



LAURENTIAN

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

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Laurentian RC&D 2009 Executive Board

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2009 Council Members

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Karen Burthwick

Norman Deschampe

James Hall

Al Linder

Bruce Martinson

Keith Nelson

Peggy Pearson

Don Simons

Fritz Sobanja

Rich Sve

Bill Vogel

Protecting the Community



Photo: Ted Lovdahl, President Laurentian RC&D Council and Laurentian RC&D Vice President Darrell Lauber pictured next to the new dry hydrant site in Itasca County with Balsam Township Volunteer Firemen: Bob Bergstrom, Troy Beckner, John Keith, Matt Anderson, and John Kaunas. The dry hydrant is located at the Burnt Shanty Lake site.

The Buyck, Finland, and Balsam Volunteer Fire Departments received grants for dry hydrant installation from the Minnesota Association of RC&Ds (MARC&D) and the Minnesota DNR. These organizations provided funding for the newly installed signage for dry hydrants in 2009. Council members traveled to each site to meet with volunteer fire department members to install the signs. Dry hydrant signs were installed in Finland; located in Lake County, Buyck; located in North St. Louis County and Balsam; located in Itasca County.

Helping People Help the Land

Laurentian RC&D's Focus on the Community



Laurentian RC&D Council members (left photo: Phil Goutermont and Rich Sve. Right Photo: Peggy Pearson) assisted volunteers in Lake County at the Finland site and North St. Louis County at the Buyck site to install dry hydrant signage.

Laurentian RC&D has been involved in many projects throughout northeastern Minnesota area. Assistance provided by the Council and staff includes strategic planning, leadership roles, and grant writing. Projects are adopted by the Council and written into the Annual Plan on a yearly basis. All projects fit the scope of Laurentian's five-year Area Plan.

- Laurentian RC&D was involved in a grazing workshop in Littlefork and a biomass workshop in Hermantown.
- Laurentian has been active in writing grants for Northome City Library and has a partnership with Farm Beginnings.
- The feasibility study for the Renewable Energy Clean Air Project (RECAP) continued throughout 2009. The conclusion of this study is projected to be complete in 2010.
- Several area projects that meet the five year Area Plan have been brought forward to the Council. The Casper's Hill Road project in Grand Marais will work on erosion control. The Duluth Community Gardens continues to seek assistance from the Council.
- Flute Reed and Miller Creek tree plantings continued into 2009 for erosion control.

Additional information on Council projects can be found at www.lrcd.org

What is RC&D?

Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D), is a program that works with local community members to identify and solve human, economic, and environmental needs in their communities. An RC&D can work on many types of rural development. Examples may include: creating a park, renovating a community facility or tourist attraction, promoting an industry, or cleaning up a waterway. Many types 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 local community members. The type of assistance depends on the type of project and may include technical or planning development, informational and educational activities, grant writing, and/or 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. 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

2010 RC&D Council Members

Cook County

James Hall - SWCD

Fritz Sobanja - County Commissioner

Itasca County

Karen Burthwick - County Commissioner

Darrell Lauber - SWCD, Ted Lovdahl - At-Large Member

Don Simons - SWCD (Alternate)

Koochiching County

Kevin Adee - County Commissioner, Al Linder - SWCD

Lake County

Rich Sve - County Commissioner

Phillip Goutermont - SWCD

St. Louis County

Chris Dahlberg - County Commissioner

Peggy Pearson - SWCD (North), Albert Moline - SWCD (South)

Grand Portage Reservation

Bill Vogel - (Alternate)

Norman Deschampe,

The Laurentian Resource Conservation & Development staff are Paul Sandstrom, RC&D Coordinator, and Jodi Joki, Program Assistant. Laurentian's mailing address is:

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Visit our website at: www.lrcd.org

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Duluth, MN 55811

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Laurentian RC&D



Laurentian RC&D 2008-2012 Area Plan

The 2008-2012 Area Plan is a long-range plan for the Laurentian Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council. It was developed by soliciting input from individuals from Cook, Lake, Koochiching, Itasca, and St. Louis Counties, the Grand Portage Reservation, and Council members. The purpose of the Area Plan is to provide a strategic direction for the organization's goals and objectives. Contents of the Area Plan are approved by the Laurentian RC&D Council and serves as an agreement between Natural Resource Conservation Service and the Council. Below is a brief overview of the main elements and goals of Area Plan.

ELEMENT: LAND MANAGEMENT

GOAL 1: Promote the development of two gasification facilities utilizing solid waste or biomass to energy technology by 2012.

GOAL 2: Promote and facilitate the adoption of 10 clean renewable energy sources by 2012 in order to reduce our dependence on foreign oil and gas.

GOAL 3: Develop and promote agricultural, forestry, and fish and wildlife resources (within ecological balance) to improve economic conditions and the quality of life for area visitors.

ELEMENT: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

GOAL 1: Promote and facility local sustainable economic development by assisting 10 enterprises form and/or grow by 2012.

GOAL 2: Promote plasma gasification project in three education institutions by 2012.

ELEMENT: WATER MANAGEMENT

GOAL 1: Promote and facilitate the implementation of Best Management Practices to improve the quality of 5 impaired waters by 2012.

ELEMENT: LAND CONSERVATION

GOAL 1: Assist area partners identify, reduce, and control erosion from three high priority stream bank, lakeshore, or roadside sources.

GOAL 2: Promote the development and use of soil survey information to enhance natural resource management and land use activities in the Laurentian area.



2010 Council Meetings

- January 25, 2010 - Virginia, Minnesota
- March 22, 2010 - Virginia, Minnesota
- May 24, 2010 - Floodwood, Minnesota
- July 19, 2010 - Grand Portage, Minnesota
- September 13, 2010 - International Falls, Minnesota
- November 22, 2010 - Virginia, Minnesota

