



Minnesota Invasive Species Conference
*Acting Locally to Protect Our
Legendary Lands and Waters*

TECHNICAL TOURS

Wednesday, October 29

9:00 AM—12:00 PM

US Environmental Protection Agency, National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory

Four topic areas will be covered during this three hour tour.

Wildlife toxicology – Research focuses on developing methods for integrating existing wildlife toxicity data with models for extrapolating toxicity among species. Endocrine

Disruption – This work helps establish multiple gene expression, as determined by DNA microarray methods and quantitative reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction, as an endpoint of utility in ecological risk assessments. These powerful tools may provide a viable means to diagnose impacts of anthropogenic agents, such as perchlorate, on amphibians. Environmental Indicators – A focus on understanding pathways of toxicity that result in adverse effects facilities' extrapolation of research results across species and chemicals. Environmental Monitoring – Development of diagnostic community – to landscape-scale exposure and response indicators for nutrient, clean sediment, and habitat alteration stressors.

Cost: \$20.00 per person includes deluxe motor coach transportation and presentations by researchers.
Minimum 20; Maximum 45

9:00 AM—2:00 PM

Superior National Forest

This tour will provide a better understanding of weed management challenges and opportunities on the Superior National Forest (SNF). Visit several different weed infestation sites on the Superior and discuss weed inventory, treatments, prioritization, and monitoring. Learn how weed management is integrated into the management of other resources such as timber, roads, and fire.

Cost: \$20.00 per person includes deluxe motor coach transportation and guide.
Minimum 20; Maximum 45

9:00 AM—1:00 PM

Erie Pier, Large Lakes Observatory, and the NRRI Ballast Water Testing Facility

Erie Pier is the confined disposal site for the Duluth Superior harbor. It receives clean dredge material from the harbor's deep navigation channels, and from privately owned slips around the harbor. It is owned by the Duluth Seaway Port Authority which has been working over the past two years with the Dredging Sub-Committee of the Harbor Technical Advisory Committee and the regional stakeholders to convert the facility into a placement and reuse facility. Invasive species control, like purple loosestrife, is being addressed. In this operating mode, it is hoped that all the material deposited at the site in the past and in the future will be recycled into regional construction projects and/or mine reclamation projects so the facility will never become filled, requiring the construction of a new Confined Disposal Facility.

Located on the Duluth campus of the University of Minnesota, the **Large Lakes Observatory (LLO)** is the only institute in the country dedicated to the study of large lakes throughout the world. LLO focuses on the global implications of their investigations in the areas of aquatic chemistry, circulation dynamics, geochemistry, acoustic remote sensing, plankton dynamics, sedimentology and paleoclimatology. LLO is part of a major limnological program that includes the Center for Water and the Environment in the Natural Resources Research Institute. As part of this tour, you will interact with faculty members who have knowledge of the work being done with invasive species.

Ballast Water Testing Facility – The Great Ships Initiative (GSI) has established a land-based research, development and technology evaluation (RDTE) facility in Superior, Wisconsin to provide intensive testing services to vendors of ballast treatment prospects suitable to Seaway-sized vessels. The research intends to thoroughly test mechanisms and treatment approaches with the ultimate goal being to develop a feasible ship-board application for effective ballast water treatment. The on-site work at the RTDE is largely simulation of a ship's ballast water tanks, and assessment of treatment effectiveness at killing potentially invasive species. The research is supported by chemists and biologists at the University of Wisconsin Superior and the University of Minnesota Duluth. Additional information on the RDTE is available at www.greatshipsinitiative.org.

Cost: \$20.00 per person includes deluxe motor coach transportation and guided tours of these facilities.
Minimum 20; Maximum 40

(over)

For complete conference information and registration form, visit the conference web site—www.minnesotaswcs.org.

SIGHTSEEING TOURS

Sunday, October 26

1:00 – 3:30 PM

French River Fish Hatchery

Travel just to the north of Duluth to an area managed by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Tour the hatchery and see live steelhead. Learn how fisheries are managed in Lake Superior, its tributaries and inland lakes. Each year, the facility incubates herring, suckers, walleye, rainbow trout, steelhead, and salmon, which are stocked in area lakes. Find out how the DNR works to prevent the spread of invasive species by hatchery operations through protocols and preventative measures.

Cost: \$20.00 per person includes deluxe motor coach transportation and guided tour. Minimum 10; Maximum 20

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Vista Fleet Always Special Sunday Brunch Cruise

Board the Vista Star for the Superb Sunday Brunch Cruise! Take in all the activity and spectacular scenery in the hard working Duluth Harbor on Lake Superior, the greatest of all the Great Lakes. This fully-narrated brunch cruise features an excellent assortment of scrumptious brunch favorites and beverages.

Cost: \$29.00 per person; Minimum 20

Wednesday, October 29

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory

Hawk Ridge has a fascinating history, from gunner's lair to birdwatcher's paradise. Each fall, over 1,000 raptors per day fly past Hawk Ridge for many reasons, one of which is Lake Superior. These migrating raptors take advantage of the geology of the North Shore to migrate more efficiently. As the birds migrate past Hawk Ridge, they provide an opportunity for bird research, education, and recreation.

Cost: \$15.00 per person includes admission into the observatory and deluxe motor coach transportation. Minimum: 20; Maximum 45

11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Vista Fleet Harbor Cruise

Be part of the action and experience the greatest of the Great Lakes and the world's busiest inland seaport. View the Aerial Lift Bridge and see lake freighters, ocean-going ships from around the world, iron ore coal docks, lighthouses, breathtaking scenery and exciting harbor activity on this 1½ hour, fully-narrated sightseeing cruise.

Cost: \$14.00 per person; Minimum: 20

8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Historical Sites Tour

Historic Glensheen Mansion – Glensheen, Historic Congdon Estate is many things – a hallmark of extraordinary design, a businessman's enduring legacy, and a showcase of diverse interior styles. But at its very heart, it was a family home. Along the shore of Lake Superior, a 7.6-acre expanse of wooded land enfolds the 30-room Jacobean Revival mansion that is Minnesota's premier historic house museum. The interiors of the mansion have endured, boasting nearly all of the same furnishings and décor that graced the rooms when the estate was completed in 1908. Even the formal gardens and naturalistic landscape retain much of their original design. Visitors are given a fascinating look at life in an affluent family home from the turn of the last century.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, **Fitger's** is a Duluth landmark on Lake Superior. This first Duluth brewery was started in 1857 by Sidney Luce near the site of the present building. It was purchased in 1881 by Michael Fink, who hired August Fitger, a young German who had graduated from Germany's premier brewing schools. In 1884, the brewery was purchased by Percy Anneke, and he and Fitger became partners. Beer production was halted during the depression but the brewery stayed busy producing soda and candy. After the repeal of Prohibition, the brewing of strong beer began again and business boomed for 115 years, until the closing in 1972. Today, the facility boasts a 48-room hotel, two full service restaurants and a retail center. Fitger's Brewhouse is once again brewing beer on the premises. As part of this tour, visit the museum and the brewery for a "taste" of its history and charm.

Cost: \$20.00 per person; includes admittance into facilities and transportation on a deluxe motor coach. Minimum: 20; Maximum: 45

Other Attractions

The City of Duluth offers other unique options that you are invited to explore on your own. They include:

- OMNIMAX Theatre
- Walking Tours – Art Gallery Stroll in Canal Park, Tour of Duluth Waterfront Art, and other great options
- Antique Shopping at Canal Park on Canal Park Drive and Lake Avenue
- Lake Superior Maritime Visitor Center
- Lake Superior Railroad Museum – See and ride the trains!

For information on these and other options, go to www.visitduluth.com. *Visit Duluth* is the office destination marketing organization for Duluth and will provide information on area attractions, restaurants within walking distance to the DECC and help you get around the city.