



**Lakes and Pines Community Action  
Council, Inc.**

**Celebrating 48 Years**

**Annual Board Meeting  
Tuesday, October 1, 2013**

- 5:00pm: Registration and Fellowship  
5:30pm: Dinner served (Reservation required)  
6:00pm: Entertainment  
7:00pm: Official Business Meeting & Awards

Silent Auction held throughout the evening.

**Bowe's Restaurant  
118 Railroad Avenue NE  
Mora, MN 55051**

Reasonable accommodations made upon request.

**RSVP by September 16, 2013**

Registration Card attached below.  
Late registrations cannot be accepted.

**Lakes and Pines Community Action Council  
1700 Maple Avenue East, Mora, MN 55051  
(320) 679-1800  
lap@lakesandpines.org**

**Partnering to End Poverty.**

**Proudly serving Aitkin, Carlton, Chisago, Isanti, Kanabec,  
Mille Lacs & Pine Counties**

Mark

## SANDPIPER PIPELINE PROJECT

Beaver Lodge Station, North Dakota to Superior, Wisconsin



**Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC**  
1409 Hammond Ave.  
Superior, WI 54880  
[www.enbridgeUS.com](http://www.enbridgeUS.com)

**Becky Haase**  
Specialist, Stakeholder Relations  
(715) 398-4691  
[becky.haase@enbridge.com](mailto:becky.haase@enbridge.com)

July 30, 2013

Mr. Kirk Peysar  
Aitkin County  
209 2nd St NW Rm 202  
Aitkin, MN 56431-1257

### **Sandpiper Pipeline Project Open Houses and Preview for Elected and Government Officials**

Dear Mr. Peysar:

Enbridge Pipelines (North Dakota) LLC ("Enbridge") is proposing to build the Sandpiper Pipeline Project, which will include approximately 610 miles of crude oil pipeline and associated facilities, and will extend from our Beaver Lodge Station near Tioga, North Dakota to our existing terminal in Superior, Wisconsin.

This Project is being developed to meet the growing demand for North Dakota crude oil from refineries in the United States and Eastern Canada. The pipeline will expand opportunities for North Dakota shippers to connect to a variety of markets and will assist in establishing a long-term, stable and reliable source of crude oil for the United States and its refineries.

As part of Enbridge's public outreach for the Project, we are hosting open houses along the pipeline's proposed route. Open houses in Minnesota will include:

**Tuesday, August 20 – 5:00-7:30 p.m.**  
Clearbrook, MN

Clearbrook City Hall/Gym  
200 Elm Street, Clearbrook, MN 56634

**Wednesday, August 21 – 5:00-7:30 p.m.**  
Park Rapids, MN

Century School  
501 Helten Avenue, Park Rapids, MN 56470

**Thursday, August 22 – 5:00-7:30 p.m.**  
McGregor, MN

McGregor Community Center  
41442 Hwy 65, McGregor, MN 55760

**Thursday, August 22 – 5:00-7:30 p.m.**  
East Grand Forks, MN

East Grand Forks Central Middle School  
1827 Bygland Road SE  
East Grand Forks, MN 56721

We invite you to attend these open houses. Landowners along the route are being invited in a separate letter. These landowners, as well as the general public, are welcome to attend the open houses at any time between 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. All attendees will be able to view maps and displays, meet Project team members and ask questions.

**As elected and government officials in communities along the route, we invite you and your staff to join us at 4:00 p.m. on the above dates to come and meet the Project team in advance**

# AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## DEPOT HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER

Fall 2013 – Volume 18, Issue 3

### ACHS Web Site Lost

On June 28<sup>th</sup> we lost our website when the Aitkin Chamber activated their new site. We were not aware that we would be losing our site until that day. The person at Mille Lacs who takes care of the site was unavailable on Friday. I was finally contacted on Monday afternoon and told we would not be able to keep our domain of [www.aitkin.com/achs](http://www.aitkin.com/achs). We would have to pick a new domain name. They were doubtful if we would be able to transfer the information from our old site because it was no longer an active site. **Hence a little notice from the chamber would have been nice.** Fortunately Jennie Hakes, who takes care of our site, had all of the information on her computer and was able to upload the information to our new site [www.aitkincohs.org](http://www.aitkincohs.org). Our new site will be serviced by GoDaddy.com. Jennie spent days working on getting our new site up and running. Our web presence did not return until July 9th. Twelve days lost internet presence. Some issues with the site still need to be worked out. The unfortunate issue that has arisen is that all of our literature, promotional items and letter head have our old site listed. It will all work out in the end.

This year's County Fair display was all about Aitkin County Restaurants. A big **thank you** goes out to the Liljenquest family who shared the Ziskie sign, the Sugar Bowl sign, the Olympia Café sign, and the Hill Restaurant sign, all of which helped to make our display fun and interesting for everyone. Pictures of restaurants from Aitkin, Hill City, McGrath and McGregor were featured along with various menus. Stools from the Sugar Bowl and Ziskies were on display. Our new prize spinning wheel was a big hit with the visitors to our Log Building. 1500 people visited our building. We sold 10-Heritage books, 15-Aitkin Centennial books, 9-Aitkin County naturally books, 2-Train Whistle, 4-Train Banks, and 4-AHS All-class Reunion papers. For everyone who staffed our building, thank you.

On Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup> we participated in the non-profit expo held in the space that used to be the Opera house. It was my first time in the space. A beautiful job was done restoring the room. The attendance was light, but it was worth the time to visit with people about our upcoming Garage Sale and the "Barns of Aitkin County" book.

Then on Tuesday July 16<sup>th</sup> we started to set up at the County fair grounds for our annual garage sale by setting up all of the tables and display cases. On the 17<sup>th</sup> with the help of STS and numerous volunteers we hauled all the merchandise that had been donated for our sale to the fairgrounds. Then we began a two week period of hard work processing the merchandise by sorting, displaying and marking everything. Two of the large fairground buildings are bursting at the seams with merchandise. Remember that our garage sale will be held on August 2<sup>nd</sup> (9am to 4pm) and August 3<sup>rd</sup> (9am to 3pm). Everything is sold for half price on Saturday and from 1pm to 3pm we hold a box sale for \$3.00 a box. When the sale is over everything will be donated to the Disabled American Veterans (DAV). Only items that are broken will be thrown away. Then we start collecting merchandise for next year's sale.

An early-bird raffle drawing will take place the week after our garage sale for all tickets that have been turned in. All tickets are also good for our final drawing held during our Annual Open House/Cookie Walk held on December 7<sup>th</sup>. We will continue to sell tickets until that final drawing. This year we have a total of 89 prizes to give away. (21 for the early-bird drawing and 68 for the final drawing). Tickets can be purchased at the Depot Museum, Members Credit Union, KKIN radio and from ACHS members. Our raffle is our second biggest fundraiser of the year.

Our "Barns of Aitkin County" book will be published later this fall. The current plan is to give copies of the book to all schools, libraries, senior care centers and nursing homes located in Aitkin County. When the book is published it will be available for purchase at the Depot Museum, our web site, and possibly through the McGregor and McGrath historical organizations. The book will be a hard cover book, landscape format, in full color. Watch our web site and the Aitkin Independent Age for when the book will be available. Over 800 photos of barns and many histories of those barns will be included in the book. Work has begun on collecting information and photos of all the country schools that were located in Aitkin County for a second book. A third book in the series will be about Churches of Aitkin County. A fourth will be about the Riverboats that ran from Aitkin to Grand Rapids from 1871 to 1921. The other project that I am working on is the Historical Map of Aitkin County which when printed will be made available throughout Aitkin County. The map will feature 80 to 100 historic sites located in Aitkin County with information about each site.

Greg Leach (Administrator)

### Members Lost During 2013

Ray Morris –  
8/30/1930 - 1/12/2013  
Kern Ridlington –  
9/25/1926 – 3/23/2013  
Marilyn Kullhem  
7/15/1933 – 5/24/2013

### New Members

Allen & Sonja Hakes  
Larry & Carolyn Kuechle  
Anne Marcotte  
Ann Schwartz

### Leave a Precious Legacy, Record your Life Story!

#### Have you ever thought...?

- I wish my grandparents had written down the stories of their lives.
- I'd like to write my own life story but I don't know how to begin
- What gift can I give my parents/grandparents ? They just don't need any more things!

Leaving a life story recording to your family and friends may be the most precious legacy you can give them. And making it possible for parents or grandparents to leave their stories to their family is a wonderful gift that benefits both them and you!

### Memberships

**Senior - \$7.50**

**Individual - \$15.00**

**Family - \$20.00**

**Business - \$30.00**

### LOOKING FOR TRAINS TO DISPLAY IN RAILROAD ROOM

We would like to display a variety of HO and O gauge trains in our railroad room. But, any trains will do. Display cases have been built and the trains displayed on tracks. If you have any trains that you would be willing to donate for this display contact Greg at the depot. (218-927-3348)

### GRANT WRITER NEEDED!

Need grants for the following:

- Purchase land under depot.
- Publishing books about Aitkin County barns.
- Purchase Armory building.
- Publish Historical map of Aitkin County.
- Purchase Caboose for Depot.
- Purchase scanner for negatives.
- Move log cabin from Stark Lake.
- Promote ACHS Museum
- Research Aitkin Co. Schools
- Research Aitkin Co. Churches.
- Research Riverboats of Aitkin

### 2013 GOALS

1. Membership over 420 members.
2. Complete Obituary files.
3. Visitor count surpasses 5000.
4. Raffle ticket sales reach 2500.
5. Garage sales surpass 6500 again.
6. increase number of displays in museum. - **done**
7. Lending library set up and running.
8. Clean up museum files.
9. Organize museum supply areas. - **done**
10. Complete research on book projects.
11. Find a Caboose.
12. More grant money to promote museum.

### BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

1. Cost only \$30.00 a year.
2. Businesses are listed in our quarterly newsletter for other members to support.
3. Businesses are listed on our web site with links to their web site or email.
4. ACHS uses our business members first.

### 2013 COMPLETED PROJECTS

1. Repairs of Cedar strip boat completed and placed on display in building #2
2. Wheels attached under glass cases
3. Shelf for supplies built/installed.
4. Shelf built in Military display for flag
5. Swing from porch re-stained/Painted
6. Photo album for R/R room completed
7. Thermostat moved in building #3
8. Light switches added in building #3
9. Wicker furniture repaired and painted.
10. Drawing barrel for raffle constructed
11. Prize spinning wheel constructed.
12. Outboard motor display stand built.
13. Outboard motors put on display.
14. Log cabin display in Depot doubled in size.
15. Walls in Log Cabin display finished.
16. Shadow box for trains built and installed in railroad room.
17. Trains displayed on window sills, shadow box and glass cases.
18. Water sealer put on lumber wagon.
19. Aluminum paint put on deck of small railroad speeder.
20. Green bench on north side of depot repaired and painted.
21. New web site up and running.  
[www.aitkincohs.org](http://www.aitkincohs.org)
22. Railroad luggage wagon painted.

### CURRENT PROJECTS

1. Completing Obituary files.
2. Assembling Barns of Aitkin County book.
3. Assembling Historical Map of Aitkin County.
4. Schools of Aitkin County book.
5. Churches of Aitkin County book.
6. Riverboats of Aitkin County book.
7. Adding additional information on WEB site.
8. Complete set of AHS yearbooks.
9. Increasing membership. - **ongoing**
10. GPS Walking Tour of the City of Aitkin.
11. Developing research facility at Depot.
12. Obtaining title to land under Depot.
13. Increasing local interest in Museum.
14. Create photo albums for each display connecting artifacts to Aitkin County.
15. Create Administrator time-line book.
16. Water seal all of our picnic tables.
17. Seal storms on log cabin.
18. Seal doors on log cabin.

# **2013 RAFFLE PRIZE LIST**

## **EARLY BIRD DRAWING – August 5<sup>th</sup>**

1. 18 holes of golf + cart at Emily Greens Golf Course – (\$152.00 value)
2. 18 holes of golf + cart at Emily Greens Golf Course – (\$152.00 value)
3. Custom mirror (up to 36" X 48") donated by Aitkin Glass – (\$96.00 value)
4. Old Log Theater tickets for two – donated by KKIN radio – (\$66.00 value)
5. Duane's Photography Portrait Sitting – (\$39.00 value)
6. Cuyuna Country Auto – Full Service Oil Change – (\$32.00 value)
7. Farm Island Repair & Marine \$30.00 Gift Certificate
8. Tea Light Center piece donated by Thrifty White Pharmacy - (\$23.00 value)
9. Bill's Sportsmans Service – (\$20.00 Gift Certificate)
10. BARE'S Bootery – (\$20.00 Gift Certificate)
11. ACHS Family Membership – (\$20.00 value)
12. Tire Rotation donated by Tire Barn – (\$19.00 value)
13. Gramma's Pantry – (\$15.00 Gift Certificate)
14. Thermo bag + 10% discount card donated by Lightning Motorsports – (\$12.00 value)
15. Aitkin Flowers & Gifts – (\$10.00 Gift Certificate)
16. 1 Large Take n Bake Pizza from Hot Stuff Foods – (\$10.00 value)
17. Aitkin Flowers & Gifts – (\$10.00 Gift Certificate)
18. 1 Large Take n Bake Pizza from Hot Stuff Foods – (\$10.00 value)
19. John Deere Baseball Cap donated by Northland Equipment – (\$7.00 value)
20. Pepsi Twelve pack cans – donated by Aitkin EZ-Stop (\$4.00 value)
21. Mountain Dew Twelve pack cans – donated by Aitkin EZ-Stop (\$4.00 value)

## **DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> DRAWING**

1. Chanhassen Dinner Theater for two donated by KKIN radio – (\$150.00 value)
2. Grand Casino Mille Lacs Hotel/Buffer for two package – (\$125.00 value)
3. Night stay at the Ripple River Motel – (\$80.00 value)
4. 2 in 1 Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Alarm donated by Northern Air - (\$60.00 value)
5. Jeanle & Co. – (\$60.00 Gift Pack)
6. Burt's Bees Gift Basket donated by Lundberg Plumbing – (\$50.00 value)
7. Metal Fondue set – donated by Hawkeyes Inc. – (\$50.00 value)
8. Digital Thermostat donated by Gravelle Plumbing & Heating - (\$45.00 value)
9. 18" Rope STER Chain + Eagle donated by MN Gold Buyer – (\$45.00 value)
10. Digital Thermostat donated by Gravelle Plumbing & Heating - (\$45.00 value)
11. Cross Woods Golf Course – One round of golf /w shared cart – (\$45.00 value)
12. Camp Lantern 20 LED donated by Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative – (\$38.00 value)
13. Free Lube, Oil and Filter from Brandl motors – (38.00 value)
14. Lake Country Auto & Tire Center Oil Change – (\$37.00 value)
15. Squirrel Feeder donated by Hyytinen's Hardware - (\$35.00 value)
16. Subscription to the Aitkin Independent Age – (\$35.00 value)
17. Cuyuna Country Auto – Full Service Oil Change – (\$32.00 value)
18. Roadside Restaurant – (\$30.00 Gift Certificate)
19. Framed Eagle Print donated by Aitkin Furniture – (\$30.00 value)
20. Birchwood Café – (\$30.00 Gift Certificate)
21. Rialto Movie Theater – (\$25.00 Gift Certificate)
22. \$25.00 Pre-paid VISA card donated by Security State Bank
23. The Office Shop – (\$25.00 Gift Certificate)
24. Players or 40 Club – (\$25.00 Gift Certificate)
25. Freedom Gas Gift Card – (\$25.00 value)
26. Secret Hideaway framed print donated by Aitkin Rental Center – (\$25.00 value)
27. Fall Table Runner donated by Sew Much & More – (\$25.00 value)
28. Rialto Movie Theater – (\$25.00 Gift Certificate)
29. Hometown Building Supply – (\$25.00 Gift Certificate)
30. Simply Chic – (\$25.00 Gift Certificate)
31. Tea Light Centerpiece donated by Thrifty White Pharmacy – (\$23.00 value)
32. One 8" Dairy Queen Cake – (\$21.00 value)
33. County Market – (\$20.00 Gift Certificate)
34. The Beanery an Internet Café – (\$20.00 Gift Certificate)
35. Gift Certificate for 5 tans donated by Lorries Hair Studio – (\$20.00 value)
36. Framed Fishing print donated by Unclaimed Freight North – (\$20.00 value)
37. Universal Remote Control donated by Enberg TV – (\$20.00 value)
38. Tall Flower Vase donated by Giada's Boutique – (\$20.00 value)
39. County Market – (\$20.00 Gift Certificate)

40. Shakespeare Fishing set – donated by Greg Leach (\$20.00 value)
41. ACHS Family Membership – (\$20.00 value)
42. Free Hair cut at Coombs Cuts – (\$18.00 value)
43. Salon Inspire – Free Haircut – (\$18.00 value)
44. 25 Piece Tool Kit with Flashlight – donated by RDJ Specialties
45. 12 Suet cakes & holder donated by Aitkin Pet & Farm Supply – (\$16.29 value)
46. Cedarbrook Lumber Company – (\$15.00 Gift Certificate)
47. Free Large Farm Island Store Pizza – (\$15.00 value)
48. Healthy Connections – (\$15.00 Gift Certificate)
49. Stars & Stripes Windsock donated by Nord Lake Reflections – (\$14.00 value)
50. Whistling Wolf Mini golf – One adult/one child – (\$14.00 value)
51. Two rounds Mini –Golf – Traditions in Deerwood – (\$12.50 value)
52. Stereo Headset donated by Deepsystems – (\$12.00 value)
53. McDonalds – (\$10.00 Gift Certificate)
54. Rasley Oil Co. – (\$10.00 Gift Certificate)
55. Aitkin Bowling Lanes – (\$10.00 Gift Certificate)
56. McDonalds – (\$10.00 Gift Certificate)
57. Sports bag donated by Bremer Bank – (\$10.00 value)
58. Road Atlas & mug donated by Security State Ins. – (\$10.00 value)
59. T-shirt – “Buffalo Trace” – (\$8.00 value)
60. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
61. Shiperio Card Game of Golf donated by Shiperio games Chanhassen – (\$8.00 value)
62. John Deere Baseball Cap donated by Northland Equipment – (\$7.00 value)
63. John Deere Baseball Cap donated by Northland Equipment – (\$7.00 value)
64. John Deere Baseball Cap donated by Northland Equipment – (\$7.00 value)
65. Aitkin County Naturally – (\$5.00 value)
66. Rand McNally 2013 Road Atlas
67. Rand McNally 2013 Road Atlas
68. Rand McNally 2013 Road Atlas

This year's raffle features a total of 89 prizes donated from local businesses collected by Boyd Bremner. When you see Boyd, please thank him for all the time and effort he put into collecting prizes for this project. Also, please thank all of the businesses that so generously donated items for our raffle by supporting them. We are currently on track to have our best raffle ever. I would like to thank everyone who has supported this event by collecting prizes, selling tickets and buying tickets.

### **Events to raise funds for the Museum**

Currently we have three fundraisers for the museum. (Garage sale, Raffle & Cookie Walk) The three events raise around \$10,000.00 a year. We had a fourth event which was running a food booth at Aitkin Rendezvous. The Rendezvous raised around \$2,000.00 a year. That event has moved out of the area so we need a new event to raise funds. We need to come up with a new fund raiser that is both profitable and less strenuous. I do not know about anyone else but, after each day working on the garage sale I am exhausted. We need everyone to think about a new fundraiser for the museum.

### **What's next for the Museum?**

Will we ever find a Caboose to put on display? I hope so. Will we be able to purchase the land under our buildings from the Railroad? I hope so. Will we be able to add onto building #2 for additional displays? I hope so. Should we build a cold storage building next to building #3? I think so if we do not buy the Armory building. Should we try to find funds through grants to purchase and maintain the Armory building? I think so. For five reasons: 1). we would have parking for the museum. 2). we would be able to sell building #3 and move artifacts to new space. 3). Armory would give us more display space and eliminate the need to add onto building #2. 4). It would eliminate the need to build a cold storage building next to building #3. 5). with the proximity of the Armory next to the Depot would create a unique Aitkin County history complex. Should we set up a research room for visitors to use? I think so. Do we need to tie the artifacts on display better to Aitkin County? I think so. Should we list the donors name by some of the artifacts? I think so. Please give me a call or drop me an email: [achs3348@embarqmail.com](mailto:achs3348@embarqmail.com)

## SECOND QUARTER ACCESSION LIST

17	Dac Mart	Aitkin Coop Creamery Cheese Slicer
18	Gus Carlstrom	Framed map of Aitkin County
19	Gary & Johanna Reiter	1951 Johnson Sea Horse 5HP Outboard Motor
20	Bagdons	1963 Aitkin Tourism map
21	Darlene Maciej	Assorted School Histories
22	Elaine Hallbeck	Children's shoes, false teeth, gloves nylons, books, hanky's
23	Lou Anne Berndt	Records for Ball Bluff Young Peoples Group.
24	John Hendrickson	Hardware wooden nail barrel
25	St. Johns Lutheran	Pamphlets & building information
26	Gerald Hedberg	5-car N gauge train, Instamatic close-up lens, snuff can, typewriter ribbon can
27	Carlton Co. H.S.	Photo - Round Lake Presbyterian church
28	Greg Leach	21 - HO gauge train cars, engines & track
29	Everett Davies	7 - HO gauge train set with assorted accessory pieces
30	Janet Miller	Photographs
31	Terry Kullhem	1930 - 1 1/2 HP Johnson outboard motor, WWI Trench Art
32	Linda Peterson	Victorian Rose Wood Upright Piano
33	Sharon Cooper	46/47 McGrath yearbook, chain binder, McGrath Depot drawing, Music dictionary, Marie Nelson obit
34	Carol Bailey	Book - Malmo stories
35	Laura Thornbloom	Misc. Advertising items
36	Boyd Bremner	6 - HO gauge all metal train set from the 1950's
37	Darlene Maciej	2 - train plaques, Oakhill school info
38	John Hendrickson	Cemetery info, 5 cent stamps, NRA label, photo of Shovel Lake logging camp, 12/27/1897 NPR pry bar, metal stencils, metal ball /w ring to ground tie horse
39	Dave Hasskamp	30-MHS books, Information about Dam Lake
40	Jennie Hakes	Butt's School Dist. #2 Souvenir
41	Vonna Zamzo	WWII Ration book holder with ration books
42	John Furt	3 - photos of Mike Boyer and brother
43	Tom Fielder	Photo & misc. paper items
44	Ron & Carol Luoma	3 - AHS girls letter jackets
45	DAC Mart	Army Uniform
46	Marlys Knutson	Two eye glass cases with local Dr. names
47	Aitkin Doll Club	Scrap books
48	Chris Hastings	Military helmet from Vietnam war
49	J.J. Sullivan	Mary Hill Academy scrap books
50	Sharon Fortnak	2-photos, Prvt. Arthur Simonson, Lewis Simonson
51	Boucher	Ziske Estate
52	Carlton Co. H.S.	Real Estate Tax Statement
53	Doris Nordean	Photo - Wildwood School
54	Hallett Library	Lind-laine Timber Co. Advertising Item
55	Dick & Vi Levens	Pump Organ & Ornate Stool

## Blast Furnace by Fred Sutherland

One hundred years ago the newspapers of Aitkin were buzzing with excitement about the opening of a new industry. For nearly two months an ambitious inventor and businessman named John T. Jones was looking for a site to build an experimental blast furnace to make iron and steel using the ore coming from recently opened mines of the Cuyuna Range. Quoting an author from the Aitkin Republican newspaper, "The Jones furnace will be located at Aitkin, which is the biggest bit of industrial news that was ever let loose in this bailiwick".<sup>1</sup> It was clear to people in Aitkin that having an iron furnace in their community could greatly change their economy. The papers claimed the furnace might "employ from 50 to 2000 men as capacity increased by the addition of units"<sup>2</sup> with even more jobs created in other businesses to support the furnace's operation. The excitement continued through August of 1913 with papers regularly reporting the progress of construction along the shores of the Mississippi River, "Teams of men were promptly employed; the excavation made, and by last Wednesday evening [August 20, 1913] the concrete foundation for the tube was in -ten feet in depth and sixteen feet in diameter".<sup>3</sup>

By the fall of 1913 the papers report there was some anxiety among the residents of Aitkin about when the furnace would open. The newspaper reports attempted to address the worries of Aitkin's residents by issuing statements from one of the managers, "we have been meeting with considerable delays from a number of quarters, especially the money line, but the tension is about to be relieved...the furnace will be up and making metal by Thanksgiving day".<sup>4</sup> However, even by May 1914 the situation had not changed with the papers reporting "before the steelwork was ready the company ran out of funds".<sup>5</sup> By the late-summer of 1914 the furnace is no longer talked about in the papers, having been replaced by news of war beginning to rage across Europe.

For nearly 100 years this interesting story of what might have been a defining moment in Aitkin's history seems to have been lost and forgotten. In early 2012, a graduate student named Fred Sutherland began exploring microfilm copies of historic local newspapers, which can be found in the Aitkin Historical Society's archives. Mr. Sutherland was reading those newspapers to learn about the development of iron mining in the Cuyuna Range for his doctoral dissertation. After careful research, Mr. Sutherland was able to determine where the old furnace might be located today. All of surviving historic sources leaves behind an incomplete story of the furnace. Studying the ruins of the furnace may answer some lingering questions. These questions include: Exactly what kind of furnace was it and how did it work? Was the furnace ever completed? Did the furnace ever operate? When was it torn down? Mr. Sutherland will be conducting investigations on the furnace ruins and in the archives of the Aitkin Historical society to uncover the answers to those questions.

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<sup>1</sup> Aitkin Republican, August 14, 1913. Page 1

<sup>1</sup> Aitkin Republican, August 21, 1913. Page 1

<sup>1</sup> Aitkin Independent, August 23, 1913. Page 1

<sup>1</sup> Aitkin Independent, September 27, 1913. Page 1

<sup>1</sup> Aitkin Republican, May 14, 1914. Page 1



## **From the Archives**

**By Jack Christensen**

School was taught in Aitkin Village in the winter of 1853-1854 with an enrollment of eight boys and seven girls. In the summer of 1854 the enrollment was increased to 15 boys and 10 girls.

A capable school board and keenly interested parents ensured a good school, but there was a deplorable lack of uniformity in the second hand books which the children brought from their homes. A log school house was erected in 1874 (near where the Ryan, Ryan & Brucker law offices are now located). The winter of 1875-86 had an attendance of 12.

A frame school house, with "patent" seats and a generous supply of blackboards was ready for occupancy on Oct. 15, 1875, as by this time the log building had become too small. Aitkin had really started to grow as a big sawmill had been built and many families with children moved in, so another building had to be provided at once, and the frame structure was then erected a short distance north of the first log building.

At the time, under an experienced teacher, a nine-month school program was inaugurated. The Aitkin School District #1 created on Feb. 24, 1873 embraced the whole county and the Aitkin Village School was the only one in the county until the early 1880's.

### **AITKIN CONTINUES TO GROW**

**Aitkin Age – January 6, 1900**

**BUILT DURING 1899**

Record of building achievements in Aitkin for the Year Just Closed. By far the most notable building of the year is the Potter block, a three-story brick structure, thoroughly modern in every particular. The lower floor is being fitted for store purposes, while the second and third stories form an annex to the Willard Hotel, which will give that popular hostelry, equipment's second to none in the state outside the Twin cities and Duluth.

In the way of residences, towns twice the size of Aitkin will have to skirmish to produce anything equal to the new residence of Mr. F.E. Dreck. Standing on an eminence overlooking the picturesque Ripple River and a good share of the business section, it is ideally located, and thoroughly equipped. Of course someone will probably outdo Mr. Krech within the next few years, but up to date he has the finest residence in the village, though there are many other beautiful homes in "Aitkin on the Mud".

### **WITH RIVERS TO CROSS**

**Aitkin Independent Age – April 27, 1929**

**BIDS FOR NEW MISSISSIPPI BRIDGE AND REPLACING POTTER ST. BRIDGE**

The State highway department has announced the construction of two new bridges for Aitkin County. On May 14 bids will be received on a 330-foot bridge over the Mississippi on Hwy. 35, near Waldeck, which is for the new route from Aitkin to Hill City. This will be three truss spans. On this route several small bridges and culverts will be let later or with the grading contracts.

The other bridge is a 30-foot concrete bridge to replace the Potter Bridge in the village of Aitkin in connection with the new grade and paving job. Bids for this will be received on the same day.

This gives assurance that the new Hill City road is to be under construction this year.

### **McGregor Struck by Heavy Fire loss and Dancing Party Narrowly Escapes**

**Aitkin Age – Jan. 1905**

McGregor has had a heavy fire loss, running into thousands of dollars.

Saturday night during the course of a dance in the hall over Clark's store fire broke out in the room below and was followed by an explosion of powder that blew out the front of the building and ignited the whole room so suddenly that the dancers barely escaped from the burning building and nothing was saved.

Jacob Leighty, building occupied by Clark store, stock of goods valued at \$5,000 with \$1,500 insurance. The post office was also located in this building and was burned.

The fire is supposed to have caught in the chimney as the chimney was burning out when first discovered. The alarm was given the party up stairs by hearing the discharge of loaded shells below, these being stored near the chimney.

## EVENT SCHEDULE FOR THE REST OF 2013

### Annual Open House – December 7<sup>th</sup>

Visit the museum for free and check out our holiday displays. While you are visiting enjoy free Coffee, Apple Cider and Cookies. Open 9am to 4pm.

### Annual Cookie Walk – December 7<sup>th</sup>

9:30am until cookies are gone. Usually all cookies are gone by noon.

We ask all of our members to bake four dozen cookies for this event. We set up in our second display building and sell cookies for \$3.00 a dozen. Volunteers will help you select from a wide variety of cookies. If you are planning on having a holiday party or get together this would be a great way to get a variety of cookies.

### Annual Raffle Drawing – December 7<sup>th</sup>

At 2pm we will start to draw tickets for the 68 prizes on our raffle list. Tickets are available at the Depot Museum, KKIN radio and Members Credit Union. Check out the list of prizes to be given away earlier in this newsletter.

## NUMBER OF VISITORS TO MUSEUM DOWN

Compared to last year's visitor numbers, we are down. Last year there was no County Fair because it was flooded and this year we will not be involved in the Rendezvous. We had to pull our brochures from the Discover racks which covered areas South, West and North of us due to cuts in our budget. However, we had visitors from 151 communities in Minnesota, (up from last year) 29 other States and 6 Foreign Countries (also up from last year). The six foreign countries are: Canada, Germany, Denmark, England, Shrilanka, and the Philippines. Everyone who visits the museum is surprised at the extent of our collection and how nice the displays are. Our newest displays which include: the Cedar strip boat built in the 1950's, Outboard Motor, Fishing, Land-O-Lakes, Music, train and extended log cabin displays have all been a big hit. If you have any ideas on how to increase the awareness of our museum and increase the number of visitors please let me know.

### MUSEUM VISITORS

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
January	30	24	40	40	44
February	18	22	22	55	29
March	30	61	23	187	99
April	28	36	48	153	48
May	77	72	50	100	110
6 <sup>th</sup> Graders	84	109	101	91	91
June	84	157	472	183	127
July	149	229	266	356	210
County Fair	1331	1441	1171	0	1500
August	202	201	214	202	
Garage Sale	0	0	0	1814	
September	42	68	128	118	
Rendezvous	0	0	0	1077	0
October	77	141	75	72	
November	30	43	93	41	
Open House	77	60	83	71	
December	13	23	48	50	0
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>2322</b>	<b>2687</b>	<b>2834</b>	<b>4610</b>	<b>2188</b>

### MEMBERSHIP NOTICES

Our year runs from June 1<sup>st</sup> to May 31<sup>st</sup>. Notices have been sent out to all members separate from this newsletter. Some members have paid for several years at a time so they will not receive a notice. Your membership fees help to pay all of our museum and society operating expenses. (Heating & Air Conditioning three buildings, Postage, Advertising, Security, office supplies, memberships, maintenance, telephone, janitorial services, rentals, displays, collections/archival, fire protection, accountant fees and wages.) As various events are cancelled or hampered by weather our memberships become a more important part of our continued survival. In 2009 our membership was at 246 members. Our current membership now stands at 393. My goal is to surpass 420 by the end of this year and 450 by the end of next year. Membership is the key to our continued survival. **If you have not renewed your membership yet, please do so now! Our survival counts on it.**

**Board of Directors:** Darlene Maciej (President), Cheryl Meld (Vice-President), Lorraine Liljenquest (Secretary), Jon Jacobson, Alice Dotzler, Connie Pettersen, Pat Williams, Arlene McNevin, Susan Benson, Carol Bailey, Ron Kemmett, John Hendrickson, Bob Lake, Colleen Bremner, Mark Wedel (County Commissioner), Sherry Arvidson (Accountant), Greg Leach (Administrator)

**AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP**

Business Members – 36, Individual Members – 28, Senior Members – 103, Family Members – 207,

Life Members – 17, Perpetuity Members – 2

**TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 393**

**BUSINESS MEMBERS**

Aicota Health Care Center  
 Aitkin Body Shop  
 Aitkin Chamber of Commerce  
 Aitkin County Abstract Company  
 Aitkin Family Chiropractic Center  
 Aitkin Flowers & Gifts  
 Aitkin Furniture & Carpet  
 Aitkin Independent Age  
 Aitkin Iron Works  
 Aitkin Lodge #164 IOOF  
 Aitkin Motor Company  
 American Legion Post 86  
 Arvidson Tax & Accounting  
 Blakesly Appliance Service & Repair  
 Christensen Law Office  
 Enberg TV  
 Eyecare Center of Aitkin & McGregor  
 Garrison Disposal  
 Gobles Sewer Service  
 Gravelle Plumbing & Heating  
 Hasskamp Brox. Well Drilling  
 Hometown Building Supply  
 Hudrlik Carpet  
 K & J C-Stores, Inc.  
 KKIN-KEZZ Radio  
 Lundberg Plumbing & Heating  
 Members Coop Credit Union  
 Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative  
 Paulbeck's County Market  
 Peoples National Bank  
 Jerome D. Poland, MD., LTD.  
 Red Door Resort & Motel  
 R & K Cabinets  
 Security State Bank  
 Sunset Bay Resort  
 Tidholm Productions

**SUPPORTING BUSINESSES**

Aitkin Bowling Lanes  
 Aitkin Dairy Queen  
 Aitkin EZ Stop  
 Aitkin Flowers & Gifts  
 Aitkin Furniture  
 Aitkin Glass  
 Aitkin Independent Age  
 Aitkin McDonalds  
 Aitkin Pet & Farm  
 Aitkin Rental  
 Bare's Bootery  
 Bill's Sportsmans Service  
 Birchwood Cafe  
 Brandl Motors  
 Bremer Bank  
 Cedarbrook Lumber  
 Coombs Cuts  
 Cross Woods Golf Course  
 Cuyuna County Auto  
 Cuyuna Lanes  
 Cycle, Path & Paddle  
 Deep Systems  
 Duane's Photography  
 Emily Greens Golf Course  
 Enberg TV  
 Farm Island Repair & Marine  
 Farm Island Store  
 40 Club/Players  
 Freedom Gas Station  
 Garrison Disposal  
 Grand Casino Mille Lacs  
 Gravelle Plumbing & Heating  
 Grandmas Pantry  
 Hawkeyes Inc.

**SUPPORTING BUSINESSES**

Healthy Connections  
 Hometown Building Supply  
 Hot Stuff Foods  
 Hyytinen Hardware  
 KKIN AM & FM Radio  
 Kosie's Café  
 Lake Country Auto & Tire Center  
 Lightning Motorsports  
 Lorries Hair Studio  
 Lundberg Plumbing  
 Mille Lacs Energy  
 MN Gold Buyers  
 Nordlake Reflections  
 Northern Air Heating & Plumbing  
 Northland Equipment  
 Northland Subway Inc.  
 The Office Shop  
 Paulbecks County Market  
 Rasley Oil  
 RDJ Products  
 Rialto Movie Theater  
 Ripple River Motel  
 Roadside Restaurant  
 Salon Inspire  
 Security State Bank  
 Security State Insurance  
 Sew Much & More  
 Shipero Games  
 Simply Chic  
 Thrifty White Pharmacy  
 Tire Barn  
 Traditions Mini Golf  
 Unclaimed Freight North  
 Whistling Wolf Mini Golf

**SUPPORTING TOWNSHIPS**

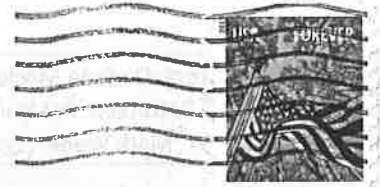
FARM ISLAND TOWNSHIP  
 IDUN TOWNSHIP  
 LAKESIDE TOWNSHIP  
 CLARK TOWNSHIP  
 LIBBY TOWNSHIP  
 NORDLAND TOWNSHIP  
 RICE RIVER TOWNSHIP  
 LOGAN COMMUNITY FUND  
**AITKIN COUNTY**

**HISTORIC MAP OF AITKIN COUNTY**

We will be printing a Historical Map of Aitkin County. Other than the twelve sites that are on the National Register of Historic places what sites should be listed? There will be 80 – 100 sites listed on this map with a short history of each site. I was not raised in Aitkin County so I could use some help with this one. THANKS!

**Museum Wish List**

2 – Half Barrel Planters  
 6' Folding Tables  
 Railroad Artifacts  
 Old Plat Books 1916 to 1969  
 Old Maps of Aitkin County  
 Old City Plat maps  
 Family Histories  
 Riverboat photos/histories  
 Minnesota History books



**AITKIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
 20 Pacific Street S.W. / P.O. Box 215  
 Aitkin, MN 56431

We are located just 2 blocks south of the stoplights  
 in downtown Aitkin.

Phone: 218-927-3348  
 Email: [achs3348@embarqmail.com](mailto:achs3348@embarqmail.com)  
 Web Site: [www.aitkincohs.org](http://www.aitkincohs.org)

**Aitkin County  
 Board of Commissioners**  
 209 2<sup>nd</sup> Street N.W.  
 Aitkin, MN 56431

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2013

### ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

August 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>

This event takes place at the Aitkin County Fairgrounds. We will fill two large buildings with items donated for the sale. Donations are tax deductible. This is our largest fundraiser of the year so

Donate/volunteer/buy

### Annual Open House/Cookie Walk/Raffle

December 7<sup>th</sup> – 9am to 4pm

Come and enjoy our last fundraiser of the year. Buy your holiday cookies, (\$3.00 a dozen) view our holiday display, and enjoy some free coffee, apple cider and cookies. Buy a book for that hard to buy for person on your list. Our "Barns of Aitkin County" book should be available.

## JOIN ACHS TODAY!!

### MUSEUM HOURS

#### June thru August

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday &  
 Saturday 10am to 4pm

#### September thru May

Wednesday, Friday & Saturday  
 10am to 4pm

THE PRESERVATION OF  
 OUR HERITAGE  
 DEPENDS ON YOU

Editor: **GREGORY LEACH**



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August 5, 2013

**RE: Notice of Certificate of Need Application for the Great Northern Transmission Line  
MPUC Docket No. E015/CN-12-1163**

Dear Local Government Representative or Elected Official:

Minnesota Power, along with potentially several other participants, is proposing to construct high voltage transmission line facilities from the Manitoba-Minnesota border to the Arrowhead Substation in St. Louis County, Minnesota (the “Great Northern Transmission Line”). The Great Northern Transmission Line is intended to provide delivery and access to power generated by Manitoba Hydro’s hydroelectric stations in Manitoba, Canada to the high voltage transmission system in Minnesota. Minnesota Power needs this line to deliver at least 250 MW of power by June 1, 2020, under a Power Purchase Agreement (“PPA”) approved by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) in Docket No. E015/M-11-938. In addition to the PPA, several other needs are driving the proposed project including access to clean, renewable energy for Minnesota Power and the region, increased industrial load growth on the Iron Range, and strengthening regional reliability. This letter is intended to provide you with information on how you can participate in the Minnesota regulatory process.

The Great Northern Transmission Line project (“Project”) includes constructing a 500 kV transmission line approximately 225 to 300 miles in length from the Minnesota-Manitoba border to the Blackberry Substation located on the Iron Range. Minnesota Power is also proposing a 50- to 70-mile, 345 kV double-circuit, transmission line from the Blackberry Substation to the Arrowhead Substation in Hermantown, Minnesota. Modifications to the equipment and overall layout of the Blackberry Substation and the Arrowhead Substation will be necessary to accommodate the terminations of the Project segments. The area under consideration for the location for the Project is depicted in **Attachment 1**.

The Canadian portion of the Project will be permitted by Manitoba Hydro.

This notice is being provided to those who fall within one or more of the categories listed below as they relate to the area (“Notice Area”) shown on Attachment 1:

- Landowners with property within the Notice Area;
- Residents living within the Notice Area;
- Local units of government in and around the Notice Area;
- Local and State elected officials; and
- State and local government agencies and offices.



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administrative hearings, the environmental report, and a recommendation from an Administrative Law Judge to determine if the Project is of the appropriate size, type, and timing to meet the stated need. After considering all this information, the Commission may issue a Certificate of Need for the Project.

In making a determination as to the appropriate route for the Project in the Route Permit proceeding, the Commission will review the comments received from stakeholders, a report prepared by an Administrative Law Judge after hearings on the Project, and the environmental impact statement prepared by EFP. Although Minnesota Power will identify the route that it prefers for the Project, the Commission may determine that a route submitted by Minnesota Power, a route proposed during the scoping process, or some combination of such routes is the most appropriate route for the Project. Selection of a final route by the Commission will be based on evaluation of the routes guided by the factors identified in Minnesota Statutes Section 216E.03, Minnesota Rule 7850.4100, and stakeholder input received during the regulatory process.

#### INTERNATIONAL BORDER CROSSING

To construct a transmission line across the international border between Manitoba and Minnesota, Minnesota Power will also need to obtain a Presidential Permit from the United States Department of Energy. Certain environmental review under the National Environmental Policy Act will be completed by the federal agency prior to issuance of a Presidential Permit. More information on Presidential Permits can be obtained by visiting <http://energy.gov/oe/services/electricity-policy-coordination-and-implementation/international-electricity-regulation>.

#### **Project Specifications**

Minnesota Power is exploring a variety of structure types for the Project. Engineering studies are underway to identify structures to be used for the Project and updates on these studies will be available at [greatnortherntransmissionline.com/resources](http://greatnortherntransmissionline.com/resources) by clicking on the “What will the transmission line look like?” link. Structures will likely be placed using spans of approximately 1,000 to 1,400 feet to maintain proper clearances for the 130- to 140-foot tall structures.

Minnesota Power anticipates that it will obtain a 200-foot wide permanent right-of-way for 500 kV portions of the Project and a 150-foot wide permanent right-of-way for 345 kV portions of the Project. Some easements may be required from landowners for access or maintenance purposes, even if the Project is not approved by the Commission to be located on their property.

Before beginning construction, Minnesota Power will acquire property rights for the Project, typically through an easement that will be negotiated with the landowner for each parcel.



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address above. Please be aware that the Great Northern Transmission Line Project Route Permit mailing list may not be available for online registration until the Route Permit application is submitted.

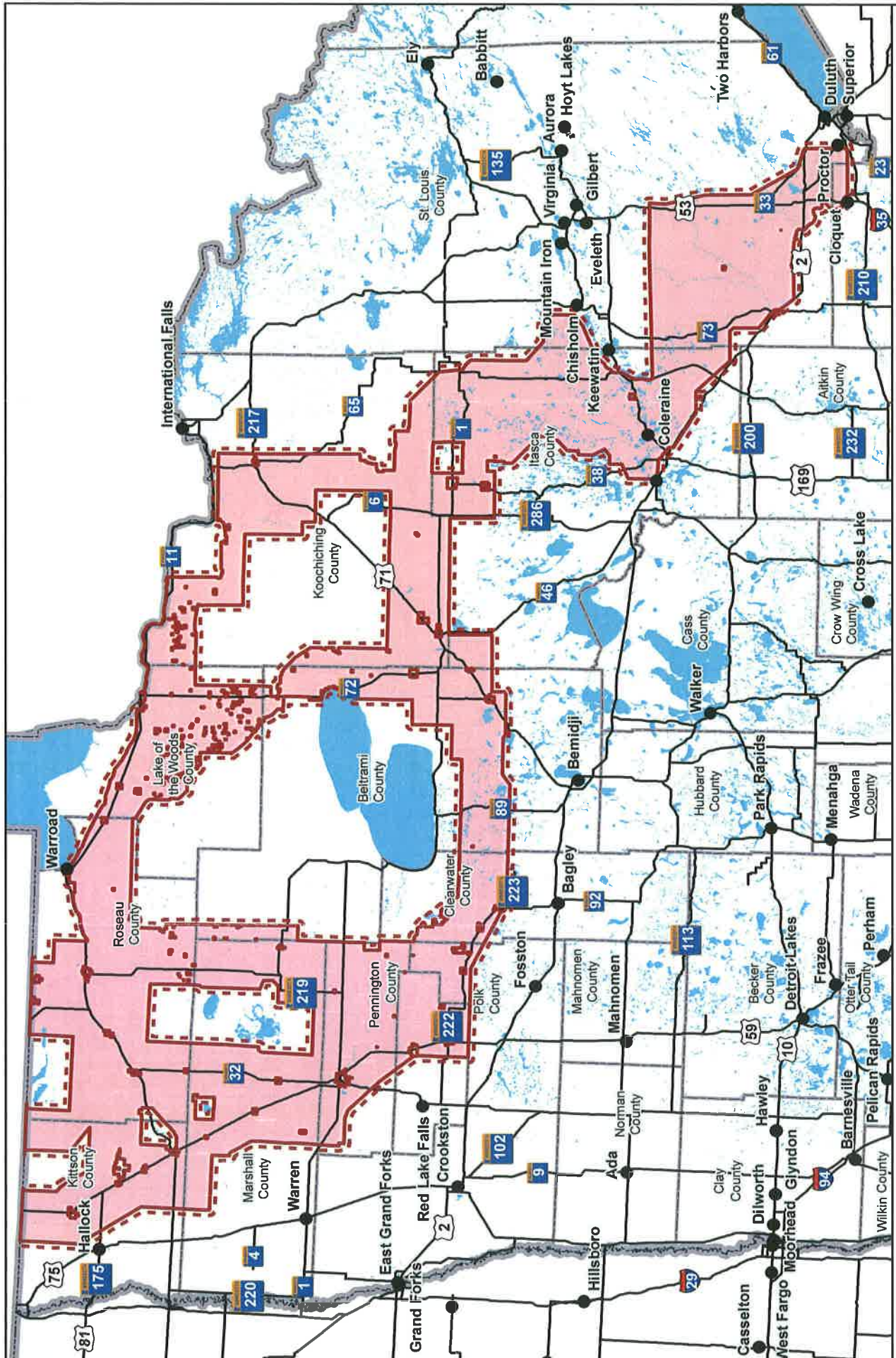
A separate service list is maintained for the Certificate of Need proceeding. To be **placed on the Project Certificate of Need mailing list** (MPUC Docket E015/CN-12-1163), mail, fax, or email Robin Benson at Minnesota Public Utilities Commission, 121 7th Place E., Suite 350, St. Paul, MN 55101-2147, Fax: 651-297-7073 or [robin.benson@state.mn.us](mailto:robin.benson@state.mn.us).

The Minnesota Power contact for questions about this Project is:

Jim Atkinson  
Environmental Lead  
Minnesota Power  
30 West Superior Street  
Duluth, MN 55802  
(877) 657-9934  
[info@greatnortherntransmissionline.com](mailto:info@greatnortherntransmissionline.com)

Sincerely,

Jim Atkinson  
Environmental Lead  
Minnesota Power



Attachment 1  
Notice Corridor

- Corridor
- Notice Area
- Waterbody
- State Boundary
- County Boundary
- City





**STATEMENT OF BUSINESS TRANSACTED IN  
OFFICE OF COUNTY RECORDER, AITKIN COUNTY**

DURING July 2013  
DEPOSIT OF CHECK OR CASH \$ 34,381.55 TO AITKIN CO TREASURER

NATURE OF BUSINESS TRANSACTED		AMOUNT OF FEES RECEIVED
UCC		0.00
NOTARY		0.00
NOTARY SURCHARGE	9.2030	Expired 8/1/10
TORRENS		0.00
TORRENS ASSURANCE	9.2031	0.00 ***
COUNTY GENERAL FUND		8932.00
STATE GENERAL FUND	9.2036	6468.00 ***
RECORDER TECH FEE		6160.00
UNALLOCATED		6776.00
STATE WELL CERT.	9.2027	850.00 ***
COUNTY WELL CERT		150.00
BIRTH CERTIFICATES		328.00
CHILDREN'S SURCH.	9.2024	114.00 ***
BIRTH/DEATH SURCH.	9.2022	828.00 *** (152/676)
DEATH CERT.		562.00
2010 LEG. SURCH 144.226 SUBD 3 (b)		380.00 ***
COPIES & C/COPIES		2833.55
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>34381.55</b>

**WORK DONE FOR VARIOUS COUNTY AGENCIES  
FOR WHICH NO PAYMENT WAS RECEIVED**

RECORDING HONORABLE DISCHARGES	46.00
AITKIN COUNTY	0.00
AITKIN CO ROAD & BRIDGE	56.00
OTHERS	0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>102.00</b>

AITKIN, MN July 31, 2013

*Diane M. Lefferts Co Recorder  
by Ant C. Hooper, deputy*

ZIP 625  
YEAR TO DATE 3561  
PREVIOUS YEAR \$25,448.30

# Cherokee County

## 37.15 RECORDS

The County will maintain records on the following for each septic system and property.

- A. Complaints of noncompliance
- B. Compliance inspections, including notices
- C. Site evaluations.
- D. Applications and exhibits.
- E. Variance requests.
- F. Permits issued.
- G. Certificates of installation.
- H. Enforcement proceedings.
- I. Compliance inspections of existing systems.

Handout  
Citizen's  
Public  
Comment

## 37.16 ENFORCEMENT

Any ISTS licensed professional who fails to comply with the terms of this Ordinance, Article 37 is in violation of this ordinance and subject to enforcement action under MS 115.071, sub.3 and 4.

## 37.17 REPORTING

The county shall submit annual reports to the MPCA according to 7080.0310, subpart 5.

## ARTICLE 38--SHOOTING RANGE STANDARDS

The standards in this Article shall apply to shooting range uses in all land use districts where such uses are allowed.

### 38.1 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Shooting ranges shall meet the noise and performance standards in Minnesota Statutes 87A.

### 38.2 NONCONFORMING SHOOTING RANGES

Shooting ranges that do not meet the performance standards in Minnesota Statutes 87A shall be considered nonconforming shooting ranges. Nonconforming shooting ranges shall be allowed to continue and conduct shooting activities within the range's lawful property boundary as of May 28, 2005 provided that the shooting range remains in compliance with the noise and shooting range performance standards in Minnesota Statutes 87A.

### 38.3 AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES

Shooting ranges that meet the performance standards in Minnesota Statutes 87A shall be allowed to engage in the following authorized activities within the property boundaries of the range:

- A. **Discharge of firearms.** Operate the range and conduct activities involving the discharge of firearms.
- B. **Membership.** Expand or increase its membership or opportunities for public participation related to the primary activity as a shooting range.
- C. **Meet standards.** Make those repairs or improvements desirable to meet or exceed requirements of shooting range performance standards.

- D. Activities.** Increase events and activities related to the primary activity as a shooting range.
- E. Time of operations.** Conduct shooting activities and discharge firearms daily between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
- F. Purchase additional land.** Acquire additional lands to be used for buffer zones or noise mitigation efforts or to otherwise comply with this chapter.

#### **38.4 MITIGATION AREA**

A mitigation area is established for a distance of 750 feet from the perimeter property line of an outdoor shooting range. Within the mitigation area, the following provisions apply:

- A. Development prohibited.** No change in use, new development, or construction of a structure shall be approved for any portion of property within the mitigation area.
- B. Exemption for existing development.** Uses, development and structures in existence or for which approval has been granted by October 1, 2005 are exempt from the mitigation area requirements.
- C. Exemption if mitigation provided.** A change in use, new development, or construction of a structure may occur within the mitigation area if the person seeking the approval agrees to provide any mitigation necessary to keep the shooting range in compliance with the performance standards. The mitigation agreement shall be signed by the person seeking approval and the shooting range. If no mitigation is required to keep the shooting range in compliance with the performance standards, an agreement shall be signed by the person seeking approval and the shooting range stating that mitigation is not required. Agreements required under this section shall be in written form and subject to approval by the Crow Wing County Board. Failure to obtain an agreement required under this section shall exempt the shooting range from being found out of compliance with the performance standards in relation to the property or person where the agreement was not obtained if the failure to provide mitigation is the sole reason for the shooting range being out of compliance with the performance standards.

### **ARTICLE 39--WETLAND PROTECTION STANDARDS**

#### **39.1 POLICY**

Crow Wing County hereby serves as the local government unit for the implementation of the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act (WCA) and adopts the most current versions of Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103G, and Minnesota Rules, Chapter 8420 by reference.

#### **39.2 APPLICABILITY AND PERMITS**

- A. The standards in this section shall apply to all activities that impact wetlands by draining or filling in the unincorporated areas of Crow Wing County and in incorporated areas by written agreement. The Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act requires that persons proposing to impact wetlands by draining or filling have demonstrated that the activity impacting a wetland has complied with all of the following principles in descending order of priority:**
  - 1. Avoid direct or indirect impacts to the wetland that may destroy or diminish the wetland;**
  - 2. Minimize the impact to the wetland by limiting the degree or magnitude of the wetland activity and its implementation;**
  - 3. Rectify the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected wetland;**
  - 4. Reduces or eliminates the impact to the wetland over time by preservation and maintenance operations, and;**
  - 5. Replaces unavoidable impacts to the wetland by restoring or, if wetland restoration opportunities are not reasonably available, creating substitute wetland areas having equal or greater public value.**

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  5. Replaces unavoidable impacts to the wetland by restoring or, if wetland restoration opportunities are not reasonably available, creating substitute wetland areas having equal or greater public value.



Dodge County Courthouse  
22 East 6th Street  
Mantorville, MN 55955-2200

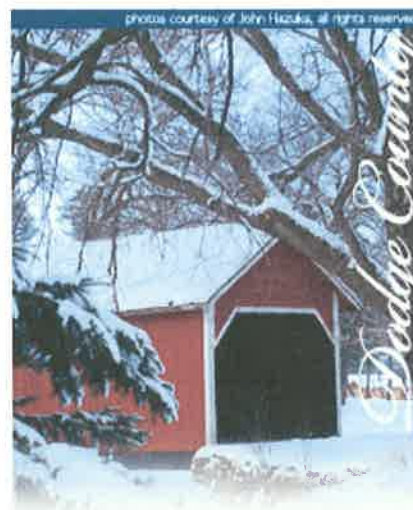
[Home](#)   [Commissioners](#)   [Community Info](#)   [Departments](#)   [Links](#)   [Tax Information](#)   [Contact](#)

## Planning/Zoning: Zoning Ordinance

**!** **Note:** The Dodge County Zoning Ordinance applies to the rural areas of Dodge County only. Each city has their own ordinance and any questions pertaining to land use within city limits should be directed to City Hall.

### Dodge County Zoning Ordinance

- [Table of Contents](#)
- [Chapter 1 - Purposed Authority and Jurisdiction](#)
- [Chapter 2 - General Provisions](#)
- [Chapter 3 - Land Description and Survey](#)
- [Chapter 4 - Rules and Definitions](#)
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### Environmental Services

22 6th Street East, Dept. 123  
Mantorville, MN 55955-2240

Environmental Services Phone: 507-635-6273  
Planning Phone: 507-635-6272

Fax: 507-635-6193

Email: [dodge.landuse@co.dodge.mn.us](mailto:dodge.landuse@co.dodge.mn.us)

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# Zoning Ordinance Dodge County, Minnesota

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- II. Any temporary structure placed on the property for seasonal produce sales shall be removed at the end of the selling season. The size of the temporary structure shall not exceed one hundred twenty (120) square feet. Temporary structures shall be located no closer than twenty-five (25) feet from any Road Right of Way.
  - III. All permanent structures shall meet the minimum setback requirements for accessory structures.
  - IV. Parking shall be prohibited on any public road. There shall be adequate area available for parking located on site to accommodate expected traffic.
- C. The exterior storage of landscaping equipment and storage areas shall be screened from view of adjacent residential uses in accordance with Chapter 17 of this Ordinance. When fencing is required, screening shall be a least six feet (6') in height, eighty percent (80%) opaque year around and of neutral colored material.
  - D. Signs shall comply with the general development standards for Signs of Chapter 17.

## **SECTION 16.29 GUN CLUBS AND SHOOTING RANGES**

### **16.29.1 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

- A. The minimum size lot for each type of shooting range is listed below, including direct fire zone and/or shotfall zone, safety zone and ricochet zone, subject to the installation of additional baffles.
  - I. High power Rifle.
    - 1. Minimum range length: 5,500 yards
    - 2. Minimum range width: 3,500 yards
    - 3. Minimum acreage: 3,800 acres
  - II. Shotgun
    - 1. Minimum range length: 300 yards
    - 2. Minimum range width: 400 yards
    - 3. Minimum acreage: 40 acres
  - III. Other range types are subject to the National Rifle Association Range Sourcebook, 1997; or successor sourcebook.

- B. No part of any shooting range may be located within five hundred feet (500') of any residential dwelling, commercial or industrial building or other structure used for human occupancy.
- C. All shooting ranges shall comply with the minimum standards for range design, location, management, operation, noise abatement and safety listed in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 87A and/or the revised National Rifle Association Range Sourcebook, 1999; or successor standard.

**SECTION 16.30 HOME OCCUPATIONS**

**16.30.1 PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

- A. The Home Occupation shall be clearly incidental and subordinate to the residential use of the property.
- B. There shall be no exterior evidence that a building is being used for any purpose other than a dwelling.
- C. The Home Occupation shall be conducted only by persons residing full-time on the premises. No person other than the full-time residents of the premises shall be employed or engaged in such Home Occupation.
- D. Operation of the Home Occupation shall be limited to the residential dwelling and any attached garage.
- E. The use of any accessory or agricultural buildings for storage or business activity is prohibited.
- F. The outdoor display or storage of goods, equipment or other materials used for the Home Occupation is prohibited.
- G. There will be no storage on the premises of explosives or highly flammable or hazardous materials as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- H. The Home Occupation shall not generate excessive customer or client traffic that is detrimental to the character of the surrounding properties.
- I. The Home Occupation shall not be of the nature to generate customers or client traffic that would require additional on-site parking requirements other than that which would serve the residential dwelling.

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- I. The Home Occupation shall not be of the nature to generate customers or client traffic that would require additional on-site parking requirements other than that which would serve the residential dwelling.

**8-6-7: STANDARDS FOR MANUFACTURED HOMES:**

- A. **Placement:** The placement of new or replacement manufactured homes in existing manufactured home parks or on individual lots of record that are located in flood plain districts will be treated as a new structure and may be placed only if elevated in compliance with Article 3A of this Chapter.
- B. **Anchoring:** All manufactured homes must be securely anchored to an adequately anchored foundation system that resists flotation, collapse and lateral movement. Methods of anchoring may include, but are not to be limited to, use of over-the-top or frame ties to ground anchors. This requirement is in addition to applicable State or local anchoring requirements for resisting wind forces.
- C. **Unexempt Travel Trailers and Travel Vehicles:** Travel trailers and travel vehicles that do not meet the exemption criteria specified in 8-6-21 shall be subject be deemed a manufactured home and shall be subject to the provisions relating to manufactured homes.

**RECREATIONAL USES, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE**

**8-6-8: STANDARDS FOR CAMPGROUNDS:**

- A. **Licensing:** The facility shall meet all state and federal license requirements.
- B. **Mobile homes prohibited.** No mobile homes shall be allowed in campgrounds.
- C. **Year-round residential use prohibited.** Residential use of camping vehicles, except as permitted for a campground owner or caretaker, shall be prohibited from November 1 to April 1.

**8-6-9: STANDARDS FOR SHOOTING RANGE**

- A. **Performance Standards:** Shooting ranges shall meet the noise and performance standards in Minnesota Statutes 87A.
- B. **Nonconforming Shooting Ranges:** Shooting ranges that do not meet the performance standards in Minnesota Statutes 87A shall be considered nonconforming shooting ranges. Nonconforming shooting ranges shall be allowed to continue and conduct shooting activities within the range's lawful property boundary as of May 28, 2005 provided that the shooting range remains in compliance with the noise and shooting range performance standards in Minnesota Statutes 87A.
- C. **Authorized Activities:** Shooting ranges that meet the performance stand standards in Minnesota Statutes 87A shall be allowed to engage in the following authorized activities within the property boundaries of the range:
  - 1. **Discharge of Firearms:** Operate the range and conduct activities involving the discharge of firearms.

2. **Membership:** Expand or increase its membership or opportunities for public participation related to the primary activity as a shooting range.
  3. **Meet Standards:** Make those repairs or improvements desirable to meet or exceed requirements of shooting range performance standards.
  4. **Activities:** Increase events and activities related to the primary activity as a shooting range.
  5. **Time of Operations:** Conduct shooting activities and discharge firearms daily between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
  6. **Purchase Additional Land:** Acquire additional lands to be used for buffer zones or noise mitigation efforts or to otherwise comply with this chapter.
- D. Mitigation Area:** A mitigation area is established for a distance of seven hundred and fifty feet (750') from the perimeter property line of an outdoor shooting range. Within the mitigation area, the following provisions apply:
1. **Development Prohibited:** No change in use, new development, or construction of a structure shall be approved for any portion of property within the mitigation area.
  2. **Exemption for Existing Development:** Uses, development and structures in existence or for which approval has been granted by October 1, 2005 are exempt from the mitigation area requirements.
  3. **Exemption if Mitigation Provided:** A change in use, new development, or construction of a structure may occur within the mitigation area if the person seeking the approval agrees to provide any mitigation necessary to keep the shooting range in compliance with the performance standards. The mitigation agreement shall be signed by the person seeking approval and the shooting range. If no mitigation is required to keep the shooting range in compliance with the performance standards, an agreement shall be signed by the person seeking approval and the shooting range stating that mitigation is not required. Agreements required under this section shall be in written form and subject to approval by the Clay County Board. Failure to obtain an agreement required under this section shall exempt the shooting range from being found out of compliance with the performance standards in relation to the property or person where the agreement was not obtained if the failure to provide mitigation is the sole reason for the shooting range being out of compliance with the performance standards.

READ

Clay County Development Code  
Specific Standards – Chapter 6

August 17, 2005

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**RECREATIONAL USES, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE**

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- C. Authorized Activities:** Shooting ranges that meet the performance stand standards in Minnesota Statutes 87A shall be allowed to engage in the following authorized activities within the property boundaries of the range:
  - 1. Discharge of Firearms:** Operate the range and conduct activities involving the discharge of firearms.

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August 17, 2005

2. **Membership:** Expand or increase its membership or opportunities for public participation related to the primary activity as a shooting range.
  3. **Meet Standards:** Make those repairs or improvements desirable to meet or exceed requirements of shooting range performance standards.
  4. **Activities:** Increase events and activities related to the primary activity as a shooting range.
  5. **Time of Operations:** Conduct shooting activities and discharge firearms daily between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
  6. **Purchase Additional Land:** Acquire additional lands to be used for buffer zones or noise mitigation efforts or to otherwise comply with this chapter.
- D. **Mitigation Area:** A mitigation area is established for a distance of seven hundred and fifty feet (750') from the perimeter property line of an outdoor shooting range. Within the mitigation area, the following provisions apply:
1. **Development Prohibited:** No change in use, new development, or construction of a structure shall be approved for any portion of property within the mitigation area.
  2. **Exemption for Existing Development:** Uses, development and structures in existence or for which approval has been granted by October 1, 2005 are exempt from the mitigation area requirements.
  3. **Exemption if Mitigation Provided:** A change in use, new development, or construction of a structure may occur within the mitigation area if the person seeking the approval agrees to provide any mitigation necessary to keep the shooting range in compliance with the performance standards. The mitigation agreement shall be signed by the person seeking approval and the shooting range. If no mitigation is required to keep the shooting range in compliance with the performance standards, an agreement shall be signed by the person seeking approval and the shooting range stating that mitigation is not required. Agreements required under this section shall be in written form and subject to approval by the Clay County Board. Failure to obtain an agreement required under this section shall exempt the shooting range from being found out of compliance with the performance standards in relation to the property or person where the agreement was not obtained if the failure to provide mitigation is the sole reason for the shooting range being out of compliance with the performance standards.



**Waseca County Unified Development Code**  
**Article 6 Zoning District Regulations**

alarm system and cut wire protected, shall be supplied for the firearm vault.  
Ammunition shall not be stored in the firearm vault.

- (i) **Supervision.** On-site supervision shall be supplied at all times by an adult with credentials as a qualified range master, based on National Rifle Association standards.
- (j) **Transport.** The transport of firearms on the premises shall conform to state law.
- (k) **Access by Minors.** Minors shall not be allowed in the range unless accompanied by an adult at all times.
- (l) **Hours of Operation.** The operation of the range shall be limited to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**27. Shooting Range, Outdoor; Hunting Club**

- (a) **Facilities** shall be in compliance with the performance standards set forth in Chapter 87A, Minnesota Statutes.
- (b) **Authorized Activities:** Shooting ranges that meet the performance standards in Minnesota Statutes 87A shall be allowed to engage in the following authorized activities within the property boundaries of the range:
  - (i) **Discharge of Firearms:** Operate the range and conduct activities involving the discharge of firearms.
  - (ii) **Membership:** Expand or increase its membership or opportunities for public participation related to the primary activity as a shooting range.
  - (iii) **Meet Standards:** Make those repairs or improvements desirable to meet or exceed requirements of shooting range performance standards.
  - (iv) **Activities:** Increase events and activities related to the primary activity as a shooting range.
  - (v) **Time of Operations:** Conduct shooting activities and discharge firearms daily between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
  - (vi) **Purchase Additional Land:** Acquire additional lands to be used for buffer zones or noise mitigation efforts or to otherwise comply with this chapter.
- (c) **Mitigation Area:** A mitigation area is established for a distance of seven hundred and fifty feet (750') from the perimeter property line of an outdoor shooting range. Within the mitigation area, the following provisions apply:
  - (i) **Development Prohibited:** No change in use, new development, or construction of a structure shall be approved for any portion of property within the mitigation area.
  - (ii) **Exemption for Existing Development:** Uses, development and structures in existence or for which approval has been granted by October 1, 2005 are exempt from the mitigation area requirements.
  - (iii) **Exemption if Mitigation Provided:** A change in use, new development, or construction of a structure may occur within the mitigation area if the person seeking the approval agrees to provide any mitigation necessary to keep the shooting range in compliance with the performance standards. The mitigation agreement shall be signed by the person seeking approval and the shooting

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range. If no mitigation is required to keep the shooting range in compliance with the performance standards, an agreement shall be signed by the person seeking approval and the shooting range stating that mitigation is not required.

Agreements required under this Subsection shall be in written form and subject to approval by the County Board. Failure to obtain an agreement required under this Subsection shall exempt the shooting range from being found out of compliance with the performance standards in relation to the property or person where the agreement was not obtained if the failure to provide mitigation is the sole reason for the shooting range being out of compliance with the performance standards.

- (d) **Setback from Existing Residences.** No outdoor shooting range shall be allowed within 1,500 feet of an existing residence, measured from the property line of the range site. This provision shall not apply to a residence on the shooting range property. No outdoor shooting range shall be allowed within 750 feet of a property line.
- (e) **Caretaker's Residence.** One accessory caretaker's residence on the same lot as the facility shall be allowed.
- (f) **Performance Standards.** All shooting ranges shall comply with the minimum standards for range design, location, management, operation, noise abatement and safety listed in the most current *National Rifle Association Range Sourcebook*, as well as the following standards:
  - (g) The range shall be designed to provide protection from accidental or stray ammunition discharge for surrounding properties.
  - (h) Only firearms shall be discharged at the range. No cannons, artillery or rockets shall be discharged unless blanks are being fired.
  - (i) **Management Plan and Safety Plan.** All shooting ranges must have in place a Management Plan and Safety Plan approved by Waseca County which will detail how all shooting activities will be controlled, supervised and managed.
  - (j) **Fencing Required.** Fencing shall be required according to the approved site plan. Gates shall be placed at all road entrances to the property and shall be locked when the facility is not in use.
  - (k) **Gun Club Facilities.** Use of a gun club facility shall be restricted to club members, guests, and participants in club sanctioned events. It shall be the responsibility of the club to supervise all shooting activities.
  - (l) **Noise Limits.** Allowable noise levels for the operation of a shooting range are those specified in Chapter 87A, Minnesota Statutes. Sound measurement methodology is as defined in Minnesota Rules, Section 7300.0060.
- (m) **Lead Management Plan.** Shooting ranges shall have a current lead management plan approved by the MPCA on file with Waseca County Planning and Zoning Department.
- (n) **Landscape Screening.** Landscaping including the planting of trees shall be provided to screen the range from roads and adjacent residences. The vegetative buffer shall be a combination of native grasses and trees that are matched to the soil type found on the range perimeter. At least three rows of different species of trees, planted similar to a windbreak or shelterbelt are required. With a mixture of heights, growth quickness and a combination of conifer and deciduous species, both a sight and sound buffer can be created to effectively block noise levels emitted from the range.

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alarm system and cut wire protected, shall be supplied for the firearm vault.  
Ammunition shall not be stored in the firearm vault.

- (i) **Supervision.** On-site supervision shall be supplied at all times by an adult with credentials as a qualified range master, based on National Rifle Association standards.
- (j) **Transport.** The transport of firearms on the premises shall conform to state law.
- (k) **Access by Minors.** Minors shall not be allowed in the range unless accompanied by an adult at all times.
- (l) **Hours of Operation.** The operation of the range shall be limited to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**27. Shooting Range, Outdoor; Hunting Club**

- (a) **Facilities** shall be in compliance with the performance standards set forth in Chapter 87A, Minnesota Statutes.
- (b) **Authorized Activities:** Shooting ranges that meet the performance standards in Minnesota Statutes 87A shall be allowed to engage in the following authorized activities within the property boundaries of the range:
  - (i) **Discharge of Firearms:** Operate the range and conduct activities involving the discharge of firearms.
  - (ii) **Membership:** Expand or increase its membership or opportunities for public participation related to the primary activity as a shooting range.
  - (iii) **Meet Standards:** Make those repairs or improvements desirable to meet or exceed requirements of shooting range performance standards.
  - (iv) **Activities:** Increase events and activities related to the primary activity as a shooting range.
  - (v) **Time of Operations:** Conduct shooting activities and discharge firearms daily between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
  - (vi) **Purchase Additional Land:** Acquire additional lands to be used for buffer zones or noise mitigation efforts or to otherwise comply with this chapter.
- (c) **Mitigation Area:** A mitigation area is established for a distance of seven hundred and fifty feet (750') from the perimeter property line of an outdoor shooting range. Within the mitigation area, the following provisions apply:
  - (i) **Development Prohibited:** No change in use, new development, or construction of a structure shall be approved for any portion of property within the mitigation area.
  - (ii) **Exemption for Existing Development:** Uses, development and structures in existence or for which approval has been granted by October 1, 2005 are exempt from the mitigation area requirements.
  - (iii) **Exemption if Mitigation Provided:** A change in use, new development, or construction of a structure may occur within the mitigation area if the person seeking the approval agrees to provide any mitigation necessary to keep the shooting range in compliance with the performance standards. The mitigation agreement shall be signed by the person seeking approval and the shooting

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**Article 6 Zoning District Regulations**

range. If no mitigation is required to keep the shooting range in compliance with the performance standards, an agreement shall be signed by the person seeking approval and the shooting range stating that mitigation is not required.

Agreements required under this Subsection shall be in written form and subject to approval by the County Board. Failure to obtain an agreement required under this Subsection shall exempt the shooting range from being found out of compliance with the performance standards in relation to the property or person where the agreement was not obtained if the failure to provide mitigation is the sole reason for the shooting range being out of compliance with the performance standards.

- (d) **Setback from Existing Residences.** No outdoor shooting range shall be allowed within 1,500 feet of an existing residence, measured from the property line of the range site. This provision shall not apply to a residence on the shooting range property. No outdoor shooting range shall be allowed within 750 feet of a property line.
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- (h) Only firearms shall be discharged at the range. No cannons, artillery or rockets shall be discharged unless blanks are being fired.
- (i) **Management Plan and Safety Plan.** All shooting ranges must have in place a Management Plan and Safety Plan approved by Waseca County which will detail how all shooting activities will be controlled, supervised and managed.
- (j) **Fencing Required.** Fencing shall be required according to the approved site plan. Gates shall be placed at all road entrances to the property and shall be locked when the facility is not in use.
- (k) **Gun Club Facilities.** Use of a gun club facility shall be restricted to club members, guests, and participants in club sanctioned events. It shall be the responsibility of the club to supervise all shooting activities.
- (l) **Noise Limits.** Allowable noise levels for the operation of a shooting range are those specified in Chapter 87A, Minnesota Statutes. Sound measurement methodology is as defined in Minnesota Rules, Section 7300.0060.
- (m) **Lead Management Plan.** Shooting ranges shall have a current lead management plan approved by the MPCA on file with Waseca County Planning and Zoning Department.
- (n) **Landscape Screening.** Landscaping including the planting of trees shall be provided to screen the range from roads and adjacent residences. The vegetative buffer shall be a combination of native grasses and trees that are matched to the soil type found on the range perimeter. At least three rows of different species of trees, planted similar to a windbreak or sheiterbelt are required. With a mixture of heights, growth quickness and a combination of conifer and deciduous species, both a sight and sound buffer can be created to effectively block noise levels emitted from the range.

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alarm system and cut wire protected, shall be supplied for the firearm vault.  
Ammunition shall not be stored in the firearm vault.

- (i) **Supervision.** On-site supervision shall be supplied at all times by an adult with credentials as a qualified range master, based on National Rifle Association standards.
- (j) **Transport.** The transport of firearms on the premises shall conform to state law.
- (k) **Access by Minors.** Minors shall not be allowed in the range unless accompanied by an adult at all times.
- (l) **Hours of Operation.** The operation of the range shall be limited to the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**27. Shooting Range, Outdoor; Hunting Club**

- (a) **Facilities** shall be in compliance with the performance standards set forth in Chapter 87A, Minnesota Statutes.
- (b) **Authorized Activities:** Shooting ranges that meet the performance standards in Minnesota Statutes 87A shall be allowed to engage in the following authorized activities within the property boundaries of the range:
  - (i) **Discharge of Firearms:** Operate the range and conduct activities involving the discharge of firearms.
  - (ii) **Membership:** Expand or increase its membership or opportunities for public participation related to the primary activity as a shooting range.
  - (iii) **Meet Standards:** Make those repairs or improvements desirable to meet or exceed requirements of shooting range performance standards.
  - (iv) **Activities:** Increase events and activities related to the primary activity as a shooting range.
  - (v) **Time of Operations:** Conduct shooting activities and discharge firearms daily between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
  - (vi) **Purchase Additional Land:** Acquire additional lands to be used for buffer zones or noise mitigation efforts or to otherwise comply with this chapter.
- (c) **Mitigation Area:** A mitigation area is established for a distance of seven hundred and fifty feet (750') from the perimeter property line of an outdoor shooting range. Within the mitigation area, the following provisions apply:
  - (i) **Development Prohibited:** No change in use, new development, or construction of a structure shall be approved for any portion of property within the mitigation area.
  - (ii) **Exemption for Existing Development:** Uses, development and structures in existence or for which approval has been granted by October 1, 2005 are exempt from the mitigation area requirements.
  - (iii) **Exemption if Mitigation Provided:** A change in use, new development, or construction of a structure may occur within the mitigation area if the person seeking the approval agrees to provide any mitigation necessary to keep the shooting range in compliance with the performance standards. The mitigation agreement shall be signed by the person seeking approval and the shooting

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range. If no mitigation is required to keep the shooting range in compliance with the performance standards, an agreement shall be signed by the person seeking approval and the shooting range stating that mitigation is not required.

Agreements required under this Subsection shall be in written form and subject to approval by the County Board. Failure to obtain an agreement required under this Subsection shall exempt the shooting range from being found out of compliance with the performance standards in relation to the property or person where the agreement was not obtained if the failure to provide mitigation is the sole reason for the shooting range being out of compliance with the performance standards.

- (d) **Setback from Existing Residences.** No outdoor shooting range shall be allowed within 1,500 feet of an existing residence, measured from the property line of the range site. This provision shall not apply to a residence on the shooting range property. No outdoor shooting range shall be allowed within 750 feet of a property line.
- (e) **Caretaker's Residence.** One accessory caretaker's residence on the same lot as the facility shall be allowed.
- (f) **Performance Standards.** All shooting ranges shall comply with the minimum standards for range design, location, management, operation, noise abatement and safety listed in the most current *National Rifle Association Range Sourcebook*, as well as the following standards:
  - (g) The range shall be designed to provide protection from accidental or stray ammunition discharge for surrounding properties.
  - (h) Only firearms shall be discharged at the range. No cannons, artillery or rockets shall be discharged unless blanks are being fired.
  - (i) **Management Plan and Safety Plan.** All shooting ranges must have in place a Management Plan and Safety Plan approved by Waseca County which will detail how all shooting activities will be controlled, supervised and managed.
  - (j) **Fencing Required.** Fencing shall be required according to the approved site plan. Gates shall be placed at all road entrances to the property and shall be locked when the facility is not in use.
  - (k) **Gun Club Facilities.** Use of a gun club facility shall be restricted to club members, guests, and participants in club sanctioned events. It shall be the responsibility of the club to supervise all shooting activities.
  - (l) **Noise Limits.** Allowable noise levels for the operation of a shooting range are those specified in Chapter 87A, Minnesota Statutes. Sound measurement methodology is as defined in Minnesota Rules, Section 7300.0060.
  - (m) **Lead Management Plan.** Shooting ranges shall have a current lead management plan approved by the MPCA on file with Waseca County Planning and Zoning Department.
  - (n) **Landscape Screening.** Landscaping including the planting of trees shall be provided to screen the range from roads and adjacent residences. The vegetative buffer shall be a combination of native grasses and trees that are matched to the soil type found on the range perimeter. At least three rows of different species of trees, planted similar to a windbreak or shelterbelt are required. With a mixture of heights, growth quickness and a combination of conifer and deciduous species, both a sight and sound buffer can be created to effectively block noise levels emitted from the range.

## 2012 Minnesota Statutes

### Chapter 87A. Shooting Ranges

Section	Headnote
<a href="#">87A.001</a>	MS 2006 Renumbered <a href="#">15.001</a>
<a href="#">87A.01</a>	Definitions
<a href="#">87A.02</a>	Shooting Range Performance Standards; Best Practices
<a href="#">87A.03</a>	Compliant Ranges; Authorized Activities
<a href="#">87A.04</a>	Mitigation Area
<a href="#">87A.05</a>	Noise Standards
<a href="#">87A.06</a>	Nuisance Actions; Compliance with Shooting Range Performance Standards
<a href="#">87A.07</a>	Closure of Shooting Ranges
<a href="#">87A.08</a>	Applicability of Other Laws
<a href="#">87A.09</a>	Public Shooting Ranges; Accessibility

**87A.001** MS 2006 [Renumbered [15.001](#)]

#### **87A.01 DEFINITIONS.**

Subdivision 1. **Applicability.** The definitions in this section apply to sections [87A.01](#) to [87A.08](#).

Subd. 2. **Person.** "Person" means an individual, association, proprietorship, partnership, corporation, club, political subdivision, or other legal entity.

Subd. 3. **Shooting range or range.** "Shooting range" or "range" means an area or facility designated or operated primarily for the use of firearms, as defined in section [97A.015, subdivision 19](#), or archery, and includes shooting preserves as described in section [97A.115](#) or any other Minnesota law.

Subd. 4. **Shooting range performance standards.** "Shooting range performance standards" means the best practices for shooting range performance standards identified in section [87A.02](#).

Subd. 5. **Local unit of government.** "Local unit of government" means a home rule charter or statutory city, county, town, or other political subdivision.

**History:** [2005 c 105 s 1](#); [2012 c 277 art 1 s 16](#)

#### **87A.02 SHOOTING RANGE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS; BEST PRACTICES.**

Subdivision 1 [Repealed, [2012 c 277 art 1 s 91](#)]

Subd. 2. **Best practices.** For purposes of this chapter, the November 1999 revised edition of the National Rifle Association's Range Source Book: A Guide to Planning and Construction shall serve as best practices for shooting range performance standards.

**History:** [2005 c 105 s 2](#); [2012 c 277 art 1 s 17](#)

#### **87A.03 COMPLIANT RANGES; AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.**

Subdivision 1. **Authorized activities.** A shooting range that operates in compliance with the shooting range performance standards must be permitted to do all of the following within its geographic boundaries, under the same or different ownership or occupancy, if done in accordance with shooting range performance standards:

- (1) operate the range and conduct activities involving the discharge of firearms;
- (2) expand or increase its membership or opportunities for public participation related to the primary activity as a shooting range;
- (3) make those repairs or improvements desirable to meet or exceed requirements of shooting range performance standards;
- (4) increase events and activities related to the primary activity as a shooting range;

(5) conduct shooting activities and discharge firearms daily between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. A local unit of government with zoning jurisdiction over a shooting range may extend the hours of operation by the issuance of a special or conditional use permit; and

(6) acquire additional lands to be used for buffer zones or noise mitigation efforts or to otherwise comply with this chapter.

**Subd. 2. Nonconforming use.** A shooting range that is a nonconforming use shall be allowed to conduct additional shooting activities within the range's lawful property boundaries as of the date the range became a nonconforming use, provided the shooting range remains in compliance with noise and shooting range performance standards under this chapter.

**Subd. 3. Compliance with other law.** Nothing in this section exempts any newly constructed or remodeled building on a shooting range from compliance with fire safety, disability accessibility, elevator safety, bleacher safety, or other provisions of the State Building Code that have mandatory statewide application.

**History:** 2005 c 56 s 1; 2005 c 105 s 3

#### **87A.04 MITIGATION AREA.**

(a) Except for those uses, developments, and structures in existence or for which approval has been granted by October 1, 2005, or as provided in paragraph (b), no change in use, new development, or construction of a structure shall be approved for any portion of property within 750 feet of the perimeter property line of an outdoor shooting range if the change in use, development, or construction would cause an outdoor shooting range in compliance with this chapter to become out of compliance.

(b) A change in use, new development, or construction of a structure subject to this section may be approved if the person seeking the approval or, at the discretion of the governing body, the approving authority agrees to provide any mitigation required to keep the range in compliance with this chapter. The person requesting an approval subject to this section is responsible for providing documentation if no mitigation is required under this section. Failure to provide the documentation or any mitigation required under this section exempts the range from being found out of compliance with the shooting range performance and noise standards of this chapter with regard to the property responsible for the mitigation if the failure to provide the documentation or required mitigation is the sole basis for the range being out of compliance with the shooting range performance standards. Any action brought by the owner of the property against the range is subject to section 87A.06. With the permission of the range operator, any mitigation required under this section may be provided on the range property.

**History:** 2005 c 105 s 4

#### **87A.05 NOISE STANDARDS.**

Allowable noise levels for the operation of a shooting range are the levels determined by replacing the steady state noise L10 and L50 state standards for each period of time within each noise area's classification with a single Leq(h) standard for impulsive noise that is two dBA lower than that of the L10 level for steady state noise. The noise level shall be measured outside of the range property at the location of the receiver's activity according to Minnesota Rules, parts 7030.0010 to 7030.0080, as in effect on May 28, 2005. For purposes of this section, "Leq(h)" means the energy level that is equivalent to a steady state level that contains the same amount of sound energy as the time varying sound level for a 60-minute time period.

**History:** 2005 c 105 s 5

#### **87A.06 NUISANCE ACTIONS; COMPLIANCE WITH SHOOTING RANGE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.**

A person who owns, operates, or uses a shooting range in this state that is in compliance with shooting range performance standards is not subject to any nuisance action for damages or equitable relief based on noise or other matters regulated by the shooting range performance standards. This section does not prohibit other actions.

**History:** 2005 c 105 s 6

#### **87A.07 CLOSURE OF SHOOTING RANGES.**

**Subdivision 1. Closure.** Except as otherwise provided in sections 87A.01 to 87A.08, a shooting range that is in compliance with shooting range performance standards and the requirements of sections 87A.01 to 87A.08 shall not



*Craig Weingart*

be forced to permanently close or permanently cease any activity related to the primary use of the shooting range unless the range or activity is found to be a clear and immediate safety hazard by a court of competent jurisdiction. In any action brought to compel the permanent closure of any range in compliance with shooting range performance standards and this chapter, or to permanently cease any activity related to the primary use of the shooting range, there is a rebuttable presumption that the range or activity is not a clear and immediate safety hazard. If the shooting range provides evidence that the cause of a proven safety hazard can be mitigated so as to eliminate the safety hazard, the court shall not order the permanent closure of the range, or permanent ceasing of the activity found to be a clear and immediate safety hazard, unless the range operator fails to implement the necessary mitigation to remove the safety hazard by the date that is determined reasonable by the court.

Subd. 2. **Preliminary injunctions.** Nothing in this section prohibits a court from granting a preliminary injunction against any activity determined to be a probable clear and immediate safety hazard, or against any individual determined to be the probable cause of an alleged clear and immediate safety hazard, pending the final determination of the existence of the safety hazard.

Subd. 3. **Permanent injunctions.** A court may grant a permanent injunction only against a particular activity or person instead of permanently closing the range unless the court finds that the remaining operations also pose a safety hazard under this section.

**History:** 2005 c 105 s 7

#### **87A.08 APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAWS.**

Subdivision 1. **Public safety laws; zoning.** (a) Nothing in this chapter prohibits enforcement of any federal law. To the extent consistent with this chapter, other state laws regarding the health, safety, and welfare of the public may be enforced. To the extent consistent with this chapter, a local unit of government with zoning authority jurisdiction over a shooting range may enforce its applicable ordinances and permits. Nothing in this chapter shall supersede more restrictive regulation of days and hours of operation imposed by the terms and conditions of ordinances and permits that are in effect on May 28, 2005.

(b) If the operator of the shooting range shows evidence that the range can be brought into compliance with the applicable state law, local ordinance, or permit, the range may not be permanently closed unless the range operator fails to bring the range into compliance with the applicable law, ordinance, or permit under this section by the date that the court determines reasonable. Nothing in this section prohibits a court from granting a preliminary injunction against any activity determined to be a violation of a law, ordinance, or permit under this section or against any individual determined to be causing an alleged violation, pending the final determination of the existence of the violation.

Subd. 2. **Permanent injunctions.** A court may grant a permanent injunction only against a particular activity or person instead of permanently closing the range unless the court finds that the remaining operations also create a violation under this section.

**History:** 2005 c 105 s 8

#### **87A.09 PUBLIC SHOOTING RANGES; ACCESSIBILITY.**

(a) A publicly owned or managed shooting range located in the seven-county metropolitan area that is funded in whole or part with public funds must be available at least twice during the spring and twice during the summer for use by participants in a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources firearms safety instruction course under section 97B.015. The shooting range must be available during hours reasonable for youth participants. The range operator may charge a fee to cover any costs directly incurred from use required under this section, but may not charge a fee to offset costs for general maintenance and operation of the facility.

(b) This section does not apply to cities of the first class or a shooting range located on the same premises as a correctional or detention facility that holds or incarcerates offenders.

**History:** 2012 c 277 art 1 s 18

