

## Correspondence for Kevin Swanson

### Part 2 – Correspondence received June 6

<b>Name</b>	<b>Address</b>	<b>Opposed</b>	<b>Page #</b>
Josh and Amy Rother	Hermantown	Yes	3
G.R. Eckstrom	N/A	Yes	4
Perry and Kari Collins	N/A	Yes	5
Monty Nickerson	N/A	Yes	6
Heather Hiner	N/A	Yes	7
Scott McKane	N/A	Yes	8
Kathrine Laureto	N/A	Yes	9
Barbie and Bob Wasko	N/A	Yes	10
Tim Jentz	N/A	Yes	11
Greg Hiner	N/A	Yes	12
Terry Gilbert	Hermantown	Yes	13
Wade Carlson	N/A	Yes	14
Jim Sandstedt	N/A	Yes	15
Lindsay Solheim	N/A	Yes	16
Kathleen Hencz	N/A	Yes	17
Pam Gilbert	N/A	Yes	18
Hoshi Ludwig	N/A	Yes	19
Susie Stephenson	N/A	Yes	20
Bret Kolbe	6864 Highway 194, Saginaw MN	Yes	21
Josephine Walk	N/A	Yes	22
Laura Krumwiede	N/A	Yes	23
Jerome Jentz	7088 Anjou Creek Circle, San Jose CA 95120	Yes	24
Kimberly Talbot	N/A	Yes	26
Mona Jentz	N/A	Yes	26
Tim Ludwig	6875 Highway 2 Saginaw MN	Yes	27-44
Allison Samberg	N/A	Yes	45
Wade Kubat	N/A	Yes	46
Dick and Judie Hilmoe	N/A	Yes	47
Kenneth Johnson	N/A	Yes	48
Dianne Johson	N/A	Yes	49
Scott and Jody Kolquist	N/A	Yes	50
Linda Habberstad	N/A	Yes	51
Susan Benson	N/A	Yes	52
Bob Krumwiede	Duluth	Yes	53
Jeff Pykkonen	6860 Highway 194, Saginaw MN	Yes	54-55

Dave Zimmerman	N/A	Yes	56
Stan Winterroth	N/A	Yes	57
Sheryl Filby Williams	6858 Highway 194, Saginaw MN	Yes	58-59
Daniel T. Dougherty	N/A	Yes	60
Patricia Kolojeski	N/A	Yes	61-62
Kari Ball	6868 Highway 194, Saginaw MN	Yes	63-64
Tara Mayner	N/A	Yes	65
Patricia Sleen	N/A	Yes	66
<a href="mailto:knts823@aol.com">knts823@aol.com</a> AND Chris and Melissa Rowe (includes petition)	N/A	Yes	67-78
Morgan Lamson	N/A	Yes	79
Rian Jentz	N/A	Yes	80
Kate McKane	N/A	Yes	81
Jason Young	N/A	Yes	82
Terri Leonard	4220 Stebner Road, Hermantown MN 55811	Yes	83
Kathleen and Allan Axtell	N/A	Yes	84
Jeff Drajesk	N/A	Yes	85
Karen A. Mattson	6868 Highway 194, Saginaw MN	Yes	86
Samantha Eckelman	N/A	Yes	87
Michael Wendling	N/A	Yes	88
<a href="mailto:knts823@aol.com">knts823@aol.com</a>	N/A	Yes	89-95
Pam Wendling	N/A	Yes	96
Jean Walsh	N/A	Yes	97
Jack H. Henke	6735 Highway 194, Saginaw MN	Yes	98

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to convention center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 12:58:53 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Amy Rother <amyrother@gmail.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 6:58 AM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Opposition to convention center

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

To the St. Louis County Planning Commission:

As a friend to those who live on Beaver Lake we want to state our opposition to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit which will threaten Beaver lake and its wetlands.

Thank you,  
Josh & Amy Rother of Hermantown

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Swanson Center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:00:01 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: jeffeckstrom@yahoo.com <jeffeckstrom@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 8:23 AM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Swanson Center

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am opposed to the K.Swanson Convention Center because of the current wetlands.

G.R. Eckstrom  
St. Louis County



**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Beaver Lake  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:00:41 PM

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**From:** Perry and Kari Collins <pkcollins@outdrs.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 8:30 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Beaver Lake

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Dear Ms. Bourbonais,

We are writing to express opposition to the proposed Kevin Swanson Convention Center development on Beaver Lake, and ask that a permit not be granted by SLC due to the negative impacts on the lake, other wetlands, and other nearby property owners.

Thank you



Virus-free. [www.avg.com](http://www.avg.com)

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Beaver Lake  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:03:53 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Monty Nickerson <[backstageaviation@msn.com](mailto:backstageaviation@msn.com)>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 8:43 AM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <[BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov](mailto:BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov)>  
Subject: Beaver Lake

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Personally, I think that a 20,000 sf convention center on or near Beaver Lake is not only foolish but irresponsible. At very least, an environmental impact study needs to be conducted. I am completely opposed to such a development in this area.

Sincerely,  
Monty Nickerson

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vote no  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:04:28 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Heather Hiner <hhiner@msn.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 8:44 AM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Vote no

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

To whom it may concern:

It is my understanding that a developer is requesting to build a 20,000 sq. ft. convention center and asphalt parking lot next to the wetlands that protect Beaver Lake. I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit because it threatens Beaver Lake and the surrounding wetlands. Please vote no to this project.

Kindly,  
Heather Hiner

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Reject Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:05:10 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Scott McKane <swmckane@gmail.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:11 AM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Reject Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Hello,

I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit that threatens Beaver lake and its wetlands. That is a beautiful, quiet, clean lake with abundant wildlife. Too many wildlife areas are unintentionally harmed based on how we live. Please reject the permit to avoid intentional harm to this area.

Thank you,

Scott McKane

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Kevin Swanson Convention Center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:05:35 PM

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**From:** Kathrine Laureto <krcipriano2@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:12 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Opposition to Kevin Swanson Convention Center

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Hello,

I am strongly opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit which threatens Beaver lake and its wetlands.

Regards,  
Kathrine

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Beaver Lake / wet lands  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:10:59 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Barbie Wasko <[barbie.wasko@yahoo.com](mailto:barbie.wasko@yahoo.com)>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:52 AM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <[BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov](mailto:BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov)>  
Subject: Beaver Lake / wet lands

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

We oppose Kevin Swanson's permit for a convention center, that threatens Beaver Lake and its wetlands! Barbie & Bob Wasko

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: beaver lake  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:11:25 PM

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**From:** Tim Jentz <timjentz@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:56 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** beaver lake

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Hello, I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit which threatens Beaver Lake and its wetlands.

Tim Jentz

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Vote no  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:12:05 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Greg Hiner <greghiner@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:56 AM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Vote no

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

It is my understanding that a developer is requesting to build a 20,000 sq. ft. convention center and asphalt parking lot next to the wetlands that protect Beaver Lake. I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit because it threatens Beaver Lake and the surrounding wetlands. Please vote no to this project.

Greg Hiner



**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: St. Louis County Planning Commission - Convention Center Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:12:48 PM

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**From:** Terry Gilbert <terry3986@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 10:28 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** St. Louis County Planning Commission - Convention Center Permit

**WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.**

Dear Jenny Bourbonais -

I would like to let you know that I am **opposed** to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit which threatens Beaver Lake and its wetland area.

The timing of the meeting, Thursday, June 10, at 9:30 a.m. is impossible for me to attend as I work 40+-hours each week. Please know I would vote "NO" if able to attend in person or virtually.

Thank you, in advance, for your support protecting our northern Minnesota environment.

Respectfully,

Terry Gilbert  
Hermantown and Little Grand Lake, MN

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Kevin Swanson Convention Center Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:13:31 PM

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**From:** Wade Carlson <WadersWorld@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 10:40 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Kevin Swanson Convention Center Permit

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Hi,

I am contacting you let you know that I oppose the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit and hope that you will consider not granting this permit. There has to be a better location for a convention center then right next to a lake and wetlands.

Thank you,

Wade Carlson

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Convention Center at Beaver Lake  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:16:27 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: James Sandstedt <sandstedt4@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 10:53 AM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Convention Center at Beaver Lake

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Regarding the planning for the Convention Center at Beaver Lake, I am an outdoor activist in that area and enjoy the fishing and hunting. I do not believe that this area should be used for such a business there are plenty of areas in town with accommodations such as hotels and restaurants for this type of Center....

I am against the planning for this type of business. Leave the wildlife wild!

Jim Sandstedt

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Convention Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:17:07 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Lindsay Anderson <linanderso@hotmail.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 11:28 AM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Convention Permit

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Hello,

I just wanted to write to let you know that I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit which threatens Beaver Lake and it's wetlands.

Thanks,  
Lindsay Solheim

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition Kevin Swanson Convention Center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:17:54 PM

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**From:** Kathleen Hencz <katcz06@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 11:34 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Opposition Kevin Swanson Convention Center

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit which threatens Beaver Lake and its wetlands.

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Beaver Lake wetlands  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:18:21 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: PAMGILBERT <gilbertt@mchsi.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 11:46 AM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Beaver Lake wetlands

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am opposed to granting a permit for an event center which will endanger Beaver Lake and its wetlands. The runoff from the parking lot will certainly affect the ecosystem of the wetlands that lead to the lake.

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposed to Kevin Swanson convention center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:19:18 PM

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**From:** Hoshi Ludwig <hoshiludwig9@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 11:52 AM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Opposed to Kevin Swanson convention center

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Hello - I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit which threatens Beaver lake and its wetlands.

Thank you.

Hoshi

--

Hoshi Ludwig  
720.878.5625  
@hoshiludwig

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposed to Event Center Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:31:18 PM

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**From:** Susie Stephenson <susie.bea@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 12:04 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Opposed to Event Center Permit

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am opposed to granting the permit for an event center which will endanger Beaver Lake and its wetlands.



**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Zoning Change - Beaver Lake Solway Township  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:33:21 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** Bret Kolbe <bret.kolbe@beazer.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 12:17 PM  
**To:** George Knutson <KnutsonG@StLouisCountyMN.gov>; Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Cc:** Jeremy Kolbe <jeremykolbe@yahoo.com>; Chris Kolbe <ckolbe390@gmail.com>; Bob Kolbe <robertgkolbe@gmail.com>; besselst@d.umn.edu  
**Subject:** Proposed Zoning Change - Beaver Lake Solway Township  
**Importance:** High

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Good Afternoon,

I am a property owner on Beaver Lake at 6864 Hwy 194 in Solway Township. Parcel ID: 530-0020-00020

I just wanted to let it be known that I am strongly against the proposed zoning change from residential to commercial with the intent of building a wedding/event venue on the below parcel:

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: NW ¼ of SW ¼ SLY of HIGHWAY, S5, T50N, R16W (Solway)  
PARCEL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN): 530-0010-00900

I feel this kind of zoning change and building is inconsistent with the current residential neighborhood.

I am concerned about the environmental impact this type of change will have on the lake and adjacent wetlands.

The application indicates they are not within 1000 feet of the lake, but they are in very close proximity to the wetlands attached to the lake as indicated on page 19 of the application.

What happens when they salt the parking lot in winter? Where does that salt or other chemicals go? Are they going to fertilize the lawn? Use chemicals on weeds? What about oil washing off the parking lot?

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Beaver Lake Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:33:49 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Josephine Walk <[walkjos@hotmail.com](mailto:walkjos@hotmail.com)>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 12:20 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <[BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov](mailto:BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov)>  
Subject: Beaver Lake Permit

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Dear Ms. Bourbonais,

I am writing to oppose the convention center permit on Beaver Lake. This is a residential area, and I am concerned about the effect this convention center would have on the environment and lake, noise, and highway traffic and safety. For these reasons, I oppose the permit.

Josephine Walk

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Kevin Swanson Convention Center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:34:25 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Laura Krumwiede <[lkrumwiede@chartermi.net](mailto:lkrumwiede@chartermi.net)>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 1:42 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <[BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov](mailto:BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov)>  
Subject: Proposed Kevin Swanson Convention Center

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

As a resident of St Louis County I am definitely opposed to my county issuing a permit for the construction of the Kevin Swanson Convention Center. This construction would threaten Beaver Lake and its wetlands!

A concerned citizen,  
Laura Krumwiede

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Beaver Lake and wetlands  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:35:55 PM

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**From:** Jerome Jentz <jrjentz@ymail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 2:28 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Beaver Lake and wetlands

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Dear Commissioner,

I am **opposed** to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit which will threaten Beaver Lake and its wetlands.

Surely another location can be found that doesn't have such a severe environmental impact.

Jerome Jentz  
7088 Anjou Creek Circle  
San Jose, CA 95120  
Home: 408-784-7696  
Mobile: 408-438-7631

"The more you know the luckier you are." - *Jack Reacher*

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Planning Commission meeting June 10th  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:36:42 PM

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**From:** koberpri <koberpri@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 2:49 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Planning Commission meeting June 10th

**WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.**

Re: Planning Commission meeting Thursday, June 10, 2021

Dear Jenny Bourbonnais,

Subject: Kevin Swanson Convention Center

I am writing to request that the St. Louis County Planning Commissioners carefully consider the proposal for the development of the land next to the wetlands that protect Beaver Lake.

I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit that would allow the construction of the 20,000 sq. ft. convention center and parking lot adjacent to the wetlands of Beaver Lake. The proposed development of this land for large commercial use is a direct threat to the wetlands and Beaver Lake. The development of the land next to the wetlands will have a significant environmental impact including diverging water flow to the wetlands resulting in a change to the water table of Beaver Lake.

Therefore, I believe the permit for the Kevin Swanson Convention Center should be denied.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Talbot

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Swanson objection  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:37:20 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Mona Jentz <mljentz@gmail.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 3:03 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Swanson objection

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

So very few wildlife areas left.  
Need to deny this build

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: From Tim Ludwig  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:45:53 PM

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FYI on this one, there is a separate email with attachments that I believe he is referring to that I will send separately but please include in correspondence. Thanks!

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**From:** Pastor Ludwig <picpastorludwig@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 3:20 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** From Tim Ludwig

**WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.**

Good morning, yesterday I sent you 16 pages of documents for the Kevin Swanson permit application which the commissioners will be addressing on June 10th at 9:30. I wanted to make sure that you received these documents and that you knew they came from me. Please contact me on Monday before noon if there are any problems or concerns. I am also requesting more than 5 minutes to speak to the commission.

Thank you!

Tim Ludwig

**ZONING ORDINANCE**  
**OF**  
**ST. LOUIS COUNTY, MINNESOTA**



**ORDINANCE NUMBER 62**

**ADOPTED: SPRING, 2015**

**Amended: October 1, 2016**

**Amended: February 25, 2020**



more than 3 feet into the required setback and does not interfere with the adjacent property's solar access or create a drainage problem.

3. In Residential and Shoreland areas, the maximum height allowed for structures shall be 35 feet, or as allowed in *Article IV, Section 4.3*, whichever is more restrictive.
  4. Structure width facing the water shall not exceed 55 percent of the lot width for principal structures located outside the shoreline setback.
- G. Sewage Treatment: Any premises intended for human occupancy must be provided with an approved method of sewage treatment designed in accordance with all local, state and county requirements, or as otherwise specified in this ordinance. No land use permit shall be issued prior to such permit or approval.
- H. Construction must Commence: Construction of a building or commencement of a use shall be substantially begun within 24 months of the date a permit is issued, or said permit shall become void. Permit extensions may be granted, with applicable fee, by the Director, provided that the proposal meets ordinance requirements.

## **Section 2.5 Environmental Review**

The county Planning Commission shall review and act upon all environmental review petitions, worksheets and impact statements that involve conditional uses, subdivision plats, or other development proposals. It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to supply all required information and to pay all fees.

The Planning Commission, on any development proposal, may require the applicant to provide information regarding the environmental effects of a proposal either through a discretionary Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW) or as part of the permit review process. The Director shall review each EAW and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for accuracy and completeness. The Director, upon certification, may submit the report to the appropriate review agencies in accordance with state regulations.

The Director may refer the issue of accuracy and completeness to the Planning Commission who shall hold a public hearing on the draft environmental review. Subject to County Board policy, it is the responsibility of the Planning Commission, after holding a public hearing, to make the final declaration regarding the environmental review.

## **Section 2.6 Zoning Map**

- A. District Boundaries Established: Zone district boundaries are established as shown on the official zoning map for St. Louis County. The zone districts shall include a land use district and a dimensional district.
- B. Map Incorporated into Ordinance: The map and all notations, references, and other information shown thereon shall have the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein and are hereby made a part of this ordinance by reference and incorporated herein as fully



# Floodplain Forest Wetlands

## Type 1



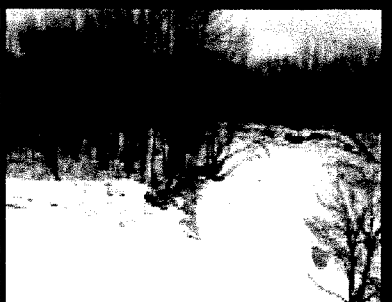
Spring



Summer



Fall



Winter

## Function and Values

Floodplain forest wetlands are perhaps most important for reducing shoreline erosion by pooling and absorbing flood waters and stabilizing the shoreline. These forested wetlands also provide an improvement to water quality by providing a filter for surface runoff and removing or retaining inorganic nutrients and processing organic wastes.

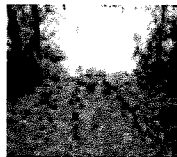
These temporary water holding basins frequently have an abundance of plant seeds and invertebrates, which makes them ideal nesting, feeding and resting areas for migrating waterfowl and shorebirds such as wood ducks, herons, egrets and songbirds. In spring, seasonally flooded basins are used as pairing ponds by ducks, and the abundant invertebrate population provides a protein-rich diet for egg-laying hens. During high water periods, these wetlands are important places for fish, amphibians and reptiles to reproduce.



Water  
Quality



Flood  
Control



Erosion  
Control



Habitat

## Vegetation

Floodplain forest wetlands are dominated by mature, deciduous hardwood trees growing on soils associated with riverine systems. Dominant hardwood trees found in this wetland include silver maple, green ash, river birch, eastern cottonwood, American elm and black willow. The shrub layer, although usually lacking, is sparse.

**Submergent and floating** – vegetation requiring complete immersion, and are rooted in the bottom or free floating with majority of the leaves floating on the surface;

**Emergent** – rooted vegetation where most of the plant material is above the water surface; water levels must fluctuate for proper growth and seed germination (usually during drawdown in late summer);

**Herbs and forbs** – broad-leaved plants that typically grow either in the shallow water edges of wetlands, or ponds, and streams;

**Shrub** – woody vegetation that is less than 20 feet tall with single or multiple stems; species can be broad-leaved deciduous, or broad-leaved evergreen;

**Tree** – woody vegetation that dominates forested wetlands and is greater than 20 feet tall.

Floodplain forest wetlands are vegetatively productive because nutrients are periodically added to the system by flooding.



Silver  
Maple



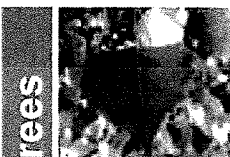
Green  
Ash



American  
Elm



Black  
Willow



Eastern  
Cottonwood



River  
Birch



White  
Spruce



Aspen

## What is a Wetland?

Wetlands are among the most productive ecosystems in the world and a source of support for all of the major groups of biological organisms.

By most standards, a wetland has mostly wet soil, is saturated with water either above or just below the surface, and is covered with plants that have adapted to wet conditions. A wetland is a term to describe a wide variety of wet environments from a slight depression, which holds water after spring runoff, to a forested swamp with peat soils.

The identification of wetlands can be difficult and it may be necessary for the landowner to hire a consultant to identify wetland boundaries. A consultant can also help with wetland replacement and permitting requirements.

## Characteristics

Floodplain forest wetlands are poorly drained, shallow depressions located in the floodplain of a watercourse with no well defined inlets or outlets. These wetlands may have standing water for a few weeks each year, but are usually dry for much of the growing season. Floodplain forest basins are frequently cultivated. However, when these basins are not cultivated, wetland vegetation can become established. One unique aspect of floodplain forest wetlands is that the alternating periods of flood and drought can eliminate perennial plants so that annual plant species typically dominate the community.

## Sequencing

Prior to any draining, filling or excavating in a wetland, proposed impacts to nonexempt wetlands must undergo a process known as sequencing. Sequencing is a step-by-step process that must be followed for clearly defined projects that intend to impact wetlands and reviewed to assess the efforts made by the applicant to follow these principles: avoidance, minimization, reduction or elimination of impacts over time, and replacement. Therefore, a Local Government Unit (LGU) may not consider or approve a wetland replacement plan unless the LGU finds that the applicant has demonstrated the activity impacting the wetlands has complied with all of the following principals in ascending order:

### 1. Avoiding Impacts

The first priority is to avoid impact to a wetland. If a project can be redesigned or relocated to eliminate any wetland impact, you must select this option.

### 2. Minimization

If St. Louis County determines that wetland impacts are unavoidable, you must then demonstrate that the project minimizes wetland impacts to the greatest extent possible. The county will determine if sufficient effort was made to minimize impacts by considering:

- The purpose of the project
- Size requirements of the project
- Location
- Sensitivity of the site design to the natural features of the site, including topography, hydrology, and existing vegetation

- The function and value of the wetlands on the site
- Applicants efforts to show alternatives to modify the size and scope of the project

### 3. Rectification

There may be times that a wetland impact is not possible to avoid, but the impact either is temporary or results in no net loss of wetlands. Temporary impacts may be approved by the county if the activity is completed and the physical characteristics of the wetland are restored within six months from the start of the activity. An example would be the construction of a temporary road through a wetland that is needed for a short term project. Once the project is completed, the road is removed. A performance bond would need to be provided to the county for an amount sufficient to cover the cost of restoring the wetland to pre-project conditions.

### 4. Reduction or Elimination of Impacts Over Time

Further impacts from draining or filling must be reduced or eliminated by managing the project in a manner that preserves remaining wetland functions and values. The county must require the applicants to implement Best Management Practices (i.e. silt fences) to protect wetland functions and values.

### 5. Replacement

Replacement wetlands must replace the functions and values that are lost from a wetland that is drained or filled. Replacement of wetland functions and values may occur at more than one location.

### Conservation Level

In nonshoreland areas, floodplain forest wetlands are in the lowest protection level and have impacts limited to 10,000 square feet. To the extent that a local shoreland management ordinance is more restrictive than 10,000 square feet, the local shoreland ordinance applies. In shoreland areas, the impact is limited to 1,000 square feet.

### Wetland Areas in Minnesota

This map illustrates the concentrated amount of wetlands present in northern Minnesota when compared to the amount of wetlands throughout the remainder of the state emphasizing the need for wetland conservation.



## Typical Impacts

**Filling:** adding any material to change the bottom level of a wetland;

**Draining:** removing the water from a wetland by ditching, tilling, pumping, or other such techniques;

**Excavating:** dredging and removing soil and vegetation from a wetland;

**Diverting water:** preventing the flow of water into a wetland by removing water upstream, lowering lake levels, or lowering groundwater tables;

**Clearing:** removing vegetation by digging or scraping;

**Flooding:** raising water levels, either behind dams or by pumping or otherwise channeling water into a wetland so that water levels are too high for wetland vegetation and animals to survive (i.e., converting a wetland to a lake or pond);

**Diverting or withholding sediment:** trapping sediment through the construction of dams, channelization or other such projects that inhibit the regeneration of wetlands in natural areas of deposition, such as deltas;

**Shading:** placing pile supported platforms or bridges over wetlands, causing vegetation to die;

**Conducting activities in adjacent areas:** disrupting the interactions between wetlands and adjacent land areas, or indirectly impacting wetlands through activities at adjoining sites.

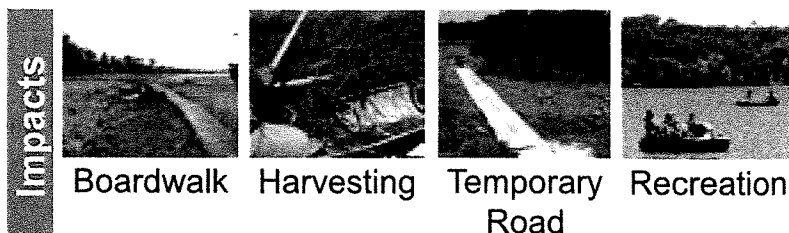
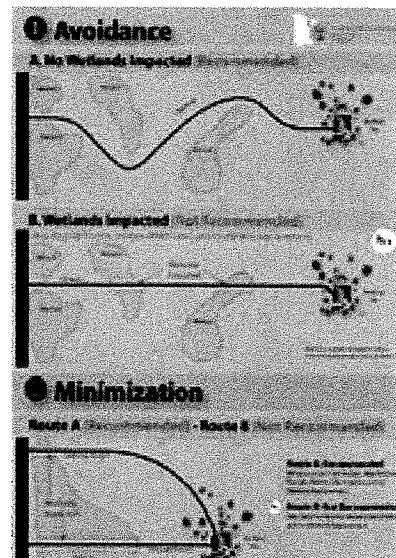
## Do's

Rather than draining or filling wetlands, seek compatible uses involving minimal wetland alteration, such as waterfowl production, fur harvest, hay and forage, wild rice production, hunting and trapping leases, and selective timber harvest.

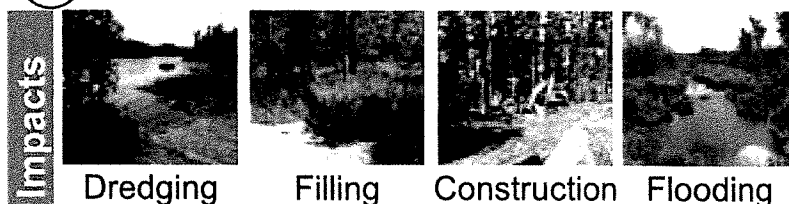
Maintain wetlands and adjacent buffer strips as open space.

Encourage neighbors, developers, and state and local governments to protect the function and value of wetlands in your watershed.

Select upland rather than wetlands sites for development projects and avoid wetland alteration or degradation during project construction.



## Don'ts



# St. Louis County Contact Information

## Primary Contact for all Wetlands Issues

Contact these agencies **FIRST** if you suspect wetlands exist, to request a review, or obtain necessary permits for projects that may affect wetlands.

### St. Louis County Planning and Community Development



Local administrators of the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act. Provides plan and site reviews for wetland determinations, delineations, banking and replacement. Coordinates enforcement with DNR.

### Soil & Water Conservation District North St. Louis or South St. Louis

Provides technical, educational, and financial resources to land occupiers in order to implement practices and projects that preserve, protect, and enhance water quality and other natural resources.

### Fond Du Lac Reservation Office of Water Protection

Administers wetland regulations on all lands on the Fond du Lac Reservation and provides technical and educational resources to help protect and enhance water quality.

### U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



#### US Army Corps of Engineers St. Paul District

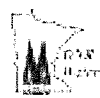
Regulates deposition of fill or dredge material in waters of the U.S. or adjacent wetlands through section 404 of the Clean Water Act and section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899.

### State of Minnesota Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR)



State Administration of the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act

### State of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Waters Division



Regulates Public Waters Permits for all work within public water wetlands of types 3, 4 and 5 that are 10 or more acres in size or 2.5 acres in incorporated areas.

St. Louis County  
Planning and Community  
Development  
Northland Office Bldg  
307 1st St. S.  
Virginia, MN 55792  
Phone: 218-749-0633  
800-450-9777  
Fax: 218-749-0620

North St. Louis County  
Soil and Water  
Conservation District (SWCD)  
US Bank Place  
230 1st St. S. Ste 104B  
Virginia, MN 55792  
Phone: 218-749-2000  
Fax: 218-749-2004

[www.nslswcd.org](http://www.nslswcd.org)

South St. Louis County  
Soil and Water  
Conservation District (SWCD)  
215 N. 1st Ave. E.  
Duluth, MN 55802  
Phone: 218-723-4867  
Fax: 218-723-4731

[www.southstlouisswcd.org](http://www.southstlouisswcd.org)

Fond du Lac Reservation  
Office of Water Protection  
1720 Big Lake Rd.  
Cloquet, MN 55720  
Phone: 218-878-8022  
Fax: 218-879-4854

U.S. Army  
Corps of Engineers  
1554 Hwy. 2, Ste 2  
Two Harbors, MN 55616  
218-834-6630

[www.mvp.usace.army.mil](http://www.mvp.usace.army.mil)

BWSR  
394 S. Lake Ave. Ste 403  
Duluth, MN 55802  
Phone: 218-723-4923  
Fax: 218-723-4794

[www.bwsr.state.mn.us](http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us)

DNR Waters  
Duluth Metro  
1568 Hwy. 2  
Two Harbors, MN 55616  
Phone: 218-834-1440  
Fax: 218-834-6639  
Rest of St. Louis County  
7979 Hwy. 37  
Eveleth, MN 55734  
Phone: 218-744-7450  
Fax: 218-744-7451

[www.dnr.state.mn.us](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us)

[www.stlouiscountymn.gov](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov)

## About the Guide

This guide is designed to give general information about wetland regulations, identifying wetland areas, common species, and impacts to wetland areas for residents, contractors, and professionals associated with wetland property.

St. Louis County has over 1,000 lakes, countless rivers and streams, and hundreds of thousands of acres of wetlands that provide recreational opportunities to both residents and tourists.

## Obtaining the Guide

Copies of this guide are available free to all residents. Requests for a large number of guides should be directed to St. Louis County Planning and Community Development and may be charged a minimal fee to cover printing and production costs. All requests should be directed to:

218-725-5000  
Toll Free Minnesota 800-450-9777  
[www.stlouiscountymn.gov](http://www.stlouiscountymn.gov)

St. Louis County  
Planning and Community Development  
100 Missabe Building  
222 West First Street



## Publishing Information

This project was funded in part by the Coastal Zone Management Act, by NOAA's Office of Ocean and Coastal Resource Management, in cooperation with Minnesota's Lake Superior Coastal Program.

The Wetland Guide was developed and published by St. Louis County Planning and Community Development Department.

## Information Updates

St. Louis County strives to maintain the latest information available. If any information in this guide is incorrect or any additional information is needed, please contact St. Louis County Planning and Community Development, 218-725-5000.









# **WETLANDS REGULATION IN MINNESOTA**

Version 2.1, March 2019

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Note: When viewed electronically, this document contains hyperlinks to a variety of references and sources of additional information.



Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources and Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, St. Paul  
Version 2.0 prepared with assistance from Emma Fazio, Esq.  
Originally authored in 2002 by Matthew B. Seltzer, Esq.

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/wetlands/maps.html>) and can also be downloaded for GIS use from: <https://gisdata.mn.gov/>. See also the discussion of public water inventory maps in the section on “Department of Natural Resources Permits.”

#### IV. THREE (AND MORE) REGULATORY PROGRAMS WITH OVERLAPPING JURISDICTION

##### A. Overlapping Jurisdiction

Wetlands in Minnesota are regulated under a variety of local, state, and federal programs. Oftentimes two or more of these programs cover the same wetland. In some cases, various portions of the same wetland will be regulated by different programs.

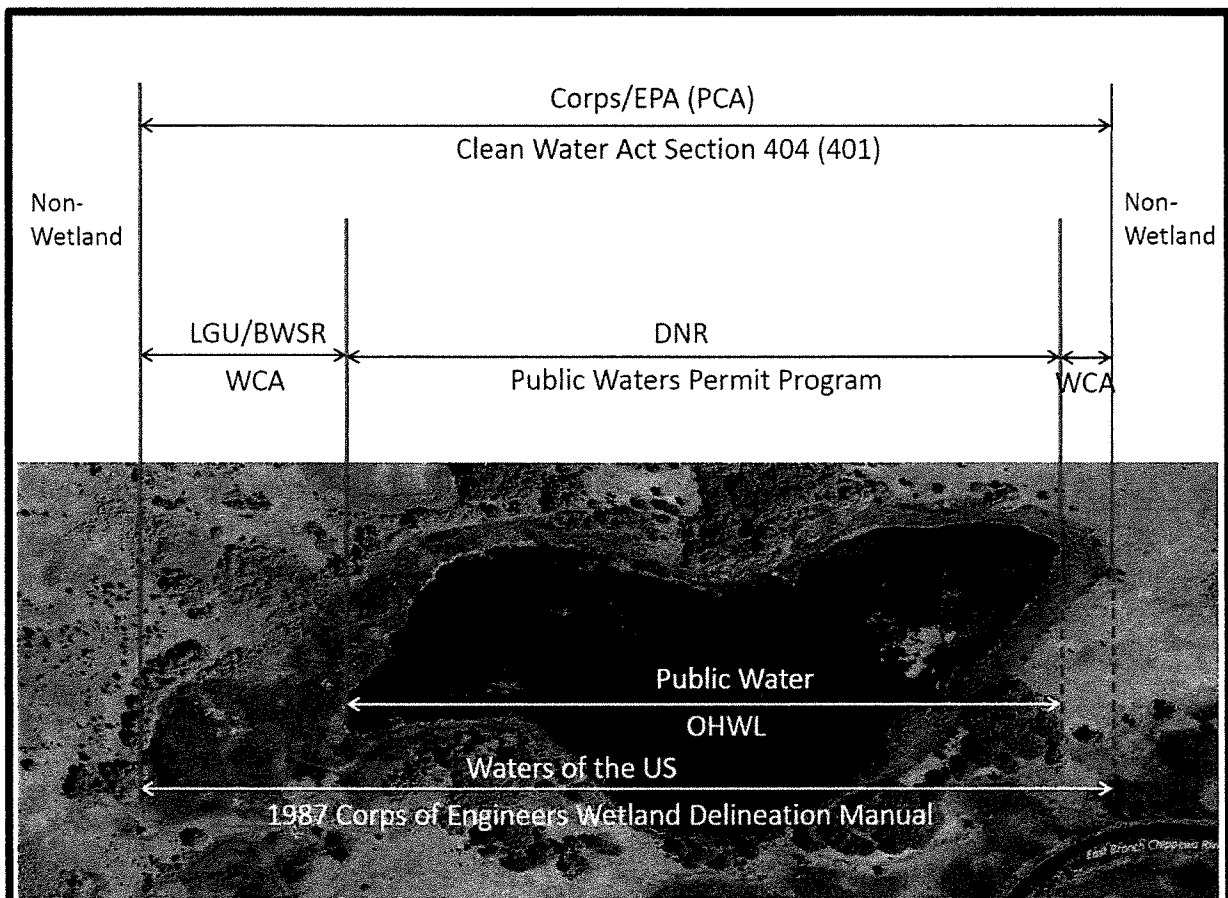


Figure 1. Jurisdiction of main wetland regulatory programs in Minnesota on a hypothetical wetland.

##### B. Three Major Programs

The three major wetland regulatory programs of statewide importance are: (1) the Department of Natural Resources Public Waters Work Permit Program, (2) the Wetland Conservation Act, and (3) the federal Clean Water Act Section 404 permit program administered by the United States Army Corps of Engineers. These programs are discussed in greater detail below. Another relevant regulatory program is the Clean



## **DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES PERMITS**

### ***I. OVERVIEW – Minnesota DNR Public Waters Permit Program (MnDNR PWPP)***

#### **A. Public Waters Regulation**

Work in public waters has been regulated by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (“DNR”), or its predecessor the Department of Conservation, since 1937. See generally Application of Christenson, 417 N.W. 2d 607, 609 (Minn. 1987).

#### **B. Basic Rule**

The basic rule is that a public waters work permit must be obtained from the DNR for work affecting the course, current, or cross-section of public waters, including public waters wetlands. See Minn. Stat. § 103G.245, subd. 1(2). This would include, for example, work involving draining, filling, excavating, and placing structures in public waters wetlands. See id.; Minn. R. 6115.0190, .0200, .0210.

#### **C. Statutes and Rules**

The statutes pertaining to public waters work permits are found in Minn. Stat. § 103G. DNR’s administrative rules for the program are found in Minn. R. ch. 6115.

#### **D. “Public Waters Wetlands” vs. “Wetlands”**

In reading Minn. Stat. § 103G, it is important to distinguish between those provisions that refer to “public waters wetlands” which are regulated as public waters under DNR’s public waters permits program and those provisions that refer to “wetlands” which are regulated by local governments (with oversight by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources) under the Wetland Conservation Act.

### ***II. REGULATED WETLANDS -- MnDNR PWPP***

#### **A. Definition**

Public waters wetlands are a subset of the broader category of “public waters” regulated by the DNR, which includes most lakes and larger streams and rivers. Public waters wetlands are defined in Minn. Stat. § 103G.005, subd. 15a, as follows:

“Public waters wetlands” means all types 3, 4, and 5 wetlands, as defined in United States Fish and Wildlife Service Circular No. 39 (1971 edition), not included within the definition of public waters, that are ten or more acres in size in unincorporated areas or 2-1/2 or more acres in incorporated areas.



# Wetland Management Classification System

To accompany the Minnesota Routine Assessment Method for Evaluating  
Wetland Functions, Version 3.0

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# 1.0 Wetland Management Recommendations

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This document is a companion to the *Minnesota Routine Assessment Method for Evaluating Wetland Functions* (MnRAM) [version 3.0 or later]. It is meant to provide a basis for developing wetland management recommendations from data gathered in the field. The objective of a wetland management classification system and management standards is to achieve no net loss of wetland functions and values within the management area while providing flexibility for economic development that may require wetland impacts. Impacts to wetlands include not only direct impacts such as filling, draining, and excavating, but also indirect impacts from stormwater inputs, changes to local surface and ground water hydrology, and pollutant loading.

The wetland protection process begins with an inventory and field assessment of all wetlands within the management area. The wetland inventory should identify wetlands by type (Circ. 39 or Cowardin), size, location and landscape setting, and wetland functions. Wetland assessment evaluates functional capacity, both existing and potential, based on inventory information as well as: vegetative community, soils, hydrology, ecologic characteristics, and cultural uses. Following completion of this assessment, each wetland can be assigned to a recommended management class based on the wetland's current and potential functions as well as the evaluation of local critical wetland resources and the wetland's susceptibility to stormwater degradation (Table 1.1). Each wetland can be classified according to a recommended level of wetland protection and acceptable hydrologic changes (Table 1.2).<sup>1</sup>

## 1.1 Wetland Management Classification

With data for each wetland in the assessment area complete, the functional indices can then be used to classify the wetlands. This guidance document presents two classification standards based on expert wetland recommendations and concepts<sup>2</sup> and in compliance with the state Wetland Conservation Act<sup>3</sup>, state water quality standards<sup>4</sup>, and various wetland management plans from both metropolitan and rural Minnesota areas.

Suggested classification schemes offered are for Basic Protection and Increased Protection standards; local authorities can choose a management classification level based on local resource needs and preferences. The Basic Protection Standard (Figure 1.1) is the minimum recommended level that will satisfy no-net-loss goals, protect critical resources, and allow for use of some wetlands in development zones. The Increased Protection Standard will include more wetlands in the Preserve category that might otherwise fall into Manage 1, thereby protecting less-than-pristine wetlands in areas that are at an increased risk for wetland impact, whether direct; outright loss by development pressures or indirect; ecological impact from increased use or hydrologic changes.

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<sup>1</sup> Based largely on the state guidance document *Storm-Water and Wetlands: Planning and Evaluation Guidelines for Addressing Potential Impacts of Urban Storm-Water and Snow-Melt Runoff on Wetlands*, State of Minnesota Storm Water Advisory Group, 1997.

<sup>2</sup> Some of which are presented in *Storm-Water and Wetlands: Planning and Evaluation Guidelines for Addressing Potential Impacts of Urban Storm-Water and Snow-Melt Runoff on Wetlands*, State of Minnesota Storm Water Advisory Group, 1997.

<sup>3</sup> Minn. Rules Chap. 8420.

<sup>4</sup> Minn. Rules Chap. 7050.

These two options are offered as a starting point for regional decision-making. Any final policy will need to take into account how current and predicted pressures affect the landscape. An initial evaluation of the effect of both standards will give an indication how the local wetland manager can adapt an individual strategy to maximize resource protection while retaining development benefits to their community. Using GIS-mapping tools will be invaluable for this evaluation.

Using this system will classify a wetland into one of four categories: Preserve, Manage 1, Manage 2, or Manage 3. The Preserve category is for exceptional and highest-functioning wetlands or those sensitive wetlands receiving conveyed storm water runoff that have yet retained a medium level of vegetative diversity/integrity. These wetlands are those that should be preserved in (or improved to) their most pristine or highest functional capacity with wide, natural buffers, in perpetuity. In the Manage 1 category are high-quality wetlands that should be protected from development and other pressures of increased use, including indirect effects. Maintaining natural buffers will help to retain the significant function these wetlands provide. In the event that impacts to these wetlands cannot be avoided, replacement ratios for mitigation should exceed the state-required minimums. Manage 2 wetlands provide medium functional levels and the wetland extent should be maintained. These wetlands often provide optimal restoration opportunity. Manage 3 wetlands have been substantially disturbed; replacement considerations can be minimized<sup>5</sup> after proper sequencing.

## Using the Flowchart

The process can be followed in Figures 1.1 [Basic Standard] and 1.2 [Increase Protection Standard]. Begin at the top and follow the arrows and numbered boxes through the diagram until all of the wetlands have been placed in a management category. Find all wetlands that are classified as Critical Resources, as described in Section 2.0; those wetlands are classified in the Preserve category. Wetlands determined to not fit any of the Critical Resources categories are then classified into one of the four management class groups. The suggested wetland management criteria that could be applied to wetlands within each management class are provided in Table 1.1.

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<sup>5</sup> Replacement minimized down to a 1:1 ratio (in the counties with less than 50 percent of their historic wetlands) or lower (in counties with more than 50 percent of their historic wetlands).

**Table 1.1**  
**Recommended Wetland Management Standards**  
**Minnesota Routine Assessment Method for Evaluating Wetland Functions, Version 3.0**

<b>Management Class</b>	<b>Management Strategy</b>	<b>Stormwater Treatment</b>	<b>Buffer<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Mitigation Standard</b>	<b>Hydrologic Guidelines</b>
<b>A—Preserve</b>	Maintain wetland and existing functions, values and wildlife habitat. Possible need for active management of wetland to protect unique features. Apply strict avoidance standards. May be appropriate to develop a conservation easement.	Avoid conveyed flows where prudent and feasible. Upstream sediment and nutrient pretreatment required to maintain background loading rates. Maintain existing hydrology—divert increased flows. Avoid concentrating flows.	≥50 feet for water quality ≥100 feet for wildlife habitat. <sup>2</sup> Require monuments to mark buffer edge.	WCA minimum or greater replacement ratio with documented replacement of functions/values. Consider requiring buffer replacement.	<u>Bounce (10 yr):</u> Existing <u>Inundation (1 &amp; 2 yr):</u> Existing <u>(10 yr):</u> Existing <u>Runout Control:</u> <sup>3</sup> No Change Maintain existing hydrology. Encourage infiltration and reduced impervious BMPs. Conduct water budget analysis.
<b>B—Manage 1</b>	Maintain wetland without degrading existing functions, values and wildlife habitat. Apply WCA sequencing process.	Pretreat conveyed flows to maintain background loading rates.	35-50 feet Require monuments to mark buffer edge.	WCA minimum or greater replacement ratio. Replacement of functions and values on site or in location specified in plan for drain/fill/excavation impacts.  In compliance with Ch. 7050 the entire area affected by storm water or other wastewater flows must be avoided, minimized and replaced at a replacement ratio of 1:1 for all changes in wetland type.	<u>Bounce (10 yr):</u> Existing + 0.5 ft <u>Inundation (1 &amp; 2 yr):</u> Existing plus 1 day <u>(10 yr):</u> Existing + 7 days <u>Runout Control:</u> <sup>2</sup> No Change Maintain existing hydrology. Encourage infiltration and reduced impervious BMPs.
<b>C—Manage 2</b>	Maintain wetland footprint. Improve wetland biological and plant community diversity/integrity or enhance other functions if possible. Apply WCA sequencing process. Consider for restoration.	Pretreat all conveyed discharges to remove all heavy particles and maximize removal of fine grained sediment prior to discharging to the wetland	25-35 feet Require monuments to mark buffer edge.	WCA minimum replacement of acreage and functions/values on site or in location specified in plan for drain/fill/excavation impacts  In compliance with Ch. 7050 the entire area affected by storm water or other wastewater flows must be avoided, minimized and replaced at a replacement ratio of 1:1 for all changes in wetland type.	<u>Bounce (10 yr):</u> Existing + 1.0 ft <u>Inundation (1 &amp; 2 yr):</u> Existing plus 2 days <u>(10 yr):</u> Existing + 14 days <u>Runout Control:</u> <sup>2</sup> 0 to 1.0 ft above existing runoff
<b>D—Manage 3</b>	Allow for relaxed sequencing and replacement plan flexibility. Consider for restoration/enhancement.	Pretreat all conveyed flows to remove all medium grained and larger sediments.	25 feet	WCA allows mitigation flexibility with minimum standards required in the plan area, see M.R. 8420.0650.  In compliance with Ch. 7050 the entire area affected by storm water or other wastewater flows must be avoided, minimized and replaced at a replacement ratio of 1:1 for all changes in wetland type.	<u>Bounce (10 yr):</u> No Limit <u>Inundation (1 &amp; 2 yr):</u> Existing plus 7 days <u>(10 yr):</u> Existing + 21 days <u>Runout Control:</u> <sup>2</sup> 0 to 4.0 ft above existing runoff

<sup>1</sup> Buffers are unmowed, naturalized strips of vegetation around the wetland perimeter. Buffers would be provided during development or redevelopment

<sup>2</sup> Where possible, use 300-foot buffers as per MnRAM (Question #23).

<sup>3</sup> If currently landlocked, new outlet should be above delineated wetland elevation.

### 1.1.1 Preserve

Wetlands classified as **Preserve** have at least one of the following characteristics:

- Wetlands rated with exceptional vegetative diversity/integrity, which may include wetlands with natural communities not significantly impacted by invasive species or other human-induced alterations, wetlands harboring endangered or threatened plant species, or rare wetland habitats classified as imperiled (S1) or critically imperiled (S2) by the state rankings.
- Wetlands rated as exceptional for wildlife habitat. These include wetlands known to harbor endangered or threatened animal species, rare communities, or wildlife refuges and fish and wildlife management areas whose purpose is maintaining suitable habitats for wildlife.
- Wetlands rated as high for amphibian habitat.
- Wetlands rated as exceptional for fish habitat. These wetlands include those specifically managed for fish management; designated trout streams, lakes or adjacent wetlands; and known spawning habitat for game fish.
- Wetlands rated high for shoreline protection. Wide wetlands bordering lakes and feeder streams that have persistent, emergent, submergent, or floating-leaved vegetation are critical to protecting the water quality of the lakes from bank erosion and sedimentation from upstream.
- Wetlands rated exceptional for aesthetics/education/recreation/cultural and rated high for wildlife habitat, include those located on public lands that provide a unique or rare recreational, educational, or cultural opportunity, and have high functional level for wildlife since that is typically a primary focus for users.
- Wetlands that are exceptionally sensitive to stormwater impacts and have a vegetative diversity/integrity rating of medium or higher were also placed in this category. These wetlands may have suffered some degradation from human influences due to their heightened sensitivity. The vegetative quality of the wetland is such that improved management may allow for restoration of the community.
- Wetlands with a high vegetative diversity/integrity rating *and* a high rating for wetland water quality. The vegetative community in these wetlands typically has been only slightly affected by humans and still maintains high functioning to maintain water quality, which is critical to wetland sustainability.
- Wetlands with a high vegetative diversity/integrity rating *and* a high rating for hydrologic regime. The vegetative community in these wetlands typically has been only slightly affected by humans and still maintains high functioning levels for hydrologic regime, which is critical to wetland sustainability.

### 1.1.2 Manage 1

Wetlands classified as **Manage 1** have at least one of the following characteristics:

- Wetlands rated with high vegetative diversity/integrity, which typically include diverse wetland plant communities with less than 20 percent cover of non-native or invasive species.

- Wetlands rated as high for wildlife habitat. These generally include wetlands located within large tracts of undeveloped land or in parks, which allow for wide high quality upland buffers. In addition, this includes seasonal wetlands that are well buffered.
- Wetlands rated as medium for amphibian habitat. This includes seasonal wetlands that are well buffered.
- Wetlands rated as high for fish habitat. These wetlands are lacustrine/riverine or are contiguous with a permanent waterbody or watercourse and provide spawning/nursery habitat, or refuge for native fish species in adjacent lakes, rivers or streams.
- Wetlands rated medium for shoreline protection. These wetlands include those that are moderately wide and support persistent emergent, submergent, or floating-leaved vegetative cover bordering lakes and feeder streams.
- Wetlands rated high for aesthetics/education/recreation/cultural *and* medium for wildlife habitat, include those that provide a number of benefits that may include: spatial buffering, accessibility, public ownership, multiple recreational opportunities, and medium-quality wildlife habitat.
- Wetlands that are highly sensitive to stormwater impacts *and* have a vegetative diversity/integrity rating of medium or high were also placed in this category. The vegetative quality of the wetland is such that improved management may allow for restoration of the community.
- Wetlands with a medium vegetative diversity/integrity rating *and* a high rating for wetland water quality. The vegetative community in these wetlands has only been moderately affected by humans and still maintains high functioning levels for water quality, which is critical to wetland sustainability. These wetlands would likely benefit from active management.
- Wetlands with a medium vegetative diversity/integrity rating *and* a high rating for hydrologic regime were placed in the **Manage 1** category. The vegetative community in these wetlands has only been moderately affected by humans and still maintains high functioning levels for hydrologic regime, which is critical to wetland sustainability. These wetlands would likely benefit from active management.
- Wetlands rated high for commercial use. These wetlands provide important social value without having an altered hydrology.

### 1.1.3 Manage 2

Wetlands classified as **Manage 2** have at least one of the following characteristics:

- Wetlands rated with medium vegetative diversity/integrity, which typically include wetlands with less diversity and up to 50 percent cover of non-native or invasive species.
- Wetlands rated as medium for wildlife habitat. These often include wetlands that are increasingly separated from natural communities and wildlife corridors; they often lack significant upland buffers and are increasingly altered.
- Wetlands rated as low for amphibian habitat. These wetlands are increasingly altered, but they still have some opportunity to provide either breeding, over wintering, or resting habitat for amphibians.
- Wetlands rated as medium for fish habitat. These wetlands include those which are intermittently connected to waterbodies supporting native fish populations

- Wetlands rated low for shoreline protection. While these wetlands are not providing the highest level of protection to the lake or river systems, their mere presence provides some level of protection that should not be dismissed. These wetlands are typically narrow, with little emergent, submergent, or floating-leaved vegetation.
- Wetlands rated Medium for aesthetics/education/recreation/cultural and Low for wildlife habitat.

### 1.1.4 Manage 3

Wetlands classified as **Manage 3** include all of the remaining wetlands that did not fit into any of the above-described conditions. **All** of these wetlands would rate low for vegetative diversity/integrity. Many of these wetlands rate medium or high for downstream water quality protection and for flood storage/attenuation. This correlation is expected since wetlands that provide higher levels of water quality treatment and runoff/rate control often suffer from ecological degradation.

## 1.2 Wetland Restoration Potential

Evaluate restoration potential of drained and partially drained wetlands in the field. The potential for wetland restoration is determined based on the ease with which the wetland could be restored considering factors including: the number of landowners within the historic wetland area, the size of the potential restoration area, the potential for establishing buffer areas or water quality ponding, the extent and type of hydrologic alteration, and the potential for flooding adjacent properties. Using those parameters, a functional rating of High, Medium, or Low is computed where High means that there will be fewer obstacles to completing a successful restoration.

## 1.3 Wetland Susceptibility to Stormwater Input

Stormwater runoff carries soil particles, nutrients, and contaminants that can change the ecological balance of the receiving water body. Changes in the volume, rate, frequency, or duration of stormwater entering or discharging from the water body can also change the ecological integrity. Alterations to the ecological integrity of a wetland often result in changes in the functional capacity, fish and wildlife habitat, replacement of native vegetation with invasive and disturbance-tolerant plant species, and/or other impacts to the wetland's functions and values.

A methodology<sup>6</sup> for determining the susceptibility of wetlands to degradation by stormwater input relates wetland type to a susceptibility level as shown in Table 1.2. Wetlands such as bogs and fens can easily be degraded by changes in the stormwater inflows and are designated as exceptionally susceptible. On the other hand, floodplain forests are more tolerant of changes in the frequency, magnitude and duration of flooding without degradation and are therefore classified as moderately susceptible. Shallow marshes and wet meadows dominated by hybrid cattail, reed canary grass, or other invasive/non-native species (see Table 1.2 and MNRAM 3.0) have a moderate susceptibility to stormwater fluctuations and inputs.

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<sup>6</sup> *Storm-Water and Wetlands: Planning and Evaluation Guidelines for Addressing Potential Impacts of Urban Storm-Water and Snow-Melt Runoff on Wetlands* (State of Minnesota Storm Water Advisory Group, 1997).

In referencing the topographic map on page 17 in the application, it is clear that the wetlands are lower than the event site.

All these things will flow and or leach into the ground and the water. Most residents have wells that could possibly be affected.

There is no inlet or outlet to Beaver Lake so there is no refreshing of water. Any foreign materials introduced, stay there.

This area is home to many birds, mammals, amphibians, and fish that thrive in its current condition.

This is a quiet area. The call of loons during the day, and peeper frogs at night are currently the only wonderful natural sounds.

I can't imagine being out in a canoe and hearing music and other noise pollution from such a venue.

I see that they tried to address light pollution by pointing lights down but light will still be visible and refracted.

A 34' tall building will also be an eyesore as it will be clearly visible from the lake.

What does it do for the traffic in this area?

I see in the comments on parcel in the application they would like to purchase the adjacent property to act as a buffer.

So, do they plan on planting trees on this property to truly create a buffer, or do they plan on gaining public lake access?

There is currently no public access to this lake and I would like to keep it that way. I understand that this is not in the current application.

In short, I believe this type of zoning change drastically effects the habitat of the current wildlife, and creates visual, noise, and light pollution for its residents.

I have been coming to this location for 50+ years and would like to preserve its natural integrity and keep it the way it is for my family and future generations.

Thank you very much for your time in this matter.

**Bret Kolbe**

*Quality Assurance Manager*

Beazer Homes – Dallas

1501 LBJ Freeway, Suite 300 | Farmers Branch, TX 75234

Office: 972.250.5554



**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Convention center and asphalt parking lot  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:46:48 PM

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**From:** Allison Samberg <asamber01@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 3:32 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Convention center and asphalt parking lot

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Hello,

I wanted to reach out and express my opinion, as I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit. This threatens Beaver lake and it's surrounding wetlands.

Allison

--

Allison Samberg

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Swanson convention center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:47:20 PM

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**From:** Dr. Wade Kubat <wkubat@lincolnsurgical.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 3:38 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Swanson convention center

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am against this project and the negative impact it will have on Beaver lake and the surrounding wetlands.

-Wade Kubat

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposed to Event Center Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:47:45 PM

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**From:** Judie Hilmoie <djhilmoie@LIVE.COM>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 3:39 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Opposed to Event Center Permit

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

We are opposed to granting the permit for an event center which will endanger Beaver Lake and its wetlands.

Dick and Judie Hilmoie

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposed to event center permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:48:26 PM

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**From:** Ken Johnson <kbjohnson71@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 4:10 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Opposed to event center permit

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am opposed to granting the permit for an event center  
which will endanger Beaver Lake and its wetlands.

Respectfully yours,  
Kenneth Johnson

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposed to Event Center Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:48:58 PM

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**From:** Dianne Johnson <diannejohnson67@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 4:11 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Opposed to Event Center Permit

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am opposed to granting the permit for an event center which will endanger Beaver Lake and its wetlands.

Respectfully yours,  
Dianne Johnson

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Beaver Lake  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:53:01 PM

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**From:** Jody Kolquist <jlkolquist@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 4:36 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Beaver Lake

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

To Whom It May Concern,  
We are opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit which threatens Beaver Lake and its wetlands!  
Scott and Jody Kolquist

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:59:08 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: linda habberstad <habberlinda@gmail.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 5:15 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Permit

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am opposed to the Convention Center proposed by Kevin Swanson as it will adversely affect Beaver Lake and its wetlands. Please do not allow this Permit to be given.

Sincerely,  
Linda Habberstad

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Convention Center Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:59:49 PM

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**From:** Susan Benson <[sbenson9598@gmail.com](mailto:sbenson9598@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 5:17 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <[BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov](mailto:BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Convention Center Permit

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

To whom it may concern,

I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit which threatens Beaver lake and its wetlands. Please do not allow the permit.

Thank you-  
Susan Benson



**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Kevin Swanson Convention Center Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:00:42 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Krumwiede <[rkrumw@d.umn.edu](mailto:rkrumw@d.umn.edu)>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 5:21 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <[BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov](mailto:BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov)>  
Subject: Kevin Swanson Convention Center Permit

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I have just heard about the proposal to build a convention center that will encroach on Beaver Lake and adjoining wetlands. I ask that you turn down this request. Our natural areas are precious and so very limited. They are a major attraction of our county an state and need to be preserved.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Bob Krumwiede  
Duluth, MN 55811  
218/349-6313 (C)  
218/728-5723 (H)

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Conditional use permit for wedding/event center in Solway Township (applicant Kevin Swanson)  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:02:18 PM

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**From:** Jeff <pykkman@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 5:20 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Conditional use permit for wedding/event center in Solway Township (applicant Kevin Swanson)

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Greetings

I am writing to oppose the approval of the conditional use permit for a wedding/event center in Solway Township (applicant Kevin Swanson). The intended commercial use of this land is not consistent with adjacent land use. The adjacent properties are residential and recreational properties surround and small, quiet, private lake. A large noisy commercial party center would significantly detract from the natural idyllic setting our families have enjoyed for decades. The small size and physical limitations create an environment that would be overcome with noise and light pollution from a commercial use that would bring such large numbers of people, cars, and parties. This commercial enterprise would be most busy on weekends - when these recreational and residential properties and lake are also most used.

Of gravest concern would be if this commercial enterprise were to gain access or use of the lake itself. The lake is small enough that you can hear a conversation across it. A wedding pontoon, party barge, or any commercial use of this lake would destroy the natural wilderness aesthetic and conflict with the intended residential/recreational use.

Our family properties on the lake are minimally developed. The county has in fact denied a variance to add a small addition to my uncle's cabin on the lake. To add such a large commercial building would seem inconsistent and counterintuitive.

If this permit were to be approved please at a minimum restrict outside amplified music and specifically preclude any commercial use of the lake.

Respectfully,  
Jeff Pykkonen  
Member of The Lake on Birch Shores, LLC  
Part owner of 6860 Highway 194, Saginaw MN

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Kevin Swanson Convention Center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:09:00 PM

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**From:** 4zeegang <4zeegang@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 5:41 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Kevin Swanson Convention Center

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center and its parking lot permits.  
I believe it would threaten Beaver Lake and surrounding wetlands.

Dave Zimmerman

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Kevin Swanson Convention Center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:09:26 PM

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**From:** stan winterroth <winstan1210@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 5:44 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Kevin Swanson Convention Center

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I would like to voice my opposition to the Kevin Swanson convention center and parking lot permit which threatens Beaver lake and it's wetlands.  
Stan Winterroth

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#); [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to conditional use of NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 SLY of Highway, S5, T50N, R16W (Solway)  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:14:43 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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George, you were copied on this one, but not sure if you saved it to the correspondence file so please make sure we include it. Thanks.

---

**From:** Sheryl Filby Williams <SWilliams@barr.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 5:54 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Cc:** George Knutson <KnutsonG@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Opposition to conditional use of NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 SLY of Highway, S5, T50N, R16W (Solway)

**WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.**

To Ms. Bourbonais and the St. Louis County Planning Commissioners,  
The purpose of this email is to provide written opposition to the conditional use permit of NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 SLY of Highway, S5, T50N, R16W (Solway) that is being proposed at the meeting on 6/10/21.

My family owns a portion of the property and a cabin (6858 HWY 194) on Beaver Lake, which is adjacent to the proposed wedding venue/event center. I am the CEO of The Lakes at Birch Shores, LLC, which is how our family manages our shared property at Beaver Lake that has been in our family for decades. Professionally, I am a Senior Hydrogeologist and Vice President at Barr Engineering Co. in Duluth and a licensed geologist in the State of MN. As part of my job, I work in environmental permitting for proposed projects.

I am opposed to the conditional use permit for the following reasons:

**1. The proposed use is not compatible with the existing residential neighborhood.** Beaver Lake is bounded by a very small quiet residential neighborhood in a wilderness setting. Beaver Lake is where my children, and generations of children before them, have learned to swim and fish, catch fireflies, and look for shooting stars. A wedding venue seven days a week with noise and light pollution well into the nighttime is not consistent with this residential setting.

**2. The area is environmentally sensitive with a small groundwater-fed lake and adjacent wetlands.** Beaver Lake is a very small (about 25 acres) groundwater-fed lake that is designated the most environmentally sensitive by the MN DNR. The parcel between the lake and the target parcel is a wetland area. While we haven't completed a formal wetland delineation on that parcel, based on knowledge of the area, the actual wetland area is potentially larger than that shown in the St. Louis County Planning Commission Staff Report and should be confirmed as part of this proposed project. Any potential impacts to the environment or plant or wildlife species within the wetlands or the lake should be evaluated as part of an environmental assessment worksheet or appropriate evaluation.

**3. Uncertainty on current or future plans for use of Beaver Lake by the proposed wedding venue/event center.**

We are aware that the current permit application is silent on whether the proposed wedding venue has current or future plans to access Beaver Lake for activities related to the wedding venue. However, anecdotally, our family has heard this is the plan. As owners on Beaver Lake, we strictly oppose the wedding venue accessing this very small privately-owned and environmentally-sensitive residential lake for activities (boating, snowmobiling etc.) related to the wedding venue for the same reasons described in #1 and # 2 above; those activities are incompatible with residential use and pose a potential threat to environmentally sensitive areas.

In conclusion, we respectfully request that the conditional use permit for a wedding venue at NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 SLY of Highway, S5, T50N, R16W (Solway) not be granted.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this important decision that will affect my family and Beaver Lake for decades.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Filby Williams, PG

Vice President  
Senior Hydrogeologist  
Barr Engineering Co.  
325 Lake Ave South Suite 700  
Duluth, MN 55802

-----  
office: 218.529.8211  
toll-free: 800.632.2277  
cell: 218.343.2841  
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[swilliams@barr.com](mailto:swilliams@barr.com)  
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If you no longer wish to receive marketing e-mails from Barr, respond to [communications@barr.com](mailto:communications@barr.com) and we will be happy to honor your request.

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: KSCC  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:17:12 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Daniel Dougherty <DanielT@dfhduluth.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 6:15 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: KSCC

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit which threatens Beaver lake and its wetlands.

Daniel T Dougherty

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**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Protect Beaver Lake  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:18:18 PM  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** RAY KOLOJESKI Owner <babbs4jc@centurylink.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 6:37 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Protect Beaver Lake  
**Importance:** High

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Hi,

There are **three** adults in this household who vote "NO" to the permit for the convention center.

As it stands, the speed limit on 194 has been raised to 60 mph after the Hermantown city line (Solway Road). This is no acceptable to the residents that live on this stretch of the HWY. Drivers have always driven faster than the posted speed limit down 194. Right now with the speed limit at 60, they are going at least 70 down the road. The junction of 194 and HWY 2 has always been a site for accidents. There is no possible way it will be safe for all the drivers going to a convention center. Not to mention the wildlife that live in that area. There is a lot of other land in the county they could use for a convention center. This would not be a safe move.

NO! Don't approve the permit.

Thank you,  
Patricia Kolojeski  
David Shabert

Barbara Shabert

Barb Shabert

(218) 729-6672

[babbs4jc@centurylink.net](mailto:babbs4jc@centurylink.net)

[www.yourAvon.com/bshabert](http://www.yourAvon.com/bshabert)

BEAUTY FOR A PURPOSE

Check out [youtube.com/Avon](https://www.youtube.com/Avon) for makeup tips.

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to Permit 530-0010-00900 on Beaver Lake in Solway Township  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:20:23 PM

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**From:** msp04790@cpinternet.com <msp04790@cpinternet.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 6:58 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Opposition to Permit 530-0010-00900 on Beaver Lake in Solway Township

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

June 5, 2021

Dear Ms. Bourbonais and the St. Louis County Planning Commissioners-

Thank you for soliciting input into the conditional use permit of NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 SLY of Highway, S5, T50N, R16@ (Solway) PIN: 530-0010-0090 on Beaver Lake in Solway Township which will be discussed at the 6/10/2021 meeting. I am an owner of a seasonal property on the lake which has been in my family for over 75 years and which I have personally used for over 50 years. I am writing to express my strong opposition to this permit.

Solway Township is a rural, residential township with low density housing. Beaver lake is a 35 acre spring fed lake with minimal boat traffic with spaced out properties surrounding its shore. It is a quiet lake home to nesting loons, as well as a variety of other birds, fish and wild game. It has no outlet or inlet. The current land is zoned for residential use. The proposed event center would not only be out of character with the quiet lake and neighborhood but also raises multiple safety and environmental concerns. These include increased traffic flow at the already dangerous intersection of Highway 194 and Highway 2, as well as on Highway 194 leading into the event center. Increased noise and light pollution from the event center will affect current cabin/home owners on the lake and disrupt wildlife. Topography of the land currently magnifies any sound on the lake and any noise from the center, even nonamplified, will be disruptive to adjacent properties and also the entire lake community. Development of a large building and 100 car parking lot threatens the wetlands, water purity, groundwater and wetlands of Beaver Lake. I also wish to state my opposition to allowing the event center to access the lake should that be requested in the future.

A clear, unpolluted, quiet lake with extensive surrounding wetlands is becoming a rarity and should be protected. Once damage is done, it is much more difficult and

sometimes impossible to repair. As a long term owner who has been compliant with county residential restrictions in order to maintain the quality of the lake and neighborhood, I am opposed to developing the parcel in question.

Sincerely,

Kari Ball

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Kevin Swanson Convention Center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:20:58 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Tara Mayner <[hijump1@yahoo.com](mailto:hijump1@yahoo.com)>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 7:09 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <[BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov](mailto:BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov)>  
Subject: Kevin Swanson Convention Center

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I would like to voice my opposition to the Kevin Swanson convention center and parking lot permit which threatens Beaver lake and it's wetlands.

Tara Mayner

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Kevin Swanson Convention Center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:23:17 PM

---

-----Original Message-----

From: Patty's Email <sleenfamily@q.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 7:23 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Kevin Swanson Convention Center

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am formally writing to share my opposition for the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit. This permit threatens Beaver Lake and its surrounding wetlands. Please feel free to call me with any questions.

Patricia Sleen  
218-393-7044

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Petition results for Solway residents regarding event center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:28:21 PM  
**Attachments:** [Petition for Beaver lake.PNG](#)

---

Fyi, if we get more info on this one, we might want to replace but lets save this to the file for now.  
thanks!

---

**From:** Jennifer Bourbonais  
**Sent:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:27 PM  
**To:** knts823@aol.com  
**Subject:** RE: Petition results for Solway residents regarding event center

Thank you for the correspondence; it will be forwarded to the St. Louis County Planning Commission for their consideration. However, the petition attached has no signature associated with it which may make it difficult for the Planning Commission's consideration. Is there any more to the petition that you can send that shows the signatures?

Thanks much,

**Jenny Bourbonais**

Land Use Manager  
Planning and Community Development  
St. Louis County  
Government Services Center  
201 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue West  
Virginia, MN 55792  
218-749-0629  
[bourbonaisj@stlouiscountymn.gov](mailto:bourbonaisj@stlouiscountymn.gov)

---

**From:** [knts823@aol.com](mailto:knts823@aol.com) <[knts823@aol.com](mailto:knts823@aol.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 7:44 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <[BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov](mailto:BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov)>  
**Subject:** Petition results for Solway residents regarding event center

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

To: St Louis County Planning Commissioners

Attached is the petition signed by Solway residents who are opposed to the Convention Center project that has been proposed by Kevin Swanson on parcel#530-0010-00900. As stated, we chose to live in a rural community and now find ourselves fighting to maintain our very way of life and protect the quiet and pristine Beaver Lake from the pollution that will be created by Industrial lighting, noise pollution by bands

playing up to 7 days a week, increased traffic, and water pollution. This commercial project, would forever, destroy what we have all worked so hard to preserve.



Recipient: ST. LOUIS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Letter: Greetings,

Protect and preserve rural living in Solway Township and on Beaver Lake!

# Signatures

Name	Location	Date
Solway Residents	US	2021-05-25
Joan Rowe	Hermantown, MN	2021-05-25
Johnnie Rowe	Hermantown, MN	2021-05-25
Jamie Rowe	Minneapolis, MN	2021-05-25
Tammy Kitchenmaster	Duluth, MN	2021-05-25
Sherry Schiller	Minneapolis, MN	2021-05-25
Joy Goedhart	Barnum, MN	2021-05-25
Judith Robertson	Cloquet, MN	2021-05-25
Denise Austin	Duluth, MN	2021-05-25
Jacqueline and Steven Zapp	Mesa, AZ	2021-05-25
Mark Belisle	Pine Island, MN	2021-05-25
Linda Knutson	Duluth, MN	2021-05-25
Josh Knutson	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-25
Heather Knutson	Brookston, MN	2021-05-25
Madelynn Ludwig	Wheaton, IL	2021-05-25
Rachel Ludwig	Phoenix, AZ	2021-05-25
Meredith Bilse	Minneapolis, MN	2021-05-26
JoAnna Danielson	Duluth, MN	2021-05-26
Laura Kheradi	Bethesda, MD	2021-05-26
oliver sieber	Clearfield, UT	2021-05-26

Name	Location	Date
Amanda Fiege	Duluth, MN	2021-05-26
Brett Ludwig	Wheaton, IL	2021-05-26
Mark Socha	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-26
Kristin Swanstrom	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-26
Justin Knutson	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-26
Paula Martwig	Duluth, MN	2021-05-26
Paul Zieroth	Minneapolis, MN	2021-05-26
June Templer	Duluth, MN	2021-05-26
Susan Benson	Cloquet, MN	2021-05-26
Kyle Nordeen	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-26
Mary Lunke	Duluth, MN	2021-05-26
Lisa Brekke	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-26
Sandra Filby	Duluth, MN	2021-05-26
Beth Esselstrom	Cloquet, MN	2021-05-26
Trevor Ratliff	Scottsdale, AZ	2021-05-26
Blaine Johnson	55720, MN	2021-05-26
Tricia Rosenberger	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-26
Jamie Loftis	Duluth, MN	2021-05-26
Keith Warner	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-26
Robert Kolbe	Superior, WI	2021-05-26
Patrick Lowry	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-26
Chris Kolbe	Minneapolis, MN	2021-05-26

Name	Location	Date
Diane Lowry	Duluth, MN	2021-05-26
Jeremy Kolbe	Minneapolis, MN	2021-05-26
Kari and Leon Ball	Duluth, MN	2021-05-26
karen mattson	Duluth, MN	2021-05-26
Ashley Henke	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-26
Brooke Warner	Duluth, MN	2021-05-26
Cindy Henke	San Antonio, TX	2021-05-26
Adam Warner	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-27
Rose Wilson	Duluth, MN	2021-05-27
Bret Kolbe	Gainesville, TX	2021-05-27
Sara Mayfield	Saint Paul, MN	2021-05-27
Marilyn Pykkonen	Cloquet, MN	2021-05-27
Elden Filby	Duluth, MN	2021-05-27
Michelle Burgie	Duluth, MN	2021-05-27
James Horner	Duluth, MN	2021-05-27
LEE LAFRANCE	Duluth, MN	2021-05-27
Julie Gower	Alborn, MN	2021-05-27
Katie Kivi	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-27
Robert Gould	Duluth, MN	2021-05-27
Anna Solem	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-27
Christian Nelson Christian Nelson	Duluth, MN	2021-05-27

Name	Location	Date
Katie Hubbartt	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-27
Heather Pappas	Cloquet, MN	2021-05-27
Zac Hanson	Duluth, MN	2021-05-27
Julee Borg	Duluth, MN	2021-05-27
Kristy Hansen	Duluth, MN	2021-05-27
Patti Bredow	Duluth, MN	2021-05-27
Tiffany Shaw	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-27
Desirae Cogswell	Rochester, MN	2021-05-27
Diane Cekalla	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-27
Mary Ludwig	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-27
Randy Parker	Duluth, MN	2021-05-27
Nicholas Parker	Minnesota	2021-05-27
Joseph Rosenberger	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-28
Troy Templer	Minneapolis, MN	2021-05-28
Pam Solem	Duluth, MN	2021-05-28
Cheryl Olsen	Duluth, MN	2021-05-28
Rick Merritt	Duluth, MN	2021-05-28
Garry Foucault	Cloquet, MN	2021-05-28
Tina Warner	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-28
Jennifer Sharp	Dallas, TX	2021-05-28
Kelly Miller	Duluth, MN	2021-05-28
Nicole Hausman	Brooklyn, US	2021-05-28

Name	Location	Date
Katie Brown-Mesedahl	Duluth, MN	2021-05-28
Jennifer Thompson	Saginaw, MN	2021-05-29
Travis Knutson	Duluth, MN	2021-05-30
Adam Hendrickson	Esko, MN	2021-05-30
Jennifer Hendrickson	Esko, MN	2021-05-30
Mary Jane Anderson	Cloquet, MN	2021-05-30
Claudia Lunke	Chicago, IL	2021-05-30
Jessica Chance	Richardson, TX	2021-05-31
Rachel Burgie	Duluth, MN	2021-05-31
Elizabeth Medina	Saint Paul, MN	2021-05-31
Alexander Kheradi	Bethesda, MD	2021-06-01
Jason Rowe	Minneapolis, MN	2021-06-01
Amy Kammerer	Chaska, MN	2021-06-02
Emily Umbreit	Hopkins, MN	2021-06-02
Angelea Marriott	Saint Paul, MN	2021-06-02
Zach Umbreit	Minneapolis, MN	2021-06-02
Debra Johnson	Duluth, MN	2021-06-02
Reginald Ouellette	Pepperell, MA	2021-06-02
Dustin Kammerer	Chaska, MN	2021-06-02
Sheryl Filby Williams	Duluth, MN	2021-06-02
Aaron Swanstrom	Brookston, MN	2021-06-03
Annie Vitek	Chicago, IL	2021-06-03

Name	Location	Date
Margery Schiff	White Plains, US	2021-06-03
Cara Belisle	Pine Island, MN	2021-06-03
Deborah Pykkonen	Duluth, MN	2021-06-03
Jordan Pykkonen	Duluth, MN	2021-06-03
Jaren Pykkonen	Duluth, MN	2021-06-03
Connie Talsoe-Tropple	Zumbrota, MN	2021-06-04
David Tropple	Zumbrota, MN	2021-06-04
KYLE TIMMERMAN	Rochester, MN	2021-06-04
Kelly Timmerman	Minneapolis, MN	2021-06-04
Bernardo Lastre	Pine Island, MN	2021-06-04
FRANK JIORLE	Saint Paul, MN	2021-06-04
Samantha Warneke	Saginaw, MN	2021-06-04
Faith Omberg	Pine Island, MN	2021-06-04
David Krinke	Zumbrota, MN	2021-06-04
Brian Berger	Philadelphia, PA	2021-06-04
Dan Feinberg	Orono, MN	2021-06-04
James Goltart	Minneapolis, MN	2021-06-04
Roger Belisle	Rapid City, SD	2021-06-04
Jared Warneke	Proctor, MN	2021-06-04
Charlene Belisle	Round Rock, TX	2021-06-04
Safi Najdawi	Bryn Mawr, PA	2021-06-04
Andrew Gagnon	Owatonna, MN	2021-06-04

Name	Location	Date
Mike Belisle	Minneapolis, MN	2021-06-04
Randy Hoffarth	Pine Island, MN	2021-06-04
Rod Garcia	Waxahachie, TX	2021-06-04
Sandra Boesl	Saint Paul, MN	2021-06-04
Mary Engen	Eyota, MN	2021-06-04
Jilann Timmerman	Rochester, MN	2021-06-04
Joe Carlson	Minneapolis, MN	2021-06-05
CJ Fitch	US	2021-06-05
Thomas Wolner	Saint Paul, MN	2021-06-05
Suzy Kirby	Circle Pines, MN	2021-06-05
Twyla Rickard	Dodge Center, MN	2021-06-05
Karen Egger	Hopkins, MN	2021-06-05
Kari Hoffarth	Brandon, FL	2021-06-05
Judy Denzer	Winona, MN	2021-06-05
Linda Soukup	Edgewood, NM	2021-06-05
Erik Tropple	Hopkins, MN	2021-06-05
Darla Smith	Minneapolis, MN	2021-06-05
Mark Lerohl	Port Arthur, TX	2021-06-05
Katherine Hartley	Saginaw, MN	2021-06-05
Heather Wiita	Duluth, MN	2021-06-05
Jeremy Ziells	Duluth, MN	2021-06-05
Amanda Wiita	Duluth, MN	2021-06-05



Name	Location	Date
Catherine Ziells	Duluth, MN	2021-06-05
Debra Barr	Griffin, GA	2021-06-06
Jessica Gerst	Duluth, MN	2021-06-06
Lee McIntee	Osseo, MN	2021-06-06
Jeff Pykkonen	Duluth, MN	2021-06-06
Keri Hager	Duluth, MN	2021-06-06
Eric Hettinger	Rochester, MN	2021-06-07

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: 6/10 Planning Commission Hearing Support Documentation  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 8, 2021 9:11:49 AM  
**Attachments:** [petition\\_signatures\\_jobs\\_29057730\\_20210607201255.pdf](#)

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Rec'd after deadline. Thanks.

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**From:** Solway Residents <solway.residents@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 7, 2021 3:40 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** 6/10 Planning Commission Hearing Support Documentation

**WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.**

Please find attached petition signatures and comments regarding a request for a conditional use permit for property located in Solway Township along Highway 194 in St. Louis County. This conditional use permit request is set to go before the St. Louis County Planning Commission on Thursday, June 10, 2021.

The documents demonstrate significant opposition to the approval of this permit request for consideration. A copy of the active petition can be found here:

<http://chng.it/QjMhbyNB>

Additionally, Township residents are set to voice additional concern at the Tuesday, June 8th Solway Town Hall meeting and will also be present for the hearing on Thursday, June 10th.

On behalf of the Beaver Lake and Solway Township Residents and Property Owners,

-Chris and Melissa Rowe

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Beaver Lake  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:47:15 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Morgan Lamson <mlamson97@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 8:09 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Beaver Lake

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

To whom it may concern,

I just sending this email to say I opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center which threatens Beaver Lake and it's wetlands.

Thank you,  
Morgan Lamson

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to convention center permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:47:49 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Rian Jentz <[rianjentz@gmail.com](mailto:rianjentz@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 8:25 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <[BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov](mailto:BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov)>  
Subject: Opposition to convention center permit

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am strongly opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit which threatens Beaver lake and its wetlands. That beautiful area should not be ruined because of a parking lot and convention center. Thank you for your consideration.

Rian Jentz

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Save Beaver Lake  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:48:39 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Kate McKane <k\_jentz@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 8:25 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Save Beaver Lake

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am writing to plead with you to reject the permit for the Kevin Swanson convention center permit due to the negative impact it will have on Beaver lake and the surrounding wetlands. Whenever our family visits the lake, our kids are amazed by the beauty, the seclusion, and the life that habitat supports. As soon as we leave, they ask when we can visit again. It would be a shame to approve a permit that would risk harming any of that. Please protect the wildlife, wetlands and Beaver lake.

Kate McKane

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Kevin Swanson Convention Center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:49:12 PM

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**From:** Jason Young <jyoung101st@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 8:34 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Kevin Swanson Convention Center

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Hello,

I am opposed to the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit. I feel it will threaten Beaver Lake and it's wetlands.

Thank you for hearing out my concerns.

Sincerely,

Jason Young  
218-341-8427

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposition to permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:50:06 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Terri Leonard <terrileonard1@gmail.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 8:51 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Opposition to permit

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to let you know of my opposition to the special use permit requested by Kevin Swanson to build a Convention Center which will threaten Beaver Lake and its wetlands. The property is zoned residential and I believe it should remain so. Beaver Lake is just a little spring-fed lake with no public access-- just 5 cabins and three year round homes. The runoff from the parking lot, fertilizer, etc will not only affect the lake and all the habitats but the water table and the wells of those who live there. Major Convention Center events with their accompanying noise levels will shatter the quiet of this idyllic place. Lake property is hard to come by; please don't destroy the quality of life for those who live there or who treasure their cabin getaway. I hope we can agree that the beauty and peace of nature, as well as a clean habitat for fish and wildlife are more valuable than a few dollars in the county's coffers.

I appreciate your consideration of my opinion.

With concern for our natural world and for the current property owners who would lose something precious,

Terri Leonard  
4220 Stebner Rd  
Hermantown, MN 55811

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Convention center in Solway twsp  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 2:51:16 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Kathleen Axtell <kathleenaxtell@aol.com>  
Sent: Sunday, June 6, 2021 8:57 PM  
To: Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
Subject: Convention center in Solway twsp

WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

We are sending this email in opposition to the building of a convention center by Beaver Lake. We are concerned about:

1. Increased traffic on Hwy 2 and Hwy 194, the intersection of these two Hwy's is dangerous but so is 194 and Canosia road, along with Hwy 2 and Canosia Rd.
2. We are concerned about the wildlife, especially all the water fowl and Hawks and eagle, which we frequently see on our property because there is a nesting area close by
3. We are concerned about the amount of groundwater that this facility will use, how will this affect all the local wells.
4. When individuals are at a convention they go out to local bars and restaurants, there will be more impaired drivers on the road in our rural environment.
5. Runoff from parking the parking lot and fertilized lawns affecting water purity in Beaver Lake and possibly ground water.

Kathleen and Allan Axtell, Solway Twsp

Sent from my iPad



**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Opposed to Kevin Swanson Convention Center Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 3:00:20 PM

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**From:** Jeff Drajesk <jdrajesk@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:16 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Opposed to Kevin Swanson Convention Center Permit

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jeff Drajesk** <[jdrajesk@gmail.com](mailto:jdrajesk@gmail.com)>  
Date: Sun, Jun 6, 2021 at 8:28 PM  
Subject: Opposed to Kevin Swanson Convention Center Permit  
To: <[bourbonaisj@stlouiscounty.mn.gov](mailto:bourbonaisj@stlouiscounty.mn.gov)>

This threatens local lakes and wetlands, which is the core of the identity of this precious area.

Jeff

--

Jeff Drajesk  
262-758-9832

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: conditional use permit near Beaver Lake  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 3:00:58 PM

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**From:** rakmattson@aol.com <rakmattson@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:17 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** conditional use permit near Beaver Lake

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am writing to oppose the conditional use permit for a wedding venue on Highway 194 in Solway Township. This proposed construction of a large building plus a 150 car parking lot, do NOT fit in with the adjacent land use. The present buildings on this small environmentally protected lake, are residential and seasonal, for enjoyment of wildlife, (eagles, loons, turtles, fish and beavers) and the natural wooded area surrounding the lake. My concerns are noise and light pollution from a large building and parking area, increased and dangerous traffic on already busy Highway 194 and US 2, and run off from the solid surface parking area to pollute the ground water and Beaver Lake, causing irreparable damage.

We do not want our lake property and Beaver Lake impacted by this non-conforming construction project. Deny this permit!

Karen A. Mattson

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Kevin Swanson Convention Center  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 3:04:40 PM

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**From:** Samantha Eckelman <samantha.eckelman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:17 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Kevin Swanson Convention Center

**WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.**

Dear St. Louis County Planning Commission,

Please do NOT go forward with approving the Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit. This will threaten Beaver Lake and its wetlands. I appreciate your consideration for protecting the wetlands and the plants and animals that inhabit this area.

Kindly,  
Samantha

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Event Center at Beaver Lake  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 3:06:04 PM

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**From:** Mike Wendling <mjwendling01@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:39 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Event Center at Beaver Lake

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I don't believe a permit should be issued for a commercial business in a rural lake area with wetlands involved. There are many areas to build that don't impact beautiful natural areas with polluting runoffs from parking lots into wetlands that support many species of wildlife. It also changes the quiet and peaceful lifestyles of the people that live in this area.

Sincerely,  
Michael Wendling

**From:** [knts823@aol.com](mailto:knts823@aol.com) <[knts823@aol.com](mailto:knts823@aol.com)>

**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:42 AM

**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <[BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov](mailto:BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov)>

**Cc:** [knts823@aol.com](mailto:knts823@aol.com)

**Subject:** Conditional Use Permit Application for Kevin Swanson, to build a convention center on Parcel 530-0010-00900 on massive wetlands that drain into Beaver Lake

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

To: St. Louis Planning Commissioners Members

First off, according to the St. Louis County Tax department on parcel # 530-0010-00900, this is not owned by Kevin Swanson. It is owned by Gerald Huberty and Wade Boyat. Mr. Huberty and Mr. Boyat purchased (3) parcels from Lois Rowe on Feb 2013 for \$86,000. This purchase includes parcel 530-0010-0090 with 19.15 acres, which Mr. Swanson claims to own, also parcel 530-0010-00910 for 16.14 acres and finally parcel 530-0010-01166 with 25.22 acres which totals to 60.51 acres. Melanie at the St. Louis Cty Tax Dept states that this website is updated daily. This report is dated 6-6-2021. My speculation is that this entire sale is CONTINGENT ON MR. SWENSON obtaining a conditional use permit from St. Louis County; which would then initiate his investors to release the money for all 3 parcels. The Conditional Use Permit application requires a response from Mr. Kevin Swanson on the very first line stating, I am a : and he types in Landowner. The last paragraph of this permit application pledges that said applicant is owner- and I quote",INTENTIONAL OR UNINTENTIONAL FALSIFICATION OF THIS APPLICATION OR ANY ATTACHMENTS THERE TO WILL MAKE THIS APPLICATION, ANY APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION AND ANY RESULT INVALID.

Lets take a look at this massive undertaking as outlined by Mr. Swanson. I called Sinnot Blacktop on Friday 6-4-2021 to get a Ballpark figure on a 150'x150' parking lot and the estimator on the phone gasped and asked "HOW LARGE OF A PARKING LOT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, SO I REPEATED THE DIMENSIONS AGAIN. She then advised that the blacktop alone would run around \$225,000 and the large earth movers and excavators would add another \$125,000 totally at least \$350,000. She stated this size parking lot would require massive excavations of the top soil, digging down and putting in class 5 and packing that many times over, then cover with blacktop for heavy use as this size of parking lot would indicate. Due to the fact that Beaver Lake is a NE lake and is spring fed with no outlets ; will mean all the diesel bus pollution, snowmobile exhaust, boat and car gas residuals from the 100 car parking lot will RUN OFF into the lake via the massive sloping wetlands and swamp that CONNECT THIS PARCEL TO THE LAKE. Such massive run off will create a cesspool of contamination. This will then seep into the surrounding ground water table which supplies our wells with drinking water. The approx 20,000 sq ft convention center costs will be approx 3 million or more and then you have large security lamps overlooking the lake, and a massive sewer and well system ; which could very easily bring the total cost to 5 million or more. With that kind of massive investment, the investors are going to be anxious to recoup they're original investment by booking the conventions center 24/7. We all know empty entertainment conventions centers doesn't generate income and pay the bills. The noise level, industrial lighting, along with the snowmobile traffic in the winter will devastate this small lake killing off vegetation and nesting areas for our loons, Trumpet Swans, fish, turtles and etc. This very delicate ecosystem will be decimated. Snowmobiles will be racing thru our back yards to get to the lake, and then to the convention center; for a last minute shot before the bar closes; running over landscaping shrubs, backyard inground pools, and young shade trees that were planted only months before in the summer. There will be no respect for our private yards. Our peace and quiet will be gone; subject to the roar of a late night snowmobile party groups. This small lake cannot take that kind of traffic. Currently if we have more than 3 pontoons out at the same time, we have to carefully navigate the lake moving slowly so as not to disturb the Loons. The Loons are happy here because of the extreme quiet they need to nest.

In addition to that, we have the White Pine River which is a tributary of the Saint Louis River. The potential of this pollution traveling thru the swamps and carried thru-out Solway and Grand Lake Townships is extremely likely. The White Pine River is located 1/2 mile south east of Beaver Lake and snakes all along the full length of Beaver Lake. All run off pollution from this 22,500 sq ft parking lot will enter the wetlands and flow DIRECTLY INTO BEAVER LAKE as they are connected. White Pine River is located only 1/2 mile from the south and the east all along Beaver Lake. Run off pollution from the 22,500 sq. ft parking lot, and the 20,000 sq ft convention center will flow directly into the massive wetlands surrounding and connecting Beaver Lake which is a subsidiary of Saint Louis River. Wetlands and swamps act like a sieve for water and are connected with literally miles of swamp that leads directly to the White Pine River. The White Pine River enters into the North end of Solway Township from Breavor Township, snaking it's way southward for 15 miles thru the center of Solways Township reaching the south end of Solway Township. From there it enters into Grand Lake Township traveling 2 miles where it dumps into Mud Lake, and then finally travelling another 2 miles where it empties into PIKE LAKE. Mr. Swanson has included buses, snowmobiles, cars, trucks as examples of vehicles he will have in his parking lot. Many tour buses run on diesel. Therefore, the mixture of of this run off could potentially be detrimental NOT ONLY to Beaver Lake and it's residents; BUT TO THE ALL THOSE RESIDENTS WHO LIVE ALONG THE WHITE PINE RIVER, MUD LAKE, AND PIKE LAKE. The water table could easily be contaminated leading along this 19 mile route which would render Solway and Grand Lake Township residents with wells poisoned and the final dumping ending up in PIKE LAKE!!!!. We are asking the commissioners planning board to deny this conditional use permit application that Mr. Swanson has requested. Attached are documents from the St. Louis County Property Details Report, and the White Pine River Map detailing the route thru Breavor Township, Solway Township, and Grand Lake Township and the close proximity to our Beaver Lake.

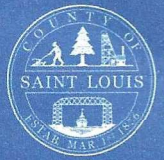
P.S. AS PER additional comments that is found on page 2 of the inspection conducted by the planning commission staff, that Mr. Swanson intended on purchasing the 2 additional adjacent parcels that will not be utilized for the event center activities but may act as a buffer to mitigate potential noise during events. WE have lived on this lake since JUNE OF 1987, AND THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS BUFFERING NOISE BY USING ADDITIONAL ACREAGE. HIS COMPLEX WILL BE LOCATED 1/4 OF A MILE FROM US, AND BY EXAMPLE, WHEN THE SAGINAW BAR WHICH IS LOCATED 1/2 A MILE FROM OUR HOME, HAS AN OUTDOOR BAND; WE CAN HEAR IT VERY CLEARLY IN OUR BACKYARD AS IF WE WERE ON THE BAR PREMISE. THERE IS A SOLD 1/2 MILE OF TREES ALONG HIGHWAY # 2, WHICH DOES NOT BUFFER ANY OF THAT OUTDOOR NOISE. When our neighbors across the lake have a bonfire, and just sit around it to talk, we can hear they're conversations across the length of the lake. SOUND IS AMPLIFIED BY THE LAKE AND ECHOES EVERYWHERE. THE NOISE FROM THIS LARGE COMPLEX OPERATING 7 DAYS A WEEK FROM 9AM-11 PM will be so devastating not only to the residents; but to our wildlife animals that make this lake sanctuary they're home. Again, there is no such thing as buffering noise by using distance, when not even a half a mile of trees and woods can accomplish this!!





# PROPERTY DETAILS REPORT

St. Louis County, Minnesota



Date of Report: 6/6/2021 7:02:36 AM

## General Details

Parcel ID: 530-0010-00900  
Document Department: Abstract  
Document Number: 01306607  
Document Date: 03/29/2017  
Plat Name: SOLWAY

## Legal Description Details

Plat Name: SOLWAY

Section	Township	Range	Lot	Block
5	50	16	-	-

Description: NW 1/4 OF SW 1/4 SLY OF HIGHWAY

## Taxpayer Details

Taxpayer Name: HUBERTY GERALD F  
and Address: 2207 KARL AVE  
DULUTH MN 55811

## Owner Details

Owner Name: BOYAT WADE  
and Address: 3840 GETCHELL RD  
HERMANTOWN MN 55811

Owner Name: HUBERTY GERALD  
and Address: 3840 GETCHELL RD  
HERMANTOWN MN 55811

## Payable 2021 Tax Summary

2021 - Net Tax	\$572.00
2021 - Special Assessments	\$0.00
<b>2021 - Total Tax &amp; Special Assessments</b>	<b>\$572.00</b>

## Current Tax Due (as of 6/5/2021)

Due May 15th		Due October 15th		Total Due	
2021 - 1st Half Tax	\$286.00	2021 - 2nd Half Tax	\$286.00	2021 - 1st Half Tax Due	\$0.00
2021 - 1st Half Paid	\$286.00	2021 - 2nd Half Paid	\$286.00	2021 - 2nd Half Tax Due	\$0.00
<b>2021 - 1st Half Due</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>2021 - 2nd Half Due</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>2021 - Total Due</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

## Parcel Details

Property Address: 6910 Hwy 194, SAGINAW  
School District: 704  
Tax Increment District: -  
Property/Homesteader: -

## Assessment Details (2021 Payable 2022)

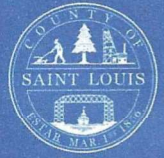
Class Code (Legend)	Homestead Status	Land EMV	Bldg EMV	Total EMV	Def Land EMV	Def Bldg EMV	Net Tax Capacity
111	0 - Non Homestead	\$55,000	\$0	\$55,000	\$0	\$0	-
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$55,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>550</b>





# PROPERTY DETAILS REPORT

St. Louis County, Minnesota



Date of Report: 6/6/2021 7:02:36 AM

## Land Details

**Deeded Acres:** 19.15  
**Waterfront:** -  
**Water Front Feet:** 0.00  
**Water Code & Desc:** -  
**Gas Code & Desc:** -  
**Sewer Code & Desc:** -  
**Lot Width:** 0.00  
**Lot Depth:** 0.00

The dimensions shown are not guaranteed to be survey quality. Additional lot information can be found at <https://apps.stlouiscountymn.gov/webPlatsIframe/fmPlatStatPopUp.aspx>. If there are any questions, please email [PropertyTax@stlouiscountymn.gov](mailto:PropertyTax@stlouiscountymn.gov).

## Sales Reported to the St. Louis County Auditor

Sale Date	Purchase Price	CRV Number
02/2013	\$86,500 (This is part of a multi parcel sale.)	200348

## Assessment History

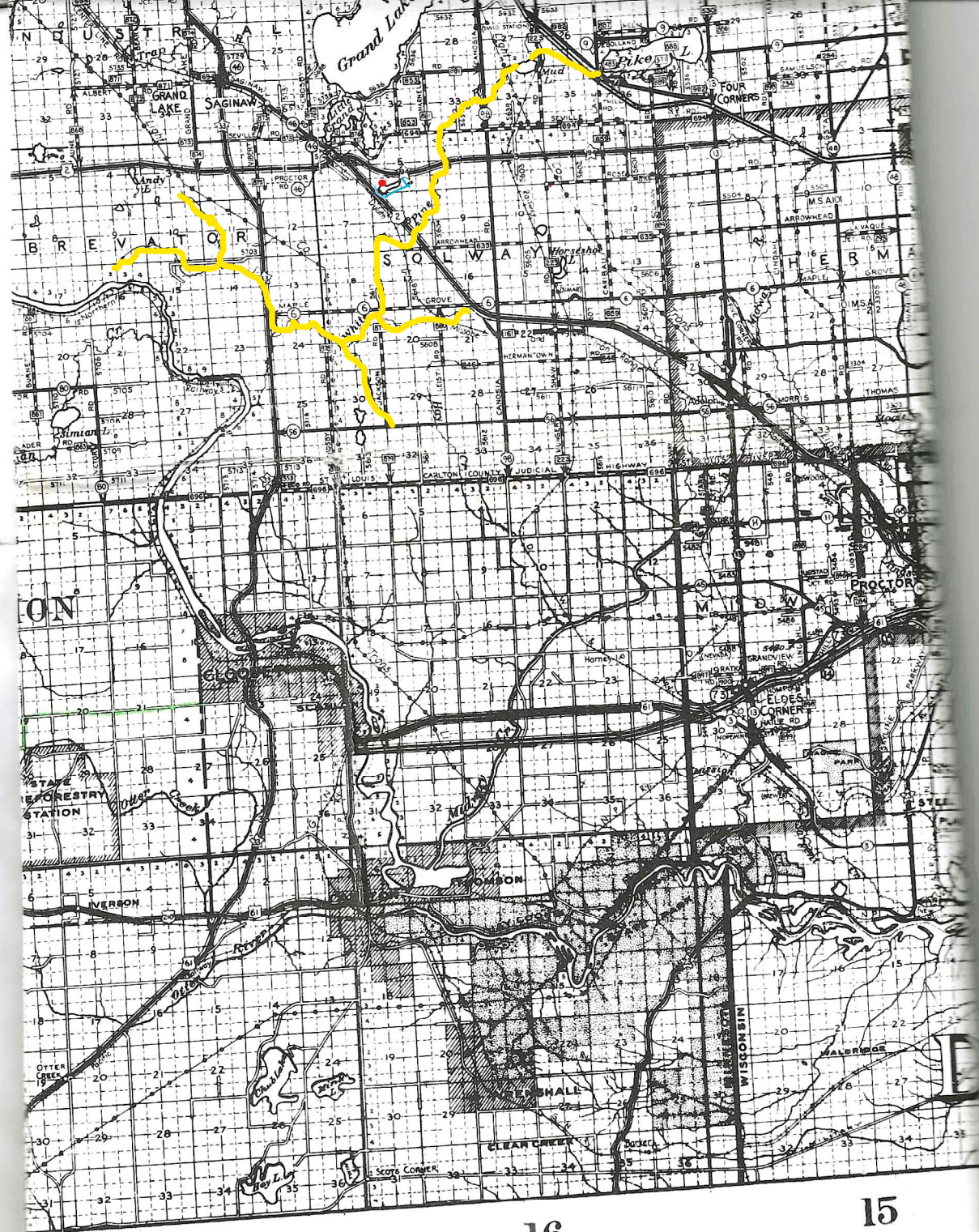
Year	Class Code (Legend)	Land EMV	Bldg EMV	Total EMV	Def Land EMV	Def Bldg EMV	Net Tax Capacity
2020 Payable 2021	111	\$55,000	\$0	\$55,000	\$0	\$0	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>550.00</b>
2019 Payable 2020	111	\$55,000	\$0	\$55,000	\$0	\$0	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$55,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>550.00</b>
2018 Payable 2019	111	\$45,100	\$0	\$45,100	\$0	\$0	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$45,100</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$45,100</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>451.00</b>
2017 Payable 2018	111	\$39,100	\$0	\$39,100	\$0	\$0	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$39,100</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$39,100</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>391.00</b>

## Tax Detail History

Tax Year	Tax	Special Assessments	Total Tax & Special Assessments	Taxable Land MV	Taxable Building MV	Total Taxable MV
2020	\$586.00	\$0.00	\$586.00	\$55,000	\$0	\$55,000
2019	\$476.00	\$0.00	\$476.00	\$45,100	\$0	\$45,100
2018	\$432.00	\$0.00	\$432.00	\$39,100	\$0	\$39,100

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**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Correction to my original e-mail regarding Conditional use permit for Kevin Swanson to build a convention center on Parcel 530-0010-00900  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 1:26:55 PM

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Please include in pdf of first email from [knts823@aol.com](mailto:knts823@aol.com) Thanks.

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**From:** knts823@aol.com <knts823@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 12:04 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Correction to my original e-mail regarding Conditional use permit for Kevin Swanson to build a convention center on Parcel 530-0010-00900

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

Dear Sirs, on the 3rd paragraph, line 6 I mistakenly called Beaver Lake a subsidiary of Saint Louis River. Beaver Lake is an entity unto itself which is spring-fed. with no outlets.

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Event Center Permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 3:06:33 PM

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**From:** Pam Spencer <spunklesmom@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:43 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Event Center Permit

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am opposed to granting a permit to build an event center which could endanger Beaver lake and its wetlands. I am sure there are other places to build this which would be less harmful to the environment. Pam Wendling

**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 3:07:00 PM

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**From:** Jean Walsh <jmbwalsh@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 9:56 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Kevin Swanson Convention Center permit

**WARNING:** External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.

I am opposed to a permit being issued for a convention center in a place that threatens the wetlands. Please do not allow this to move forward.

Thanks.



**From:** [Jennifer Bourbonais](#)  
**To:** [Michelle Claviter-Tveit](#); [Angela Lepak](#)  
**Cc:** [George Knutson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Proposed Convention center on Beaver Lake  
**Date:** Monday, June 7, 2021 3:07:51 PM

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**From:** Jack Henke <jackhenke@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 6, 2021 10:46 PM  
**To:** Jennifer Bourbonais <BourbonaisJ@StLouisCountyMN.gov>  
**Subject:** Proposed Convention center on Beaver Lake

**WARNING: External email. Please verify sender before opening attachments or clicking on links.**

As a close resident to this proposed site I have numerous concerns,

1. Increased traffic on Hwy 2-as we live just down the road from Bever Lake this is an area where Hwy 194 curves and then straightens out heading east towards Hermantown. My driveway along with my next door neighbors driveway over the years made it very dangerous as it is now just pulling out on the Hwy. This project will only increase traffic substantially.
2. Beaver Lake area is home to an abundance of wildlife, Deer, Bears, Ducks,Loons, Hawks, Eagles along with any fish or turtles residing in the lake. You know this will have an impact on them.
3. Noise and Light pollution obviously this type of enterprise will create noise and light pollution just from the facility not including any traffic to or exiting the facility. We have resided here for over 30 years and cherish what quiet we still have along with the beautiful night skies.
- 4 How will this affect property values? All of the above reasons add value to our properties-lose that and what will happen.
- 5 What impact will this have on the cabins and homes already existing on Beaver Lake.? These neighbors have been there for a long time.
6. What will the runoff from a parking lot that large due to the water of Beaver Lake but also what about the water of the surrounding areas. There happens to large areas of wetlands in close proximity to this proposed site.
7. The Hwy 2 Hwy 194 intersection is quite dangerous enough with the current traffic levels. Once again this venue will only increase traffic substantially.
8. Will alcoholic beverages be served at this site? My guess is yes and if not people will bring their own and drink in the parking lot. Just what we need more drunk drivers or drivers partially impaired on our road. Not to mention the litter that will happen, it is inevitable.

These are the concerns I have without really putting much effort into this. My op[inion is absolutely no.

Jack H Henke  
6735 Hwy 194  
Saginaw Minn.

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