



Envisioning Resources

The following list of resources has been prepared for those who are interested in learning more about community envisioning, rural development, or other issues presented at tonight's Open House. Most of the books and reports can be ordered through your local library's interlibrary loan office. Copies of some items can also be borrowed from the Envisioning Task Force Library (contact Bob Papke at 651-0463-8546 or papkakecr@earthlink.net for details).

Books and Reports

Conservation Design for Subdivisions By Randall G. Arendt. Island Press, 1996. A practical guide to creating and preserving open space through conservation design.

Dakota County 2020: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow By the Dakota County Office of Planning. Dakota County, October 1999. The latest comprehensive plan for Dakota County.

Development at the Urban Fringe and Beyond: Impacts on Agriculture and Rural Land By Ralph Heimlich and William Anderson. U.S. Department of Agriculture, 2001. Discusses the consequences of continued large-lot suburban development on rural-agricultural communities.

Estimating Fiscal Impacts of Residential Development in Smaller Communities By Barry Ryan and Steven J. Taff. University of Minnesota Extension Service, 1996. A workbook that provides a framework for evaluating the fiscal impacts of new residential development.

Eureka 1854–1954. By Benita Devney. No publisher, 1954. A history of Eureka Township written by a Farmington historian for the Township's centennial celebration in 1954.

Holding Our Ground: Protecting America's Farms and Farmland By Tom Daniels and Deborah Bowers. Island Press, 1997. A concise description of ag land preservation tools including TDR, PDRs, conservation easements, urban growth boundaries, and local right-to-farm laws.

Managing Change in Rural Communities U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1995. Identifies ways to manage economic, environmental, growth, and other changes in rural areas.

Renewing the Countryside: Minnesota By Jan Joannides et al. NE Minnesota Sustainable Development Partnership, 2001. Tells the stories of 43 Minnesotans who are promoting their rural communities through innovative businesses, living practices, or community projects.

Rural by Design: Maintaining Small Town Character By Randall Arendt et al. Planners Press, 1994. Practical land use planning techniques for rural communities.

Vermillion River Watershed Handbook By Diane Riggs. Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 2002. A guide to help landowners make their property "Vermillion River Friendly."

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Web Sites

Eureka Township Envisioning Task Force Web Site

<http://eurekatownship-mn.us/taskforce/envisioning.html>

Chronicles the two-year envisioning project conducted by the citizen task force.

CommunityViz Software

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

Information about the software program at the heart of the Envisioning Task Force study.

Minnesota Department of Planning 2000 U.S. Census Page

<http://www.mnplan.state.mn.us/demography/Census2000.html>

Links to 2000 U.S. Census data for Minnesota.

Minnesota Sustainable Communities Network

<http://www.nextstep.state.mn.us/>

A project of the Office of Environmental Assistance that promotes sustainability resource.

The Smart Growth Network

<http://www.smartgrowth.org>

A collaboration of several nonprofit and government organizations that works to encourage development that serves the economy, community, and the environment.

American Farmland Trust

<http://www.farmland.org>

A private nonprofit organization that works to stop the loss of productive farmland and to promote farming practices that lead to a healthy environment.

Dunn County Web Site

<http://www.town.dunn.wi.us/>

Dunn County, Wisconsin, located just outside Madison, has had great success using conservation easements and other land protection strategies to preserve farmland and open space.

1000 Friends of Minnesota

<http://www.1000fom.org/>

An organization dedicated to balancing growth and conservation in Minnesota by working with individuals and local communities to counteract tendencies toward careless, unplanned sprawl.

Minnesota Land Trust

<http://www.mnland.org/>

A St. Paul-based nonprofit organization that works with landowners and communities to protect Minnesota's land and water resources.

Dakota County Farmland and Natural Areas Project

http://www.co.dakota.mn.us/planning/farmland/farmland_project.htm

A citizen-centered project to protect important or sensitive farmland and natural areas in the county through the use of voluntary tools.

Renewing the Countryside

<http://www.mncountryside.org/>

Documents the stories of 43 Minnesotans protecting the environment and promoting rural communities through innovative businesses and community projects. To read the stories online, choose "Region Search" and then click on Minnesota.