

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax
 Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)
 ▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements.

A For the 2008 calendar year, or tax year beginning 7/01/08 **and ending** 6/30/09

- B** Check if applicable:
- Address change
 - Name change
 - Initial return
 - Termination
 - Amended return
 - Application pending

C Name of organization
MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP

Doing Business As

Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite
546 RICE STREET 100

City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4
SAINT PAUL MN 55103

D Employer identification number
41-1986433

E Telephone number
651-290-0154

G Gross receipts \$ **1,389,398**

F Name and address of principal officer:
STEVE MORSE
546 RICE STREET, SUITE 100
ST. PAUL MN 55103

H(a) Is this a group return for affiliates? Yes No
H(b) Are all affiliates included? Yes No
 If "No," attach a list. (see instructions)

I Tax-exempt status: 501(c) (3) ◀ (insert no.) 4947(a)(1) or 527

J Website: ▶ **WWW.MEPARTNERSHIP.ORG**

H(c) Group exemption number ▶

K Type of organization: Corporation Trust Association Other ▶

L Year of formation: **1998**

M State of legal domicile: **MN**

Part I Summary

Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: SEE SCHEDULE O FOR THE ORGANIZATION'S MISSION.		
	2 Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its assets.		
	3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	13
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	10
	5 Total number of employees (Part V, line 2a)	5	18
	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	4
	7a Total gross unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, line 12, column (C)	7a	
b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	0	
Revenue	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	1,736,896	1,335,111
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	70,273	34,359
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	43,371	19,928
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	141	
	12 Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1,850,681	1,389,398
Expenses	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)		
	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)		
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)	590,395	641,132
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)		
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ 130,011		
17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24f)	1,171,464	1,327,856	
18 Total expenses. Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	1,761,859	1,968,988	
19 Revenue less expenses. Subtract line 18 from line 12	88,822	-579,590	
Net Assets or Fund Balances	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	1,502,552	718,123
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	267,881	63,042
	22 Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	1,234,671	655,081

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here

Signature of officer _____ Date _____

Type or print name and title _____

Paid Preparer's Use Only

Preparer's signature ▶ _____ Date _____ Check if self-employed Preparer's identifying number (see instructions) **P00039976**

Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4 ▶ **JOHNSON, WEST & CO., PLC**
332 MINNESOTA ST STE E-1100
SAINT PAUL, MN 55101

EIN ▶ **41-0909934**
 Phone no. ▶ **651-227-9431**

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions) Yes No

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments (see instructions)

1 Briefly describe the organization's mission:

SEE SCHEDULE O FOR THE ORGANIZATION'S MISSION.

2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? Yes No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O.

3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? Yes No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O.

4 Describe the exempt purpose achievements for each of the organization's three largest program services by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a (Code:) (Expenses \$ **1,647,646** including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

SEE STATEMENT DETAILING ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES.

4b (Code:) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4c (Code:) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4d Other program services. (Describe in Schedule O.)

(Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e Total program service expenses ▶ \$ **1,647,646** (Must equal Part IX, Line 25, column (B).)

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

		Yes	No
1	Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? If "Yes," complete Schedule A	X	
2	Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors?	X	
3	Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I		X
4	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II	X	
5	Section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), and 501(c)(6) organizations. Is the organization subject to the section 6033(e) notice and reporting requirement and proxy tax? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III		
6	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any accounts where donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I		X
7	Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II		X
8	Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III		X
9	Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21; serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X; or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV		X
10	Did the organization hold assets in term, permanent, or quasi-endowments? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V		X
11	Did the organization report an amount in Part X, lines 10, 12, 13, 15, or 25? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable	X	
12	Did the organization receive an audited financial statement for the year for which it is completing this return that was prepared in accordance with GAAP? If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI, XII, and XIII	X	
13	Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E		X
14a	Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the U.S.?		X
b	Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, and program service activities outside the U.S.? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part I		X
15	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or assistance to any organization or entity located outside the United States? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part II		X
16	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or assistance to individuals located outside the United States? If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part III		X
17	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 on Part IX, column (A), line 11e? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I		X
18	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II		X
19	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 on Part VIII, line 9a? If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III		X
20	Did the organization operate one or more hospitals? If "Yes," complete Schedule H		X
21	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 on Part IX, column (A), line 1? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II		X
22	Did the organization report more than \$5,000 on Part IX, column (A), line 2? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III		X
23	Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, questions 3, 4, or 5? If "Yes," complete Schedule J		X
24a	Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? If "Yes," answer questions 24b-24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to question 25.		X
b	Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?		
c	Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?		
d	Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?		
25a	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		X
b	Did the organization become aware that it had engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person from a prior year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		X
26	Was a loan to or by a current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, highly compensated employee, or disqualified person outstanding as of the end of the organization's tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II		X
27	Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, or substantial contributor, or to a person related to such an individual? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III		X

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

		Yes	No
28	During the tax year, did any person who is a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee:		
a	Have a direct business relationship with the organization (other than as an officer, director, trustee, or employee), or an indirect business relationship through ownership of more than 35% in another entity (individually or collectively with other person(s) listed in Part VII, Section A)? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV		X
b	Have a family member who had a direct or indirect business relationship with the organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV		X
c	Serve as an officer, director, trustee, key employee, partner, or member of an entity (or a shareholder of a professional corporation) doing business with the organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV	X	
29	Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M		X
30	Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M		X
31	Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I		X
32	Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II		X
33	Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I		X
34	Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Parts II, III, IV, and V, line 1		X
35	Is any related organization a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2		X
36	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2		X
37	Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI		X

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

		Yes	No
1a	Enter the number reported in Box 3 of Form 1096, Annual Summary and Transmittal of U.S. Information Returns. Enter -0- if not applicable		
	1a 11		
b	Enter the number of Forms W-2G included in line 1a. Enter -0- if not applicable		
	1b 0		
c	Did the organization comply with backup withholding rules for reportable payments to vendors and reportable gaming (gambling) winnings to prize winners?	X	
2a	Enter the number of employees reported on Form W-3, Transmittal of Wage and Tax Statements, filed for the calendar year ending with or within the year covered by this return		
	2a 18		
b	If at least one is reported on line 2a, did the organization file all required federal employment tax returns? Note. If the sum of lines 1a and 2a is greater than 250, you may be required to e-file this return. (see instructions)	X	
3a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year covered by this return?		X
b	If "Yes," has it filed a Form 990-T for this year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O		
4a	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in, or a signature or other authority over, a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?		X
b	If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country: See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.		
5a	Was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction at any time during the tax year?		X
b	Did any taxable party notify the organization that it was or is a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?		X
c	If "Yes," to question 5a or 5b, did the organization file Form 8886-T, Disclosure by Tax-Exempt Entity Regarding Prohibited Tax Shelter Transaction?		
6a	Did the organization solicit any contributions that were not tax deductible?		X
b	If "Yes," did the organization include with every solicitation an express statement that such contributions or gifts were not tax deductible?		
7	Organizations that may receive deductible contributions under section 170(c).		
a	Did the organization provide goods or services in exchange for any quid pro quo contribution of more than \$75?		X
b	If "Yes," did the organization notify the donor of the value of the goods or services provided?		
c	Did the organization sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal property for which it was required to file Form 8282?		X
d	If "Yes," indicate the number of Forms 8282 filed during the year		
	7d		
e	Did the organization, during the year, receive any funds, directly or indirectly, to pay premiums on a personal benefit contract?		X
f	Did the organization, during the year, pay premiums, directly or indirectly, on a personal benefit contract?		X
g	For all contributions of qualified intellectual property, did the organization file Form 8899 as required?		
h	For contributions of cars, boats, airplanes, and other vehicles, did the organization file a Form 1098-C as required?		
8	Section 501(c)(3) and other sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds and section 509(a)(3) supporting organizations. Did the supporting organization, or a fund maintained by a sponsoring organization, have excess business holdings at any time during the year?		
9	Section 501(c)(3) and other sponsoring organizations maintaining donor advised funds.		
a	Did the organization make any taxable distributions under section 4966?		
b	Did the organization make a distribution to a donor, donor advisor, or related person?		
10	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on Part VIII, line 12	10a	
b	Gross receipts, included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, for public use of club facilities	10b	
11	Section 501(c)(12) organizations. Enter:		
a	Gross income from members or shareholders	11a	
b	Gross income from other sources (Do not net amounts due or paid to other sources against amounts due or received from them.)	11b	
12a	Section 4947(a)(1) non-exempt charitable trusts. Is the organization filing Form 990 in lieu of Form 1041?	12a	
b	If "Yes," enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the year	12b	

Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors

Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Use Schedule J-2 if additional space is needed.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation, and **current** key employees. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee, or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, and highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

Check this box if the organization did not compensate any officer, director, trustee, or key employee.

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week	(C) Position (check all that apply)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
COLLIE GRADDICK DIRECTOR	1	X					0	0	0	
GLEN HILL DIRECTOR	1	X					0	0	0	
JANE KRENTZ DIRECTOR	1	X					0	0	0	
KATHRYN FERNHOLZ DIRECTOR	1	X					0	0	0	
MARK PETERS DIRECTOR	1	X					0	0	0	
MARTY BROAN DIRECTOR	1	X					0	0	0	
RON MEADOR DIRECTOR	1	X					0	0	0	
STEVE CHAPLIN DIRECTOR	1	X					0	0	0	
CATHY PODESZWA CHAIR	1	X					0	0	0	
LEA SCHUSTER DIRECTOR	1	X					0	0	0	
MARTHA BRAND DIRECTOR	1	X					0	0	0	
STEVE MORSE EXC DIRECTOR	43			X			123,082	0	15,566	
DAVID WILLIAMS VICE CHAIR	1			X			0	0	0	
GEORGE BOODY SECRETARY	1			X			0	0	0	
WILLIAM GRANT CHAIR	1			X			0	0	0	
PAUL AASEN TREASURER	1			X			0	0	0	

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

			(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512, 513, or 514	
Contributions, gifts, grants and other similar amounts	1a Federated campaigns	1a					
	b Membership dues	1b					
	c Fundraising events	1c					
	d Related organizations	1d					
	e Government grants (contributions)	1e					
	f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f	1,335,111				
	g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f: \$		4,800				
	h Total. Add lines 1a-1f			1,335,111			
Program Service Revenue			Busn. Code				
	2a SERVICES			24,026	24,026		
	b CONTRACT REVENUE			10,333	10,333		
	c						
	d						
	e						
	f All other program service revenue						
	g Total. Add lines 2a-2f			34,359			
Other Revenue	3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)			19,928		19,928	
	4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds						
	5 Royalties						
	6a Gross Rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal				
	b Less: rental exps.						
	c Rental inc. or (loss)						
	d Net rental income or (loss)						
	7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other				
	b Less: cost or other basis & sales exps.						
	c Gain or (loss)						
	d Net gain or (loss)						
	8a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18	a					
		b Less: direct expenses	b				
		c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events					
	9a Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19	a					
		b Less: direct expenses	b				
c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities							
10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	a						
	b Less: cost of goods sold	b					
	c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory						
Miscellaneous Revenue		Busn. Code					
11a							
b							
c							
d All other revenue							
e Total. Add lines 11a-11d							
12 Total Revenue. Add lines 1h, 2g, 3, 4, 5, 6d, 7d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e			1,389,398	34,359	0	19,928	

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns.
 All other organizations must complete column (A) but are not required to complete columns (B), (C), and (D).

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the U.S. See Part IV, line 21				
2 Grants and other assistance to individuals in the U.S. See Part IV, line 22				
3 Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations, and individuals outside the U.S. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4 Benefits paid to or for members				
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	123,082	73,198	32,384	17,500
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7 Other salaries and wages	408,042	242,665	107,359	58,018
8 Pension plan contributions (include section 401(k) and section 403(b) employer contributions)	12,956	7,713	3,600	1,643
9 Other employee benefits	56,503	33,638	15,698	7,167
10 Payroll taxes	40,549	24,140	11,266	5,143
11 Fees for services (non-employees):				
a Management				
b Legal	7,629	7,629		
c Accounting	18,696	14,896		3,800
d Lobbying				
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17				
f Investment management fees				
g Other				
12 Advertising and promotion				
13 Office expenses	27,890	21,438	4,151	2,301
14 Information technology				
15 Royalties				
16 Occupancy	39,324	29,337	6,201	3,786
17 Travel	37,198	36,036	1,162	
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	27,635	26,010	1,066	559
20 Interest				
21 Payments to affiliates				
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	8,653	5,467	1,978	1,208
23 Insurance				
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above. (Expenses grouped together and labeled miscellaneous may not exceed 5% of total expenses shown on line 25 below.)				
a CONSULTING SERVICES	443,894	424,131	915	18,848
b MEDIA	251,543	251,543		
c CONTRACTS WITH MEMBER ORG	184,310	184,310		
d PRINTING	104,076	96,379	1,982	5,715
e POSTAGE	89,439	87,985	335	1,119
f All other expenses	87,569	81,131	3,234	3,204
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24f	1,968,988	1,647,646	191,331	130,011
26 Joint Costs. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation				

Part X Balance Sheet

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year	
Assets	1	Cash—non-interest bearing		1	17,873
	2	Savings and temporary cash investments	782,091	2	568,757
	3	Pledges and grants receivable, net	624,000	3	62,254
	4	Accounts receivable, net	5,044	4	3,484
	5	Receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, or other related parties. Complete Part II of Schedule L		5	
	6	Receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B). Complete Part II of Schedule L		6	
	7	Notes and loans receivable, net		7	
	8	Inventories for sale or use		8	
	9	Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	9,048	9	11,864
	10a	Land, buildings, and equipment: cost basis	10a 62,423		
	b	Less: accumulated depreciation. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10b 33,418	10c	29,005
	11	Investments—publicly traded securities		11	
	12	Investments—other securities. See Part IV, line 11		12	
	13	Investments—program-related. See Part IV, line 11		13	
	14	Intangible assets		14	
	15	Other assets. See Part IV, line 11	68,877	15	24,886
16	Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)	1,502,552	16	718,123	
Liabilities	17	Accounts payable and accrued expenses	212,504	17	38,156
	18	Grants payable		18	
	19	Deferred revenue		19	
	20	Tax-exempt bond liabilities		20	
	21	Escrow account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D		21	
	22	Payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L		22	
	23	Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties		23	
	24	Unsecured notes and loans payable		24	
	25	Other liabilities. Complete Part X of Schedule D	55,377	25	24,886
	26	Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25	267,881	26	63,042
Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.				
	27	Unrestricted net assets	1,075,876	27	478,931
	28	Temporarily restricted net assets	158,795	28	176,150
	29	Permanently restricted net assets		29	
	Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 30 through 34.				
	30	Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds		30	
	31	Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building, or equipment fund		31	
	32	Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds		32	
33	Total net assets or fund balances	1,234,671	33	655,081	
34	Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	1,502,552	34	718,123	

Part XI Financial Statements and Reporting

		Yes	No
1	Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990: <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other		
2a	Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?	2a	X
b	Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?	2b	X
c	If "Yes" to lines 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant?	2c	X
3a	As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?	3a	X
b	If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits?	3b	

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
 (Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	1,050,353	1,280,448	1,476,168	1,736,896	1,335,111	6,878,976
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 Total. Add lines 1-3	1,050,353	1,280,448	1,476,168	1,736,896	1,335,111	6,878,976
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						3,935,928
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						2,943,048

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4	1,050,353	1,280,448	1,476,168	1,736,896	1,335,111	6,878,976
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	21,631	44,986	57,639	43,371	19,928	187,555
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)		3,085	5,210	141		8,436
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						7,074,967
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions)					12	126,156
13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here <input type="checkbox"/>						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2008 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	41.5980 %
15 Public support percentage from 2007 Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 26f	15	33.3085 %
16a 33 1/3 % support test—2008. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3 % or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
b 33 1/3 % support test—2007. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3 % or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
17a 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2008. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
b 10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2007. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>		
18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions <input type="checkbox"/>		

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 Total. Add lines 1-5						
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of 1% of the total of lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12 for the year or \$5,000						
c Add lines 7a and 7b						
8 Public support (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ►	(a) 2004	(b) 2005	(c) 2006	(d) 2007	(e) 2008	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6						
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b						
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)						

14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here**

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public support percentage for 2008 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	%
16 Public support percentage from 2007 Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 27g	16	%

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment income percentage for 2008 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	%
18 Investment income percentage from 2007 Schedule A, Part IV-A, line 27h	18	%

19a 33 1/3 % support tests—2008. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3 %, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3 %, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

b 33 1/3 % support tests—2007. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3 %, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3 %, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization

20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a or 19b, check this box and see instructions

Part IV **Supplemental Information.** Complete this part to provide the explanation required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; or Part III, line 12. Provide any other additional information. (see instructions)

PART II, LINE 10 - OTHER INCOME DETAIL

OTHER REVENUE \$ 8,436

**SCHEDULE C
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Political Campaign and Lobbying Activities

OMB No. 1545-0047

2008

**Open to Public
Inspection**

For Organizations Exempt From Income Tax Under section 501(c) and section 527

▶ To be completed by organizations described below.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

If the organization answered "Yes," to Form 990, Part IV, line 3, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 46 (Political Campaign Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations: Complete Parts I-A and B. Do not complete Part I-C.
- Section 501(c) (other than section 501(c)(3)) organizations: Complete Parts I-A and C below. Do not complete Part I-B.
- Section 527 organizations: Complete Part I-A only.

If the organization answered "Yes," to Form 990, Part IV, line 4, or Form 990-EZ, Part VI, line 47 (Lobbying Activities), then

- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)): Complete Part II-A. Do not complete Part II-B.
- Section 501(c)(3) organizations that have NOT filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)): Complete Part II-B. Do not complete Part II-A.

If the organization answered "Yes," to Form 990, Part IV, line 5 (Proxy Tax), then

- Section 501(c)(4), (5), or (6) organizations: Complete Part III.

Name of organization

MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP

Employer identification number

41-1986433

**Part I-A To be completed by all organizations exempt under section 501(c) and section 527 organizations.
See the instructions for Schedule C for details.**

- 1 Provide a description of the organization's direct and indirect political campaign activities in Part IV.
- 2 Political expenditures ▶ \$ _____
- 3 Volunteer hours _____

**Part I-B To be completed by all organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3).
See the instructions for Schedule C for details.**

- 1 Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by the organization under section 4955 ▶ \$ _____
- 2 Enter the amount of any excise tax incurred by organization managers under section 4955 ▶ \$ _____
- 3 If the organization incurred a section 4955 tax, did it file Form 4720 for this year? Yes No
- 4a Was a correction made? Yes No
- b If "Yes," describe in Part IV.

**Part I-C To be completed by all organizations exempt under section 501(c), except section 501(c)(3).
See the instructions for Schedule C for details.**

- 1 Enter the amount directly expended by the filing organization for section 527 exempt function activities ▶ \$ _____
- 2 Enter the amount of the filing organization's funds contributed to other organizations for section 527 exempt function activities ▶ \$ _____
- 3 Total of direct and indirect exempt function expenditures. Add lines 1 and 2 and enter here and on Form 1120-POL, line 17b ▶ \$ _____
- 4 Did the filing organization file Form 1120-POL for this year? Yes No
- 5 State the names, addresses and employer identification number (EIN) of all section 527 political organizations to which payments were made. Enter the amount paid and indicate if the amount was paid from the filing organization's funds or were political contributions received and promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization, such as a separate segregated fund or a political action committee (PAC). If additional space is needed, provide information in Part IV.

(a) Name	(b) Address	(c) EIN	(d) Amount paid from filing organization's funds. If none, enter -0-	(e) Amount of political contributions received and promptly and directly delivered to a separate political organization. If none, enter -0-

Part II-A To be completed by organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) that filed Form 5768 (election under section 501(h)). See the instructions for Schedule C for details.**A** Check if the filing organization belongs to an affiliated group.**B** Check if the filing organization checked box A and "limited control" provisions apply.

Limits on Lobbying Expenditures (The term "expenditures" means amounts paid or incurred.)		(a) Filing organization's totals	(b) Affiliated group totals												
1a	Total lobbying expenditures to influence public opinion (grass roots lobbying)	43,409													
b	Total lobbying expenditures to influence a legislative body (direct lobbying)	167,901													
c	Total lobbying expenditures (add lines 1a and 1b)	211,310													
d	Other exempt purpose expenditures	1,757,678													
e	Total exempt purpose expenditures (add lines 1c and 1d)	1,968,988													
f	Lobbying nontaxable amount. Enter the amount from the following table in both columns.	248,449													
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:</th> <th>The lobbying nontaxable amount is:</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Not over \$500,000</td> <td>20% of the amount on line 1e.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000</td> <td>\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000</td> <td>\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over \$17,000,000</td> <td>\$1,000,000.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:	Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e.	Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000.	Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.	Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000.	Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000.		
If the amount on line 1e, column (a) or (b) is:	The lobbying nontaxable amount is:														
Not over \$500,000	20% of the amount on line 1e.														
Over \$500,000 but not over \$1,000,000	\$100,000 plus 15% of the excess over \$500,000.														
Over \$1,000,000 but not over \$1,500,000	\$175,000 plus 10% of the excess over \$1,000,000.														
Over \$1,500,000 but not over \$17,000,000	\$225,000 plus 5% of the excess over \$1,500,000.														
Over \$17,000,000	\$1,000,000.														
g	Grassroots nontaxable amount (enter 25% of line 1f)	62,112													
h	Subtract line 1g from line 1a. Enter -0- if line g is more than line a	0													
i	Subtract line 1f from line 1c. Enter -0- if line f is more than line c	0													
j	If there is an amount other than zero on either line 1h or line 1i, did the organization file Form 4720 reporting section 4911 tax for this year?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No												

4-Year Averaging Period Under Section 501(h)**(Some organizations that made a section 501(h) election do not have to complete all of the five columns below. See the instructions for lines 2a through 2f of the instructions.)****Lobbying Expenditures During 4-Year Averaging Period**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) Total
2a Lobbying non-taxable amount	171,609	226,977	226,978	248,449	874,013
b Lobbying ceiling amount (150% of line 2a, column(e))					1,311,020
c Total lobbying expenditures	53,349	118,738	109,201	211,310	492,598
d Grassroots non-taxable amount	42,902	56,744	56,745	62,112	218,503
e Grassroots ceiling amount (150% of line 2d, column (e))					327,755
f Grassroots lobbying expenditures	18,354	52,798	34,916	43,409	149,477

Schedule C (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2008

Supplemental Financial Statements

▶ **Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations that answered "Yes," to Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12.**

Name of the organization

MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP

Employer identification number

41-1986433

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1 Total number at end of year		
2 Aggregate contributions to (during year)		
3 Aggregate grants from (during year)		
4 Aggregate value at end of year		
5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds may be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor or other impermissible private benefit?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Part II Conservation Easements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply).

<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or pleasure)	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of an historically important land area
<input type="checkbox"/> Protection of natural habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of certified historic structure
<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of open space	

2 Complete lines 2a–2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year.

	Held at the End of the Year
a Total number of conservation easements	2a
b Total acreage restricted by conservation easements	2b
c Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)	2c
d Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06	2d

3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the taxable year ▶ — — — — —

4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ▶ — — — — —

5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds? Yes No

6 Staff or volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, and enforcing easements during the year ▶ — — — — —

7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, and enforcing easements during the year ▶ \$ — — — — —

8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)? Yes No

9 In Part XIV, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements.

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

1a If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIV, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items.

b If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items:

(i) Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ — — — — —

(ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ — — — — —

2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 relating to these items:

a Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ — — — — —

b Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ — — — — —

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)

3 Using the organization's accession and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply):

- a Public exhibition
- b Scholarly research
- c Preservation for future generations
- d Loan or exchange programs
- e Other _____

4 Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIV.

5 During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection? Yes No

Part IV Trust, Escrow and Custodial Arrangements. Complete if organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

1a Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X? Yes No

b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIV and complete the following table:

	Amount
c Beginning balance	1c
d Additions during the year	1d
e Distributions during the year	1e
f Ending balance	1f

2a Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21? Yes No

b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIV.

Part V Endowment Funds. Complete if organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a) Current year	(b) Prior year	(c) Two years back	(d) Three years back	(e) Four years back
1a Beginning of year balance					
b Contributions					
c Investment earnings or losses					
d Grants or scholarships					
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs					
f Administrative expenses					
g End of year balance					

2 Provide the estimated percentage of the year end balance held as:

- a** Board designated or quasi-endowment _____ %
- b** Permanent endowment _____ %
- c** Term endowment _____ %

3a Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by:

	Yes	No
(i) unrelated organizations	3a(i)	
(ii) related organizations	3a(ii)	
b If "Yes" to 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?	3b	

4 Describe in Part XIV the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds.

Part VI Investments—Land, Buildings, and Equipment. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of investment	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Depreciation	(d) Book value
1a Land				
b Buildings				
c Leasehold improvements		9,140	457	8,683
d Equipment		48,283	27,961	20,322
e Other		5,000	5,000	
Total. Add lines 1a–1e. (Column (d) should equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).)				29,005

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization

Supplemental Information to Form 990

▶ Attach to Form 990. To be completed by organizations to provide additional information for responses to specific questions for the Form 990 or to provide any additional information.

OMB No. 1545-0047

2008

Open to Public
Inspection

MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP

Employer identification number
41-1986433

FORM 990 - ORGANIZATION'S MISSION OR MOST SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

THE ORGANIZATION ACTS TO PARTNER CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS WITH SHARED GOALS OF PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT OF THE QUALITY OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, AND THE PROTECTION OF ITS RESOURCES. IT PROVIDES A FORUM FOR COMMUNICATION AMONG THESE "PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS", AND ASSISTS IN COORDINATING THEIR WORK ON ISSUES OF COMMON CONCERN. MORE THAN 80 ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS, WITH A COMBINED MEMBERSHIP OF MORE THAN 450,000 MINNESOTA RESIDENTS, ARE "PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS".

FROM 990, PART III, LINE 4 - SEE "WHITE PAPER ATTACHMENT"

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 1 - INDEPENDENT MEMBERS OF GOVERNING BODY

THE ORGANIZATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS INCLUDES 9 STAFF FROM MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS, SOME OF WHICH HAVE CONTRACTS WITH THE ORGANIZATION. THESE DIRECTORS ARE ELECTED BY THE MEMBERSHIP TO BE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE AFFAIRS OF THE ORGANIZATION AS A WHOLE. CONTRACT DECISIONS BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ARE GOVERNED BY ITS CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 6 - CLASSES OF MEMBERS OR STOCKHOLDERS

THE ORGANIZATION HAS APPROXIMATELY 80 MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE VOTING MEMBERS UNDER STATE LAW.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 7A - ELECTION OF MEMBERS AND THEIR RIGHTS

Name of the organization

MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP

Employer identification number

41-1986433

AS NOTED ABOVE, THE ORGANIZATION HAS MEMBERS WHO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTING ONE OR MORE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BOARD.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 10 - ORGANIZATION'S PROCESS USED TO REVIEW FORM 990 ALL BOARD MEMBERS OF THE MINNESOTA ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERSHIP (MEP) ARE GIVEN A COPY OF THE DRAFT FORM 990 FOR REVIEW AFTER IT HAS BEEN VETTED BY TAX COUNSEL. MEP'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REVIEWS THE FORM 990 IN DETAIL AND MAKES A RECOMMENDATION TO THE FULL BOARD ON APPROVAL. THE FULL BOARD VOTES ON APPROVAL OF THE 990 PRIOR TO ITS FILING.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 12C - ENFORCEMENT OF CONFLICTS POLICY BOARD MEMBERS ARE REMINDED TO UPDATE THEIR CONFLICT DISCLOSURE FORM AT EACH MEETING AND ARE REQUIRED TO RECUSE THEMSELVES FROM ANY DISCUSSION THAT WOULD INVOLVE A CONFLICT.

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 15A - COMPENSATION PROCESS FOR TOP OFFICIAL THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ORGANIZATION'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONDUCTED A REVIEW OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PERFORMANCE UTILIZING INPUT FROM BOARD, STAFF AND MEMBERS. IT ALSO REVIEWED THE SALARY IN RELATION TO THE MN COUNCIL OF NONPROFITS SALARY SCHEDULE. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS USED THIS INFORMATION IN RELATION TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL STAFF POSITIONS TO SET THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COMPENSATION FOR THE YEAR. THIS PROCESS WAS LAST CONDUCTED IN JUNE, 2009.

Minnesota Environmental Partnership
41-1986433
Form 990 (Year ended June 30, 2008)
Form 990, Part III-4a, Exempt Purpose Achievements

MEP's work takes place through seven strategic program areas.

1. Collaborative Public Policy Work

Each year MEP's member organizations use a democratic process to select a set of priority issues that the community will work together on in collaboration. MEP is called upon for our expertise in public policy strategy, communications and community organizing to help move the priority issues forward using a well-rounded campaign. Chief issues MEP worked on this past year include:

Safeguarding Investments for Minnesota's Future

- The Legislature has fulfilled the promise of the Clean Water, Land and Legacy amendment by authorizing more than \$300 million in new projects dedicated to protect Minnesota's Great Outdoors. This is one of the most comprehensive efforts to protect and restore Minnesota's water; preserve natural areas and wildlife habitat; and support state, regional and metro parks.

The amendment allocations for the Great Outdoors contain:

- \$151 million for clean water projects including testing of all Minnesota waters in the next 10 years and implementation of clean-up programs.
- \$87.5 million to protect land and wildlife habitat, including the state's largest conservation easement of 187,000 acres for the Upper Mississippi Forest. In addition, there is \$63.5 million set aside for further land and wildlife habitat projects to be identified and authorized in 2011.
- \$65 million to support Minnesota's state, regional and metro parks.

Driving Innovation: Clean Cars for Minnesota

- With the new national clean car standard soon to be in place, we can now focus on other needed reforms to reduce global warming pollution here in Minnesota. We look forward to 2010 and a renewed commitment from the Governor and the Legislature to enact policies that will achieve Minnesota's requirement for an 80 percent reduction in global warming pollution by 2050.

Building Sensible Communities

- The Legislature and Governor took several steps to give Minnesotans more options about how they get around, helping to reduce global warming and air pollution, traffic congestion, and driving. These are a good start in changing how we build our communities, but more can and should be done.

- At the top of the list of positive steps is a change in school siting rules that gives communities more local control about where new schools are located. No longer will school districts be forced to build schools at the edge of town – sometimes in the middle of cornfields.
- Another legislative action will result in the Metropolitan Council helping communities determine how land use and transportation plans affect residents' options about where they live and how they get around.

2. Administrative and committee-based efforts

MEP's work to ensure the effective allocation of Clean Water, Land and Legacy funding was a significant priority for our organization. Immediately after the November passage of the Clean Water, Land and Legacy amendment, MEP co-convened the diverse group of stakeholders that developed the original Clean Water Legacy Act. This group (known as the G-16) continued to meet throughout the legislative session to coordinate strategies on allocation of the water portion of the amendment funds. Our Executive Director also met with the Clean Water Council to discuss and develop priorities and strategies to use these funds to maximize implementation of the Clean Water Legacy with the new funds

As the coordinator of nonprofit, educational work on this issue, MEP played a lead role in this effort. During the 2009 legislative session we also led efforts to ensure that funds generated through the Amendment are directed as voters intended and not diverted to fill budget gaps. In part due to our collaborative efforts, the 2009 allocation includes more than \$300 million in new projects dedicated to protect Minnesota's Great Outdoors including \$151 million in clean water projects.

MEP used its Weekly Update e-newsletter to publicize opportunities for member groups to engage in administrative channels to shape environmental policy. We posted agency vacancies for positions where environmental representation is needed such as the Clean Water Council and publicized opportunities to participate in public hearing and input sessions on issues such as feedlot siting, air emission and water quality permit fees, and the Wetland Conservation Act Rules.

MEP also convened meetings with state agency staff to ensure that our members are aware of, and have a voice in, key emerging issues. On July 13, MEP convened a members meeting with the MPCA on landfill siting rules as they pertain to groundwater contamination and a meeting with Barr Engineering on July 15 to learn about proposed sulfide mining operations that could also have a negative impact on groundwater.

MEP is in the midst of launching an effort to coordinate intensive watershed-based nonpoint runoff reduction and habitat protection work in two priority watersheds in the Lake Superior Basing and to leverage adequate funding for watershed protection and restoration efforts in the region.

3. Communications and Research Development

In fall of 2008 MEP conducted public opinion polling and developed messages to use in communicating about our 2009 collaborative issues. We conducted issue-specific trainings with the clusters of member groups working on each issue and provided one-on-one media training with MEP spokespeople. More than 60 member group leaders participated in these communications trainings. MEP also provided communications training to community members from across the state as part of our seven Citizen Days at the Capitol.

MEP's paid and earned media efforts generated broad coverage of our collaborative issues. In all, we achieved 236 "press hits" on our collaborative agenda issues, including op eds, letters to the editor and quotes in print, radio and television news stories.

MEP's messaging also is used to shape our print and web-based communications materials on the collaborative agenda. We published our 2009 Minnesota Environmental Briefing Book as planned, as well as fact sheets on each issue and sections on our website.

To complement our work with conventional media sources, we also made extensive use of our *Loon Commons* blog (www.looncommons.org). Posting to our blog has proven to be an easy way to share information and respond relatively quickly to new developments. And since we include a list of the five most recent blog posts in our daily News Watch that is sent to member groups, elected officials and members of the media, we were able to broaden the scope of potential readers. Since September 2008, the blog has had 11,141 page loads; 6,318 unique visitors; 5,129 first time visitors; and 1,189 returning visitors.

We convened and coordinated our Communications Group, which offers a forum for generating effective, coordinated media coverage of collaborative efforts — and helps our member groups' communications directors to share resources and explore new communications technologies. Our Electronic News Clip service was regularly sent as planned and continues to be a very popular service for our members.

MEP coordinated group sign on letters on 17 issues. Issues ranged from national issues such as the Clean Water Restoration Act to more localized issues like the Mississippi River Critical Area Reform Bill.

MEP's website, www.mepartnership.org continues to be a cornerstone of our online efforts, offering a "one stop shop" of information for citizens, environmental organizations, the media and others. Public use of MEP's website is growing steadily, with an average of more than 5,000 visits each month and we continue to manage sub-sites for member groups and clusters that need this service. MEP's Weekly Update e-newsletter now reaches 244 member group leaders and a public version is sent to 1,013 people.

To address changing technology, MEP is expanding our use of social networking sites, such as Facebook and Twitter and the photo sharing site Flickr. We now have 166 'fans' on Facebook. As we gain new expertise in these areas we will provide training to member groups as well as applying these strategies to our collaborative efforts.

While MEP's data maps continue to be a valuable tool, much of the information is now available from other sources. To avoid duplicating efforts, MEP has made the decision not to invest in regular map updates.

4. Fieldwork and citizen outreach

MEP's fieldwork program is designed to actively engage key Greater Minnesota communities in environmental protection activities. Our goal is to build skills within these communities so they can better address local environmental concerns and participate in MEP's collaborative efforts at the state level. As noted in our previous report, MEP opened field offices and hired organizers in four strategically selected regions of the state: Austin/Albert Lea, Mankato/St. Peter, Winona/Rushford/Preston and Northwestern Minnesota. In addition, MEP has an established office in Duluth. Organizers are overseen by our Fieldwork Director who ensures that their work is well coordinated and effectively focused.

Over the past year, our fieldwork organizers have made great progress in strengthening the capacity of their communities to safeguard their environment. The organizers, who are all community members, generated stronger ties with MEP member groups in each region, and developed relationships with nontraditional partners, including faith-based organizations, civic groups and colleges. Sixty-eight community organizations are actively partnering with MEP in forums that reach their constituents. For example, in the Austin/Albert Lea area our organizer coordinated with MEP member group Lutheran Coalition for Public Policy in Minnesota and local churches to support "Caring for Creation" teams that engage church congregations in environmental activities.

Our organizers have convened numerous meetings, co-sponsored events and taken other actions that enhance the work of our member groups and achieve strengthened collaborations. In Winona, for example, our organizer has developed a network of more than 500 concerned citizens and established strong partnerships with a range of local leaders including county commissioners, city council members, professors from Winona State University and St. Mary's University and national leaders in organics and pesticide research.

Work to generate letters to the editor of local newspapers has been a particularly valuable strategy in our field regions. In all, 30 letters to the editor were printed in our field regions, providing an important forum for local citizens to voice their concerns in their community.

We have used a variety of strategies to engage citizens in the fieldwork regions in discussions with local decision-makers. We organized meetings prior to the start of the legislative session in the home districts of 27 legislators. In all we hosted events in 13 areas that were attended by 202 people. We hosted a regional Citizen's Day event for each of our fieldwork areas, a Metro Day, a western Minnesota day and a Duluth Day, engaging nearly 360 people in the seven events. We arranged numerous in-person meetings between citizens and their elected officials, as well as issue specific gatherings including Clean Car forums in Austin, Winona and Mankato that were attended by a total of 35 people. We also have helped turn people out to Town Hall Forums sponsored by decision-makers, to achieve a strong environmental presence.

Fieldwork organizers participate in weekly meetings to discuss strategy, share experiences and ensure that efforts are coordinated and focused on the goals of the program. Each field region recently developed an Advisory Team of community members to help guide our efforts and ensure that MEP's resources are addressing local needs and reaching the people that can make a difference on local and state environmental issues.

5. Great Lakes initiatives

The past year was a very busy time on numerous issues affecting the water quality of the Great Lakes. Due in part to enhanced coordination through the Great Lakes Agenda, MEP and its members were at the forefront of these issues, which included the following:

Metallic sulfide mining: Metallic sulfide mining is considered a top potential threat to water quality in the Great Lakes basin and the inclusion of this issue in MEP's 2009 collaborative agenda engaged a strong network of Great Lakes groups and citizens. While we were not successful in efforts to achieve statewide legislation to prevent this form of water pollution, our work served to raise the profile of the issue among our member groups, citizens and decision makers and set the state for future work on the issue.

Invasive aquatic species: MEP and its members engaged in work to reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species transported in ballast water. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) took action on a ballast water discharge program in September 2008. The program — which applies to all vessels that are over 50 meters in length and operate in Minnesota waters — requires the vessels to adopt Best Management Practices immediately and phases in the International Maritime Organization (IMO) standard. MEP continues to be engaged in federal level discussions on ballast water and is coordinating efforts with other states to make sure that the special needs of Lake Superior — which is cleaner than the other Great Lakes — are taken into account.

Great Lakes restoration: Congress reauthorized the Great Lakes Legacy Act, which provides funding for cleaning up toxic sediments in the Areas of Concern, including the St. Louis River. Our statewide citizen outreach, in concert with the Healing Our Waters (HOW) Coalition, helped build support for this effort.

Mercury pollution: Minnesota completed its mercury Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation plan. Shaped by participation from MEP, the final implementation plan approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) provides a framework for decreasing mercury pollution of Minnesota waters, including the Lake Superior, as required by the Clean Water Act. The implementation plan has an annual air discharge target of 789 pounds and a water discharge limit of 24 pounds per year. Minnesota's statewide approach is a big step toward reducing atmospheric mercury emissions that impact all state waters, including the St. Louis River and Lake Superior. Even so, mercury levels in the St. Louis River are so high that additional measures will be required to remove impairments.

Water Resources Compact: The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact, which Minnesota was the first state to pass in 2007, was passed by Congress and

signed into law in August 2008. MEP has been actively involved in this effort, which will prevent water diversions from the Great Lakes.

6. Electronic outreach systems

Citizens engaged through the fieldwork program, as well as other citizens in our consolidated member group database, were effectively mobilized to make calls and send e-mails to decision-makers using our Rapid Response Phone System and Minnesota Environmental Action Network.

In the past year, we activated our Rapid Response phone system on 15 collaborative agenda projects. We contacted more than 3,400 citizens and generated 2,458 calls to legislators at key decision points.

MEP and our member organizations initiated nine alerts using the Environmental Action email network during the grant period, generating a total of 701 emails, faxes, letters and phone calls to decision-makers on our collaborative agenda.

7. Capacity-building and convening

MEP's capacity building and training work over the past year included a December 15, 2008 communications training where we shared the results of our polling research and messaging related to the 2009 collaborative agenda. We also conducted trainings with each of our four issue clusters on specific messaging of their issue and one on one media training with MEP spokespeople. More than 60 member group leaders participated in these communications trainings. MEP also provided communications training as part of our seven Citizen Days at the Capitol.

On January 8, MEP's lobbyist, John Tuma presented workshop titled "Lobbying 101" for MEP's members and field staff. The workshop attracted more than 20 member participants and was particularly popular among our up and coming stars in the environmental community as they get their feet wet at the Capitol.

On January 9, MEP hosted an in-depth training on each of the four collaborative agenda initiatives. This program was attended by more than 30 individuals and was praised as being a highly valuable service. Organizers felt more confident in going out into the public to discuss the issues and were more knowledgeable than in previous years.

MEP and the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Duluth (UUCD) Peace and Justice committee co-sponsored the Citizens in Action workshop, an event held annually in Duluth in January to train citizens in basic skills for community involvement. More than 100 people attended this year's event.

MEP again offered scholarships to our member organizations to attend training sponsored by other organizations such as the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits and the Institute for Conservation Leadership. MEP staff tried the new strategy of using a "member buddy" system

to make sure our members were aware of these opportunities and we saw an increase in the number of scholarships sought out by members this year. In all, \$834 in scholarships was granted to member groups this year to attend nine different workshops.

MEP hosted five large meetings for our members in the past year. We organized two member breakfast meetings with Congressman Keith Ellison the first focusing on ethanol and the second on green jobs.

On September 29, 2008, MEP coordinated a very well received speaking engagement by John Austin in Duluth. Austin is senior fellow with the Brookings Institution and author of several reports on the importance of the health of the Great Lakes to the region's economy. The events served to forge new connections between economic and conservation interests and cooperating groups included Minnesota Power, Duluth Area Chamber of Commerce, Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation, Area Partnership for Economic Expansion, Clean Water Action, St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee, and the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District.

On November 17, 2008, MEP convened a Member Meeting with Jon Foley, director of the Institute on the Environment at the University of Minnesota. Foley spoke about the work of the institute and the impacts of global climate change across the globe and closer to home. There was good dialogue with members about how to collaborate in the future to address these environmental challenges.

On June 11, 2009 MEP held its annual meeting, which included Board elections and other business as well as a panel discussion with six 2010 Gubernatorial hopefuls. Panel participants included: Rep. Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Matt Entenza, Susan Gaertner, Sen. Steve Kelley, Sen. John Marty and Rep. Paul Thissen.

The criteria for inviting participants included:

- Those people who publically self identify as gubernatorial hopefuls by June 4, excluding those people who are actively seeking another elected office.
- Members of the two major parties that hold seats in the Legislature.
- If an invitee is not able to attend, that person may submit a letter to be shared with event attendees.

Lori Sturdevant from the Star Tribune did a wonderful job moderating the panel as the gubernatorial hopefuls responded to questions about global warming solutions, toxics reduction, sustainable agriculture, and transit.

Minnesota Environmental Partnership
41-1986433
Form 990 (Year ended June 30, 2008)
Schedule A, Part IV-A, Support Schedule

Explanation of the organization's status as "publicly supported" within the meaning of Reg. 1.170-9(e)(1)(ii)

During the years ending June 30, 2005 through June 30, 2008 (the testing period) Minnesota Environmental Partnership qualified as a publicly supported organization based on the facts-and-circumstances criteria set forth in Reg. 1.170-9(e)(3), as detailed below.

Public support exceeded 10% of total support

The aggregate public support during the testing period exceeded 10% of total support, meeting the threshold requirement of Reg. 1.170-9(e)(3)(i) for this public support to be considered "substantial".

Attraction of public support

The organization maintained a continuous program for solicitation of funds from the general public. A plan for diversification of funding sources, developed during the year ended June 30, 2005, has been substantially implemented in the current year. As part of the plan, a Development Director has been added to the organization's staff.

Percentage of financial support from the general public

The percentage of support derived from the general public increased during each year during the testing period.

Sources of support

The organization provided various services and resources (detailed in Part III of Form 990) to ninety member organizations. All of these organizations pursue environmental and conservation initiatives within the state of Minnesota that are central to their exempt purposes. Nearly all of these member organizations are themselves publicly supported. As such, the organization can be said to have limited its activities to a particular community or region and to a special field., indicating that it served a "representative number of persons" within the meaning of Reg. 1.170-9(e)(3)(iv).

Representative governing body

The organization's governing body represents broad interests of the general public, in part because there are so many partner organizations whose interests are represented on the Board. Many of these organizations have specific regional focuses, or serve diverse recreational, agricultural, scientific and other interest groups. Additionally, Board members are recruited from other community groups that do not have conservation or environmental issues or agendas among their principal activities.

Public participation in programs and policies

Many of the organization's programs have involved individuals who are recognized in the community as authorities on environmental and conservation issues.