

## MINNESOTA'S LAKE SUPERIOR COASTAL PROGRAM

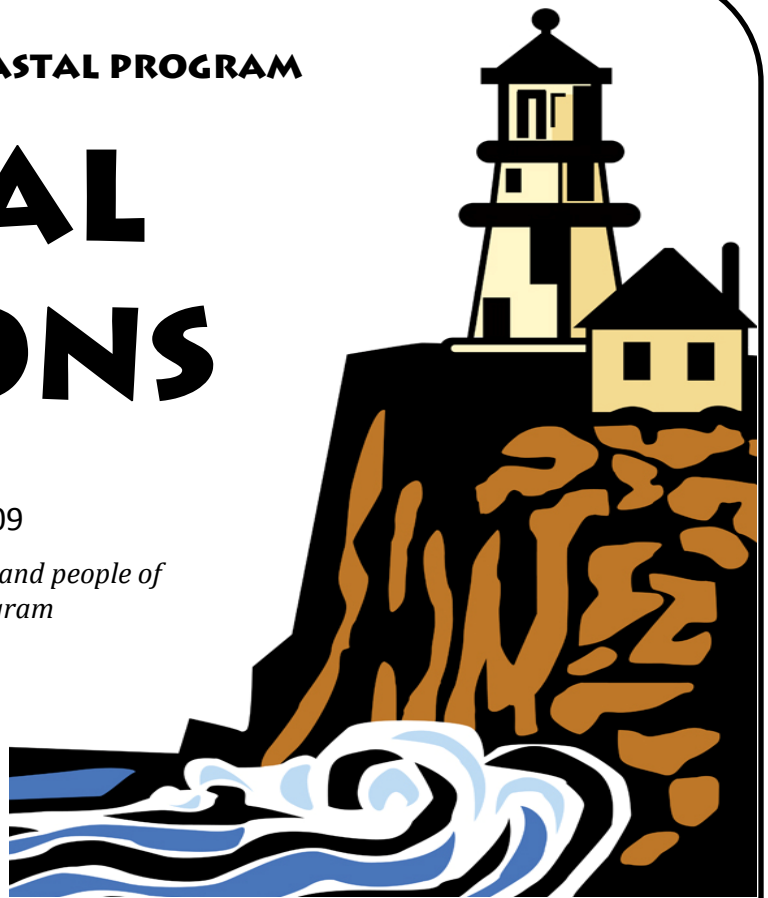
# COASTAL HORIZONS

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*A quarterly newsletter highlighting the projects and people of Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program*

### In This Issue:

News and Notes (page 2) • Coastal Program Hires New Nonpoint Specialist (page 2) • Hundreds Converged on Duluth for Youth Symposium (page 3) • Coastal Imagery at Your Fingertips (page 3)



## COUNTY COVERS ITS GARAGE ROOF WITH PLANTS

The St. Louis County Motor Pool Garage in Duluth has a new green roof thanks in part to funding from Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program.

Prior to the retrofit, the garage was simply asphalt. Today, drought-tolerant native plants cover over two-thirds of the roof. The plants may be the most visible feature of the new roof, but lying underneath is a layer of soil and a waterproof membrane.

"This kind of roof costs a little bit more to start," said Tom Romundstad, Project Manager with St. Louis County's Property Management Department. "Yet, it will last three times longer than a traditional asphalt roof."

The new green roof has many benefits. It will reduce stormwater runoff by intercepting and absorbing the water. It will also reduce the heating and cooling loads on the building.

Temperature data suggests that the green roof is almost 30 degrees cooler than the asphalt roof. As a

result, the air system for the building and the rooftop solar panels work more efficiently.

"In the long-term, the green roof will save us money by reducing energy costs," said Romundstad.

For more information about the project, contact Tom Romundstad by telephone at (218) 733-2752.

*Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program offers annual grants for projects that benefit coastal resources and local communities. For more information about the grant program and grant-related projects like the one above, visit Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program's website at <http://www.mndnr.gov/waters/lakesuperior>*



### Cooke Brings Passion, Dedication to Council

Kelly Cooke has answered the call to serve as one of the representatives from St. Louis County to the Coastal Council with great enthusiasm and devotion. *Story continues on Page 2.*

## Coastal Council Members

- Dan Belden (Carlton Co.)
- Dick Brenner (Carlton Co.)
- Kelly Cooke (St. Louis Co.)
- John Eaton (Lake Co.)
- Rick Goutermont (Lake Co.)
- JoEllen Hurr (At-Large)
- Jim Johnson (Cook Co.)
- Al Katz (St. Louis Co.)
- Jim Linscheid (Lake Co.)
- Bonnie MacLean (Cook Co.)
- Keck Melby (Cook Co.)
- Stacy Radosevich (At-Large)
- Tim Rogers (At-Large)
- Mary Ann Sironen (St. Louis Co.)

Kelly has been a Hermantown resident for nearly 40 years. Aside from the five years he spent in Denver, Kelly has been a lifelong resident of the Lake Superior basin. He has been a member of the Hermantown Planning Commission and served with the United Way. As a Planning Commissioner, he has worked with many large-scale land use issues. Kelly is passionate about conservation easements and land-use planning to avoid wetland impacts and has taken the opportunity to learn more about these issues through various grant applications, workshops and grant-funded projects.

Kelly takes his role on the Coastal Council seriously. He takes the time to read the grant applications thoroughly, evaluate the merits of each proposal, and looks for commonalities among Council members' opinions. Kelly believes that all members of the Coastal Council are very respectful of each other; everyone is free to share their views, even when they differ from the group.

In addition to serving on the Coastal Council, Kelly works part-time at Hermantown Elementary School and serves on the Arrowhead Regional Planning Commission. His wife, Cindy, their kids, Nicole, Sarah, and Aaron, and their black lab, Cooper, keep him quite busy. In his spare time he likes to hunt and fish and spend some quiet time in nearby Keene Creek Park.

*The Governor's Council on Minnesota's Coastal Program was created by Executive Order in 1999. The "Coastal Council," working with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, establishes Coastal Program priorities, recommends projects for funding, reviews the budget, and conducts a biennial review of the state's Coastal Program. The Council consists of 15 members appointed by the Governor.*

## News and Notes

2009 marks the ten year anniversary of Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program. Like a young child, much changes over the course of ten years. Here is a sampling.

- In the first year, Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program awarded approximately \$366,000 in pass-through grants for 18 projects. Ten years later, the same number of projects received over \$520,000.
- Of the original 15 Coastal Council members, 8 continue to serve.
- In 1999, the Coastal Program did not have a website. Today, the site receives, on average, over 325 "hits" per month by individuals looking at documents, past grant projects, and maps.

## COASTAL PROGRAM HIRES NEW NONPOINT SPECIALIST

Amber Westerbur has joined the team at Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program as their new coastal nonpoint and outreach specialist. Amber replaces Mindy Granley, who left the post in October 2008 to become the University of Minnesota Duluth's sustainability coordinator.

Prior to coming to Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program in February, Amber was a researcher for the City of Superior Environmental Services Division of Public Works. At the City, she specialized in stormwater outreach and education.

A native of Duluth, Amber earned her BS in Environmental Science and Geology from St. Norbert College and attended graduate school at the University of Minnesota Duluth. She is also a licensed 9-12 Earth and Space Science teacher in the State of Minnesota.



Amber shares a moment with her 18-month old son, Aaden

*Minnesota's Coastal Nonpoint Pollution Control Program coordinates and supports local implementation projects to reduce and control nonpoint source pollution.*

## HUNDREDS CONVERGED ON DULUTH FOR YOUTH SYMPOSIUM

On any given day, you can probably find a high school student or two at The College of St. Scholastica. On May 14, two turned into over 350 as high school students and teachers from around Lake Superior began arriving for the 2009 Lake Superior Youth Symposium.

The four-day event brought together students in grades 8-12 from throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, and Ontario to study Lake Superior. There were 18 field trip options and over two dozen presentations on Friday and Saturday.

“It was fantastic,” shared Diane Podgornik, 2009 Lake Superior Youth Symposium co-coordinator. “Between the amazing keynote speakers and all the great field trips and presentations, you couldn’t help but gain a better appreciation for this magnificent lake!”

*Since 1999, Minnesota’s Lake Superior Coastal Program has awarded over \$9.3 million in grant funds for some 300 projects, including many events like the one highlighted above.*

Participants take part in a birding field trip at the Minnesota Point Pine Forest State Natural Area (Photograph by Pat Collins)



## Coastal Imagery at Your Fingertips

Individuals can now access recent aerial photographs of Minnesota’s Lake Superior coastal areas without having to use geographic information systems (GIS). The images are available in LandView, an online, interactive mapping program that allows users to make their own maps from the Department of Natural Resources’ data.

The aerial photographs are technically oblique images. Oblique imagery is aerial photography taken at an approximately 45-degree angle with the ground. At that angle, the imagery more closely resembles how people normally view their landscape. For years, oblique imagery has been a tool for monitoring coastal erosion. Now, others are using it in habitat studies and land use and recreation planning.

To view the images, click on “The Minnesota DNR’s Map Page” link found on the “Maps” page of Minnesota’s Lake Superior Coastal Program’s website. From there, users can launch the LandView program by clicking on the “LandView” hyperlink in the left sidebar. To access LandView directly, type <http://www.mndnr.gov/maps/landview.html> in the address bar. There are instructions for how to use the program on the website.

*Minnesota’s Lake Superior Coastal Program maintains a web presence at <http://www.mndnr.gov/waters/lakesuperior>. The website contains useful information about past grant projects and how to apply for new grant projects. Visitors can also view Coastal Council meeting minutes as well as access coastal GIS data.*

## Ten Year Celebration

Minnesota’s Lake Superior Coastal Program would like to thank our partners and grantees for a successful first 10 years!

Please join us for a dessert reception

Friday, July 17, 2009  
2:30 pm – 5:00 pm  
Edgewater Resort & Waterpark, Duluth

RSVP to Amber at (218) 834-1445 or via email at [amber.westerbur@state.mn.us](mailto:amber.westerbur@state.mn.us)

## Other Upcoming Events

- **June 24 – August 1, 2009:** “A View from the Lake” Boat Tours; trips depart from Grand Marais, Silver Bay, Two Harbors, and Duluth <http://www.seagrant.umn.edu/vfl>
- **July 19, 2009:** Lake Superior Day
- **September 10 – 12, 2009:** 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Lakes Restoration Conference at the Duluth Entertainment & Convention Center, Duluth <http://www.healthylakes.org/09conference>
- **September 22-24, 2009:** Great Lakes Regional Meeting of Coastal Management Programs at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Office – Duluth

## ABOUT US



Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program is funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce's, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, through the Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Division of Waters administers the Program from its office in Two Harbors, Minnesota.

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**WEBSITE** <http://www.mndnr.gov/waters/lakesuperior>



The Minnesota's Coastal Program's goal is to preserve, protect, develop, and where possible, restore or enhance coastal resources along Minnesota's North Shore of Lake Superior for present and future generations.



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