

CONSIDER THESE QUESTIONS DURING AND AFTER TODAY

- **What** surprised you today?
- **What** is one small step you can take for dune stewardship this week? (stay on paths and boardwalks, avoid stepping on dune vegetation, address problem plants, dispose yard waste properly)
- **What** questions do you still have about the coastal dune ecosystem on Minnesota Point?

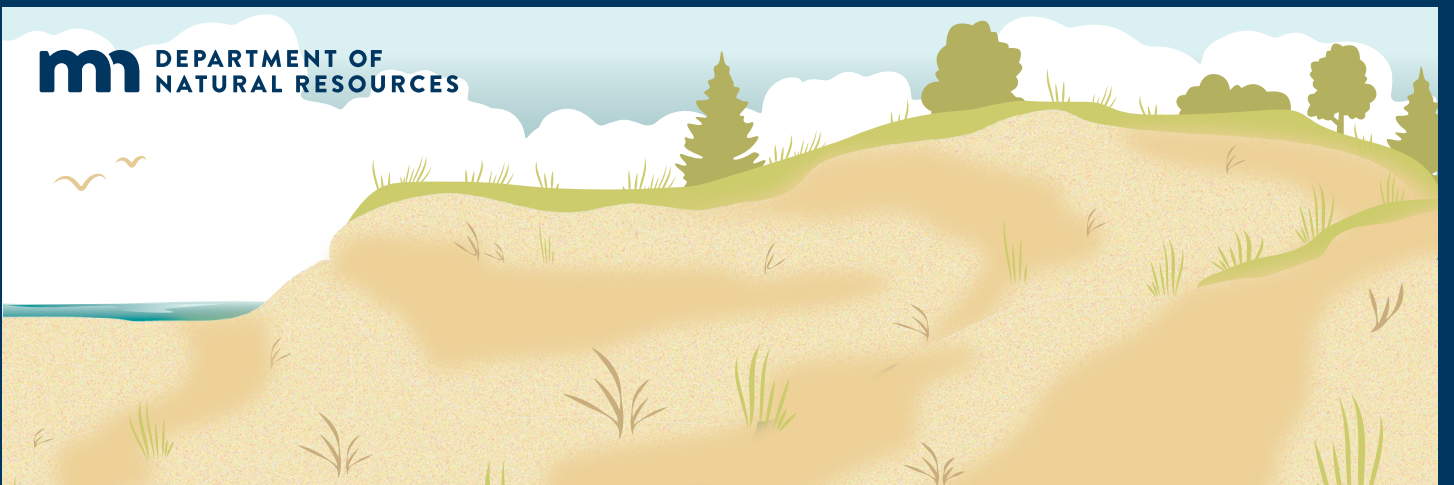
YOUR CONTINUED ROLE AS A STEWARD

- **Use** designated paths and access points. Stay on boardwalks and avoid stepping on vegetation.
- **Learn** to identify, address and report problem plants.
- **Dispose** of yard waste properly to not contribute to spread of invasive species.

Through shared stewardship, we protect a rare place many people love and ensure it continues to benefit the whole community.

Thanks to our partners and participants: Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program (DNR) (host), City of Duluth Divisions of Property Parks and Libraries; Planning and Development, University of Minnesota Duluth - Olga Lakela Herbarium and faculty walk leaders; University of Minnesota Natural Resources Research Institute Avian Lab, Minnesota Biological Survey (DNR), DNR Parks and Trails, DNR Regional Plant Ecology, DNR Terrestrial Invasive Species, DNR Area Hydrologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1854 Treaty Authority, Minnesota Point 50, Arrowhead Native Plant Explorers, Resource Renew, Minnesota Sea Grant

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DUNE DISCOVERY AND STEWARDSHIP

EVENT PROGRAM

Welcome to Dune Discovery and Stewardship Day! Enjoy guided walks outside, brief demos, and conversations with scientists and land stewards. Explore Minnesota Point's coastal dune ecosystem and learn simple actions that help care for this place.

How to use this program: Activities run throughout the afternoon at multiple locations—please check start times and meet-up spots in the enclosed schedule.

Date: Friday, Sept. 11, 2026

Time: Noon–6 p.m. Open house with scheduled activities

Location: Lafayette Park Community Center, 3016 Minnesota Avenue, Duluth 55802 (check-in; short talks; opportunities to talk with local land managers and experts; displays and information)

LOCATION STATIONS (INSIDE) NOON–6 P.M.

Talk with scientists and land stewards at the indoor locations where you'll find information and examples, ask questions, and learn practical actions that protect this rare coastal dune ecosystem.

Dune basics—How dunes form and change, and how vegetated dune ridges buffer waves and protect nearby inland areas from coastal storms, and aid beach recovery.

Coastal dune ecosystem—Rare native plant communities unique to Minnesota Point; Herbarium and more specimens and conversations about biodiversity of this coastal dune habitat.

Stewardship in practice—Dune-friendly landscaping guidance; public access and property line map; how to spot and report problem plants; and proper yard-waste disposal to protect the biodiversity of the dunes.

Dune research, action and reflection—Questions scientists are studying; MP50 community action; and space for self-reflection.

SHORT TALKS AT THE LOCATIONS (OUTSIDE) 1:15-5 P.M.

1:15–1:30 p.m.—Identify With iNaturalist: Contribute to a Living Atlas
—Clinton Little, DNR

2:05–2:20 p.m.—Report Problem Plants With EDDMapS
—Laura Van Riper, DNR

2:25–2:40 p.m.—Habitat at Home
—Mic Rice, DNR

3:05–3:20 p.m.—Identifying Rare and Common Dune Plants (Boardwalk Talk)
—Kelly Beaster, Arrowhead Native Plant Explorers

4:25–4:40 p.m.—Nesting and Overwintering Habitat for Pollinators and Other Insects
—Sarah Foltz Jordan, conservation biologist and educator

GUIDED DUNE WALKS (OUTSIDE AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS) 12:30–5:45 P.M.

Guided walks will run consecutively between 12:30 and 5:45 p.m. and will be departing from 4 different locations on the Point.

12th St. Beach Access/Franklin Park

12:30–1:10 p.m.—Dunes 101 and Sand Capture Project

Leads: Prof. John Swenson, University of Minnesota Duluth and Jim Shoberg, City of Duluth

18th Street Beach Access

4–4:20 p.m.—Plants, Seasons and Dune Stewardship

Lead: Prof. Jessica Savage, University of Minnesota Duluth

Lafayette Park Beach Access

1:30–1:50 p.m.—Get to Know Minnesota Point Dune Plant Communities

Lead: Ethan Perry, Minnesota Biological Survey/DNR

3:30–3:50 p.m.—Sand Dune Insects: Biology, Ecology, and Why Invasive Plants Matter

Lead: Sarah Foltz Jordan

Sky Harbor Airport Fence/Minnesota Point Pine Forest Scientific and Natural Area (SNA) Kiosk

2–2:20 p.m.—What's so Special About Minnesota Point Dune Habitat?

Lead: Kelly Beaster, Arrowhead Native Plant Explorers

2:30–3 p.m.—Shorebirds and the Coastal Dune Ecosystem: What Stewards Should Know

Lead: Dr. Annie Bracey, University of Minnesota Natural Resources Research Institute

5–5:45 p.m.—Forested Dune Walk

Lead: Arika McGraw, DNR