

# Secure *the* Future

OF DULUTH'S TREASURED OUTDOOR PLACES BY PROTECTING NOTABLE LANDS AND MANAGING THEM FOR THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES.



# *Imagine Duluth*

The Duluth Natural Areas Program enables the city to celebrate and sustain select open places that enrich the lives of all Duluthians. Saving these places reflects the community's ecological, historic, cultural, and recreational values, and contributes to the city's resilience to natural disasters.



# WHAT IS THE DULUTH NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM (DNAP)?

A city program to designate certain lands with environmental value as permanently protected natural places. Duluth citizens have long recognized the value of these places to provide both natural resource protection and human sanctuary. Designating these lands ensures everyone in Duluth will always have access to these special places where they can appreciate nature and enjoy the outdoors. In doing so, Duluth preserves its natural heritage for the public good by:

- Ensuring the city can better manage Duluth's forests, streams, and wetlands
- Supporting diversification of our region's economy
- Promoting the well-being and happiness of our citizens and visitors
- Maximizing resiliency for a changing climate through the services these lands provide (e.g., controlling stormwater runoff, supporting diverse plant communities)



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*"It is time  
for a different, formal  
defense of nature.*

*We should offer up not just the notion of being sensible and responsible about it, which is sustainable development, nor the notion of its mammoth utilitarian and financial value, which is ecosystem services, but a third way, something different entirely: we should offer up what it means to our spirits; the love of it. We should offer up its joy."*

– Naturalist and environmental writer Michael McCarthy



PROTECTING OUR FORESTS IS AN EXCELLENT WAY FOR DULUTH TO DO OUR PART NOT ONLY LOCALLY, BUT REGIONALLY AND GLOBALLY.

# WHAT CAN YOU DO IN A NATURAL AREA?



## EXPLORE

FIND UNIQUE PLANTS,  
BIRDS, AND WILDLIFE.



## VOLUNTEER

HELP PICK UP TRASH OR  
REMOVE INVASIVE PLANTS.

### CERTAIN ACTIVITIES AREN'T APPROVED IN NATURAL AREAS:

- Camping or camp fires
- Motorized (OHV) recreation (except snowmobiles on designated state trails)
- Wood cutting or dumping trash



*“Just living  
is not enough...  
one must have  
sunshine,  
freedom, and  
a little flower.”*

- Hans Christian Andersen



# GET HEALTHY

USE ONE OF THE MANY TRAIL SYSTEMS  
WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY.



# RELAX

ENJOY SOME QUIET TIME  
IN NATURE.



## WHY WAS THE DNAP CREATED, AND WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

The DNAP is a city ordinance to preserve Duluth's natural heritage for the public good by protecting city owned lands with environmental significance. This program helps us better manage these remaining relatively undisturbed natural areas to ensure the values they provide are preserved from sale and development. As a result, we will have better plant and animal diversity, improved water quality in our streams, flood retention areas, and a sense of place for us all.

## HOW IS A NATURAL AREA DIFFERENT THAN A PARK?

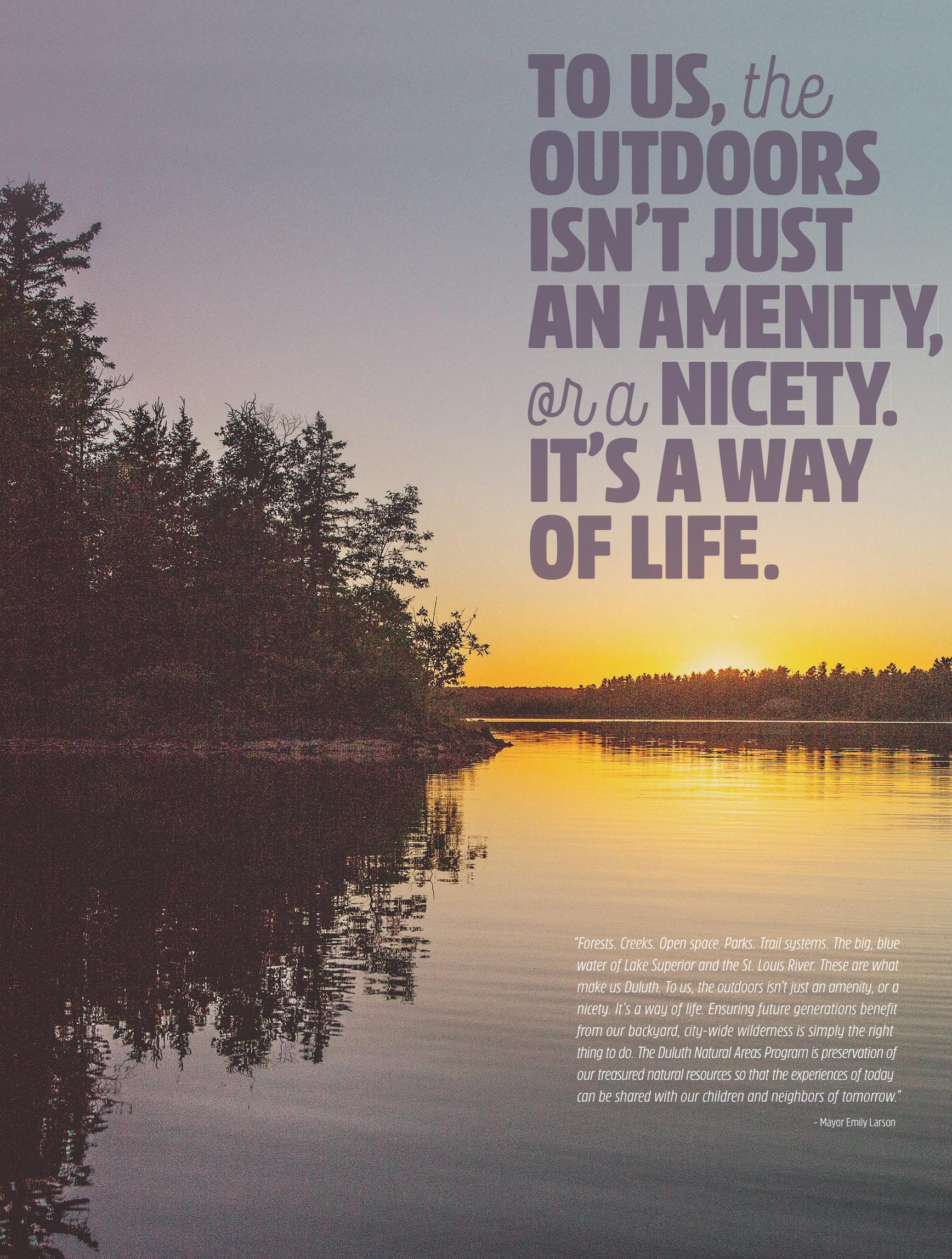
### PARKS

- Mowed grass
- Ballfields and playgrounds
- Paved walkways

### NATURAL AREAS

- Forests, wetlands, and streams
- Natural surface trails
- Silent sports (e.g. hiking, biking, running, horseback riding, and skiing)





**TO US, *the***  
**OUTDOORS**  
**ISN'T JUST**  
**AN AMENITY,**  
*or a* **NICETY.**  
**IT'S A WAY**  
**OF LIFE.**

*"Forests. Creeks. Open space. Parks. Trail systems. The big, blue water of Lake Superior and the St. Louis River. These are what make us Duluth. To us, the outdoors isn't just an amenity, or a nicety. It's a way of life. Ensuring future generations benefit from our backyard, city-wide wilderness is simply the right thing to do. The Duluth Natural Areas Program is preservation of our treasured natural resources so that the experiences of today can be shared with our children and neighbors of tomorrow."*

*- Mayor Emily Larson*



**Learn more about the DNAP:** [www.duluthmn.gov/parks/parks-planning/duluth-natural-areas-program](http://www.duluthmn.gov/parks/parks-planning/duluth-natural-areas-program)

**Duluth Parks** City Hall, Ground Floor 411 West 1st Street Duluth, MN 55802 218-730-4300

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Photos by  
Hansi Johnson