

## UMore Park Update – June 2010

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See details at [www.umorepark.umn.edu](http://www.umorepark.umn.edu)

### Forum to be held July 29 on wind, renewable energy opportunities at UMore Park

On July 29, the U will host a community forum in Rosemount on research and education opportunities in renewable energy technologies at UMore Park. A brief program features information on the federally-funded wind energy research project and other energy research and education projects. Participants are encouraged to share their thoughts and ideas, view informational displays on aspects of the wind and other renewable energy projects, and visit with researchers and staff. The U's Charles C. Muscoplat, responsible officer for UMore Park, emphasized, "All phases of planning at UMore Park to date have been founded on the creative ideas and vision of citizens and local organizations through public forums and listening sessions. Continued input from area residents and others will help us address local needs and create opportunities that will have lasting, positive effects in the region." The free community forum will be held on Thursday, July 29 at the Rosemount Community Center from 5:00 to 7:15 p.m. Because a light meal and refreshments will be served, RSVPs are appreciated at [www.umorepark.umn.edu/RenewableEnergyForum](http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/RenewableEnergyForum).

- Funded by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the Wind Energy Research Consortium project includes construction of a wind turbine on the UMore Park property. The DOE is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) to evaluate and address any potential environmental effects of the proposed project. The EA process occurs in two stages, with opportunity for public comment in each: 1) Public scoping to describe the project and identify potential impacts to be addressed, and 2) A draft EA to describe and analyze the potential impacts. Supporting documents and instructions for public comment to DOE are available at [www.eere.energy.gov/golden/Reading\\_Room.aspx](http://www.eere.energy.gov/golden/Reading_Room.aspx).

### U to publish Draft EIS for the UMore Park sand and gravel resources project

The Board of Regents approved publication of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) at its June 11 meeting, a key step in the UMore Park Sand and Gravel Resources Project. The Draft EIS will be available June 28. A public meeting is scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m. on July 22 at the Rosemount Community Center to provide opportunity for the public to learn more about and formally comment on the Draft EIS. The EIS process is anticipated to conclude fall 2010 at which time the U's Board of Regents would determine if all potential issues and concerns have been addressed.

- The Draft EIS presents the results of all studies, reviews, consultations and coordination conducted regarding the potential social, economic and environmental impacts of the proposed project on approximately 1,720 acres on the western edge of the UMore Park property. Learn more at [www.umorepark.umn.edu/Gravel\\_Resources\\_and\\_Assessment](http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/Gravel_Resources_and_Assessment).

### Faculty, student work contributes to housing design, engineering options for UMore Park

Faculty, staff and student research and education projects that contributed to UMore Park planning and development activities were recognized at a May 2010 event hosted by the UMore Park Academic Mission Advisory Board. Remarks by R. Timothy Mulcahy, the U's vice president for research and a member of the UMore Development LLC Board of Governors, highlighted the significant role these projects play in making the vision for UMore Park—a one-of-a-kind platform for applied research and education—a reality.



## Faculty, student work... (continued)

- Two undergraduate summer interns through the Department of Design, Housing and Apparel are compiling data and case studies on opportunities for affordable housing. Their analyses include affordable housing financing programs, models for maintaining affordability over time, energy-saving technologies utilized in affordable housing construction and highlights of the related consumer education programs.
- A summer intern from the College of Science and Engineering focuses on the new renewable energy technologies and energy conservation products that are market-ready and being incorporated into homes and commercial buildings. The information addresses approaches and best practices that can be incorporated into planning.
- Researchers from the U's College of Design explored the impacts for housing and community design of integrated energy and water systems to achieve sustainability goals for the future community at UMore Park. The project includes recommendations for an integrated district-scale heating and cooling, potable water and wastewater system as a highly efficient, cost-effective solution for phased development. Learn more at [www.umorepark.umn.edu/ResearchonHousingInfrastructureDevelopment](http://www.umorepark.umn.edu/ResearchonHousingInfrastructureDevelopment).

## Access updates and project progress

Watch for a new look on the UMore Park website in early July 2010 at [www.umorepark.umn.edu](http://www.umorepark.umn.edu). The refreshed site will make news and information easier to view. A new Vermillion Highlands website providing visitors with easily accessible information on the research, recreation and wildlife management area will likewise launch mid-summer at [www.vermillionhighlands.umn.edu](http://www.vermillionhighlands.umn.edu).

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## Vermillion Highlands Updates

**Activities at Vermillion Highlands.** Visit [www.vermillionhighlands.umn.edu](http://www.vermillionhighlands.umn.edu) for information updates on recreation and hunting activities at Vermillion Highlands, including:

- On June 11 and 12, Vermillion Highlands: A Research Recreation and Wildlife Management Area and the Vermillion River Aquatic Management Area hosted BioBlitz 2010, an event held to identify and inventory an area's plant and animal species. Sponsored by the U's Bell Museum and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, families worked alongside scientists to chronicle the biological diversity of these areas. For data on the number of species inventoried, visit [www.bellmuseum.org/bioblitz/](http://www.bellmuseum.org/bioblitz/).
- Recreation. Experience abundant wildlife as you hike throughout Vermillion Highlands' prairies and wooded areas. Or horseback ride the Lone Rock Trail's scenic trails throughout the summer. The trail head is the sole access point for the Lone Rock Trail. Day- and season-pass information is available at [www.vermillionhighlands.umn.edu](http://www.vermillionhighlands.umn.edu).
- Hunting and Trapping. Visit the Vermillion Highlands Wildlife Management page via [www.vermillionhighlands.umn.edu](http://www.vermillionhighlands.umn.edu) for information on fall 2010 hunting application deadlines and season dates.

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**UMore Park.** The University of Minnesota Outreach, Research and Education (UMore) Park is a 5,000-acre site 25 miles southeast of the Twin Cities at the suburban-rural interface in Dakota County. It is among the largest contiguous properties in the United States that is owned by a land-grant university. The vision to build a University-founded community at UMore Park, a 25- to 30-year endeavor, was affirmed by the University's Board of Regents in December 2006. Work based on the concept master plan for development of a unique, vibrant, sustainable community of 20,000 to 30,000 people is under way.