

## Heart of the Continent Partnership

*"How can community leaders develop more effective plans where community economic development and healthy public lands work together?"*

### **Workshop: Making Connections through Mapping**

Create a systems map for fresh ideas about  
The big issues facing gateway communities

**Friday, February 25, 2011\* 8:30 – 3:00 pm**

*Presented as part of the Heart of the Continent Partnership General Meeting  
Iron Range Resources Conference Room; 4261 Hwy 53 S Eveleth, MN 55734*

#### **Who is this for?**

Community Leaders, Elected Officials, Business Leaders, Tourism Partners, Nonprofit Leaders (Chamber of Commerce, Multi-Use, Conservation, University), Public Land Managers, Interested Parties.

#### **Workshop Plan**

**Brainstorm with Peers:** Sit down with other community leaders to explore the links between economic development, community vitality and healthy public lands.

**Focus toward the 2011 Community Congress:** Think creatively about the communities and landscapes of the region and gain new insights to inform the development of project ideas for the 2011 Community Congress.

#### **What will we actually be doing?**

The University of Minnesota's Boreal Forest & Community Resilience Project Team will guide us through a "systems mapping" exercise. Systems mapping takes a "big picture" approach by connecting people, places and resources. Then, we'll stand back and look for "aha" insights, like - "Oh, we really should be talking with so-and-so" - or "Maybe it makes sense to focus our efforts here."

Systems mapping provides an opportunity to connect with others and think about the Heart of the Continent region in new ways. You'll be surprised at new insights you gain. Taking time to uncover patterns - generate fresh ideas, get to know new people, and set a foundation for new collaborations going forward.

#### **Practical Results**

When you better understand how communities, economies and lands relate, you can be more effective in your local work. You can also benefit from new insights gained working with peers in similar communities around the Heart of the Continent region.

#### **Further Information**

Register online: [www.heartofthecontinent.org](http://www.heartofthecontinent.org) (no charge)

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