



THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND
in Minnesota

THE TRUST *for* PUBLIC LAND

CONSERVING LAND FOR PEOPLE



PROTECTING MINNESOTA'S NATURAL LEGACY

In Minnesota, The Trust for Public Land (TPL) is protecting strategic land and water resources for people to enjoy as parks, bikeways, natural and wildlife areas, and historic sites. As Minnesotans, we cherish our city and state parks; our countless lakes, rivers, and other waterways; and our northern forests. Protecting these spaces not only enhances our leisure experiences, it also safeguards critical wildlife habitats, preserves our cultural heritage, and brings people, businesses, and other crucial resources into our state.

Since 1986, TPL has worked with landowners interested in conservation to protect some of Minnesota's most critical resources. TPL only acquires lands that have been prioritized for protection, often when other entities cannot conserve the land on their own. TPL works in the marketplace with willing landowners to ensure that strategic, at-risk lands are protected for all Minnesotans.

In Minnesota, TPL has three main priorities for conservation work:

- Parks for People—Twin Cities
- Northwoods
- Healthy Waters





Poll results demonstrate consistent, strong public support for land conservation in Minnesota—especially to preserve water quality. In a 2010 poll, voters approved continued public funding for natural land conservation by a 2-to-1 margin. A recent University of Minnesota study confirms that conservation is a sound investment, returning up to \$4 to the economy for every \$1 spent on conservation.

PARKS FOR PEOPLE—TWIN CITIES

TPL is committed to enhancing parks and trails and to protecting the lakes, rivers, and natural areas that keep our metropolitan region vibrant. TPL's work spans central business districts, inner-city neighborhoods, and the developing suburban and exurban fringes of Minneapolis and St. Paul—as well as growing cities such as Rochester and Brainerd. This strategic investment in protected lands and water is essential to the overall quality of life in the places where most Minnesotans live, work, and play.

NORTHWOODS

Minnesota's iconic Northwoods are a tapestry of wild rivers, streams, lakes, and forests. This resource-rich landscape is a destination for recreation, hunting, and fishing, treasured by Minnesotans and central to the state's economy. Private and public forest industries provide jobs for local communities—which also rely on the Northwoods for clean water and healthy fisheries.

HEALTHY WATERS

Clean drinking water is important to Minnesotans. A state-wide, bipartisan poll in 2010 showed that 83 percent of the electorate is concerned about the pollution of drinking water. Public lands provide clean water for both people and wildlife by filtering out pollutants via vegetation, keeping impurities out of our lakes, rivers, streams, and wetlands. Safeguarding these aquatic areas also helps protect recreational resources. To make the greatest impact, TPL is focusing our conservation efforts on the Saint Croix and Mississippi River watersheds.

Since 1986, TPL has helped protect more than 90,000 acres of Minnesota's treasured land and water resources.

CHAINSAW SISTERS SALOON, BOUNDARY WATERS CANOE AREA WILDERNESS

Just northeast of Ely in St. Louis County, the former Chainsaw Sisters Saloon is now a key Mudro Lake entry point for the 1.3-million-acre Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness.

Our partnership with TPL allows for important, strategic acquisitions like this one to protect the ecosystem and preserve public access.

—Paul Danicic, Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness



DARCY KIEFEL

CEDAR CREEK CONSERVATION AREA

TPL helped conserve one of the largest undeveloped properties in the Twin Cities region, which will soon provide public hunting, fishing, and hiking opportunities to Metro residents. The new conservation area is situated across the river from Anoka County's Rum River Central Regional Park.

The purchase of the new conservation area was a model of cooperation.

—John VonDeLinde, Anoka County Director of Parks and Recreation



ALLEN BRISSON-SMITH

THE GATEWAY IN MINNEAPOLIS

TPL is leading the effort to transform underutilized land in downtown Minneapolis into a signature park connecting the Mississippi River to the central business district.

This wonderful public-private partnership will create a vital link from our network of existing city parks to the great Mississippi River.

—Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak



DARCY KIEFEL



ALLEN BRISSON-SMITH

NISSWA LAKE AND A. & J. JOHNSON NISSWA LAKE PARK

Crow Wing County's Nisswa Lake—part of the popular Gull Lake Chain—once lacked a permanent public access point. TPL purchased a lakeshore property for a state-operated boat ramp, as well as adjacent land for the city's new A. & J. Johnson Nisswa Lake Park.

It never would have happened if TPL hadn't stepped in and helped us through the very complicated process. Now our citizens can walk across the street and have access to the town's namesake lake.

—Brian Lehman, Mayor of Nisswa

LOST VALLEY PRAIRIE SCIENTIFIC & NATURAL AREA

Lost Valley's streams feed the important St. Croix River, and its rare Bedrock Bluff Prairie is home to a multitude of plant and animal species. TPL conserved a portion of the Washington County prairie—a botanist's delight—as a destination for the public to experience nature.



DARCY KIEFEL

We had been working [for years] to protect this land. It was really great to know that experts were finally going to make it happen.

—Jim Smetana, volunteer land steward

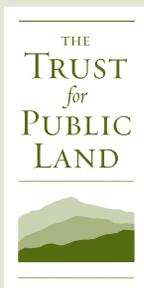
GETTING INVOLVED

The Trust for Public Land relies upon charitable contributions from individuals, foundations, and corporations to provide the capital needed to respond to our state's most important conservation priorities. Your donation can be restricted to a particular project or program focus, or directed to support TPL's most urgent needs in Minnesota or nationwide. Here's how to help:

Contribute: Your support will help us protect important land for all Minnesotans to enjoy for generations to come.

Advocate: Tell your elected official and other community leaders that you support public funding to conserve public land.

Share your story: Tell one person today about The Trust for Public Land and why you believe in our mission to conserve land for people.



The Trust for Public Land conserves land for people to enjoy as parks, gardens, and other natural places, ensuring livable communities for generations to come.

tpl.org/minnesota

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TO MAKE A GIFT OR TO LEARN MORE,
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