



# Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request

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Agenda Item #

**Requested Meeting Date:** July 12, 2016

**Title of Item:** Aitkin County Soils Training Class

<input type="checkbox"/> REGULAR AGENDA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONSENT AGENDA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION ONLY	<b>Action Requested:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Approve/Deny Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Adopt Resolution (attach draft) <i>*provide copy of hearing notice that was published</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Direction Requested <input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Item <input type="checkbox"/> Hold Public Hearing*
<b>Submitted by:</b> Terry Neff, Environmental Services Director		<b>Department:</b> Environmental Services
<b>Presenter (Name and Title):</b> Terry Neff, Environmental Services Director		<b>Estimated Time Needed:</b> N/A
<b>Summary of Issue:</b>  The Environmental Services Department provided a soils training class for local licensed septic system professionals. The class was held on June 22, 2016 at Long Lake Conservation Center. The attached memo provides detail on the class.		
<b>Alternatives, Options, Effects on Others/Comments:</b> This is an informative item demonstrating collaboration between Environmental Services and those we assist on a regular basis.		
<b>Recommended Action/Motion:</b> N/A		
<b>Financial Impact:</b> Is there a cost associated with this request? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No What is the total cost, with tax and shipping? \$ N/A Is this budgeted? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <i>Please Explain:</i> Revenue from registration fees covered the cost of the training.		

**Aitkin County Environmental Services Planning and Zoning**  
**209 Second Street NW**  
**Room 100**  
**Aitkin, MN 56431**  
Phone: 218-927-7342  
Fax: 218-927-4372



**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** July 1, 2016  
**TO:** Aitkin County Board of Commissioners  
**FROM:** Terry Neff, Environmental Services Director   
**RE:** Aitkin County Soils Workshop

Minnesota Rules Chapter 7080 thru 7083 establishes the minimum standards for septic systems and the licensing of those professionals who design, inspect, install and maintain septic systems. In order to maintain licensure as a designer and inspector a minimum number of hours of training must be obtained every three years. Of those required hours, 6 must be soils related training.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) does provide soils training classes to obtain the required continuing educational credits. However, the areas of the state where they are provided require long travel distances, do not have the same soil as in Aitkin County and the cost of the training is quite pricey.

The Environmental Services Department has been providing soils training in areas around the county for the local designers, inspectors and installers every 3 years. The MPCA has approved our classes for the 6 continuing educational credits required for licensure renewal. On June 22, 2016, we held our most recent soils training at Long Lake Conservation Center, of which 45 licensed individuals attended the training. Those attending were mainly from Aitkin County with the exception of others from surrounding counties (Crow Wing, Cass, Morrison, St. Louis, and Mille Lacs), and the MPCA. We were able to provide the training at a cost of \$50.00 per person (which included a lasagna lunch) compared to \$240.00 that the MPCA charges (no lunch provided).

Becky Sovde, Wetland Specialist/Compliance Officer organized the class and presented at the training. Additional presenters were Bryan Hargrave, our contract inspector, and Mike Walzcynski, Natural Resource Conservation Service out of Duluth. All three did a fantastic job!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 218-927-7342 or by e-mail at [tneff@co.aitkin.mn.us](mailto:tneff@co.aitkin.mn.us).

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