



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Division**

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**DATE: 05/25/2010**

**SUBJECT: Public Invited to Chart the Future of Parks and Trails**

**BY: Amy Norris, Public Information Coordinator**

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## **Department of Natural Resources wants people to take a big-picture look at parks**

### **Workshop offers citizens an opportunity to chart future of Minnesota's parks and trail system on June 3rd at the Depot**

Everyone will have the opportunity to help chart the course of our regional and state parks and trails for the next 25 years by participating in a workshop which will be held here in Duluth on Thursday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Depot (train level).

This workshop is one of 17 workshops to be held around the state in May and June. The workshop is scheduled from 7-9 p.m. and will focus on vision, priorities, and future opportunities. The meeting will provide citizens with a chance to influence the Parks and Trails Legacy Plan that will guide funding decisions for regional and state parks and trails. Ample opportunity will be provided for discussion and questions.

Minnesotans passed the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment in 2008 that enacted a three-eighths percent sales tax increase for natural resources and the arts. Of the money collected, 14.25 percent is providing funding for state, metro and Greater Minnesota parks and trails projects. The Legacy amendment is giving state and local leaders a unique opportunity to rethink the future of the state's parks and trails and what the priorities should be.

There is a long list of possibilities: buying land for new state or regional parks and trails, developing existing ones, connecting existing trails, creating new recreational opportunities, etc.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is partnering with the Citizens League, a non-partisan, non-profit organization in the workshop planning effort. People from all walks of life are encourage to participate in the workshops, especially those who don't use the regional or state parks and trails systems.

For meeting details and more information about the Parks and Trails Legacy Plan, visit [www.patl.intl.gov](http://www.patl.intl.gov) or call the City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Division at 218-730-4312 or 218-730-4309. Pre-registration is not necessary.

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