



— Skyline Planning & Preservation Alliance —

The View from Skyline

Skyline Parkway, Duluth, Minnesota - Roger's Boulevard - Lester River to Jay Cooke State Park (now Beck's Rd)

New Skyline History Banner

SPPA is proud to announce we have a new display on the making of Skyline Parkway. The banner has historic information, historic photos, dates related to the making of Skyline, and some fun facts.

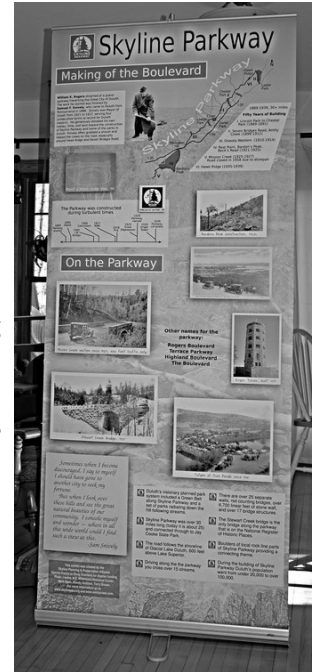
Visit it at Jay Cooke State Park through the month of June. Why Jay Cooke State Park? Did you know the Parkway used to go through to Jay Cooke State Park?

If you know of an event or meeting that the display could be shown at let us know. Or any place where the banner could be displayed for up to a month. The banner is free standing and about 2 1/2 feet wide and six feet tall. The retractable banner is easy to set up and is available for indoor events. A full color photo is on the SPPA website at www.Skylineppa.org.

Thanks to Doug Overland (Mayor Snively's nephew) and other contributions to fund the printing of the display. The display was designed by Terry Brown and Wendy Grethen.

NOW AVAILABLE
Ready to make appearances

Contact
info@skylineppa.org
or Peggy at
(218) 728-6296
to make arrangements
for the banner to be
at your event or
meeting, or to
recommend a
hosting location.



SHOOTING SKYLINE Photo Contest

Get Out and Shoot Skyline this Summer and Fall.
Deadline is October 15, 2008.

Winners will be selected in October.
Special prizes for the following categories
BEST DAY TIME SHOT
BEST NIGHT SHOT
BEST SHOT WITH PARKWAY ROAD OR BRIDGE
BEST VIEW FROM PARKWAY SHOT

All photos must be taken from July through October 15, 2008.

More information on page 2

THIRD MONDAYS ON SKYLINE (TMOS)

All strolls (or bike ride) begin at 7 p.m.
Arrive earlier and bring your own
dinner to eat out on the parkway.

June 16, July 21, August 18

We will also be heading to the
Snively monument on West Skyline
Parkway on Wednesday, **June 18**
for a work night.

See back page for locations to meet.

Skyline Planning & Preservation Alliance Mission: *To be actively involved in short-term and long-term planning for protecting and preserving the aesthetic, environmental, and historic character of Skyline Parkway.*



Skyline Planning &
Preservation Alliance
Board

Terry Brown
Barb Forrest (Treasurer)
Wendy Grethen
Tim Larson
Peggy Marrin
Nancy Nelson
Doug Stevens
Margaret West

Newsletter editor:
Wendy Grethen

To submit
announcements or articles
to the newsletter, call
(218) 525-5098 or email
info@skylineeppa.org

**SPPA Contact
Information**

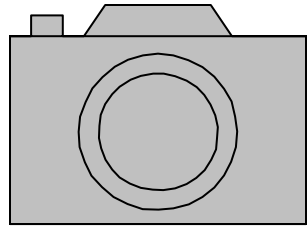
Phone (218) 525-5098
contact@skylineeppa.org
www.skylineeppa.org

**Relevant Contacts
for Skyline Parkway**

Mayor Don Ness
(218) 730-5230
City Planner
(218) 730-5580
City Planner
Chuck Froseth
(218) 730-5580
City Council
(218) 730-5740
council@duluthmn.gov

To report significant trash
dumpings along Skyline
call the Fire Dept at
(218) 730-4380
Call 911 if you have
specific information
(license #, etc)

Informative Website
www.amitycreek.com



**SPPA SHOOTING SKYLINE
PHOTO CONTEST**

DEADLINE: October 15, 2008

Maximum submission: 2 photos per person.

Winners will be selected in October.
Special prizes for the following categories
BEST DAY TIME, BEST NIGHT SHOT,
BEST SHOT WITH ROAD OR BRIDGE , BEST VIEW SHOT

All photos must be taken from July through October 15, 2008.

Submissions: Email photo(s) to info@skylineeppa.org
or call (218) 525-5098.

Include your name and address, phone and email. Indicate which cate-
gory the submitted photo(s). Contest is open to the public. No entry fee.

Public review of
the updated
Spirit Mountain
Recreation Area
Master Plan will
be in late June.
See article on
page 5 for a
summary of the
ideas so far.



Reminder:
Skyline Parkway
history display is
available now to
be shown at
events or to be
displayed in
indoor public
locations.
Contact
info@skylineeppa.
org or Peggy at
(218) 728-6296 to
make
arrangements.





Out on Skyline — other groups

The Arrowhead Regional Development Commission (ARDC) will be holding a state conference of **The American Planning Association** at the DECC in Duluth September 23. A tour of Skyline Parkway from Beck's Rd to Enger Tower will be offered to participants. Doug Stevens will be giving the history of the parkway.

Doug Stevens will be leading a hike on Knowlton Creek Boulevard through Community Ed on **June 12**. You can still sign up and go on this hike just call the Woodland Middle School. Meet at Woodland Middle School at 6:00 p.m. to carpool out to the site. The cost is \$8.00. We will leave a car at both ends of the old parkway and walk down toward the Lake Superior Zoo, crossing Kingsbury Creek and coming out the zoo parking lot.

The **Duluth Preservation Alliance** will be conducting a clean-up and potluck at Enger Park on Monday, **June 16, 6:30 p.m.** For more information contact Dennis Lamkin at Dennis.Lamkin@usbank.com.

On **July 19**, the local chapter of the **North American Butterfly Association** will be conducting a butterfly monitoring session at Enger Park. Beginners are welcome. For more information contact Jim at (218) 729-4524 or email jphillips@mnpower.com.



The **Superior Hiking Trail Association** doesn't have any listed hikes along Skyline Parkway or the newer connecting trails near Skyline. There are ways to get on the trail by helping maintain the trail. Larry Sampson is the Duluth Trail Maintenance Supervisor this year. Larry has several projects planned this year such as putting in small re-routes, adding steps to steep trail sections, and adding water bars to parts of the trail for erosion control. If you would like to be on Larry's volunteer email list, please email him at LBSampson@msn.com.

The Arrowhead Bowhunter's Alliance did a cleanup on Skyline Parkway in April. The main comments were they were surprised and saddened at how much junk had been dumped along the road. They cleaned up the section from Haines Road heading west a ways.

Dig into Skyline

Archaeological Investigations in the Bay View School Forest on Skyline Parkway, West Duluth

An archaeological survey is set for
June 30 - July 3.

We will be doing survey on various locations within the Forest parcel. In addition, an archaeological excavation on the Bay View Point site (found last year) is set for

July 14 - 18.

This will be formal excavation units to determine site integrity and content. Work will be digging in the ground with a shovel and screening the dirt (equipment provided); it can be strenuous but we do take it easy.

Consider helping at least half a day, either morning or afternoon, to see how you like it. Space is limited (especially for the excavation), so anyone interested needs to get in touch with Susan Mulholland with the Duluth Archeology Center at 218-624-5489 or suemulholland@aol.com as soon as possible. Visitors are welcome to come and observe at any time but volunteers for the survey or excavation **MUST** make prior arrangements.



Be a part of the crew conducting archeological surveys and excavations along Skyline Parkway in the Bay View Forest this summer.



Haines Road to be Reconstructed In 2009

St. Louis County is proposing to reconstruct Haines Road with federal funds administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The section in question is from the DM&IR tracks on 40th Ave West up to the Morris Thomas Road, about 2.5 miles of Haines Rd.

You may be asking what does this project have to do with Skyline Parkway? There are two intersections where Skyline Parkway comes in at Haines Rd. As you come up from 40th Ave West you go around the famous horseshoe bend in the road then up to the first intersection on your left you are on Skyline Parkway heading west. If you go up to the next intersection you would take a right and head east toward the famous Ore Dock overlook. Changing Haines Rd will change the intersections of Skyline Parkway.

Here is the plan. Haines Rd will be reconstructed and realigned horizontally and vertically to meet state and federal guidelines. It will have an urban design, two 12' traffic lanes, one 12' truck climbing lane and sidewalks.

Skyline Parkway is a historic roadway and has state Scenic Byway status. This construction project would cause alterations in the character of the rock walls at both intersections. The county is developing plans regarding the treatment options for the WPA walls at the intersections of the Parkway and Haines Rd. The county is proposing either a form liner to imitate a rock-face appearance, or a smooth concrete wall with different design details.

SPPA has been asked for our advice on this matter and will keep us informed when there is a meeting regarding the Haines Rd project.



Updates and summaries by Doug Stevens

Seven Bridges Road update

The last two bridges needing repair number one and seven will be done sometime this summer. Work had begun last July and had to be stopped because of winter. The reconstruction of the first bridge close to Occidental Boulevard has already been started. They had the basic structure done last fall and are now putting on the decorative rock facing. This bridge will also get the pink granite tops put on. The old bridge did not have the pink granite tops as it was built in 1928.

Work will begin again on bridge number seven close to Maxwell Rd after they finish bridge number one. This will be the last bridge to need reconstruction work on Seven Bridges Rd. That means all of the bridges have been reworked.

Federal Highway Administration Signage Grant for Skyline Parkway

As you may or may not know in 2003 a grant was given to the city of Duluth for signage on Skyline Parkway in the amount of \$80,000 dollars. The city had to come up with \$20,000 to get the grant. With budget cuts, staff shortages in the city planning department and just the plain lack of money has caused this grant to be stalled for a number of years.

A group of us have been working with the city planning department trying to help in whatever way we can. After a meeting with them there has been some progress to report. An anonymous donor gave the city of Duluth \$10,000 to help with the cities portion of the agreement. This money has been secured and will only be used for the grant. The contract agreement between MNDOT, the FHWA and the city of Duluth has been reworked and signed since much had changed since 2003.

There still needs to be an RFP (request for proposals) sent out and the city has to establish a committee to help with this project. It has been a rough time for the city and we would like to help in raising the last \$10,000 needed to secure the grant. If just two people donated \$5,000 or four people donated \$2,500 or if 10 people donated \$1,000, or 20 people donated \$500 it could be a done deal. If you would like to contribute any amount just right out a check to SPPA and we will make sure that it goes to the city of Duluth for the grant. Mail your check to Doug Stevens, 4869 1st Ave. North, Duluth, MN 55803





Spirit Mountain Recreation Area Updated Master Plan Nearly Ready for Public Review

Since last fall the Spirit Mountain Recreation Area staff and Board of Directors have been working on updating the facility's master plan with the help of a consulting team made up of professionals from Applied Insights, Architectural Resources, EcoSign, and Johnson Controls. The draft plan is now nearly ready for public review.

The updated master plan will focus on better utilizing the existing footprint of the facility, redeveloping existing structures and use areas, and improving energy efficiency. The process followed in updating the master plan included a thorough evaluation of the entire facility. As the result of this evaluation, a few of the items that made it to the top of the list as most in need of improvement include:

- Chairlifts: They need to be realigned and replaced with new, more efficient equipment.
- Snow: For Spirit Mountain to remain competitive, it is necessary to make snow, and it is important that the snow is ready early in December so the ski runs can be open before Christmas. In order to accomplish this, the snow-making capacity needs to be increased and a more dependable and cost-effective source of water must be developed.
- Grand Avenue Entrance: Services need to be expanded at the Grand Avenue entrance to the recreation area, where DTA bus service is available.
- Chalet: Renovation of the existing chalet should focus on 1) creating a new entrance that will improve the flow of users through the building, 2) developing a more efficient and centrally located kitchen area that will better serve the expanding banquet business, and 3) making the chalet accessible to all visitors.

Opportunities for public review and comment are expected to be scheduled for late June. Please be sure to take the time to attend any public meetings and provide your feedback on the draft plan! This is the first significant update to the master plan in many, many years, and it will guide the operation of the recreation area for many years to come.

Submitted by Nancy Nelson, Spirit Mountain Recreation Authority and SPPA board member.

At the beginning of the year, a new mayor and several new councilors began serving the City of Duluth. All the Duluth city councilors and the Mayor were asked some quick questions about Skyline Parkway. Responses came back from a few councilors.

How would YOU answer the following questions:

What would YOU like to see "done" with/for Skyline Parkway and please share one of your FAVORITE aspects about Skyline Parkway.

One thing to do: Adopt Skyline. When I ran for office back in '05 I cleaned up about a 1/2 mile of Skyline Pkwy near my house and Enger Tower. Sadly, the best view in the city is also the preferred illegal dumping spot. We hauled out two trailer loads of garbage. I'd like to see a fall and spring cleanup that works much like county and state road cleanups do. Get the garbage to a curb and the City/WLSSD will do the rest.

Favorite aspect: Runner's paradise. As an avid runner I can step out my door and within a few short blocks be on Skyline. I can run fast repeats, I can run hills, I can run short, I can run long, I can run trails -- and do all that across the city without leaving the immediate Skyline Blvd area.

Roger Reinert

I would love to see sections of Skyline shut down for a weekend or for one day a weekend for picnickers, bikers, runners, roller bladers, crafts people, musicians, etc. In DC they close rock creek park drive every weekend. It is fabulous, the whole city comes out to exercise, enjoy the weather, and have a great time using one of their most beautiful road ways. Of course we could leave it open to residents, but close it for through traffic. We could rotate sections through town throughout the summer to enjoy different parts of Skyline.

Tony Cuneo

Cut the trees for the view.

The view is the best.

Jay Fosle





Skyline Planning & Preservation Alliance
 www.SkylinePPA.org

Wendy Grethen
 4005 McCulloch St.
 Duluth, MN 55804

SKYLINE PARKWAY SUMMER EVENTS

June 16 (Monday) 7 p.m. TMOS * Bike along Hawk Ridge section. Come enjoy being out on Skyline on wheels on one of the longest days of the year. Meet at the 1st overlook. Contact: Margaret 733-9596

June 18 (Wednesday) 7 p.m. Work night at Snively Monument. Park at Magney Snively Parking lot just past the Stewart Creek bridge (which is about a mile past Spirit Mountain). Bring gloves and shovels. Contact: Margaret 733-9596.

July 21 (Monday) 7 p.m. TMOS * Enger Park/ Twin Ponds area stroll. Meet at Twin Ponds at 7 p.m. Contact: Wendy 525-5098

August 18 (Monday) 7 p.m. TMOS * Meet at Magney-Snively parking lot. Check out the Snively monument. Stroll along Skyline. Contact: Wendy 525-5098.

*TMOS = Third Mondays on Skyline.
 Arrive earlier and bring your own dinner to eat out on the Parkway.

Skyline Planning & Preservation Alliance Membership Form

Date _____ New Member Renewing Member
 Name _____ Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone # _____ Email _____

Annual Membership: \$10 Fixed-income \$20 Individual \$35 Family \$50 Business

___ I would like to be a clean-up volunteer ___ I would like to donate to the Signage Grant
 ___ I would like to donate toward making a Skyline Parkway navigation map

Please make checks payable to: Skyline Planning & Preservation Alliance (or SPPA)
 and send to SPPA, 1902 St. Louis Ave. #211, Duluth, MN 55802.