



# CURE



## 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

CURE's mission is to protect and restore resilient rural landscapes by harnessing the power of citizens who care about them.

We do this because we believe that robust human communities can only be sustained by healthy ecosystems, and robust natural environments can only be regained through vigorous stewardship.



## MILESTONES AND GOING FOR BOLD

Passing CURE's twenty-fifth year presents an obvious opportunity to tout our accomplishments, reflect on past challenges, and plan ahead to a hopeful future. That's an easy assignment. CURE has a rich and colorful history. Over the years we've done many good things together as a grassroots member-based organization, and in the process, we have built the CURE community. On occasion, we've stumbled and recovered. From time to time, we've done battle with Goliath, and sometimes we've won. We're always charting the course ahead while remaining grounded in place and practice. We honor our roots. We know our history. And we strive to demonstrate democracy as a model of organizational governance.

With another year behind us, we're paying our bills and employing a competent staff of organizers and nonprofit professionals. We're reaching more people and growing support for the work. And every so often we pause to assess what impact we're having in the communities we serve.

Last year and in the months leading up to this report we had an awakening of sorts.

We heard from our members and our organizational partners and funders their growing concern that the core progressive values underpinning our collective work were under siege and our hard-fought policy wins were at risk of being reversed.

In response to so many new external threats against what CURE members value, we've committed to stepping up as a bolder champion of progressive public policy, expanding our work well beyond our historic environmental concerns. And, as a grassroots organization firmly anchored in rural Minnesota, rural America--CURE has taken on a greater role as connector and convener to address difficult public issues and challenge those forces that undermine our work. This report reflects those efforts.

We're up to the challenge. Stay with us. Join us. There's much to do.

- Duane Ninneman, Executive Director

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## YOUR VOICE. YOUR SKILLS. YOUR TIME.

Dear Friends,

I volunteer my time to help lead CURE because I believe the world is run by the people who show up. When I attend CURE events and engage in activities, I am doing my small part to help move the policymakers towards a path of sustainability and a higher quality of life for us all. I encourage you to do the same. Your voice, your skills, and your time are needed.

CURE has grown over the past twenty five years thanks to the hard work of many volunteers and dedicated staff. We are excited to enter a new chapter with the addition of the Rural Democracy Project. This project allows us to bring our influence to bear directly on the levers of change. We know what we need to do. We need to move our policymakers to side with the majority of the people in the communities they serve, and not defer to powerful corporate interests.

CURE continues to advocate for Energy Democracy and is also leading the creation of a Water Ethic Charter for Minnesota. We hear our Native American friends say, "Water is life," and it is so true; everybody needs clean water, we strive to bring all of our communities together to that end.

Thank you for being part of CURE. I wish you the best as we face the great challenges and opportunities of this time and place, together.

- Pete Kennedy, Board Chair



# ENGAGEMENT & PROGRAMS

## THE PLACES WE GO: ACTING ON OUR VALUES

by Peg Furshong, Operations & Program Director

As we look back on 2017, for CURE members and many others, it was a referendum on a call to action. No longer could people be comfortable sitting back and watching what was unfolding in front of them. They wanted to be sure that lawmakers and others would know what was on their mind and in their hearts. CURE led on facilitating and organizing our constituents for action. We brought buses originating from Marshall, Moorhead, and Morris and picked up constituents on our way to the Capitol. We organized in St. Paul for committee hearings, the Women's March, Water Action Day, the March on Science, and monthly for "Pints & Policy" at a West Central Minnesota brewery. We were in Morris for the Water Summit and in Brooklyn Center for Our Minnesota Future.

Beyond advocacy and being a voice for our rural neighbors, CURE connected people of all ages with the tallgrass prairie. We co-hosted three different events that provided people with outdoor experiential learning experiences that focused on the prairie—a BioBlitz at Glacial Lakes State Park, removing invasive plants at



*CURE members and allies showing up to be the voice for water at the Minnesota State Capitol on Water Action Day 2017. Photo by Friends of the Mississippi River*

the Lac qui Parle Mission and graduating a new class of Minnesota Master Naturalists Volunteers in the Prairies & Potholes Biome of southwestern Minnesota. We wrapped up our year with our annual support of the Dakota 38 + 2 Wokiksuye Memorial Ride. In 2018, look for more organizing and civic engagement with our Rural Democracy Project.

## MEET ANNE BORGENDALE

Anne Borgendale joined CURE in October 2017 to lead work on Communications projects. Joining the CURE team has brought her full circle. In the summer of 1999, CURE sponsored the Minnesota River Expedition, a high school class paddling the entire length of the Minnesota River. It was an experience that helped launch Anne on a career path that integrates, science, communications, agriculture, environment, food, and advocacy—all of which are vital in CURE's work in 2017 and beyond.

Working with CURE has been exciting, and sometimes challenging, as she tells CURE's community about the work CURE does. Historically, CURE was known as an organization that advocated for water quality and connecting people with the outdoors. They still do this important work, but so much more including—renewable energy policy and access, grassroots organizing to build rural citizens' civic capacity and leadership through the new Rural Democracy Project, and a re-energized Water Ethic Project. Anne has the privilege to work on all of these in her communications role.

She's also excited to be back in the Upper Minnesota River Valley after 12 years away. Anne grew up here on a dairy farm in Lac qui Parle County and received a degree in chemistry from the University of Minnesota, Morris. Before CURE, she worked with the Sustainable Farming Association of



*Anne Borgendale*

Minnesota, Buy Fresh Buy Local Upper Minnesota River Valley, and as a cheesemaker. In addition to her work with CURE, she's in the process of starting Brynhild Creamery in the Montevideo area to make artisan cheeses from grass-fed cow's milk. The CURE community is leading the way to keep rural Minnesota a vibrant, welcoming place to build a life and a family. Anne and her husband, Andrew, are happy to be part of this re-energized rural revolution.



## ENGAGING AT HOME



*In November 2017 CURE members young and old gathered in Maynard to discuss their shared values and vision for a just Minnesota.*



*In July 2017 CURE hosted the Minnesota Master Naturalists Prairies & Potholes Biome volunteer training program at Lac qui Parle State Park. In addition to classroom training attendees go out onto the tallgrass prairie to learn first hand.*



*In March 2017 Hanna Hankins visited the CURE office to talk about Community Organizing and her time in the Obama administration. Hankins is the daughter of CURE members Dorothy Anderson & Roy Hankins.*

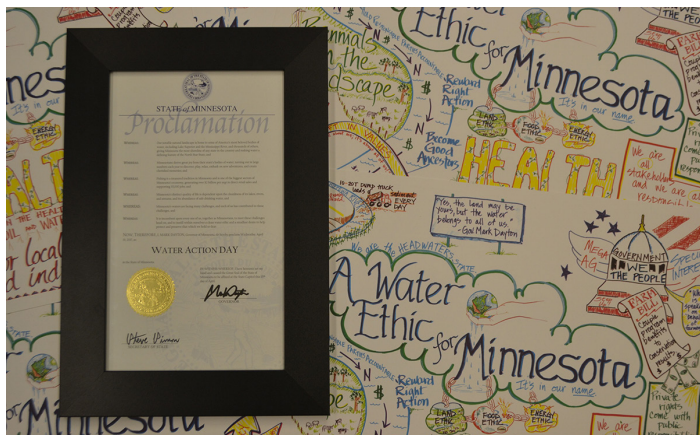
## BIOBLITZ 2017

*The 2017 BioBlitz at Glacial Lakes State Park was an amazing day where nearly 150 participants paired up with local experts to learn about and identify as many native species as possible in a specific area in a given amount of time. It was a day of bugs and plants and exciting shared experiences.*





# #ActOnMNWater —→ A WATER ETHIC FOR MINNESOTA



In April 2017, CURE members went to the Minnesota State Capitol as part of Water Action Day. This day of action provided an opportunity for constituents to actively engage with their legislators on water issues in Minnesota. Over 1,200 rally attendees heard messages in support of clean water from speakers ranging from Governor Mark Dayton to concerned citizens.

In 2018 CURE will embark on the multi-year creation of a water ethic charter for Minnesota which will incorporate the voices of many communities across the state.



## INTRODUCING CHAS JEWETT

In January 2018, CURE is excited to welcome a new staff member. Chas Jewett will be joining CURE as the Rural Democracy Organizer & Tribal Liaison. She will also be working on a Water Ethic Charter for Minnesota and Get Out the Vote efforts.

Chas Jewett is a member of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe. She and her sisters are the fifth generation to grow up on their family's cattle ranch along the Moreau River in South Dakota, which was settled by her great-grandfather and his Dakota wife in the 1840s. Chas earned degrees in English and Government at the College of St. Benedict in St. Joseph, MN and has taken graduate coursework at the University of South Dakota.

In 2002, Chas began organizing for the Sierra Club in Rapid City, SD, working on a grasslands wilderness campaign. Since then, she has organized in South Dakota for local and national organizations on the issues of reproductive justice, health care reform, peacemaking, police brutality, and racial justice. As part of her organizing, Chas was a field producer for a documentary

about reproductive justice called Young Lakota. She has worked with several political action committees, including Democracy in Action and Dakotas for America, and served on the boards of the South Dakota Peace and Justice Center and the Center for Restorative Justice.



*Chas Jewett*

Chas spent six months along the Cannonball River protesting the Dakota Access Pipeline as part of the largest gathering of the Oceti Sakowin in 150 years. She manages the Facebook page "No KXL Through Treaty Land." In 2017, she was part of the Missouri River Nibi Walk from Montana to Missouri led by Ojibwe elder Sharon Day. When not organizing, she can always be found hiking around with her boxer, Numpa or listening to public radio. Another favorite activity is FaceTiming with her seven nephews and two nieces.



# HELLO, ENERGY DEMOCRACY!

## SIX HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2017

by Erik Hatelstad, Energy Democracy Organizer

### 1) ENERGY PROGRAM -> ENERGY DEMOCRACY

Historically, the Energy Program focused on clean energy and climate change issues. Now, CURE is moving our work to include PEOPLE in those issues. CURE's definition of Energy Democracy is having communities involved directly in their energy systems' decision-making process. Democratic involvement is key in a clean energy economy.

CURE is a national leader in the Rural Electric Cooperative (REC) reform movement. This movement wants RECs to be faithful to their founding democratic values AND centered around decentralized clean energy generation.



*In February CURE members showed their support for renewable energy and opposition to HF 234 in St. Paul.*

### 2) WE OWN IT

CURE was part of the inaugural Cooperative Democracy Fellowship through We Own It. We Own It is a national network of organizations working on co-op reform. As part of this network, CURE shared our extensive knowledge about rural electric co-ops and learned from others in the field. CURE staff also received high-level training from leaders who were instrumental in the 2008 Obama campaign.

### 3) COALITION BUILDING FOR ENERGY DEMOCRACY

CURE's democracy work was bolstered by strong coalitions with ally organizations.

#### MINNESOTA FARMERS UNION & NATIONAL FARMERS UNION

By organizing with Farmers Union members, CURE built support for Rural Electric Co-op reform and Energy Democracy within these groups.

### OUR MINNESOTA FUTURE

CURE's Energy Democracy work was strengthened by our involvement in the Our Minnesota Future coalition—22 people driven organizations working to change the face of politics in Minnesota.

### POWERSHIFT NETWORK & NEW ECONOMY COALITION

CURE joined the Powershift Network which focuses on getting young people involved in the climate movement.

CURE is also now part of the New Economy Coalition which brings 200+ organizations from across the US together to move communities towards a new economy.

### 4) ERIK AT THE OBAMA FOUNDATION SUMMIT!

Last fall, I was also honored to be invited to the inaugural Obama Foundation Summit in Chicago. I had the opportunity to share CURE's work with inspiring young leaders from around the world. It was an incredible experience to learn from some of the world's brightest minds. CURE is known across Minnesota as an organization that "punches above its weight" and our work in Energy Democracy continues to prove that.

### 5) 2017 WIN AT THE MINNESOTA STATE CAPITOL

During the 2017 legislative session CURE led the opposition to HF 234, which deregulated rural electric co-ops and allowed them to charge unchecked fees on their members with small wind and solar installations. CURE members showed up and barraged legislators and Governor Dayton with thousands of letters, calls, and emails in opposition to this bill. It was CURE's decisive action that earned Governor Dayton's first veto of the year.

### 6) WIND & SOLAR FIELD DAY

CURE members Jim & LeeAnn VanDerPol of Pastures A Plenty and Marv & Judi Boike of Boike Farm hosted a field day at their farms featuring their solar and wind installations in July 2017.



*CURE members checking out the new solar array at Pastures A Plenty in July near Kerkhoven.*

The Rural Democracy Project grew out of rural citizens' growing appetite for connection, conversation, and action on issues affecting the health and future of rural Minnesota communities. CURE members know that clean water and healthy ecosystems are a lot harder to achieve and maintain when our communities are struggling with the issues that keep people up at night.

- Aging Populations
- Climate Change
- Corporate Power
- Education
- Environmental Justice
- Gender Equity
- Healthcare
- Local Food Systems
- Racial Justice
- Renewable Energy
- Rural Economic Development
- Standing with Native American Communities
- Water



### GRASSROOTS PLAN OF ACTION:

- Grow rural civic capacity and provide civic learning opportunities
- Restore networks in rural communities that support people in making change
- Help rural communities identify and grow leaders
- Build rural peoples' governing power on the local and state level
- Create independent and distributed political power for all people
- Take on the root causes of why our shared values are being ignored

## KICKING OFF THE RURAL DEMOCRACY PROJECT

## A JUST & HEALTHY VISION FOR MINNESOTA

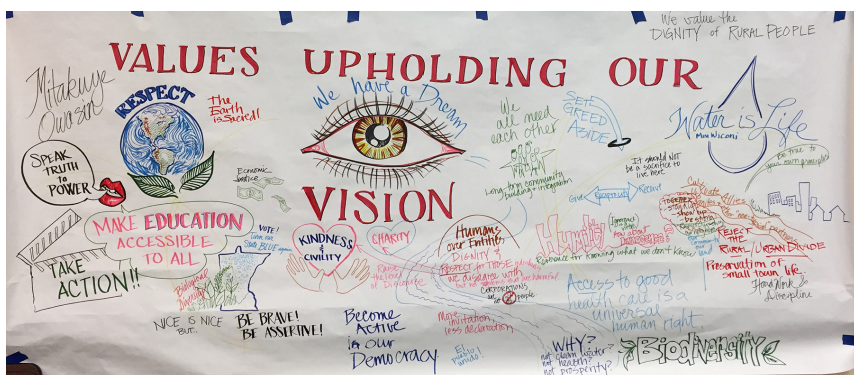
100 CURE and Land Stewardship Project (LSP) members gathered in Maynard to share a meal and their vision for a just and healthy Minnesota.



*A diverse group of people from across MN gathered at the OMF People's Assembly in Brooklyn Center.*

## OMF PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY & LEADERSHIP GATHERING

200+ CURE and LSP members traveled to the Earle Brown Heritage Center in Brooklyn Center as part of a gathering of 1000 people. We came together—rural and urban—with strong and diverse organizations from across Minnesota. Together we wrestled with the challenges, asserted our vision, and started making a plan for a better Minnesota we ALL deserve.

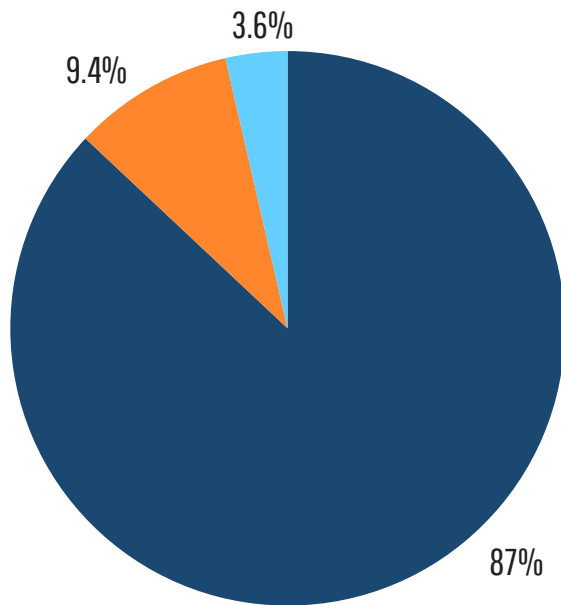


*Graphic recording of "A Just & Healthy Vision for MN" drawn by Audrey Arner & Malena Handeen in November 2017 in Maynard.*



# 2017 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

SUPPORT & REVENUE TOTAL | \$311,000



Grant Revenue | \$270,000 (87%)  
 Donations & Memberships | \$29,500 (9.4%)  
 Other | \$11,500 (3.6%)

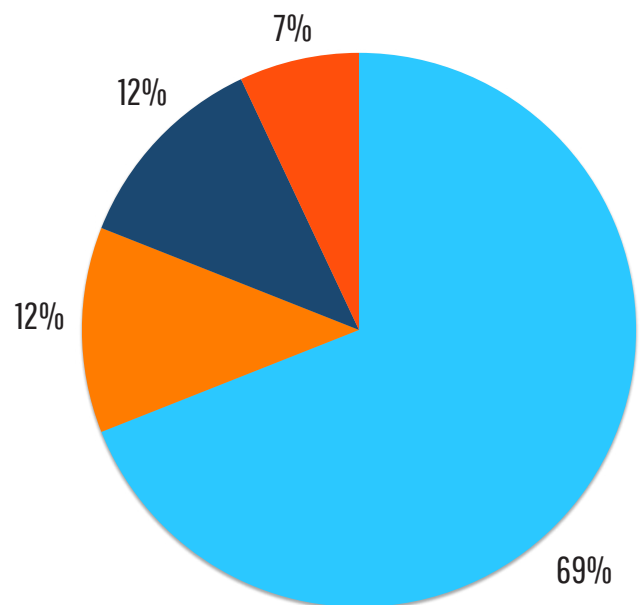
In 2017, 87% of CURE's Support & Revenue came from foundation grant funding. We rely on funding from major foundations and organizations to fund our work in each Project area. For example, the Carolyn Foundation has helped to in part fund CURE's Energy Democracy Project.

Member-donors contributed 9.4% of CURE's revenue in 2017. CURE continues to rely on member-donors, especially sustaining donors. In 2017, 18.4% of gifts were from sustaining donors. These monthly gifts are the most efficient way to support CURE. They allow us to maintain momentum in our projects and advocacy work, plan for those critical issues that arise and need immediate action, and budget more effectively to make sure we can accomplish all of these things successfully. Sustaining memberships also means CURE spends less time, and less money, reminding members to renew and give.

Details about CURE's financials may be obtained by contacting the CURE office.

Financial numbers only tell part of CURE's story. CURE engages with people in communities across Minnesota and 2017 was no exception—it was a year of action.

EXPENSES TOTAL | \$268,500



Programs & Projects | \$186,600 (69%)  
 Fundraising | \$32,400 (12%)  
 Administration | \$32,000 (12%)  
 Operations | \$17,500 (7%)

Increase in Net Assets | \$42,500

A snapshot of how people were involved with CURE in 2017:

- Women's March | 2 buses, 53 people from 23 towns
- Committee Hearing | 1 bus, 31 people and 4 people testified
- Water Action Day | 2 buses 48 people from 21 towns
- March on Science | 27 people 6 carpools, 11 towns
- Our Minnesota Future People's Assembly | 93 people, two buses from 33 towns
- Maynard Meeting on our shared vision & values | 145 people from 34 towns
- Water Summit | 56 people/delegates

CURE also continued to have a long digital reach:

- Facebook Engagements | 8600+
- Twitter Engagements | 1200+



# 2017 DONORS

We thank the following member-donors who generously donated to CURE from January 1 - December 31, 2017

\*Indicates Sustaining Members  
who give monthly to CURE

## MEMBER-DONORS

### \$1,000 AND UP

Dorothy Anderson & Roy Hankins \*  
Maureen Laughlin & Duane  
Ninneman \*

### \$500 TO \$999

Clifton Brittain & Peggy Ladner  
Peg Furshong & Steven Petrich \*  
Dixie Tilden \*

### \$250 TO \$499

Anonymous  
Audrey Arner & Richard Handeen  
Susan Barnes Elliot  
David & Julie Christensen  
Mike & Jean Henle  
Peter Kennedy & Teresa Clarke \*  
Nick & Donna Krueger  
Rachel Rigenhagen \*  
Paul & Lauri Tinklenberg  
Lucy & Gene Tokheim  
Heather Waye & Peter Dolan  
Mary Lou Werner

### \$100 TO \$249

Anonymous  
Julia Ashley  
Donald Beck  
Bev Blomgren \*  
Marvin & Judi Boike  
Peggy & Glen Booth  
Sylke & Teresa Boyd  
Elsa Bross & Javad Keyhani  
Misty & Shawn Butler  
Jay & Merideth Brown  
David & Patricia Craigmile  
Stewart & Rebecca Day

Vicky Dotsdall  
Laurie & David Driessen  
Helen Duritsa  
Stephanie Enloe  
Brad Fernholz  
Kay & Annette Fernholz \*  
Jay Fier  
Rebekah Fineday  
Sally & Bart Finzel  
Judy & Kevin Flicker  
Anita Flowe  
T.J. & Donna Furshong  
Camille Gage & Patrick Mulligan  
Jenn & Troy Goodnough  
Vicki Graham  
Julie & Keith Gustafson  
Erik Hatlestad \*  
Shannon & John Helgeson  
Lowell & Cay Hellervik  
Anthony & Nancy Hilleren  
Virginia Homme  
Glen & Donna Jacobsen \*  
Martin & Loretta Jaus  
Cynthia Johnson & Carole Mitchell \*  
Jeanne Johnson  
Lee & Jeanne Kanten  
Arne & Athena Kildegaard \*  
Wendy & Paul Kimmer  
Josef Kriegl  
Margaret Kuchenreuther \*  
Super LaBatte Jr.  
Diane Ladner \*  
Paul & Linda Laughlin \*  
David & Karen Minge  
James & Sydney Nesbitt Massee  
T. Todd Masman  
Timothy McMahon  
David Moody & Mary Catherwood  
Sue Morton  
Robert Narem & Linda Simmons  
Darby & Geri Nelson \*  
Laura Newby



*CURE hosted a program on pelicans in June 2017 at Marsh Lake. Marsh Lake holds a beautiful American White Pelican Rookery.*

Donna Nieckula  
Doug Nopar & Joann Thomas  
Dean & Jeri Nordaune  
Sarina Otaibi & Tim Beckmann \*  
Howard & Verna Patrick  
Beryl Perry  
George & Deb Peterson  
Keith & Vicki Poier  
Jean Replinger  
Gene & Judy Rose  
Tim & Margo Roth  
Lila & John Salls \*  
Kathy & Mike Sampson  
John Schladweiler  
Lola Schoenrich  
Jay Thacker  
Michelle Thelen  
Jessica Tritsch  
Jim & LeeAnn VanDerPol  
Bruce Vien  
Sam & Megan Villella  
Mark Voorhees & Judy Kammer  
Heather Waye & Peter Dolan  
Del & Shirley Wehrspann  
Sue Wika & Tom Prieve  
Mark Wilson  
Brian & Janine Wojtalewicz \*

Paul Wymar & Amy Bacigalupo  
Frank & Tina Ziegler

### \$50 TO \$99

Julia Ahlers & Richard Ness  
Keith & Anita Anderson  
Ross Anderson & Pam Sanders  
Sigurd Anderson  
Victoria Barnes  
Dr. Thomas Birkey & Doris  
Thompson  
George Boody  
Anne Borgendale & Andrew Hodny  
Diane Borgendale  
Mary Borstad  
Joshua Boschee  
Mitch & Dave Collins  
Leslie & Tim Craine  
Jill Crafton  
Adam Dahl  
Karin Elton  
James & Karen Falk  
Kerry Fine  
Judy & Kevin Flicker  
Karen & Duane Flom  
Patrick Foley  
Jack & Ginny Furshong

Joan Gittens  
 Emily Graham  
 Ann & Patrick Gunter  
 Lars Gustafson & Melissa Miller  
 Daniel Handeen & Dominique Jones  
 Michelle & Tyler Hanson  
 Jim Harkness  
 Agnes Hart  
 Marya Hart  
 Lesley Heyl  
 Mary & Dick Huesing  
 Cynthia Huse  
 Tom & Genie Kalahar  
 Theresa Keaveny  
 Phil & Mary Kelly  
 Tim Kennedy  
 Dwayne & Barb Knutson  
 Spencer & Peggy Kvam  
 Katie Laughlin \*  
 Lance & Julie Lindeman  
 Barbara Little  
 Lynn Mader & Mark Rekow  
 Trista Mages  
 Craig & Deb Maki  
 Cheryl McChesney  
 Olivia McGathey  
 Barbara McGinnis  
 Dan & Teresa McGrath  
 Tom Meium  
 Jean & Tony Menden  
 Cory & Jim Mitchell  
 Kristi Mogen  
 Robin Moore

Brad Moseng  
 Matt Norton  
 Curt Oien & Sandra Irish-Oien  
 Russ & Sharon Olson  
 George & Debra Peterson  
 Joshua Preston  
 Mike & Mary Preuss  
 Jianhua Qian  
 Daniel & Linda Richter  
 Margaret Robertson  
 Vonnie Saquilan  
 Tim Schuck  
 Mark Schultz & Jeannette Raymond  
 Ray Schultz  
 Peter & Anne Schwagerl  
 Ingrid Schwingler  
 Bryan & Jessica Simon  
 Vern Simula  
 Paul & Candy Sobocinski  
 Karen Soukkala  
 Iyekiyapiwin St. Clair  
 Mary Sullivan & James Kanne  
 Laura Thielke  
 William C. Thompson Jr.  
 Lyndon Torstenson  
 Liz Veazey  
 Sharon Vick  
 Kelly & Bonnie Wasberg  
 Jordan Wente  
 Robert Williams  
 Roberta Wyatt & Edwin Yerka

## UP TO \$49

Anonymous  
 Jane Abbot  
 Nagi Abdullahi  
 Anthony & Feliz Amato  
 Lizbeth Anderson  
 Dennis Barta  
 Donald Bot  
 Evie Bourne  
 Sheryl Breen  
 Maria Brun  
 Barbara Burke  
 Ronald Burley  
 Patricia Buschette  
 Tim Buysse  
 Nancy Carpenter  
 Patience Caso  
 Lauren Caldwell & Gabe Furshong  
 Steve & Leanne Carmany  
 Tom & Cindy Cherveney  
 Donna Chollett  
 Doris Cogelow  
 Joe Czapiewski  
 Sharon Day  
 Marie Doran  
 Judy Douglas  
 Crystal Dougherty  
 Beverly Dougherty  
 Darwin Dyce  
 Karin Elton  
 Cecily Erickson  
 Carmen & Sally Fernholz  
 Coleen Ford  
 Matt Fredericks \*  
 Andrea Fox Jensen  
 Glenn Gelhar  
 Allen Gleckner  
 Heidi Goldberg  
 Jihadda Govan  
 Tom & Genie Kalahar  
 Susan Granger & Scott Kelly  
 Mary Grey  
 Malena Handeen & Mike Jacobs  
 John & Eileen Hanson  
 Kathy Hartley

James & Candy Hersch  
 Steve & Chris Hettig  
 Lex Horan  
 John Ihle  
 Kylie Jacobsen  
 Pamela Jensen  
 Brian Jones  
 Josh Journey-Heinz  
 Lawrence Kallevig  
 Tim Kennedy  
 Duaine & Kathie Kimpling  
 Duwayne & LaVonne Koenen  
 Don Knott  
 Mary Ann & Tom Kramer  
 Richard & Karen Kroger  
 Al & Linda Kruse  
 Patricia Kubly  
 Cindy & Bill Lavin  
 Denise Lindquist  
 Joanne Mader  
 Marc Mattice  
 Alice Menge  
 Julayne Miller  
 Kristi Mogen  
 Barbara Moore  
 Dori Moore  
 Darrel Mosel  
 Denise Montgomery  
 Julie Nagel  
 Judith & David Nass  
 Suzanne Nelsen  
 Josiah & Tyler Nelson  
 Jim Nichols  
 Emilie Nicklawsky  
 Lori & Dennis Niedfelt-Petrich  
 Karen Odden  
 Kelsey Olson & Kyle Jarius  
 Sharon & Russell Olson  
 Jay & Teresa Peterson  
 Joel Quam  
 Dale Quinn  
 Jeff Richter & Janine Thull  
 Bob & Karla Tinklenberg  
 Franz Albert Richter  
 Kristen Ringham  
 Jessica Rohloff



CURE members at Paddle for the Climate in New London in April 2017.



Lauran Rothstein  
 Tom Ryan  
 Jacob Sanders  
 Eric Sannerud  
 Melissa Scholten  
 Melissa Schulte  
 Kurt Schulz  
 Shackelford Family  
 Jim & Mary Stone  
 Cat Stravino  
 Mary Taylor  
 David Taylor  
 Beverly Tellefsen  
 Diana-Christine Teodorescu  
 Karen Thompson  
 Scott & Penny Tower  
 Ronnette Kennedy Trulson  
 Michael Utzinger  
 Keith VanOverbeke  
 Lauren Wadsworth  
 Jo Walter  
 Nancy & Lee Warne  
 Carol Westberg  
 John White  
 James Wolf  
 Roslyn Yunik

## BUSINESSES/ ORGANIZATIONS/ SCHOOLS

Earthrise Farm  
 Clean Energy Alliance  
 GiveMN, Minneapolis  
 Henle Printing Company, Marshall  
 Lac qui Parle Valley High School  
 Science Club, Madison  
 Lac qui Parle Lake Watershed  
 Project, Montevideo  
 Land & Driveway Service Inc.,  
 Morris  
 Land Stewardship Project,  
 Minneapolis  
 Madison Bottling Company  
 Mankato Paddling Club, Mankato

MN Center for Environmental  
 Advocacy  
 MN River Valley Audubon Chapter,  
 Bloomington  
 Morning Sky Nursery, Morris  
 nuQUIRE LLC  
 Patagonia  
 Pesticide Action Network of North  
 America  
 Power Shift Network  
 RE-AMP Network  
 Soil Consultants, Inc, Twin  
 Brooks, SD  
 Tokheim Stoneware, Dawson  
 Township of Ortonville  
 YME High School Science Club,  
 Granite Falls

## FOUNDATIONS

Carolyn Foundation  
 McKnight Foundation  
 Minneapolis Foundation

## 2017 TRIBUTES

**In honor of MniSota Wakpa**  
 Iyekiapiwin St. Clair

**In memory of Nate Hart**

Sheryl Breen  
 Nancy Carpenter  
 Leslie & Tim Craine  
 Jay Fier  
 Judith Flicker  
 Emily Graham  
 Vicki Graham  
 Agnes Hart  
 Marya Hart  
 Margaret Kuchenreuther  
 Leann Lindquist Dean  
 Cory & Jim Mitchell  
 Ray Schultz  
 Carol Westberg

**In memory of Jerry Tilden**  
 Dixie Tilden

## In memory of Carol Vick

Ingrid Schwingler

In 2012, CURE began a formal Tributes program where you may remember a loved one who has passed on or honor someone for a life's journey milestone (birth, birthday, graduation, wedding, anniversary, retirement, etc.)

For more information about our Tributes program or to obtain envelope, please contact Peg Furshong at the CURE office.

\*\*\* If you believe that we have made a mistake in your giving history for 2017, please contact us so that we can resolve the issue. It is important to us that we honor all of our member-donor support.

## RIVERKEEPER AWARD



*Darby & Geri Nelson*

In the summer of 2017, CURE awarded the 2016 RiverKeeper Award to Darby and Geri Nelson.

CURE presents the RiverKeeper award to individual(s), organizations, or government agencies who have worked in an exemplary manner over the previous year to carry out CURE's mission to "Focus Public Awareness on the Upper Minnesota River Watershed and to take action to restore and protect its water quality, biological integrity, and natural beauty for all generations."

The RiverKeeper Tokheim Stoneware Plate has a bible verse on it from the book of Amos: "May justice flow like water and integrity as an unfailing stream." Justice and integrity are rare traits, and when we see them lived out, we nominate those individuals for the RiverKeeper award.

The RiverKeeper award has been given out annually by CURE since 1994.

## STAFF

Representing fiscal year 2017

### ANNE BORGENDALE

Communications  
anne@cureriver.org  
(start October 2017)

### ANDREA FOX JENSEN

Consultant

### PEG FURSHONG

Operations & Program Director  
peg@cureriver.org

### ERIK HATLESTAD

Energy Democracy Organizer  
erik@cureriver.org

### KATIE LAUGHLIN

Communications & Programs  
Associate  
(end August 2017)

### DUANE NINNEMAN

Executive Director  
duane@cureriver.org

### DIXIE TILDEN

Office Manager  
dixie@cureriver.org

## BOARD

Representing fiscal year 2017

### MISTY BUTLER

Manager of Corporate Marketing  
Communications, Schwan's  
Marshall, MN

### JAMES FALK

Farmer & Owner, Falk Seed Farm  
Murdock, MN

### BRAD FERNHOLZ

Organic Farmer, The Coyote Grange  
Appleton, MN

### KAREN FLOM

District Manager (retired)  
Renville Co. Soil & Water  
Conservation District | Olivia, MN

### GLENN GELHAR, TREASURER

Farmer & Retired Healthcare  
Professional | Clarkfield, MN

### GLEN JACOBSEN, MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Renville County Prosecutor  
Bird Island, MN

### TOM KALAHAR, VICE CHAIR

District Technician (retired)  
Renville Co. Soil & Water  
Conservation District | Olivia, MN

### PETE KENNEDY, CHAIRMAN

Engineering Manager, Northern Geo  
Murdock, MN

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CURE members at the Women's March in St. Paul, MN in January 2017.

*\*All photos by CURE staff unless otherwise noted.*

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