



CHOOSE TO HELP THE ENVIRONMENT. IT ADDS UP!

The Minnesota Environmental Fund engages workplaces and individuals to support leading nonprofit organizations that protect, conserve and restore Minnesota's environment.

### What Does the Minnesota Environmental Fund Do?

The Minnesota Environmental Fund protects, conserves and restores Minnesota's environment by supporting more than 20 organizations with one common goal: maintaining Minnesota's treasured natural resources and quality of life.

Protecting clean drinking water and clean air, conserving natural lands, offering youth access to the outdoors and environmental jobs, supporting renewable energy, and growing healthy food: these are just a few benefits of giving to and volunteering with the Minnesota Environmental Fund.

Leaders at over 100 workplaces engage their employees by providing them with the choice to give and volunteer together for Minnesota's environment.

### Your Giving Impact – What Can a Dollar Do?

#### **Clean Water:**

\$3 per pay period provides a Storm Drain Stenciling presentation and hands-on outing for an elementary classroom, raising awareness of the direct link between storm water runoff and river pollution.

\$5 per pay period presents a community Watershed Workshop packed with information about lawn and garden care, composting, rain gardens and rain barrels, native landscaping, car care, and other topics that help you protect and restore the Mississippi River.

#### **Getting Outdoors:**

\$2 per pay period provides a US Coast Guard-approved life jacket for a person to experience canoeing for the first time.

\$10 per pay period provides a scholarship for a 5-day Boundary Waters canoe trip.

#### **Engaging Youth:**

\$3 per pay period provides a day of environmental education for 20 middle-school children.

#### **Clean Air:**

\$5 per pay period pays to plant a young tree at a community tree planting.

\$20 per pay period supports the installation of pollution control equipment on school buses and heavy-duty trucks. This equipment reduces pollutants harmful to human health and the environment.

#### **Healthy Food and Farming:**

\$1 per pay period pays for worms for a full year of demonstrations with a worm composting bin.

#### **Preserving Natural Places and Wildlife:**

\$3 per pay period supports one week of bird satellite tracking and monitoring.

\$10 per pay period reaches out to landowners with ways to protect and restore the ecological value of their lands. This work improves the greenway corridors in the Twin Cities, and increases the amount of habitat available for wildlife and rare native plant species.

### Success Story:

Frogtown Park and Farm is the culmination of a multiyear process led by The Trust for Public Land to acquire and preserve 13 wooded acres in the heart of the Frogtown neighborhood in St. Paul, engage the community in shaping the park design, and launch a new non-profit urban farming organization. Research demonstrated that Frogtown was previously the most park-poor neighborhood in the city. The space opened in fall 2015 as an official City of St. Paul park and serves as a hub for health, recreation, local food, and a connection to nature. This is part of TPL's initiative to ensure that kids of all ages have parks, gardens, playgrounds, trails and other natural places within a ten-minute walk from their home.

## Green Trivia:

### **Healthy Kids:**

- By how much does exposure to nature change kids' stress levels? A: Exposure to nature can reduce kids' stress levels by up to 28 percent.
- When kids live close to a park playground, how much more likely are they to have a healthy body weight? A: Children living within two-thirds of a mile of a park with a playground are up to five times more likely to have a healthy body weight.
- What percent of children in the US live more than a half mile from the nearest park? A: 80%

### **Natural Places:**

- What percentage of the Twin Cities' native landscape remains intact in its natural state? A: Less than four percent, meaning that native wildlife species have only 4% of the habitat they used to have to live in. That is why our work to protect and restore what is left is so important.

### **Great Outdoors:**

- Where in Minnesota are the headwaters of the Mississippi River located? A: Lake Itasca in northern Minnesota.
- How many people visit the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness each year? A: 250,000 visitors using over 1,500 miles of canoe routes and about 2,200 campsites. The Boundary Waters is the most popular wilderness area in the United States.

### **Healthy Food:**

- Fish may be eaten without restrictions from what percentage of Upper Mississippi waters? A: Fifteen percent. That means that fish from 85% of the waters must be eaten in limited amounts due to contaminants like mercury.

## Who Are the Leading Nonprofit Organizations that Participate?

Audubon Minnesota of National Audubon Society  
Clean Water Fund  
Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy  
Environmental Initiative  
Eureka Recycling  
Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness  
Friends of the Mississippi River  
Izaak Walton League of America, MN Division  
Land Stewardship Project  
Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy  
Minnesota Conservation Federation

Minnesota Food Association  
The Nature Conservancy of Minnesota  
North American Water Office  
Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota  
Sierra Club Foundation  
Tree Trust  
The Trust for Public Land  
Voyageurs National Park Association  
Wilderness Inquiry  
Women's Environmental Institute

## How Does Minnesota Environmental Fund Ensure Your Giving Supports the Environment?

Minnesota Environmental Fund accepts gifts for leading nonprofit organizations that meet annual review requirements and participate actively in workplace volunteering and giving as qualified members. Minnesota Environmental Fund distributes gifts either equally among all groups or as designated by donors to specific member groups, and accepts gifts only to qualified member groups.

**CHOOSE TO HELP THE ENVIRONMENT. IT ADDS UP.**

[www.mnenvirofund.org](http://www.mnenvirofund.org)

Video Link: <http://mnenvirofund.org/video/>

Contact Cordelia Pierson and Pam Weier: [info@mnenvirofund.org](mailto:info@mnenvirofund.org)

651-917-1876