

# **AGGREGATE RESOURCES – A NEW LAND USE DESIGNATION FOR WRIGHT COUNTY**

## **AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING FOR LANDOWNERS WITH PROPERTY IN THE PROPOSED “AGGREGATE RESOURCES AREA” OF THE COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN**

**DATE:** Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009

**WHERE:** Southside Township Hall

**WHEN:** 7pm (Presentation will start at 7:15)

Wright County is in the midst of preparing a new Comprehensive Land Use Plan for the Northwest Quadrant of the County, with assistance from the consultant team of Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH). The Northwest Quadrant is comprised of the Townships of Clearwater, Corinna, Albion, French Lake, Chatham, Maple Lake, Silver Creek and Southside as well as the Cities of South Haven, Annandale, Clearwater, Maple Lake. This area contains several thousand acres of documented aggregate resources, and the proper management of this resource is essential to continued growth and sustainability of Wright County.

To address the implications of this proposed new land use designation, a public meeting specifically for the landowners in the potential “Aggregate Resource Area” (ARA) District will be held on **Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009** from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at the Southside Township Hall. This meeting is being held to explain to landowners what the ARA means, and particularly, what it means to be inside the ARA.

The idea for an Aggregate Resource Area emerged during the County’s plan update for the Northeast Quadrant. When that plan was finalized, the Aggregate Resource land use designation was left out of the final document due to what many believed were too many unknowns. Therefore, to be certain that this new designation got thorough study and consideration, an aggregate resources committee was formed in spring of 2008. During their monthly meetings, this group of County Staff, producers, township officials, lake representatives and landowners was instrumental in drafting a proposed map and policies defining what the ARA is all about.

The focus of the upcoming meeting will be to present the work that the Committee has completed, including draft maps of areas designated to become “Aggregate Resources Areas” in the new Plan. Through this informational meeting, the Committee and Staff are seeking to inform the public on this new land use designation, as well as gauge feedback on these areas from the public and landowners in particular. Stakeholder participation, consensus building and intergovernmental cooperation are key factors in the land use planning process, and the County welcomes your participation in this effort.

Further elaboration on the importance of the protection and management of aggregate resources is in the enclosed document, “Why Manage and Protect Aggregate Resources?”

To find our more information on the Land Use Plan Update please visit our website at:  
<http://www.co.wright.mn.us/departments/pandz/lupnwq.asp>