



For Immediate Release

## Press Release

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# Nine Minnesota Cities To Receive Recognition For Effective Use Of Legacy Amendment Funds

MINNEAPOLIS – Conservation Minnesota and the Minnesota Citizens for the Arts today announced that nine more cities will be spotlighted this year as Minnesota Legacy Destination Cities.

In 2008, the voters of Minnesota overwhelmingly approved the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment which added 3/8 of one percent to the state's sales tax, and dedicated the revenue to projects that would help preserve the state's arts and outdoors legacy.

Soon after, the Legacy Destination program was created to draw attention to the way proceeds from the amendment were making real changes in communities throughout the state. Be it with cleaner lakes, expanded trails or public art projects, every resident of Minnesota has benefited from the program. The drive behind the Legacy Destination Weekends is to show just how much impact the amendment has provided all around the state.

This year, ten cities will be recognized for their roles in utilizing Legacy funding to make their communities better for residents and visitors alike. This year's legacy destinations are: **Apple Valley, Coon Rapids, Hastings, Maplewood, Nisswa, Plymouth, Rushford, Stillwater, and Two Harbors.**

"Each of these cities were chosen for the great work they are doing to utilize the Legacy Amendment dollars for projects within their communities," said Paul Austin, Executive Director of Conservation Minnesota. "We believe each of these cities has embraced the amendment, and are making the most of the opportunities provided to them."

The selection of the cities will be followed later this spring by a schedule of when each of the cities will be individually recognized for their work.

"One of the greatest parts of my job is traveling around the state like this meeting with local leaders and congratulating them for the great work they are doing protecting the legacy of Minnesota," said Sheila Smith, Executive Director of the Minnesota Citizens for the Arts. "And each of these communities are truly deserving for the great work they are doing."

The formal announcement of the schedule for when each city will be formally recognized is expected to be made later this spring.

**MORE INFO:** For more information on the Legacy Destination Weekends, the designated cities or to set up an interview with Paul Austin and/or Sheila Smith, please contact Nate Dybvig at [nate@conservationminnesota.org](mailto:nate@conservationminnesota.org), or 651.230.3018.