

Climate Adaptation: Transforming Awareness into Action

*DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel
Minneapolis North
2200 Freeway Boulevard
Minneapolis, MN 55430*

January 28, 2016

7:30 – 8:00 **Registration and Continental Breakfast**

8:00 - 8:15 **Welcome and opening remarks**
Mark Seeley

8:15 – 9:45 **Business Panel**

A panel of corporate leaders will discuss the need for sustainability as an underlying principle when it comes to considerations of climate change and how it will affect our natural resources, our societal infrastructure, and the future of products and services from the highly competitive corporate world. Specifically, we will hear perspectives on supply chain challenges, facilities management, product development and marketing.

Moderator, Paul Douglas, President Aeris Weather
Jerry Lynch Chief Sustainability Officer, General Mills
Jean Sweeney, 3M VP for Environment, Health, Safety, and Sustainability
Laura Bishop, Best Buy VP for Public Affairs and Sustainability

9:45 – 10:00 **Break**

10:00 – 11:30 **Break- out session 1**

A. Climate impacts and adaptation for water resources: An exploration of water quantity and access in Minnesota

Minnesota and the Great Lakes Region is experiencing significant impacts to our water resources as a result of climate change. These impacts include changing water temperatures, wind speeds, ice cover, water levels, and water quality issues, which can have negative effects on aquatic ecosystems and communities. In this session we will hear from two experts in the field of water resources to explore some of the research and adaptation strategies to address impacts from a changing climate on water quantity and access in the region.

Moderator: Dendy Lofton, Limnotech

Speakers: John D. Lenters, Ph.D., Hydroclimatologist, LimnoTech

Carl Lindquist, Executive Director, Superior Watershed Partnership and Land Trust

B. Energy

The impacts of climate on energy systems will impact Minnesotans at multiple scales, from the Energy grid, to communities down to individual buildings. Speakers will discuss resiliency and sustainability in the energy sector at various scales, and how each level is critical to the energy sector adapting to climate impacts.

Moderator: Ellen Anderson, Director, University of Minnesota Energy Transition Lab

Speakers: Jodi Slick, CEO of Ecolibrium3

Peter Dahl, Associate Principal at HGA Architects and Engineers

Ken Smith, CEO of St. Paul District Energy and Evergreen Energy

C. Tribal preparation

Tribal communities have been assessing the impacts on their culture, lands and people to better adapt to a changing climate. This session will highlight some of the issues and plans in several of the Minnesota Tribal communities.

Moderator: Faye Sleeper

Speakers: Tyler Kaspar, Environmental Specialist, 1854 Treaty Authority

Jerilyn Jourdain, xxx, Red Lake Nation

11:30 – 11:35 **Move in for Lunch**

11:35 – 12:20 **Lunch**

12:20 – 1:35 **Mayors Panel**

Mayor Chris Coleman, City of Saint Paul

Mayor Rita Albrecht, City of Bemidji

Mayor Peter Lindstrom, City of Falcon Heights

Mayor Jake Spano, City of St. Louis Park

1:35– 1:55 **Minnesota Climate Adaptation Awards**, Barbara Liukkonen and Mark Seeley

1:55– 2:00 **Short break and move to Breakout session**

2:00 – 3:30 **Breakout 2**

D. Local Foods Future for Climate Adaptation

The University of Minnesota's Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, an Extension program, have supported research in local food production that demonstrates the potential for climate adaptation. These include woody agriculture as an alternative to the current corn and soybean focus, deep winter greenhouses and small scale poultry production integrated with vegetable and fruit production.

Moderator: Robert Cline

Speakers: Philip A. Rutter, Badgersett Research Farm, Canton, MN

Carol Ford, Garden Goddess Enterprises, Milan, MN

Reginaldo Haslett-Marroquin, Main Street Project, Northfield, MN

E. Communicating Climate Change

The session on communicating climate change will feature climatologists from the DNR-State Climatology Office (SCO), and reporters from Minnesota Public Radio (MPR). The DNR staff will share perspective on providing climate services to the public, including data and analysis relevant to various sectors of the economy and state infrastructure. The MPR reporters will highlight how they put together “Climate Change in Minnesota” a week-long series of reports which won the prestigious AAAS Kavli Science Journalism Prize this year for excellence in science reporting.

Moderator: Mark Seeley, University of Minnesota Professor

Speakers: Elizabeth Dunbar, MPR environment reporter
Mike Edgerly, MPR News Director and Senior Editor on the Environment
Peter Boulay, MN-DNR State Climatology Office
Kenny Blumenfeld, MN-DNR State Climatology Office

F. Building Connections between emergency Management and Climate Adaptation

Climate trends are impacting the work of Minnesota’s emergency managers in all aspects of emergency management: hazard mitigation, preparedness, disaster response, and recovery. This session will explore how emergency managers are planning, preparing for, and responding to climate impacts, and will discuss the importance of collaboration between emergency management professionals and others working in the climate adaptation field. Examples and ideas of successful approaches to climate adaptation from the emergency management community will be offered.

Moderator: Paul Moss, Climate Adaptation Coordinator, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Speakers: Rick Larkin, Director, Saint Paul Department of Emergency Management
Jennifer Nelson, State Hazard Mitigation Officer, Minnesota Homeland Security and Emergency Management
Eric Waage, Director, Hennepin County Emergency Management
FEMA Representative, Invited

3:30 – 3:45 Afternoon break

3:45 – 5:00 Tools café/posters, dessert and snacks

Tools café (see separate agenda)

Poster Session (See separate listing of posters)

Please join us for further casual conversation in the lounge area outside the bar around 5:00. There is a full bar for beverage purchase.
