



# Saint Louis County

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**Ross Litman**  
Sheriff

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **St. Louis County Volunteer Rescue Squad debuts two new vehicles**

Thanks to very generous donations of two Northland companies, the St. Louis County Volunteer Rescue Squad now has two Marsh Master marsh buggies – fully amphibious track vehicles – for use in search and rescue operations. On Thursday, December 19, at 2 p.m. the Rescue Squad will hold a news conference to unveil the new vehicles, demonstrate their capabilities, and publicly thank Cliffs Natural Resources and Minnesota Power for their considerable donations. The event will be held in the Rescue Squad garage behind the St. Louis County Emergency Operations Center, 5735 Old Miller Trunk Highway, Duluth.

Cliffs Natural Resources made a cash donation of \$58,000, enabling the Rescue Squad to purchase a refurbished marsh buggy. Meanwhile, Minnesota Power donated one of its used marsh buggies to the Rescue Squad.

“These are powerful vehicles that will help our squad better navigate the terrain of St. Louis County, especially the swampier areas,” said Tom Crossmon, St. Louis County Rescue Squad Captain. “They are going to be a great tool for us, and we are extremely grateful to Cliffs and Minnesota Power for supporting our team and our mission. We will be able to station one of the marsh buggies in the northern part of the county and one in the south, for faster response times.”

“We are extremely grateful for the St. Louis County Volunteer Rescue Squad, and their response during emergency situations in Northeastern Minnesota,” said Sandy Karnowski, Cliffs’ district manager of public affairs in Minnesota. “Cliffs is happy to make this contribution to further enhance the Rescue Squad’s capabilities by providing them a tool to better access areas where people may need help.”

The St. Louis County Rescue Squad is recognized regionally and nationally for its search and rescue techniques. The Rescue Squad consists of approximately 60 members, who together volunteer

23,000 hours each year. Formed in 1958, it operates under the direction of the St. Louis County Sheriff, providing wilderness search and rescue; water rescue, recovery and safety; and first aid and public safety. For more information about the Rescue Squad, visit online [stlouiscountymn.gov/sheriff](http://stlouiscountymn.gov/sheriff), or [facebook.com/SLCRescue](https://facebook.com/SLCRescue).

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