



# CERTs 2010 Northeast Seed Grant Recipients

helping Minnesota communities determine their energy future

### CERTs PARTNERS

- University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships
- The Green Institute
- Southwest Regional Development Commission
- The Minnesota Project
- Minnesota Office of Energy Security

As we kick off 2010, we are excited to announce the projects awarded CERTs seed grants in each of the seven Minnesota CERTs regions.

These catalyzing grants of up to \$11,000 will help projects garner further funding and bring communities together in identifying and implementing energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. CERTs received 122 proposals requesting a total of \$829,224; of these, 55 proposals were funded for a total granting amount of \$280,000.

Read on for all of the details about funded projects in the Northeast Region. Counties in this region include Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Kanabec, Koochiching, Lake, Pine, St. Louis.

CERTs connect you and your community members with resources to identify and implement energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. Learn more at [www.CleanEnergyResourceTeams.org](http://www.CleanEnergyResourceTeams.org).

### NORTHEAST REGION



#### City of Ely: Boundary Waters Renewable District Energy Project

*Ely, MN* – The city of Ely will conduct an Engineering and Economic Analysis to initiate supplemental consideration of a municipal combined heat and power (CHP) system. This study will align with a technical feasibility study completed in November, 2009, to determine how The Boundary Waters Renewable District Energy System can implement a formal Turboden CHP District heating system. By substituting fossil fuels with locally harvested biomass, Ely hopes to eliminate an equivalent of 1.4 million tons of fossil fuel consumption per year. Indirect, intangible benefits to the area and the Superior National Forest include a 7,000 tons per year carbon emissions reduction, and the creation of 53 local long-term and short-term job opportunities. (Clean Energy: Cogeneration & Research: Fasibility Studies; \$5,000)

#### Common Ground Construction: Duluth Energy Efficiency Program (DEEP)

*Duluth, MN* – The Duluth Energy Efficiency Program (DEEP) has created a comprehensive community strategy to move residents from knowledge of energy efficiency to specific actions. DEEP is creating an online energy portal to encourage two-way communications that inform and engage citizens in energy efficiency via behavioral change and weatherization/air sealing of one's home. *Continued next page Continued from previous page* This portal will aid in disseminating information on energy efficiency, provide information on various programs available in the Duluth area, and allow residents to sign up for home performance testing and weatherization programs. The site will also feature neighborhood data on home energy performance. (Education: Community; \$2,500)

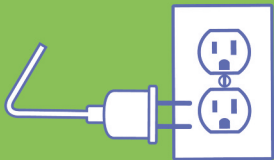
#### Adventure Inn: Design for a Green Motel Building

*Ely, MN* – The Adventure Inn will work to replace an old, energy inefficient guest building with a state-of-the-art green guest building. By incorporating many new technologies, such as passive solar construction, solar thermal heating, occupancy sensors, reused materials, and other green design strategies, the Inn plans to reduce their energy usage by at least 50 percent. The project will also be the basis for a student internship in sustainable tourism and workshops for area plumbers and HVAC installers. (Clean Energy: Solar Thermal, Energy Efficiency: Green Building, Education: Community & Research: Planning; \$2,500)

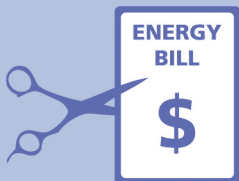
## LEARN



## CONNECT



## ACT



### **Arrowhead Regional Development Commission & Iron Range Resources: Developing a Community Energy Action Plan**

*Northeast, MN* – The Arrowhead Regional Development Commission and Iron Range Resources will be working with a to-be-determined community group in northeast MN to develop an Energy Action Plan in cooperation with local government, resulting in an officially adopted addendum to an existing Comprehensive Plan. The Energy Action Plan will identify goals, strategies, and implementation action steps for energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy projects in the community, providing them with the framework to move forward in implementing the actions. (Education: Community; \$5,000)

### **Hartley Nature Center: Energy Explosion on the Move**

*Duluth, MN* – During the 2008-2009 academic year, the Hartley Nature Center found great success with their Energy Explosion pilot program, a portable alternative energy demonstration for K-12 students within their primary service area. The program's wide reception has prompted an expansion. Energy Explosion on the Move will incorporate an updated lesson plan, operations manual, and graphical elements for use by their educational demonstration trailer, the Electron. Also, by training temporary contract educators to take the program beyond the Hartley Nature Center's primary service area, the program will reach a wider audience, further sharing this interactive program with educators and students throughout the state. (Education: School; \$1,265)

### **Cook County Local Energy Project: Grand Marais Recreation Park Solar Hot Water System**

*Grand Marais, MN* – The Cook County Local Energy Project (CCLEP) is coordinating an effort with the North House Folk School, Community Education, Grand Marais Recreational Park (campground), and the City of Grand Marais to plan, engineer, and install a solar hot water system into the shower complex at the city campground. In addition to the expected energy savings, especially during the peak tourism season in the summer, the project will also include on-site training during installation and an interpretive, informational site for visitors, residents, and businesses alike. (Clean Energy: Solar Thermal & Education: Community; \$5,000)

### **Community Action Duluth: Green Duluth**

*Duluth, MN* – This project will duplicate a successful energy efficiency campaign that targets single-family homes, presents residents with information on energy conservation, and provides auditing services, as well as financial incentives for efficiency upgrades. A canvass manager will assist youth from the Duluth Youth Energy Summit Team in conducting the door-to-door information campaign. The canvassers will also meet local folks in academia, government and the private sector, who work in green and environmentally-related fields, to learn about their career paths and the work they do. (Education: Community; \$5,000)

### **Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability: Iron Range Earth Fest 2010**

*Mountain Iron, MN* – Iron Range Earth Fest is a celebration of local traditions and practical resources for sustainable living on the Iron Range. Participants are invited to learn about new and existing technological approaches as well as rediscover local traditions. With presentations and exhibits by experts, speakers and vendors, this event hopes to stimulate conversation about sustainability, motivate sustainable behaviors in participants' daily lives, and help them understand their role in sustaining their economy, environment and communities. (Education; \$5,000)

### **Lake Superior Energy Association: Education, Capacity Building & Energy Info Center Planning**

*Duluth, MN* – The Lake Superior Energy Association will collaborate with key partners to establish an Energy Information Center. This project will help LSEA achieve its goals of: organizational capacity building, outreach and education through workshops, introducing a speaker series, holding information nights at community education sites, developing a website, and completing a feasibility study for a physical building to serve as a community energy information hub. (Education: Community; \$2,500)

### **St. Louis County & Rural Renewable Energy Alliance: St. Louis County Garage Solar Air Heating**

*Duluth, MN* – The proposed project is a collaborative effort between St. Louis County (SLC) and the Rural Renewable Energy Alliance (RREAL) to install Solar Air Heating (SAH) on the SLC Maintenance Garage on the Chris Jensen Campus. As the garage is currently heated with natural gas, the use of SAH would annually reduce carbon emissions by approximately 3,487 lbs, as well as particulate matter and heavy metals. (Clean Energy: Solar Thermal; \$3,735)

### **Mesabi Range Community & Technical College: Wind Energy Technology Turbine**

*Eveleth, MN* – The Mesabi Range Community and Technical College has secured funding for a Morpheic ST-20 wind turbine that will provide students in the Wind Energy Technology and Electrical Industrial Automation Technology programs with hands-on training. The turbine will also provide continuing education opportunities for incumbent workers in wind power generation industries, as well community members interested in wind energy. (Clean Energy: Wind & Education: School; \$2,500)