brought in examples of organic food uses and an organic food luncheon was served to attendees.



What is RC&D?

RC&D, Resource Conservation & Development, is a program that involves local people in identifying and solving human, economic, and environmental needs in their communities. RC&D can work on any type of rural development need that the local people agree to, such as creating a park, renovating a community facility or tourist attraction, promoting an industry, cleaning up a waterway, etc. All kinds of economic and natural resource development opportunities exist and are being promoted throughout Minnesota via the RC&D program. Once a need is identified, RC&D works as a consultant to provide assistance to the local people. The type of assistance depends on the type of project and may include technical or planning development, informational and educational activities, grant writing, and administrative support. RC&D's partner with the private sector, corporations, foundations, and all levels of government to secure assistance for projects. Each RC&D Council is sponsored locally and voluntarily in each county by the Board of Commissioners and the Soil & Water Conservation Districts (SWCD). Other sponsors may include Indian Tribal Councils, cities, towns, townships, civic organizations, or economic development organizations. One representative from each local sponsor is appointed to the RC&D Council.

Laurentian receives support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Project funding must be found through grant writing, fundraising, fees, and other means consistent with the goals of the Council and 501(c)(3) laws.

"Develop and promote economic, human & natural resources through cooperative efforts"

www.lrcd.org

For information on possible projects in your area, contact your county's 2005 RC&D Council members or the Laurentian office.

Cook County

Jim Johnson, County Commissioner
James Hall, SWCD

Itasca County

Catherine McLynn, County Commissioner
Darrell Lauber, SWCD
Don Simons, SWCD (alternate)
Ted Lovdahl, At-Large Member

Koochiching County

Kevin Adee, County Commissioner
Marty Nosie, SWCD

Lake County

Lenore Johnson, County Commissioner
Phillip Goutermont, SWCD

St. Louis County

Steve O'Neil, County Commissioner
Peggy Pearson, SWCD (North)
Albert Moline, SWCD (South)
Gerald Wick, At-Large Member

Grand Portage Reservation

Norman Deschampe
Bill Vogel (alternate)

The Laurentian Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) staff is Steven Kluess, RC&D Coordinator, and Jodi Smolnikar-Joki, Program Assistant, 4850 Miller Trunk Highway, Suite 2A, Duluth, MN 55811. Telephone: (218) 720-5225. Let us know if we can be of assistance.

Visit our website at: www.lrcd.org

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Laurentian RC&D

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Suite 2A
Duluth, MN 55811

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
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Permit #895

MARC&D Leadership Training

Laurentian RC&D and Seaquest Photography partnered to develop leadership training tapes — resource for RC&D Councils. The training tapes are available at_____

Knife River Flute Reed Project

Knife River Tree Planting

An additional 1,000 potted trees were planted in the final year of this project. Planted trees will provide shade and stability in the Knife River. Current plans are to try to continue this effort at a rate of at least 1,000 per year beyond that.



The Geographic Information System (GIS) will be used to assist with site selection to focus on zones where the trees will provide the greatest

benefit. Landowner permission will be essential when planting sites are identified on private land. Funding for this project has been secured from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with matching funds from the Lake Superior Steelhead Association.

2005 Election of Officers

Elections were held at the January 2005 Annual Meeting. Officers for 2005 are: Kevin Adee-President, Lenore Johnson-Vice President, Albert Moline-Treasurer and Phillip Goutermont-Secretary. Our sincere thanks to Jim Hall for his service as Laurentian's Council President.

Laurentian RC&D 2004 Plan of Work

GOAL 1: LAND CONSERVATION

Obj. A. Promote watershed Best Management Practices (BMPs) by assisting watershed groups to achieve their goals.

GOAL 2: LAND MANAGEMENT

Obj. A. Promote the Agro-Forestry Council through the St. Louis River Watershed project and other programs.

GOAL 3: WATER MANAGEMENT

Obj. A. Promote watershed BMPs by assisting watershed groups to achieve their goals.

GOAL 4: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Obj. A. Educate the public regarding sewage treatment issues in Laurentian's area.

Obj. B. Assist community groups/individuals to create and develop economic opportunities.

Obj. C. Promote the RC&D program throughout Laurentian's five county area.

2005 Upcoming Events

Light on the Land Demonstrations

St. Louis County ~ September 9 & 10

Bay Lake ~ September 12

Cloquet Forestry Center ~ September 14

Wabasha County ~ September 16&17