



# The Auger



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The Newsletter of the Minnesota Association of Professional Soil Scientists

## President's Message

**By Roger Risley, MAPSS President**

Hello fellow MAPSS members.

There are two major reasons why a person joins an organization. The first reason is to support the cause of the organization. The second reason is to acquire benefits or entitlements that membership creates.

I believe the first reason is a given for all of us. My focus as the 2006 president of MAPSS will be to work on the second reason by expanding benefits and services our organization provides its members. In doing so, I hope to expand the recognition of MAPSS throughout the State of Minnesota.

Improving professional development was overwhelming identified by our membership as priority number one. Our members seek more opportunities and support to attend training enabling them to better compete in the delivery of their products and services. Our members expressed the need for more networking and collaboration between the professionals in the natural resources field. Currently the MAPSS Executive committee is working to make these things happen.

Academia, public service and private enterprise all thrive on the delivery of superior products and services. By applying science-based practices and sound ethical judgments, the decisions, designs, products and services delivered by licensed professional soil scientists must prove themselves not only viable, but superior in today's competitive market.

The executive committee has an open door policy. If and when you have needs, concerns, questions or recommendations do not hesitate to contact any of us. I look forward to serving and hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Roger Thomas Risley



**MAPSS President Roger Risley at the January MAPSS Executive Committee meeting.**

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held at the Chisago County Household Hazardous Waste Facility (39649 Grand Avenue) in North Branch on Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at noon. This meeting is open to everyone. The following meeting will be in May.

**contact the MAPSS President at: [roger.risley@mn.usda.gov](mailto:roger.risley@mn.usda.gov)**

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# Calcareous Fen Experience

By Jessica Weis

Last fall while still a student at The University of Wisconsin-River Falls, I took an independent study course that brought me to the Rochester Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) service center. The District Conservationist Dave Copeland helped me connect with Barb Huberty of the City of Rochester Public Works Department. Barb wanted help developing brochures for certain housing developments in Rochester that were located near calcareous fens. She also wanted a general brochure identifying characteristics and the importance of fens. My goal was to research and make the brochures to distribute to the public. It was quite an interesting experience. I knew very little about fens and knew I would be spending a lot of time on the internet and in the library. I also went to each of the fen locations to see them in order to understand them better. I found out as much information about the future subdivision as I could. I took pictures of the fens so people could actually see what they look like and see just how close they are to their new homes. Barb and I wanted to make the homeowners aware first off what fens are and to highlight their importance, as well as how the owners could help protect the fens by incorporating best management practices.

So what are fens and how are they important? Calcareous fens are an extremely rare type of wetland that is fed by groundwater springs and seeps. They are a highly diverse community of over 100 plant species, some of which are rare, threatened, or endangered. Because of this, this plant community creates unusual habitats that attract unique species. Since fens contain threatened and endangered species, they are protected under state law. If left unprotected, they become more vulnerable to contaminants when groundwater becomes surface water in fens, causing harm to this wetland. Like other wetlands, fens capture pollutants, keeping them out of our drinking water. Fens also preserve green space in communities.

With this in mind, communities and homeowners may develop best management practices (BMPs) to ensure the long life of the fen. One recommended BMP is to control soil erosion by using a silt fence or native vegetation wherever needed. Another is to identify the areas that are intended to direct surface water into the ground and prevent them from becoming plugged. Keeping grass clippings and leaves out of the wetland by mulching them, taking them to a compost facility, or having your waste hauler remove them are some examples of how to keep these areas clean. A third BMP is to apply fertilizers, following application directions, only if soil tests indicate a

deficiency. Lastly, plant and maintain rain gardens. These are gardens planted with wet tolerant plants that are used to cost-effectively retain, treat, and filter storm water collected from rain gutters or other hard surfaces. All of these steps will help maintain a clean and healthy calcareous fen while making the community look great.



**A rain garden in Maplewood.**

This was an incredible experience. I learned a lot about fens but also about community policy. It was interesting to see how some people were all for keeping the fens protected while others definitely had very little interest. It was also interesting to see how their opinions changed as they accumulated more information. I am gratified to know that the brochures were distributed to homeowners as well as contractors, developers, and even at the Calcareous Fen Forum that was held in Rochester this past spring.



**Stonehedge fen.**

## PSS: How Can We Promote the Profession and Ourselves?

By Dennis J. Fuchs, PSS

I have been a certified crop adviser since 1989. The Certified Crop Adviser Program (CCA) is one of the professional certification programs offered by the American Society of Agronomy (ASA). It is a voluntary program providing a base level of standard through testing and raising that standard through continuing education. I learned that they have unique site on the CCA webpage to help promote their profession (<http://www.agronomy.org/cca/general.html>).



One idea that caught my attention was the CCA logo that you can download from their website and include it on your stationary to increase your client’s awareness of your certification. I thought it would be valuable if we had a logo for licensed professional soil scientists. At the last MAPSS Executive Committee meeting they recommended putting a together a contest to see who could develop the best logo to represent the Minnesota licensed professional soil scientist. The person who designs the winning logo will receive a free hat! We will vote on the submitted logos at the upcoming summer technical tour. Please send your logo design to me by June 1, 2006. My email address is dennis.fuchs@mn.nacdnet.net.

# Minnesota Onsite Wastewater Convention: March 2006 in Rochester, Minnesota

By James C. Balogh, Ph.D., PSS

The Minnesota Professional Organization of Wastewater Recycling (MPOWR) and the Minnesota Onsite Sewage Treatment Contractors Association are sponsoring the 2006 Minnesota Onsite Wastewater Convention. The convention is being held on March 13-15, 2006 at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, Minnesota. The theme of the educational and trade convention is “Working Together in an Ever-Changing Industry.” The educational presentations focus on the science, design, regulatory, and contracting aspects of onsite wastewater treatment. The convention organizers, Sara Christopherson (U of M and MPOWR) and Kurt Christopherson (MOSTCA) are providing an excellent combination of technical speakers, symposiums, business meetings, and trade show displays. The speakers at the conference include onsite professionals, academics, engineers, regulators, and soil scientists with both a national and state perspective.

Soil treatment and dispersal of onsite wastewater remains a critical component of individual, large scale, and cluster onsite treatment systems. The convention organizers recognize the importance of soil science as a component of system design, construction, and ongoing evaluation. Several Minnesota licensed soil scientists will be giving presentations at the conference including: Barbara McCarthy, PSS (MPCA), Mark Wespetal, PSS (MPCA), Jade Schultz, PSS (MPCA), Steve Lawler, PSS (Lawler Environmental, Inc.), and James C. Balogh, Ph.D., PSS (Spectrum Research, Inc.). All soil science professionals with an interest in onsite system design, evaluation, operations, and construction are encouraged to attend. This is an excellent opportunity to earn worthwhile continuing education credits for both your ISTS and PSS licenses.

Contact MOSTCA at [www.mostca.org](http://www.mostca.org) to register or to find more information

Articles for the Summer Auger will be accepted until June 1, 2006.

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There are other promotional items on the CCA website that you may also want to explore. Resources include a 60-second Public Service Announcement, business card template, brochure, and other items.

The Auger is the newsletter of the Minnesota Association of Professional Soil Scientists. It is composed of articles by or submitted by the MAPSS membership and is published three times each year (February/ March, June and October). The Auger is available in PDF format on our website, [www.mnsoilscientist.org](http://www.mnsoilscientist.org).

If you want to contribute articles, contact the editor: Suzanne D’Souza at 612-741-1365, [suzdsouza@hotmail.com](mailto:suzdsouza@hotmail.com) or [mapss@mnsoilscientist.org](mailto:mapss@mnsoilscientist.org)

## MAPSS Officers - 2006

President	Roger Risley
President Elect	Scott Smith
Past President	Dennis Fuchs, PSS
Secretary	Brad Wenz, PSS
Treasurer	Bob Whitmyer, PSS
Exec. Secretary	Suzanne D'Souza, PSS ( <i>ex officio</i> )
Student Rep.	<b>position open</b> ( <i>ex officio</i> )

Technology and the Information Age in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. <http://www.18wcss.org>

**September 23-28, 2006 – Saturday through Thursday**  
**American Institute of Professional Geologists (AIPG) 2006 Convention** will be held in St. Paul, Minnesota. The title of this convention is Sustainability. They say “Minnesota Rocks in 2006!”  
[www.aipg2006.org](http://www.aipg2006.org)

## Upcoming Events

**March 2-4, 2006 – Wednesday through Friday**  
**National Society of Consulting Soil Scientists 2006 Annual Conference** will be held in Marietta, Georgia.  
[www.nscss.org](http://www.nscss.org)

**March 13-15, 2006 – Monday through Wednesday**  
**2006 Minnesota Onsite Wastewater Convention** will be held in Rochester, Minnesota. Here is your chance to earn additional CEUs. [www.mostca.org](http://www.mostca.org)

**March 16, 2006 – Thursday**  
**Due Diligence at Dawn. AAI and Liability: Prepare, Preserve and Protect.** Prepare for changes to the Phase I environmental site assessments All Appropriate Inquiry rule and the new revised ASTM standard (E 1527-05). <http://www.edrnet.com/ddd/>

**March 22, 2006 – Wednesday**  
**Forum of Women in the Environmental Field** will be touring the new City of Minneapolis Water Works Ultrafiltration Plant at noon. Cost for this event ranges from \$8 to \$15. [www.fwef.org](http://www.fwef.org)

**April 20-21, 2006 – Thursday and Friday**  
**Nitrogen Removal Symposium** for mid to large sized septic systems. This event will take place in White Bear Lake, Minnesota. <http://septic.umn.edu/>

**April 12, 2006 and May 23, 2006**  
**Need to Know** – ISTS committee meetings contact Mary West at 952-361-1808.

**May 20, 2006 – Saturday**  
**Spring Dance Concert** 7pm at Pratt Community School in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Contact Suzanne D'Souza for information 612-741-1365.

**July 9-15, 2006 – Sunday through Saturday**  
**18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Soil Science** will hold their convention titled Frontiers of Soil Science:

## Committee Updates

### Education Committee – Peter Hartman

The Education Committee plans to work with the Minnesota Science Museum and other professional organizations (like the Minnesota Ground Water Association) to put on educational presentations at special events during the summer in the “Big Back Yard”. The concept is that volunteers will give short presentations on some aspect of their profession and the public will move from station to station like was done for Project Common Ground at the Wilder Forest.

I haven't yet presented the proposal to Pat Hamilton at the Science Museum or talked to Cathy Villas-Horns (MGWA education committee contact). Many details still have to be worked out. For one, who should be our target audience (children or adults or both). Also I am still making a list of volunteers who would give presentations. Until I have enough people who are willing to volunteer for this project I am reluctant to make a proposal to the Science Museum. So far I have: Peter Weikle on some aspect of Soil Science, Norm Mofjeld on Ground Water and Wayne Jacobson on Wetland Delineation. There may have been others who mentioned their willingness to volunteer, but I didn't get their names down. If you would like to be involved in this project and give a presentation on a Saturday at the Science Museum please e-mail or call me at [peter.hartman@mn.usda.gov](mailto:peter.hartman@mn.usda.gov) or 507-289-7454 and let me know what topic you would like to present. We could have multiple people talking about various aspects of Soil Science, each with a different focus or technical level.

### Executive Committee – Brad Wenz (summary of the January minutes – pending approval)

The treasurer duties are being transferred to the new treasurer.

The SOP is in need of updating. Each EC member will review and update their portion of the SOP.

## Committee Updates – continued

The summary of the Professional Practice Committee was presented by Gary Elsner.

Dennis reported that there were 71 full members, 8 associate, 3 student, 16 honorary, and 3 complimentary members as of the Winter meeting. Doug Miller reported that so far only 52 full members, 4 associates, and 5 Students (free membership) paid their 2006 annual dues.

Dennis Fuchs proposed a joint summer meeting with SWCS as they did in St. Peter one year. Shannon Bengston and Mary Jane Reetz from SWCS were present to provide input.

MAPSS will also be involved in the North Central Region of Soil Science Society of America in two years.

MAPSS could be involved with training/events (formal presentations, technical workshops, etc). This would promote MAPSS and provide revenue for MAPSS.

Bob suggested that the PPC could put together a packet that MAPSS members could hand out to interested people or groups. This packet would include a brochure with website link information.

Spectrum Research, via Jim Balogh, is still the official address for MAPSS. As far as taxes, the address of the Treasurer is used.

The wetland delineator certification process needs to be improved to be more credible, including testing pre-qualification standards. Hopefully, with MAPSS involvement, the soils training part will improve. The wetland delineator certification, as it stands now, should be considered a technical certification and not given professional status.

MAPSS does not have a clear mission statement. The EC will review information and develop a clear mission statement.

A new investigator was added to the Board. Harvey Harvala (chair of the Board of AELSLAGID) is giving an ethics presentation to a community college in Grand Rapids. He would like someone from any of the professional society to talk about their ethics and how they compare to the Board's. Licensing exam security is a large issue. The Board will offer only one exam site in Minnesota (St. Paul). Professional Geologists will have a two-day national meeting this summer. MAPSS may help with this event (capacity unknown).

Mark Perry's application for full membership was approved.



**2006 Executive Committee: Executive Secretary Suzanne D'Souza, President Roge Riskey, Treasurer Bob Whitmyer, Past President Dennis Fuchs, President Elect Scott Smith and Secretary Brad Wenz.**

### Professional Practice Committee – Peter Miller (summary of the January minutes)

The Professional Practice Committee (PPC) recommended the following additions to the Standard Operating Procedures for the PPC:

#### Duties:

- a. Organize members who will speak at University Soil Science and Environmental Science classes to promote the profession.
- b. Seek opportunities for MAPSS representation at professional conferences, seminars and other events.
- c. Identify and help organize opportunities for continuing education credits beyond regular meetings.
- d. Develop a strategy for MAPSS legislative activities, make recommendations for hiring a lobbyist if needed and direct the activities of any lobbyists hired by MAPSS in consultation with the MAPSS Executive Committee.

The last recommended duty addition is the current mission of the Legislative Affairs Committee (LAC). Since the Executive Secretary (ES) now monitors legislative activities and updates the membership it was felt by the PPC that the LAC should be dissolved. The ES could work with the PPC on any needed legislative action.

The PPC will develop a general guide to be used by MAPSS members at University speaking engagements to help promote the organization and the profession of soil science.

The PPC sees an opportunity to have MAPSS representation at the Minnesota Onsite Wastewater Convention and will pursue this further with the Executive Committee to sign up for a booth space.

Once the 2006 summer meeting is scheduled the PPC will discuss the opportunity for continuing education the day before or day after the meeting.

Identify more PPC members.

**ISTS Committee – Mary West (from January minutes)**

**Preponderance Test** - The target audience is Professional Soil Scientists who will use it as a tool for determining the depth of the seasonal high water table on contentious sites. The intent is for the document to be used as a field tool for the PSS, so a step by step procedure showing how opinions/conclusions were reached is documented. Ramifications unknown at present, may or may not affect licensure. A disclaimer is needed for MAPSS. The PSS is rendering an opinion, so whether they wanted to add their own disclaimer or rely on E/O insurance is their decision. A PSS signature block should be used. While more appropriate as a tool for resolving soil disputes, it can be used in ISTS design. This document is not an “end all” for disputes. The PSS can use other data to support or refute the conclusions developed by working through the preponderance test procedures.

**Groundwater Mounding Forum** - The forum will be held in the St. Paul Student Center Theater on the St. Paul campus February 21, 2006. The purpose of this forum is technical, rather than regulatory. Other workshops will likely develop after guidance is developed following this initial workshop.

General discussion followed that there are a number of groundwater mounding and drainage computer models being used, and that the model which will be used is site specific and very dependent upon the first site assessment. How PSSs will be involved will depend on how accurate the soils data needs to be on each site. The detail required will depend on the site variability and the computer model chosen.

**ISTS Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC)** - In the initial phases of development, will include a Regional MPCA person, Dan Wheeler, MOSTCA area member, MAPSS area member, and LGU at-large (from the general area of the state, not necessarily the county where the disputed site is located).

**State Rule Revisions** - Rules 7080 and 7081.

For MSTs (7081) the proposed rules include a requirement for soil pits instead of borings; designated wetlands must be noted on the design; ordinary high-water level of public waters must be located (triggers a phosphorus assessment); and a listing of what is required for the soils description.

Also includes a section on relic features indicating that if other information is used to determine whether the redox features of current or relic, this other information to be

substantial technical justification or a sufficient soil saturation monitoring program as approved by the LGU. The intent of this provision is to avoid a “he said/she said” type of disagreement between professionals. Measured data acceptable to the LGU, not just opinions, will hopefully resolve these conflicts

For ISTS (7080) proposed rules include: determining if a wetland delineation has been conducted/required; property owner responsibility for establishing lot lines; clarification on location of soil borings (must be multiple within the borders of the proposed site and at least one boring in the most limiting location within the proposed site).

Discussion on AELSLAGID Licensing Board and how the professional licensing categories they govern relate to ISTS/MSTS/LSTS.

The exemption table used by the Licensing Board applies for PSS/PE/PG involvement on a structure/cluster of structures that is greater than or equal to four (4) homes in size.

MAPSS committee stressed to Mark Wespetal that this needs to be stated at all ISTS/MSTS/LSTS training sessions so the on-site industry is aware what they can practice with their ISTS license and what they cannot practice.

Potential Concern: Requiring dual licensure (a PSS must have ISTS training and vice-versa) will have a negative impact on the on-site industry as it may price projects too high.

**General Discussion**

MMAPSS has a role in ISTS training by providing not only soils training to ISTS professionals, but also ISTS training to MAPSS members interested in the onsite industry.

Terry Bovee announced he is stepping down from the ISTS subcommittee. He will contact other MAPSS members to serve in his place.

**Advertise in the Auger!**

Ad Type	Amount	Cost
classified	first 40 words	\$5.00
	additional words	\$0.20/word
position*	first 40 words	\$5.00
	additional words	\$0.20/word
ad copy	Word ready format	\$15.00/column in
business card	standard size	\$25.00

Your advertisement will also be added to the MAPSS website for the duration of one issue of the Auger. Contact the editor: [suzdsouza@hotmail.com](mailto:suzdsouza@hotmail.com) or [mapss@mnsoilscientist.org](mailto:mapss@mnsoilscientist.org).

\*free to MAPSS members and will be included on the website

## MAPSS Committees - 2006

*Award Committee – to be appointed June 2006*

### *Education Committee*

Peter Hartman, PSS – Chair  
Jorja DuFresne, PSS  
Howard Hobbs, PG  
Thomas Jackson, PSS  
Kim Steffan, PSS

*Election Committee – to be appointed November 2006*

### *ISTS Committee*

Robert Whitmyer, PSS – Chair  
Peter Miller, PSS  
Mike Rutten, PSS  
Mark Wespetal, PSS  
Mary West, PSS

### *Membership Committee*

Dennis Fuchs, PSS – Chair  
Al Giенcke, PSS

### *Professional Practice Committee*

Peter Miller, PSS – Chair  
Jim Arndt, PSS  
Kelley Bopray, PSS  
Tom Fait, PSS

### *Scholarship & Funding Committee*

Roger Berggren, PSS – Chair  
Jim Anderson, PSS  
Al Giенcke, PSS

employee, retired, or have any ideas, please send it to [mapss@mnsoilscientist.org](mailto:mapss@mnsoilscientist.org) for posting on the website.

## Board of AELSLAGID

The Board of AELSLAGID has a new investigator! The next Fundamentals exam will be March 17, 2006. Board staff working on the new on-line renewal system to get that up and running. Don't forget to renew your licenses by June 30, 2006.

## Name That Soil Scientist!



Who is this happy soil scientist (MAPSS member) hanging out with the rich and famous?! Be the first to answer and win a MAPSS baseball hat! Send your answer to: [mapss@mnsoilscientist.org](mailto:mapss@mnsoilscientist.org) or call 612-741-1365.

## Legislative, Website and Board of AELSLAGID Update

By Suzanne D'Souza, PSS

### Legislative

The 2006 Legislative Session began and so far over 900 bills have been introduced. There are numerous bills regarding new and upgrading wastewater treatment systems. I will keep a list of these and other bills. Contact me for information at 612-741-1365 or [suzdsouza@hotmail.com](mailto:suzdsouza@hotmail.com). The website for the Minnesota Legislature is: <http://www.leg.state.mn.us>.

The MPCA remains the force for changing the Minnesota Rules Chapter 7080 and the MPCA ISTS Guidance Document (in which the ISTS committee is involved). The MPCA is also working on a storm water guidance document.

### Website

If you see anything that needs changing on the website, know of an event or job, hired a new

## Welcome New/Returning MAPSS Members!

Todd Anderson, student at St. Cloud State  
David Bauer, Conservation Technologies Specialist with the Ramsey County Conservation District  
Krystal Bergesch, student at St. Cloud State  
Wayne Jacobson, Owner of Jacobson Environmental  
Shannon Johnson, Soil Scientist with the NRCS  
Kelsey Larson, Soil Scientist  
Jason Linkert, student at St. Cloud State  
Philip Nesse, Soil Scientist  
Dennis Rodacker, Wetland Specialists with Anoka SWCD  
Larissa Schmitt, Soil Scientist with the NRCS  
Casey Schroeder, Soil Survey Proj. Leader with the NRCS  
Joseph Storlien, Soil Conservation Tech. with the NRCS

**Renew Licenses Before June  
30, 2006**

## Member Announcements

Jim Arndt, PSS, has accepted a position as senior environmental consultant at Natural Resource Group, Inc. Jim's responsibilities include the development and implementation of Agricultural Impact Mitigation Agreements and Plans developed to assess pre-construction conditions, minimize construction-related impacts, and ensure successful post-construction restoration of agricultural land along inter- and intra-state pipeline rights of way. Jim is also actively involved with the preparation of soils, wetland, and geology related resource reports prepared for pipelines and ethanol plants, and will be involved in treatment wetlands, wetland delineation, restoration and monitoring, and various aspects of ground and surface water hydrology and geochemistry. He can be reached at Natural Resource Group, Inc., 1000 IDS Center, 80 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402; Direct Phone (612) 215-6095; email: [jarndt@nrginc.com](mailto:jarndt@nrginc.com).

Wayne Jacobson has opened his own environmental consulting company called Jacobson Environmental. He can be reached at [wejacobson@frontiernet.net](mailto:wejacobson@frontiernet.net) or 612-802-6619. Jacobson Environmental has a temporary website at [www.frontiernet.net/~wejacobson/](http://www.frontiernet.net/~wejacobson/). A new website will be up and running by the end of March at [www.jacobsonenvironmental.com](http://www.jacobsonenvironmental.com).

## Land Surveying and Soils

By Suzanne D'Souza, PSS

In Florida photogrammetry is licensed. If you are performing photogrammetry in Florida, you are surveying which places you in the purview of a licensed land surveyor. Currently in Minnesota photogrammetry is not part of a licensure program; however, other items are. For instance, if you create a map showing distances from a wetland boundary or distances from a septic system to lot lines, you are surveying. Surveying can only be performed by a licensed land surveyor. If showing precise locations is an important part of a project then a land surveyor, in conjunction with a soil scientist, should create these documents. If a site drawing is created in which no distances are involved then a disclaimer should be added to that drawing stating that this drawing is not a legal survey and all locations are approximate.

[www.mnsoilscientist.org](http://www.mnsoilscientist.org)

## Volunteers Needed!

The Science Museum of Minnesota is looking for volunteers for Science Madness-36 Hours of Science Fun! on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. The benefits to MAPSS and you would be: free marketing, program exposure, networking and connecting with a large and diverse audience. Have fun and educate people about soil!! Contact the science museum staff at 651-221-9444 or [www.smm.org/36hours](http://www.smm.org/36hours) by Friday, March 10, 2006.

## Renew Licenses by June 30, 2006

By Suzanne D'Souza, PSS

It is that time of the year when our thoughts are of spring. It is also that time of year when our thoughts are "do I have enough continuing education to renew my license?" This is a reminder that you need 24 professional development hours (PDHs) *before* you renew your license by the end of June. That means you have about three months.

The Board of AELSLAGID (Board) has continuing education information and what can be considered a PDH on their website (<http://www.aelslagid.state.mn.us/conted.html>). Board staff created a form that can be used to help determine if a class, workshop or activity can be counted toward your continuing education PDHs <http://www.aelslagid.state.mn.us/ceform.pdf>. If this is your very first biennial renewal you are exempt from the continuing education requirement, but not from renewing your license. There is information about obtaining an exemption from the continuing education requirement (for extenuating circumstances); however, this is NOT recommended. The Board is very strict about granting exemptions.

The statute that covers licensure in Minnesota is Minnesota Statutes 326.02 through 326.15 (<http://www.aelslagid.state.mn.us/statutes.html>). The specific portion that covers continuing education is 326.107 (<http://www.aelslagid.state.mn.us/statutes.html#326.107>).

According to the statutes "Continuing education must consist of learning experiences which enhance and expand the skills, knowledge, and abilities of practicing professionals to remain current and render competent professional services to the public. Practitioners may pursue technical, nontechnical, regulatory, ethical, and business practice needs for a well-rounded education provided the education directly benefits the health, safety, or welfare of the public."