

Field Tour

(With boxed lunch)

Tour is included with registration

Chambers Grove Park

The St. Louis estuary is the largest freshwater estuary in North America and is the headwaters of the Great Lakes. Over the past 150 years, a legacy of historic commercial uses of the estuary disrupted and altered these natural habitats as shorelines and near shore areas were dredged and developed, and chemical contamination impacted the waters. Recent restoration efforts in the estuary are working to restore the once plentiful wild rice and critical spawning habitat for Lake Superior's migratory fish species including lake sturgeon, walleye and longnose sucker.



Speakers

- Thomas Howes, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, will speak on wild rice restoration in the St. Louis estuary.
- John Lindgren, MN DNR, will speak on the restoration completed at Chambers Grove Park that improved habitat for Lake Superior's migratory fish species.
- Matias Valero, Technical Service Area 3, will speak on different stream restoration techniques used to help improve water quality and aquatic habitat.

Lincoln Park

A designated trout stream with a temperature impairment, Miller Creek flows from the heavily developed Miller Hills Mall area through the 45-acre park on its way to Lake Superior. Stormwater best management practices tucked against hillsides and parking lots at Lincoln Park filter, slow and cool previously untreated runoff from the park and the surrounding neighborhood. By temporarily storing water and slowing runoff, the stormwater treatment in Lincoln Park will make the site more resilient in the face of a changing climate.



Speakers

- Cliff Knettel, City of Duluth, will speak about the challenges and successes of implementing the project at Lincoln Park.
- R.C. Boheim, South St. Louis County SWCD, will speak about partnering with the city to improve Miller Creek.

Agate Bay / Castle Danger Brewery

The city of Two Harbors lies on the shores of Lake Superior. Multiple stormwater outlets discharge directly into Agate Bay on Lake Superior and Skunk Creek, a stream that runs through town and outlets into Burlington Bay. Two Harbors' aging, original sewer and stormwater infrastructure was incorrectly connected in the older parts of town before the sewer was established. Both Burlington Bay and Agate Bay are impaired for E. coli bacteria; Skunk Creek is impaired for E. coli and sediment. Lake Soil and Water Conservation District is working on projects throughout the city to improve stormwater management. Some examples are the rain gardens planted at the Castle Danger Brewery and a planned project at Agate Bay.



Speakers

- Tara Solem, Lake County SWCD, will talk about partnering with the city of Two Harbors and its residents to improve stormwater management and Lake Superior water quality.
- Caitlin White, Castle Danger Brewery, will talk about the successful raingarden project at Castle Danger Brewery that is a model of using native plants for stormwater infiltration.

2025 ANNUAL MEETING



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