



2018 MINNESOTA CLIMATE ADAPTATION AWARDS

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The Minnesota Climate Adaptation Awards, presented by the Minnesota Climate Adaptation Partnership (MCAP), recognize and celebrate exceptional achievements in leadership, education, research, policies, and practices that improve resilience and develop, advance, or implement climate adaptation strategies. To honor their accomplishments and impact, MCAP will present each recipient with an award created from recycled glass by Michael Tondor of Blue Skies Glassworks in Two Harbors, Minnesota.

Award Recipient - Individual **Paul Moss**

Paul Moss has been a key player in the advancement of climate adaptation work in Minnesota, facilitating statewide adaptation planning as lead coordinator for the Minnesota Inter-Agency Climate Adaptation Team (ICAT). Paul's work includes spearheading the development of climate adaptation strategies, building connections among inter-agency staff, and developing key reports on adaptation planning in Minnesota. In August 2018, Paul retired after 28 years of State service from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance. Paul is not simply retiring, however. He's returning to graduate school full-time at the University of Minnesota to pursue a PhD at the Department of Geography, Environment and Society where he plans to focus on cultural issues related to people and plants in our changing climate.

Learn More:

www.pca.state.mn.us/air/adapting-changing-climate

Award Recipient - Institution **Metropolitan Council**

Collaborative climate adaptation planning and implementation is occurring in all divisions of the Metropolitan Council, across operations, maintenance, and planning. This integrated approach, along with the Council's focus on convening partnerships and invaluable collaborations with communities, watershed districts, agencies, and other stakeholder groups, is foundational for transforming regional climate adaptation efforts. Highlights of the Council's work include providing resources to 188 metropolitan jurisdictions related specifically to adaptation and offering more than \$1 million for green infrastructure projects to benefit regional water quality. The Council also leads in climate adaptation efforts by preparing future leaders through a collaboration with the University of St. Thomas Sustainable Communities Partnership. This ongoing partnership challenges students to pro-actively address climate change through a multi-disciplinary lens.

Learn More: www.metrocouncil.org



The Minnesota Climate Adaptation Awards are presented by MCAP

The 2018 conference and awards are sponsored by Barr Engineering; Citizens' Climate Lobby; Minnesota Department of Health; Minnesota Department of Natural Resources; Minnesota Pollution Control Agency; and University of Minnesota Water Resources Center.

Award Recipient - Business Room & Board, Inc

Room and Board, an American modern furniture and home furnishings retailer headquartered in Golden Valley, Minnesota, is making significant strides in climate adaptation. In partnership with Sustology, a sustainability advisor, and Urban Ecosystems, a landscape architecture consultant, Room & Board pioneered an Urban Meadow™ installation that is delivering numerous climate adaptation benefits. The turf grass to Urban Meadow™ conversion requires no irrigation, saving the environment one million gallons of water per year. It also allows for more efficient and effective stormwater retention; provides abundant habitat for pollinators; offers greater resilience to extreme weather patterns; and is seeding an important narrative change with its beautiful and accessible installation that attracts interest from photographers, birders, and community members. In addition, the installation serves as a research site, supporting efforts to scale the concept to other corporate sites as a landscape that's better adapted to our changing climate. Other adaptation strategies include further management of water demand through flow and flush fixture upgrades; improving energy efficiency and using redundant power supplies to increase resilience to electricity shortfalls; and incorporating alternate sources of timber supply in product manufacturing in response to the complex role that trees play in climate change.

Learn More:

www.urbanecosystemsinc.com/room-and-board

Award Recipient - Organization HealthPartners

HealthPartners, a mission-driven, nonprofit, integrated health system, is on the forefront of several climate resilience efforts. HealthPartners is working locally, regionally, nationally, and even internationally to promote health care action on climate change. It became the first health system in Minnesota to join the Health Care Climate Council (HCCC) in 2016 and is driving a transformation to climate-smart health care through a three-pillar strategy of mitigation, resilience, and leadership in the community. HealthPartners has embraced this commitment and has taken steps to educate, collaborate, and lead to adapt to and mitigate the effects climate change has on our region. For example, HealthPartners' leadership was instrumental in developing a collaborative toolkit to help communities identify climate-related health risks and offer guidance on how to integrate climate and health into the community needs assessment process. Other efforts include increasing facility resilience to extreme weather, mobilizing nurses to educate thousands about the impacts of climate change on health, and supporting utility partner efforts to move toward a carbon-free electrical grid.

Learn More: www.healthpartners.com/hp/about/community-engagement/sustainability/

Interested in learning more about award-winning climate adaptation efforts in Minnesota? Visit www.wrc.umn.edu/climateawardsarchive for more MCAP Climate Adaptation Award highlights!

