

# Renville

## COUNTY MESSENGER

*Connecting you with your County Government*

Volume 9

Spring 2010

Issue 1



Minnesota River Valley

## Minnesota River Valley Green Corridor Project and Minnesota River Waterway Trails



Valley is located along the southern boundary of Renville County and the northern boundary of Redwood County. This area has also been designated as the Minnesota River Valley Scenic Byway. The Scenic Byway has a very diverse ecological makeup including hardwood forests, 3.8 billion year old granite outcrops and lush prairie grasses. State and local parks dot the valley and can be enjoyed all year long.

**The Green Corridor** project is a multi-year project designed to acquire, restore, preserve and develop the unique corridor resources into a public, multiple-use, recreational destination for the Minnesota River Valley from the Upper Sioux Agency State Park to Fort Ridgely. In Phase I of the Green Corridor project, a recreation-conservation plan will be developed, including a cultural use component and an immediate land acquisition goal from willing owners adjacent to the river valley. Although agriculture is the main economic driver for our area, local communities recognize the need to diversify the economy with tourism. The plan will build on trail studies by the University of Minnesota's Center for Changing Landscapes; county biological surveys by the DNR; ongoing state investment in the corridor; and land opportunities that are urgent and identified. The project is a citizen driven partnership made up of DNR divisions, non-profit conservation groups and local citizens. Research, park use, trails, hunting and other uses will be considered in flexible

**Two major projects, the Minnesota River Valley Green Corridor Project and the Minnesota River Waterway Trails,** have been launched and are actively working to preserve the land, history and culture of the Upper Minnesota River Valley. The Minnesota River meanders within a massive valley from Browns Valley on the western edge of Lac qui Parle County, east to Mankato and then flows northeast to its confluence with the Mississippi River at Fort Snelling in Ramsey County. This wide river was actually carved by a much larger river. A step back to the last glacial period, 13,000-15,000 years ago, helps us understand the present landscape. At that time a continental glacier covered the area and as the glacier melted and retreated, it created the massive freshwater Lake Agassiz. It was the largest freshwater lake the world has known and it covered most of Northwest Minnesota into Canada. The lake was 700 miles long, 200 miles wide and covered 110,000 square miles. In

comparison, Lake Superior covers 31,700 square miles.

About 12,000 years ago, Lake Agassiz broke through a ridge near Big Stone Lake and began draining in a southeasterly direction. The outlet river was the glacial River Warren. It is estimated at its peak, the River Warren was hundreds of feet deep and up to 5 miles wide. For thousands of years, this torrent of water carried away enormous amounts of earth and carved a massive trench across southern Minnesota. The River Warren scoured the river channel, deeply eroding through the hundreds of feet of glacial till to bedrock in many areas. The banks of this historic river valley carved by the River Warren are still visible. The valley is 250 feet below the surrounding prairies. The banks range from 1 to as many as 5 miles across. Today, the Minnesota River flows through this wide valley carved out by the ancient River Warren. Part of the Minnesota River

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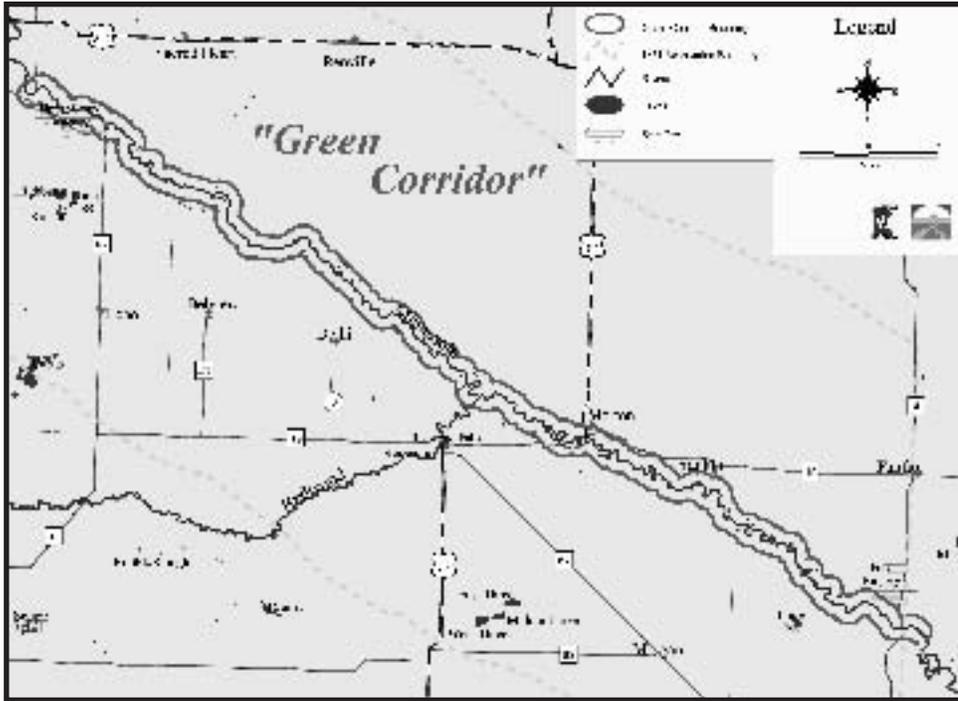
# Minnesota River Valley Green Corridor Project and Minnesota River Waterway Trails

## CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

combinations where feasible. This project is being designed to be a model for balancing the preservation of the local ecology and natural history with the development of recreational and educational opportunities. The Green Corridor project program manager is Brad Cobb.

**The Minnesota River Waterway Trails Project** received a boost from the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails and Conservation (NPS) assistance program out of St. Paul to identify the means to link the natural and cultural resources of the region. The NPS will help to further develop the "waterways" trail of this same Minnesota

River Valley area. One of the goals of the program is to recognize and further identify new resource infrastructures and improvements to existing public facilities along the Water Trail route. This will include recreational opportunities, public access, safety improvements, camping and hiking, restroom facilities and potential removal of an existing dam within the route area. This waterway trail plan will be integrated into several other trail plans currently underway which are developing hiking and biking trails in the region. A key element of the project is to bring together a wide range of partners and communities to develop a common "Vision" and "Action Plan."



These projects are part of a larger movement in the region to connect communities and partners working together on a regional basis for trails and economic development. This movement was started by Tatanka Bluffs, made up of citizens from Renville and Redwood Counties. The group's vision is to build a network of parks, rivers, trails, greenways and open spaces that promotes quality of life and links people to their natural and cultural heritage.

## Development of Renville County Trail Plan

Meetings were held during the fall of 2009 to further the development of a Renville County Trail Plan. A team from the University of Minnesota Center for Changing Landscapes to develop a trail plan for the county was lead by Mary Vogel. Vogel is an urban designer with extensive experience in trail, transit, highway, and community design interfaces and has led many of these design projects throughout the state. The trail design team worked with county residents gathering information about the scenic county parks, natural attractions, historic sites and past Renville County trail planning efforts including the paved Fair Ridge trail from Fairfax to Fort Ridgely. The Renville County Trail Plan will incorporate community trails with local citizens

interests including horse trails, bike trails, walking and hiking trails and ATV trails.

The Renville County Trail Plan process was funded by the Legislative Citizen Commission of Minnesota Resources (LCMR), Renville County, the West Central Sustainable Development Partnership, Renville County Housing and Economic Development Authority (HRA/EDA) and the Olivia Kiwanis Club. The Renville County Park Commission is currently working on a capital improvement plan and the Renville County Commissioners plan to meet with various groups working on all aspects of trail planning. Watch for further news as the Renville County Trail Plan continues to develop.

## SPECIAL Summer Seasonal RV Camping

Rates at Lake Allie Park from  
May 1 thru August 31, 2010  
Cost \$1,425 - Includes water,  
electricity & use of the dump station



**Sites currently available !**  
To make your reservation call the  
Environmental and Community  
Development Department at  
**320-523-3768**



## 2010 Renville County Community Events

April 16-17	<b>Spring Garden Party</b> , Morton
June 11-13	<b>Sugar Beet Days</b> , Renville
June 17-20	<b>Wing Ding Days</b> , Bird Island
June 25-27	<b>Jaycee Summer Celebration</b> , Fairfax
July 4	<b>Independence Day Celebration</b> , Morton
July 2-4	<b>Polka Fest Days</b> , Bird Island
July 7-11	<b>Danube Fun Days</b> , Danube
July 9-11	<b>Corn Chaff Days</b> , Hector
July 16-18	<b>Buffalo Lake Days</b> , Buffalo Lake
July 15-18	<b>Summer Fest</b> , Sacred Heart
July 23-25	<b>Catfish Derby Days</b> , Franklin
July 28-August 1	<b>Corn Capital Days</b> , Olivia
August 8	<b>Czech Heritage Festival</b> , Bechyn
August 10	<b>Chamber Golf Classic Tournament</b> , Olivia
August 14	<b>KMS Memorial Ride</b> , Franklin
August 18-20	<b>Renville County Fair</b> , Bird Island
August 20-22	<b>Amateur Baseball Tournament</b> , Bird Island
August 27-29	<b>Amateur Baseball Tournament</b> , Bird Island
September 3-6	<b>Amateur Baseball Tournament</b> , Bird Island
September 10-12	<b>Scarecrow Festival</b> , Morton
September 11	<b>Renville Museum Day</b> , Renville
November 13	<b>Holiday Happenings</b> , Hector
November 19-21	<b>Beneath the Village Wreath</b> , Morton
December 3-5	<b>Holiday Happenings</b> , Olivia
December 3	<b>Mistletoe Madness</b> , Morton
December 2	<b>Unforgettable Christmas</b> , Hector
December 3	<b>Old Fashion Christmas</b> , Bird Island

For more information regarding these events visit  
[www.renville.com](http://www.renville.com) or call the Renville County  
 HRA/EDA Office at 320-523-3656



# 2010 RENVILLE COUNTY FARMERS' MARKETS



**BUFFALO LAKE FARM & FLEA MARKET**  
SATURDAYS 8:30-11:30AM  
JULY 24TH THROUGH THE FALL  
BUFFALO LAKE CITY PARK HWY 212  
CALL 320-833-5545 FOR MORE INFORMATION

**FAIRFAX FARMER'S MARKET**  
TUESDAY AFTERNOONS JULY - SEPTEMBER  
1ST STREET S.E. OFF HWY 19 FAIRFAX  
CALL 507-426-7851 FOR MORE INFORMATION

**HECTOR FARMER'S MARKET**  
WEDNESDAYS 3-6 PM  
JUNE 9 THROUGH THE FALL  
HIGHWAY 212 & CO RD 4  
(SOUTH CENTRAL GRAIN & ENERGY C- STORE)  
CALL 320-833-6845 FOR MORE INFORMATION

**OLIVIA FARMER'S MARKET**  
THURSDAYS 2-6PM;  
JULY 22 - OCTOBER 21  
HIGHWAYS 212 & 71 (NEXT TO SUPER AMERICA)  
CALL 320-523-3656 FOR MORE INFORMATION

**RENVILLE FARMER'S MARKET**  
FRIDAYS 3-6PM  
MID JUNE THROUGH FALL  
WATER TOWER PARK IN RENVILLE  
CALL 320-523-3656 FOR MORE INFORMATION

*Fresh from the Farm!*

*Access more local produce & producers at [www.localfirst.com](http://www.localfirst.com)*

In an effort to promote locally grown produce, this ad is provided free of charge to local farmers markets & area producers by the Ag & Renewable Energy Committee of the Renville County HRA/EDA. Please call 320-523-3837 if you would like us to include your market. [www.renville.com](http://www.renville.com) & You can now follow us on Twitter at RenCoHRAEDA

## Renville & Meeker County Home Rehabilitation Program



## Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership

In collaboration with Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership (SWMHP) is offering an opportunity for residents of Renville and Meeker Counties to repair their homes. The Rehabilitation Loan Program is designed to help repair your home while focusing on energy efficiency and health and safety of your home. Whether you are in need of managing some minor and/or major home repairs or just considering on joining the "green revolution" this program can get you started.

Loans are available from \$1,000 - \$24,999 with the following eligibility requirements: the home must be their primary residence, mortgage/taxes are current, the party has lived there for at least 6 months, various "green standards" must be implemented, and there has not been any previous success in achieving financing elsewhere. There are homeowner income requirements that do apply and these can be discussed in greater detail by contacting

Lori Speckmeier at 888-468-8010 X1617 or [LoriS@swmhp.org](mailto:LoriS@swmhp.org).

Minnesota Housing Finance Agency and SWMHP want to offer the residents of Renville and Meeker County an affordable option in for repairing your home. Contact Lori for additional information and see if you qualify for this program to improve your home.

## Commodity Supplemental Food Program

### Mothers and Children- Nutrition Assistance Program for Seniors MAC & NAPS

Monthly Food Box Pick-Up at Christian Community Outreach Center in Olivia

Tuesdays 2-4 PM April 13, 2010 • May 11, 2010 • June 8, 2010

Contact Heartland Community Action Agency for more information at 320-523-1842 or 320-235-0850 or Second Harvest Heartland at 1-800-365-0270



# HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

500 E DEPUE • OLIVIA • MN 56277 • (320) 523-3656 • WWW.RENVILLE.COM

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## Communities Explore Alternative Energy Options



**Per Carlsson, General Manager, ABioNova**

According to the U.S. Department of Energy, fossil fuels provide more than 85% of all energy consumed in the U.S. However, they are the largest source of emissions of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas that contributes to global warming. Fortunately, there are sources of alternative renewable energy using locally available resources.

The Renville County HRA/EDA's Ag & Renewable Energy Committee is promoting the use of alternative fuels. It sponsored public meetings and provided a grant of \$2,500 to study the feasibility of a community based wind project. Now, a group of local investors has formed Norfolk Wind Energy LLC, a 40MW community wind-energy project.

In February, the committee hosted a meeting spotlighting biomass energy.

It included presentations by consultant Daniel Reek, a Professional Engineer; Gregg Mast, senior program manager with BioBusiness Alliance of Minnesota; and Per Carlsson, General Manager of ABioNova, a Swedish company specializing in pellet heating technologies. The committee has provided seed money to renewable energy research and prototype development, worked with students and FFA chapters on alternative energy projects, conducted research for a Sunrise Agra Fuels Biomass facility, and approved a loan of \$15,000 to Vardity Energy for a cob harvesting project.

Some local communities are considering the biomass alternative. The HRA/EDA approved a grant of \$1,500 to assist Morton to apply for funds from the U.S. Department of Energy to develop a district heating system and to weatherize homes and businesses. The HRA/EDA also helped fund grant writing for Franklin to seek funding for the construction of a biomass pellet-burner heat cabin that could potentially save the city an average of \$4,000 per year in heating its downtown buildings.

In other local initiatives, Olivia's wind turbine has recently gone into operation, thanks to Minnesota Municipal Power Agency's program, and Hometown WindPower Project, an initiative to provide clean, renewable

power to local customers. Renville recently met with Free Source Energies, LLC, of Redwood Falls, to explore creative solutions to assist homeowners to finance the installation of geothermal heating systems.

Businesses and communities can achieve energy savings by having commercial building energy audits performed on their facilities, and assistance through such agencies as [Clean Energy Resource Teams-CERT \(www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org\)](http://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org), and USDA Rural Energy for America Program-REAP ([www.rurdev.usda.gov/mn](http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mn)). For homeowners, your utility providers can offer recommendations to help lower utility bills by reducing energy consumption through do-it-yourself energy saving practices or by having a residential energy audit performed on your home. The internet offers a multitude of sites that provide guidance on low cost energy saving practices.

**Sites include the Minnesota Department of Agriculture**  
([www.mda.state.mn.us](http://www.mda.state.mn.us)),

**US Department of Energy**  
([www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov)),

**Minnesota's Department of Commerce - Office of Energy Security**  
([www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/home.do?agency=Energy](http://www.state.mn.us/portal/mn/jsp/home.do?agency=Energy)),

**Minnesota Renewable Energy**  
([www.renewable.state.mn.us](http://www.renewable.state.mn.us)) and

**Touchstone Energy Savers**  
([www.touchstoneenergysavers.com](http://www.touchstoneenergysavers.com))

# Around the County...

## FAIRFAX

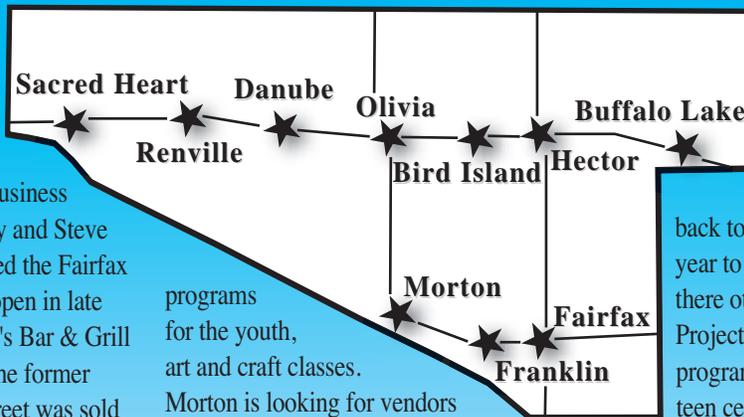
Fairfax City-Wide Garage Sales will be April 30-May 1. Twins Night with Curt Sampson pitching will be June 14 at Memorial Park. In business news, Miss Becky, LLC (Becky and Steve Henderson of Fairfax) purchased the Fairfax Legion building with plans to open in late May as Fairfax Room, Squirrel's Bar & Grill and Miss Becky's Meatballs. The former Gumpolen building on Park Street was sold to Pam and Steve Lhotka who hope to open a 1940's-50's general store in mid-May featuring all natural bulk food, hand dipped ice creams, specialty coffees, antiques, penny candy, etc. Valley Bank is becoming Frandsen Bank and Trust with 28 different locations in Minnesota and North Dakota. Daily progress is being made on the First National Bank of Fairfax's new building with anticipated occupancy in mid-May.

## FRANKLIN

The city, with assistance from Franklin Ambulance Association, recently purchased a new Med Tec, Type 1, 4-wheel drive ambulance. There are currently 18 EMTs on the Franklin Ambulance Service and they are in the process of taking the EMT Refresher Course. The Fire Department has its capacity of 20 members. The Franklin community and surrounding townships are very grateful to these dedicated volunteers!

## MORTON

Spring Garden Party Celebration: April 16-17. Pageant on April 15 at 6:30 p.m. for ages 0-15. Garden Hat Decorating: Submit a decorated hat by noon on April 17. April 17 - Craft show from 10-4. Coming Soon: Activities for Senior Citizens and youth. Plans are to have a community garden with products to be sold at a Farmer's Market. Other plans being considered are after school



programs for the youth, art and craft classes. Morton is looking for vendors for its July 4th celebration. Please contact city hall for information. Morton Area Foundation: The purpose of the Morton Area Community Foundation is to establish an Endowment Fund from which the annual earnings of 5% will be used for the benefit of the community and area. The foundation was organized in June, 2009. Our immediate goal is to gather funds with a \$1 for \$1 match from Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) for a starting

goal total of \$50,000. We are already half way there. Our long range goal is to grow our Endowment Fund to \$200,000 by June 30, 2011. With 5% earnings, \$10,000 would come back to the community and area every year to carry out projects for which there otherwise would be no funds. Projects could include senior citizen programs, fire department equipment, a teen center, promoting tourism and new business. Gifts to the fund will be tax deductible. We encourage businesses, families, and individuals to become members of the Founders Club by June 30, 2011, with a \$5,000 or more contribution. All of these gifts will be there 100 years from now still working for the Morton area. Thanks to all of you for your donations and support!



**What is the Neighbor to Neighbor 4-\$40 Plan?**  
It's the initiative where **you** can support local business by shopping where you live.  
**Step one:** Pledge to spend forty dollars a month at four local businesses that "you can't live without!"  
**Step two:** Complete and return the pledge form available at the HRA/EDA web site [www.renville.com](http://www.renville.com), each city office in renville county, participating businesses, the HRA/EDA office, and the Olivia Area 212 Together Initiative office

**Take the 4-\$40 pledge today!**



Sponsored by the Renville County HRA/EDA, Olivia Area 212 Together Initiative & Renville County HRA/EDA Advisory Committee

## Attention Renville County Business Owners

**Are you looking for money to help your business grow?**

**The Renville County Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund**

might be the answer you have been looking for!

Loans are available to assist area businesses with  
Start-Up  
Working Capital  
Technical Assistance  
Construction, Conversion,  
Expansion, Repairs  
And Much More!

For more information contact The Renville County HRA/EDA at 320-523-3656, E-mail [hra\\_eda@mail.renville.com](mailto:hra_eda@mail.renville.com) or visit [www.renville.com](http://www.renville.com)

# RENVILLE COUNTY COUNTYWIDE CLEAN-UP

*Renville County Highway Shop, Sacred Heart*  
Monday, June 7, 2010 • Time: 12:00 noon - 6:00 pm

*Renville County Highway Shop, Buffalo Lake\**  
Tuesday, June 8, 2010 • Time: 12:00 noon - 6:00 pm  
*(\*Enter from Borden Avenue ONLY. No entrance from Highway 212. Watch for signs.)*

*Renville County Highway Shop, Fairfax*  
Wednesday, June 9, 2010 • Time: 12:00 noon - 6:00 pm

*Reduced Collection Fee for Renville County Residents Only!*



## ~ ITEMS TO BE COLLECTED AND FEES ~ (FEES ARE PER ITEM)

	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Business/ Non-Resident</u>
<b>TIRES:</b> Including tires with rims		
	Car \$1	Car \$3
	Truck \$4	Truck \$8
	Tractor front \$4	Tractor front \$8
	Tractor rear \$10	Tractor rear \$20
<b>APPLIANCES:</b> \$4		
	Including refrigerators, stoves, dishwashers, water heaters, washers, dryers, dehumidifiers, air conditioners, freezers, microwaves, etc.	
<b>ELECTRONICS/ COMPUTERS:</b> \$4		
	Including televisions, printers, monitors, hard drives (CPUs), fax machines, VCRs, stereos, etc. <b>Fees are per item.</b>	
<b>FLUORESCENT BULBS:</b> Free		
	Please box large quantities.	
		50¢ per bulb*
<b>BALLASTS:</b> Free		
		\$4
<b>RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES:</b> Free		
	Including Nickel Cadmium (Ni-Cd), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH), Lithium Ion (Li-ion), and Small Sealed Lead (Pb).	
<b>CELL PHONES:</b> Free		

\*Free bulb disposal for Renville County businesses.

## • WILL NOT • BE ACCEPTED AT COLLECTION SITES

- Automotive and alkaline batteries. Alkaline batteries can be disposed of in the garbage.
- General household garbage such as bicycles, lawn chairs, grills, coffee pots, fixtures, furniture, etc.
- Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) including paint, stains, pesticides, thermometers, cleaners, oil, oil filters, etc. These items can be brought to the Renville County Landfill & HHW Facility.
- Recycling items including glass, newspapers, cans, etc. These items can be brought to the Renville County Landfill & HHW Facility or to a community TCW drop site.
- Incandescent (regular) light bulbs. Incandescent bulbs can be disposed of in the garbage.
- Clothes in washers or dryers. Food in refrigerators or freezers.



# CURBSIDE RECYCLING

City Route Pick Up Days: Two Times Each Month.

## Why Recycle?

- 1.) Recycling is easy
- 2.) Available twice a month in all communities
- 3.) Drop off containers are available in all communities for rural residents
- 4.) Recycling saves money
- 5.) Recycling saves precious landfill space
- 6.) Recycling is good for the environment

### Mixed Paper:

Office paper, stationary & envelopes including those with plastic windows. Direct mail pieces - shiny coated paper ok. Place in brown paper bag next to bin.

### Newspaper & Magazines:

Includes all paper inserts, place in brown paper bag next to bin. Catalogs and phone books are also accepted.  
**NO:** wet paper, wet catalogs or wet magazines.  
**NO:** String, hard cover books or plastic bags.

### Cardboard:

Folded flat. Clean

### Glass & Juice Cartons:

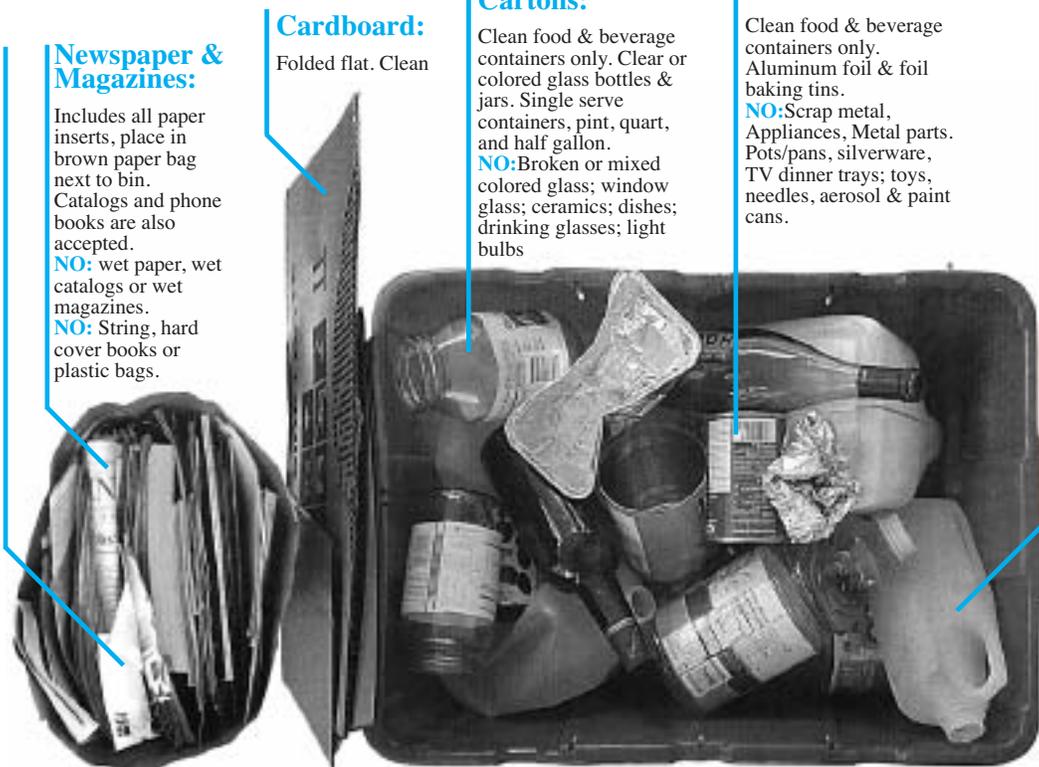
Clean food & beverage containers only. Clear or colored glass bottles & jars. Single serve containers, pint, quart, and half gallon.  
**NO:** Broken or mixed colored glass; window glass; ceramics; dishes; drinking glasses; light bulbs

### Metal Cans & Foil:

Clean food & beverage containers only. Aluminum foil & foil baking tins.  
**NO:** Scrap metal, Appliances, Metal parts. Pots/pans, silverware, TV dinner trays; toys, needles, aerosol & paint cans.

### Plastic:

Look for the number triangle on bottom. (#1 PETE beverage container, #2 HDPE milk & water jugs, laundry detergent, shampoo bottles, oil & antifreeze bottles, and #2 HDPE that can be poured from).  
**NO:** Ice cream, margarine or whipped cream containers, plastic bags, styrofoam, covers or lids in or on any bottles.



Place your recycle container(s) at the curb by 7:00 a.m. the day of collection.

County recycling tubs may be obtained from most city clerks or the Renville County Landfill or the Public Works Office located in the Renville County Government Services Center in Olivia at 105 South 5th Street. The fee is \$7.00 per tub.

### PHONE:

Public Works Office in Olivia (320) 523-3759

### E-MAIL:

public\_work@co.renville.mn.us

### WEBSITE:

<http://www.co.renville.mn.us>

**RENVILLE COUNTY RECYCLING PROVIDER IS TCW WEBSITE:**

<http://www.tcwdisposal.com/>

## DROP OFF SITES AVAILABLE FOR RURAL RESIDENTS

Please flatten your cardboard boxes. It allows more people to use the drop off containers. No garbage please!

TOWN	LOCATION
Bird Island	Lot, 4th St & Elm Ave
Morton	Lot East of Liquor Store, 510 East 2nd Street
Buffalo Lake	City Maintenance Lot, 126 East Yellowstone Trail
Danube	City Maintenance Building, 202 East Hwy 212
Renville	County Shed, 4th Street NW Emerson
Fairfax	County Shed, 419 Lincoln Ave East
Sacred Heart	City Maintenance Shop Lot, 619 Maple Street East
Franklin	Lot Across From Trailer Park, 200 Block 2nd Ave East
Hector	Liquor Store Parking Lot, 101 Main Street South
Olivia	County Shed Lot, 1108 West Lincoln Ave
Renville County Landfill	Mon to Fri 8AM to 4 PM

## Redwood & Renville Counties



## Earth Day Open House

**Redwood Falls National Guard Armory**  
**Thursday, April 22, 2010**  
**10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**FREE SENSITIVE DOCUMENT SHREDDING**  
Bulk, professional shredding on-site. Clean out your old files and safely recycle your documents!

Free BBQ and pop from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm \*  
\* While supplies last!

- ◆ Information on recycling, water quality, indoor mold, fish assessments, trails, waste reduction and more.
- ◆ Purchase a home document shredder for just \$19.99 (\$45 value!). Residents of Redwood and Renville Counties only. Limit 1 per household.
- ◆ Bring in your old lead fishing tackle for a free sample of non-toxic sinkers and jigs.
- ◆ Purchase a Compost Bin for \$29.99 and get a free kitchen bucket. While they last!
- ◆ ALL AGES welcome! Door Prizes!

Sponsored by the Redwood County Environmental Office and Renville County Solid Waste

For more information contact 507-637-4023

## Manure Application: Prevent Water Pollution



Manure is a valuable fertilizer resource in the production of crops, but when handled improperly, manure can contribute pathogens, nutrients, and oxygen-demanding matter to surface water which will negatively impact water quality. Prior to land application or stockpiling of manure, it is important to identify all sensitive areas in the fields that will be receiving manure and determine how to properly manage and apply manure. **No matter the size of your feedlot, you need to manage manure application to prevent water pollution to sensitive areas.**

In Renville County, manure management and application must conform to the following standards:

- Manure application rates shall be based on soil type, crop requirements and crop yield goals. Application of manure may not be applied at any rate greater than the maximum recommended agronomic rate for the crop to be planted.
- All manure shall be incorporated within 24 hours of application unless otherwise specified.
- All manure applied within 300 feet of tile intakes must be injected or incorporated within 24 hours as required by Minnesota Rules Chapter 7020.
- Application of manure to frozen or snow-covered soils shall be applied to slopes less than six percent. If sufficient land area with slopes less than six percent is unavailable, then manure shall be applied to lands that are managed to control runoff and erosion with soil and water conservation practices.
- Manure shall not be applied directly into gullies or grass waterways.

*"Manure Application" continued on back*

## Cost-Share, Incentive Payments and Low-Interest Septic Loans Available

Renville County lies within four major watersheds: Hawk Creek, High Island Creek, Middle Minnesota River and Crow River. Watershed "Projects" receive grant funding to provide cost-share and incentive payments to landowners who implement best management practices that improve the water quality of surface waters. Practices range from alternative tile intakes to additional cost-share for ag-waste system improvements. Low-interest loan funds may also be available to upgrade or replace failing septic systems. For more information:

Crow River Organization of Water	763-682-1933, ext. 112
Hawk Creek Watershed Project	320-523-3666
High Island Creek Watershed Project	507-237-4050
Middle Minnesota River Watershed	320-523-3706

## Spring Cleaning? FREE Disposal Available for Fluorescent Bulbs, Paints, Stains...and More!



Household hazardous waste (HHW) is unusable or unwanted household chemicals or products that are considered hazardous when they pose a threat to people or the environment if disposed of improperly. Common household hazardous waste includes paints, stains, adhesives, solvents, cleaners, pesticides, fluorescent bulbs, rechargeable batteries, aerosols and mercury thermometers. Hazardous products are often labeled "Caution," "Warning," "Danger," or "Do Not Throw in Trash." These items must be disposed of at an HHW facility.

*"Spring Cleaning?" continued on back*

## *“Manure Application” continued from front*

Manure stockpiles located in Renville County must conform to the following standards:

- Stockpiling of manure shall comply with Minnesota Rules Chapter 7020.
- Stockpiled manure shall not be permitted to escape the stockpile by runoff or any other means except deliberate, intentional and lawful removal.
- Manure may not be stockpiled in rock quarries, gravel or sand pits, bedrock or any mining excavation sites.

For more information, visit the MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) website:

[www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/feedlots-manureapplication.pdf](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/publications/feedlots-manureapplication.pdf)

For questions pertaining to land application or stockpiling of manure, please contact the Renville County Division of Environment and Community Development office at 320-523-3768.

The following table outlines the minimum setbacks for all manure application and stockpiles in Renville County:

Use	Stockpile	Surface Spread	Incorporated/Injected within 24 hours
School, park, religious facility, significant historic site	1,320 feet	500 feet	500 feet
Open ditch (public or private)	300 feet	300 feet	5 feet from the berm
Surface tile inlet/intake	300 feet	300 feet	0 feet
Lake	1,000 feet	300 feet	300 feet
Public road *	300 feet	0 feet	0 feet
Residence **	1,320 feet	300 feet	300 feet
River or stream	300 feet	300 feet	300 feet
10-year flood plain	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited
Well (municipal)	1,000 feet	1,000 feet	1,000 feet
Well (private)	200 feet	200 feet	200 feet
Municipality/rural residential subdivision	1,320 feet	500 feet	100 feet
Road ditch	Prohibited	Prohibited	Prohibited

\* As measured from outer right-of-way boundary

\*\* Other than landowner's or operator's



### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

April 22  
June 7 – 9  
August 18 – 20

Celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Earth Day  
Countywide Clean-Up  
Renville County Fair *Stop by the County Booth!*

## *“Spring Cleaning?” continued from front*

**So What Can Be Thrown Away?** Small amounts of latex paint can be dried in the can and then disposed of in the trash with the lid off. Once latex paint is dry, it is no longer considered hazardous. Alkaline batteries and incandescent (regular) light bulbs can also be disposed of in the garbage.

**Free Disposal?** Household hazardous waste (HHW) can be disposed of for **no charge** at the Renville County Landfill & HHW Facility. The Renville County Landfill & HHW Facility is located seven miles south of Olivia on State Highway 71 and one mile west on County Road 4. Drop-off hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Saturday drop-off is available the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. For more information, please call 320-523-1144 or visit [www.co.renville.mn.us](http://www.co.renville.mn.us). Renville County residents can also dispose of HHW at the Kandiyohi County Regional HHW Facility located at 1400 SW 22<sup>nd</sup> Street in Willmar, Minnesota. For more information, including drop-off hours, please call 320-231-3587 or visit [www.co.kandiyohi.mn.us/recycle](http://www.co.kandiyohi.mn.us/recycle).

**Fluorescent Bulb Disposal.** The Renville County Landfill & HHW Facility collects used fluorescent bulbs year-round from Renville County residents and businesses at **no charge**. Large quantities of bulbs need to be boxed.



Examples of common household products that should be disposed of at an HHW facility when no longer needed.

The Cottonwood-Jackson Community Health Service and Redwood-Renville County Public Health Services are finalizing plans to implement new health improvement initiatives to improve policies and environments related to tobacco cessation, physical activity and healthy nutrition through a Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) grant from the Minnesota Department of Health. With the help of the Health Improvement Teams (HIT) in each of these counties, specific areas of greatest need in their respective communities based on a thorough assessment of the community were completed. More than 500 representatives from Cottonwood, Jackson, Redwood and Renville counties were surveyed about current health and wellness practices as well as readiness for policy change. Using these findings, the Community Leadership Team (CLT) consisting of representatives from each of the four county Health Improvement Teams (HIT) selected a set of important new health improvement prevention strategies in selected sites.

In cooperation with selected work sites, schools, health care facilities and community organizations across the four counties, the public health departments will help community partners implement policies and practices for healthier lifestyles by addressing the following:

- Work sites: Implementation of a comprehensive employee wellness program.
- Schools: Improvement of nutrition policies and initiatives.
- Health care organizations: Development of relationships between health care providers and community organizations to facilitate active referral of patients to community resources.
- Communities: Creation of more active communities through non-motorized transportation initiatives and support of physical activity and access to community recreational facilities
- Child Care: Implement policies and practices that support healthy eating

The CJRR SHIP Project will be working to implement interventions to better nutrition in schools and childcare, provide more active living opportunities in communities, develop comprehensive employee wellness programs in worksites and create a community resource referral system in health care facilities in the following sites:

**SCHOOLS:** Jackson County Central, Windom Area Schools, Westbrook-Walnut Grove School District and Redwood Area Schools

**CHILD CARE:** Little Huskies in Jackson and the Learning Fun House in Bird Island

**HEALTH CARE:** Sanford Mountain Lake and Windom Clinics, the Avera United Medical Clinic, Windom Area Hospital and the RC Hospital & Clinics

**WORKSITE WELLNESS:** Sites have not been selected. The CJRR SHIP Project will be offering awareness and skill development for area worksites to develop a comprehensive employee wellness program with the intent of working with two area worksites to maintain healthy weight and healthy behaviors through an increase in worksite wellness policies and practices.

**ACTIVE LIVING/COMMUNITIES:** Sites have not been selected. The CJRR SHIP project will be working with interested communities to build awareness and skill development in order to select two communities who will proceed in developing a vision to implement policies and practices to create more opportunities for walking, biking and access to recreational facilities.



**Michelle Breidenbach, Jill Chamberlain, and Michael Huber presenters for the Active Living/ Communities grant workshop.**

With the help of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, CJRR SHIP staff engaged community members to learn more about what active living could look like in their community. On Monday, March 15, 2010 CJRR SHIP staff hosted an active living workshop at the UM Southwest Research and Outreach Center in Lamberton with Jill Chamberlain, Project Manager Community Initiatives & Michael R. Huber, Cardiovascular Health Consultant from Blue Cross's Center for Prevention. They provided participants with an overview of approaches for promoting active lifestyles, helping to "make the healthy choice the easy choice" for residents of their community.

By concentrating on policy, systems and environmental changes, SHIP aims to transform traditional prevention strategies that have limited population reach, are unsustainable beyond the life

of the funding, and ultimately have limited impact. SHIP interventions reach a broad segment of the population, are sustainable well beyond the funding cycle, and have far-reaching impact.

Groups that are interested in learning more about current and future work that will create opportunities in our communities for improved healthy behaviors (tobacco cessation, physical activity and healthy nutrition) should contact Michelle Breidenbach at the Redwood-Renville Public Health Service at 320-523-3784 or Bonnie Frederickson at the Cottonwood-Jackson Community Health Services at 507-831-1987.

**ABOUT SHIP**

The Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP), an integral part of Minnesota's nation-leading 2008 health reform law, strives to help Minnesotans lead longer, healthier lives by reducing the chronic diseases caused by tobacco use and exposure, poor nutrition and physical inactivity. For more information, visit [www.health.state.mn.us/healthreform](http://www.health.state.mn.us/healthreform).

**COUNTY PHONE NUMBERS**

Administrator	320-523-3710
Assessor	320-523-3645
Attorney	320-523-2661
Auditor/Treasurer	320-523-2071
Court Services/Probation	320-523-3663
Court Administration	320-523-3680
Environment & Community Development	320-523-3768
Extension	320-523-3713
Hawk Creek	320-523-3666
Heartland Express	320-523-3589
	or 800-450-7964
Heartland Community	320-523-1842
Action Agency Inc.	or 877-523-1842
Hospital	320-523-1261
HRA/EDA	320-523-3656
Human Services	320-523-2202
Jail	320-523-3600
Landfill/Solid Waste	320-523-1505
License	320-523-3612
Olivia Police Department	320-523-2700
Public Health Nursing	320-523-2570
Public Works	320-523-3759
Recorder/Abstractor	320-523-3669
Sheriff	320-523-1161
Veterans Service	320-523-3763
Water Planning & HHW	320-523-3706

**County Commissioners:**

Ralph Novotny, District #1	320-848-6392
Bob Fox, District #2	507-557-8265
Paul Setzepfandt, District #3	320-365-3270
John Stahl, District #4	320-523-1283
LaMont Jacobson, District #5	320-765-2578

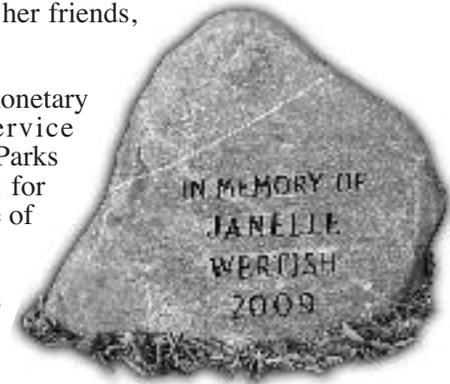
## Janelle Wertish Memorial



Janelle Wertish was employed with Renville County Human Services as a social worker. In July 2009, she lost her courageous battle to cancer. Janelle touched the lives of many people, including her friends, co-workers and the individuals she worked with.

A Memorial for Janelle was made possible with monetary donations from Renville County Human Service employees and assistance from the Renville County Parks Department. Attached is a picture of the memorial for Janelle. It is located on the southwest corner outside of the Renville County Government Services Center.

A special thanks to the Human Service employees who contributed to the memorial fund, Mark Erickson and the Renville County Parks Department.



## Food Shelf Served More Individuals in 2009



The Renville County Food Shelf keeps statistics on the number of people served, the amount of food given out to those in need, the donations received and the groceries purchased. The Renville County Food Shelf served 9,471 individuals in 2009 for an increase of 393 over the 9,078 individuals served in 2008. The food shelf staff tracks the number of pounds of food given out and saw increase from the 2008 amount of 135,079 pounds to 147,055 pounds given out in 2009. Donations were up in 2009 from the 2008 level of \$44,208.96 to \$59,587. The money spent on the purchase of groceries was down slightly from the 2008 amount of \$28,814.19 to \$26,419. The county food shelf purchases groceries from local grocery stores in Renville County and from Second Harvest.

The Food Shelf board members want to thank all the families, churches and organizations who have generously donated money, food, clothing and small household items to the Renville County Food Shelf and Clothing & More Store. If you are thinking about donating, it is best to drop off donations during the hours it is open, but items can be dropped off outside anytime. For every \$1.00 donated, the Renville County Food Shelf can purchase \$9.00 of food from Second Harvest. All customers are welcome!

**The hours of operation are Monday 1 pm to 3 pm, Wednesday 10 am to 3 pm, Thursday 5 pm to 7 pm and Friday 1 pm to 3 pm. Thank you again for your past support!  
For questions, concerns or to volunteer call Ardis Wertish at 320-523-1515.**

**Renville  
County**

500 E. DePue Ave.  
Olivia, MN 56277

Phone: 320-523-3710

Email: [admin@co.renville.mn.us](mailto:admin@co.renville.mn.us)

Web site: [www.co.renville.mn.us](http://www.co.renville.mn.us)

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