

PROTECTING THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF WRIGHT COUNTY

AN OPEN HOUSE FOR LANDOWNERS WITH PROPERTY IN PROPOSED RESOURCE LANDS DISTRICTS OF THE COUNTY NORTHWEST QUADRANT PLAN

DATE: **Wednesday, October 1, 2008**

WHERE: *Annandale High School Commons Area*

WHEN: *Open House 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm,
Brief Program at 7:00 pm*

Wright County is in the midst of preparing a new Comprehensive Land Use Plan for the Northwest Quadrant of the County, with assistance from the consultant team of Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH). The Northwest Quadrant is comprised of the Townships of Clearwater, Corinna, Albion, French Lake, Chatham, Maple Lake, Silver Creek and Southside as well as the Cities of South Haven, Annandale, Clearwater, Maple Lake. This area contains some of the most beautiful lakes and important natural resource areas in the County. This area has also been subject to the pressures of growth and development, which can stress and harm natural areas, agricultural land, water quality and the rural lifestyle many residents treasure.

This is an important opportunity for your participation in planning for the future use of land and protecting natural systems in this part of the County. Stakeholder participation, consensus building and intergovernmental cooperation are key factors in the land use planning process, and the County welcomes your participation in this effort.

A public meeting specifically for the landowners in the potential "Resource Lands" District will be held on **Wednesday, October 1st** from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at the Annandale High School Commons Area. Everyone is invited to attend this meeting to better understand the key natural resource areas identified and issues that may arise for the County to consider as part of completing their Land Use Plan. This meeting will inform landowners as to what it means to be included in a Resource Lands District and answer any questions you may have regarding the District or the Land Use Plan in general.

A Natural Resource Committee has completed an inventory and analysis of the area, which includes a review of land use, agriculture, open space, park corridors, physical/environmental conditions and ecological features within this area of the County. The Committee is made up of citizens in the quadrant and has been meeting monthly with the County Planning and Zoning staff. The focus of the upcoming meeting will be to present the work that the Committee has completed, including draft maps of areas designated to become "Resource Lands" in the new Plan. The Committee and Staff are seeking ideas and feedback on these areas from the public and landowners in particular, through participating in this open house. Other conservation agencies will also be represented at the meeting to answer your questions or discuss your concerns. To find out more information on the Land Use Plan Update please visit our website at: <http://www.co.wright.mn.us/departments/pandz/lupnwq.asp>