

## Sustainable Twin Ports

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## Information Sheet

# Early Adopters Project

**What is it?** This project will provide ten to fifteen committed Twin Ports area “Early Adopter” organizations (private, public and nonprofit) an opportunity to develop – through specialized training and applications – a shared understanding of sustainability and to create and implement specific sustainability plans for their organizations that provide economic, environmental, and social benefits. These Early Adopters of sustainability will provide local success stories and share the lessons, knowledge, and energy they have gained throughout the community.

**Who can join the Project?** This project seeks candidates on the basis of three criteria: that the candidate organizations or businesses are recognized community leaders; that they have an interest in sustainability; and that, collectively, they represent the breadth of the Twin Ports community. Early Adopters are respected and representative community businesses and organizations that make the commitment to provide leadership by introducing and using The Natural Step Framework in their respective organizations.

### What are the benefits?

- **Participation for up to five staff** in a proven sustainability training and action planning program.
- **Potential revenue opportunities and/or cost savings** as a result of actions and investments that arise through participation in the training, planning, implementing, and networking.
- **Ongoing support and coaching** from sustainability experts as the organization develops and implements its sustainability action plan.
- **Participation in a Twin Ports sustainability peer learning network** of other Early Adopter organizations.

### What is the organizational commitment?

- **To learn about The Natural Step Framework** and apply it in their organization.
- **To commit time for staff to participate** in the program – approximately ten days of training and planning sessions over the course of a year.
- **To produce and implement a sustainability action plan** for their organization.
- **To participate with other Early Adopters** in developing a strategy for broader community engagement to promote the lessons, stories, and benefits of their sustainability experience.

**How do you apply?** Applications are available on the Sustainable Twin Ports web site at [www.sustainabletwinports.org](http://www.sustainabletwinports.org). **Applications are due by April 22, 2008.**

**When will the Project begin?** An introductory session for all participants is set for early June and the first training session is scheduled for late June.

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