

"To develop and promote resources for Economic Growth in our community."



November 2024



Community Calendar

Add an event to the community calendar

Economic Development Priorities to Invoke Change



Priorities to Invoke Change

Promote Recreation
and Tourism

Improve
Broadband

Support
Childcare

Support Career
Development

Business Retention,
Expansion and
Attraction

Support Housing
Initiatives

County Economic Development What you need to know:

**Did you know it is Naturally Better in Aitkin
County?**



Listen to all of the reasons why

Aitkin County Economic Development establishes Housing Development Incentives

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners recently approved the Housing Trust Fund Guidelines.

The primary purpose of the Aitkin County Housing Trust Fund (HTF) Program is to assist in financing the production and preservation/stabilization of affordable and mixed-income housing projects in Aitkin County.

The Trust Fund shall provide loans and grants to property owners, homeowners, local units of government, for-profit housing developers, and non-profit housing developers for the acquisition, capital and soft costs necessary for the creation of new Affordable Infrastructure and Workforce Housing (both rental and owner occupied).

Projects funded by the Trust Fund shall be dispersed throughout the County. Programs will be made available and promoted by the Aitkin County Economic Development Department with specified time frames. Cities are also eligible to request funding from the Aitkin County HTF for the purpose of supporting programs listed below.

DEVELOPER

1. Multi-Family Development Tax Abatement
2. New Construction/Development Incentive Programs
3. New Development/Redevelopment Financing Programs

HOMEOWNER

4. Rehabilitation Incentive Programs
5. Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (Minnesota City Participation Program)

Additional information will be released soon.

[contact Mark Jeffers for details](#)

Aitkin County teams with U of M Extension to request ATV survey information: We need you!

[Take our Survey here!](#)

We need to hear from you!

Aitkin County is working with University of Minnesota Extension to understand the ATV and OHV riding experience and impact in the county. We are surveying ATV and OHV riders.

Please consider taking the survey. Questions will address your recent experience riding in Aitkin County.

Your responses will help inform future decisions for communities serving ATV and OHV riders in the region.



Thank you!

To complete the survey, visit
z.umn.edu/atvohv



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA | EXTENSION

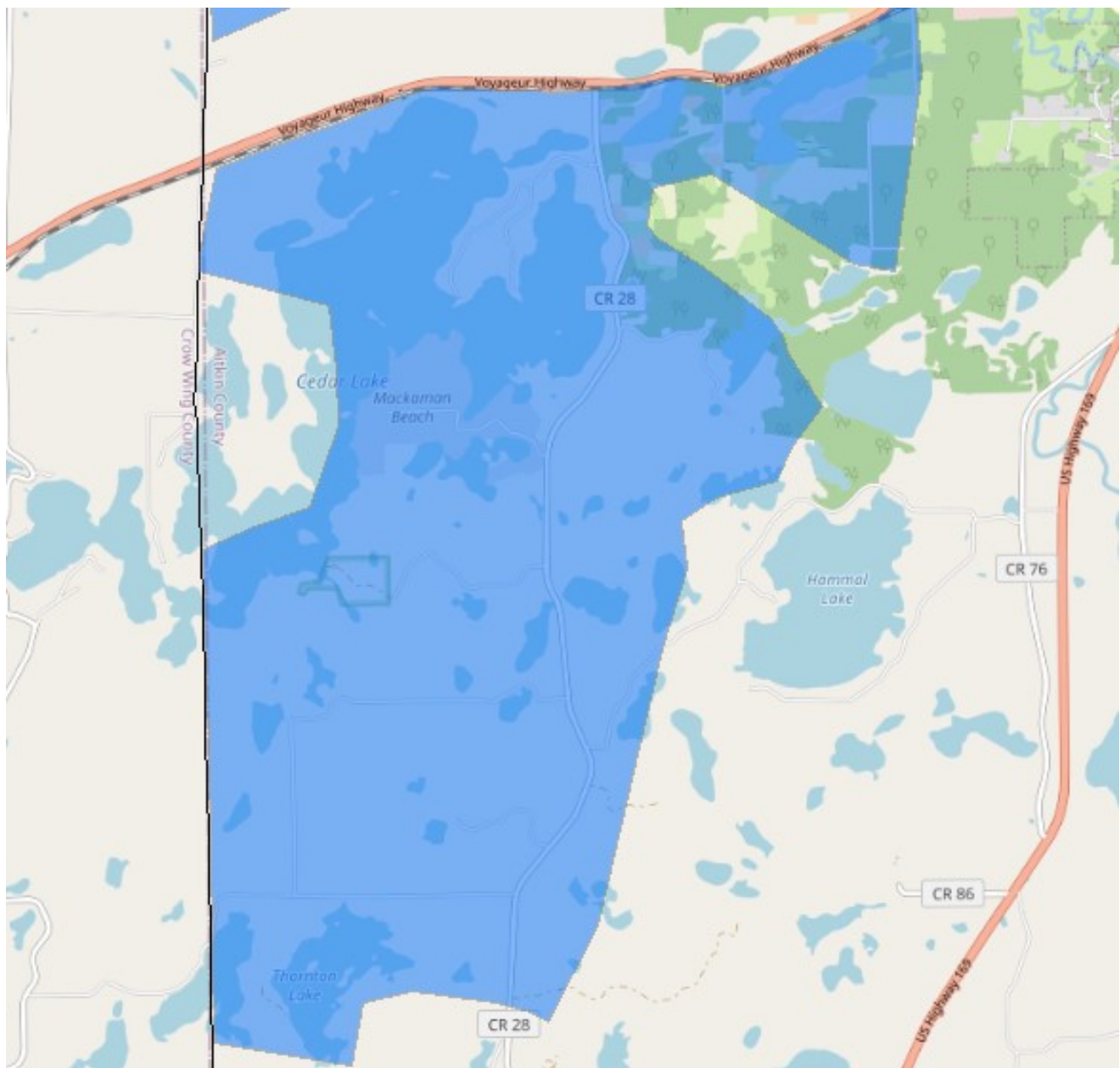
MLEC Receives Border-to-Border Broadband Development Grant

Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative (MLEC) is happy to announce that MLEC Fiber Internet will become available for more customers. Governor Tim Walz's announcement of \$52 million in grants to expand broadband access across Minnesota is a significant step in bridging the digital divide. Administered through the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED), this initiative is part of the Border-to-Border Broadband Program, which has been providing funding since 2014. The latest round of grants marks the program's 10th funding cycle and will benefit 7,700 homes and businesses.

MLEC was awarded \$1.8 million as part of a \$4 million project to bring up to 1 Gbps internet speeds to over 420 homes in the Cedar Lake area, west of the City of Aitkin. Aitkin County, committed to working with broadband providers in the county, has also pledged \$25,000 towards this project.

Please continue to read the Outlet, Facebook, and our website for more information and updates on our upcoming fiber projects. For more information on MLEC Fiber Internet, call our office at 218-429-0433 or visit our website at www.mlecmn.net/fiber. Project area maps, Internet plans, and service agreements can all be found online.

MLEC is a not-for-profit, electric distribution cooperative owned by the members we serve. We provide service to over 13,000 members in parts of Aitkin, Crow Wing, and Mille Lacs counties. Our headquarters is located at 23483 US Highway 169, Aitkin, MN.



Tamarack Learning Center set to open soon!



TAMARACK LEARNING CENTER CHILD CARE

110 Tingdale St. Tamarack, MN 55787

OPENING SOON!

- » Licensed Child Care Center - *tentative opening January 2, 2025*
- » DHS Qualified & Trained Staff to care for up to 49 children ages 6 weeks - 12 years old

For more information or to be put on a waiting list:

Please Email:
tlcchildcare1@outlook.com

or

Call / text: Niki
(763) 232-3836



It is our Philosophy that
"Our children Are Our Future" and
**"When Child Care Works, Everyone
Can Work"**

Our Mission is to provide a loving, high quality, affordable program using "Best Practices" in which all children, as unique as they are, can be healthy in a safe, loving and nurturing environment that will help them Learn & Grow developmentally, cognitively, physically, socially and emotionally.

About the Team & Program...

Niki has been providing high quality care in Minnesota for over 40 years. She started working Fulltime in a child care center when she was 16 years old, and after attending college for Early childhood, opened her 1st center when she was 27 years old. Since then her & her husband Jim, have opened 3 other centers from scratch, and currently owns & Directs an Accredited & 4 Star Parent Aware Rated DHS licensed child care center in the Anoka County Human Service Center located in Blaine, MN since 2004.

TLC will staff only DHS Qualified Teachers & Trained Aides to promote cognitive development, social & emotional growth, offer creative play to encourage physical development & lots of opportunity to perfect fine motor skills through Art & Dramatic play with prompt, gentle & responsive care. TLC will always provide a healthy, clean, safe, loving & exciting environment that gives children emotional security and intellectual challenge, with nutritional snacks & 2 meals provided on site, daily. Children will always be supervised & in a smoke free environment.



Tamarack Learning Center

Monthly Small Business Call

Join the conversation on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting, which is the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 2:00 p.m., is an opportunity for small business owners to have a conversation with business experts and their peers.

Our next call/Teams meeting, will be on Tuesday, November 12, at 2:00 p.m.

The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce will join to discuss their Energy Smart program. Energy Smart offers free energy efficiency consultations for commercial properties, whether leased or owned. An energy efficiency specialist will identify customized, low- and no-cost savings opportunities, assist with end-of-life equipment replacements, and explore available rebates and grants.

Join on your computer or mobile app

Visit here to join the meeting

Meeting ID: 269 511 645 267 Passcode: a597jE

Download Teams | Join on the web

Join with a video conferencing device

mn@m.webex.com

Video Conference ID: 118 691 795 3

Alternate VTC instructions

Or call in (audio only)

+1 651-395-7448,,180597866#

Phone Conference ID: 180 597 866#

Find a local number | Reset PIN



Register



Interested in showcasing your product, service, or idea? **Register for the DAWNtrepreneur Showcase and Pitch Competition!** Free to enter and win cash prizes!



NOVEMBER 12



5-8PM



BRAHAM EVENT
CENTER
655 8TH ST. SW
BRAHAM, MN
55006



**SCAN THE QR CODE
TO LEARN MORE
AND REGISTER!**

Have a question? Email Elissa Hansen at ehansen@northspan.org for more information



Powered by NORTHSPAN



Minnesota Housing Finance Agency offers homeowner opportunities

Contact a Lender



Dream it. Do it.
We'll help you
afford it.

Hassle-free home
improvement loans up to
\$75,000 from the
Minnesota Housing
Fix Up Loan Program.

LEARN MORE

In connection with Single Family Division loan programs, Minnesota Housing is neither an originator of loans nor a creditor and is not affiliated with any Lender. To find out if you are eligible, or to apply for a loan, please contact a participating Lender.



Home sweet
renovated
home.

Hire it out or DIY with flexible
home improvement loans from
the Minnesota Housing
Fix Up Loan Program.

LEARN MORE

In connection with Single Family Division loan programs, Minnesota Housing is neither an originator of loans nor a creditor and is not affiliated with any Lender. To find out if you are eligible, or to apply for a loan, please contact a participating Lender.

learn more

Properties Available in the Aitkin Area

Tour the Properties



COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FOR SALE

Offered at
\$1,500,000

Features & Amenities

45,504 SF industrial building located on a 21.57 acre +/- site at 36559 US Highway 169, Aitkin, MN. The building functions as the headquarters for Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative.

- Highway traffic, visible location
- High-speed Fiber-to-the-Premise Internet
- Spacious yard and maintained landscaping
- Semi truck assessable driveway
- 2 large storage buildings
- Fenced equipment yard
- Recent interior renovations



About the property

Take the opportunity to move your business or add another location! Office spaces with a combination of heated and cold storage. This industrial site provides room for large trucks and equipment to keep them out of the weather.

The property includes a main office/shop and two pole buildings. The main office/shop (100 ft. x 125 ft.) constitutes about 60% of the total Gross Building Area, with concrete block construction and a mix of office and shop space. The pole buildings include one 60 ft. x 120 ft. insulated storage building with in-floor heat and one 60 ft. x 170 ft. cold storage building with concrete floor. The quality/appeal and condition of the improvements is rated average. The property includes a fenced/secured outdoor storage area and significant frontage on US Highway 169.



Contact details

Jeff Borling, Great River Energy
(218) 355-8088
jborling@greenergy.com

Mille Lacs Energy Headquarters

36559 US Hwy 169, Aitkin, Minnesota 56431 - Aitkin County



Property Details

Latitude/Longitude: 46.5344, -93.6834

Type of space: Industrial, Commercial

Min Size: 45,504 sqft

Max Size: 45,504 sqft

Last Updated: 6/4/2024

Northspan Contact

Company: Northspan

Contact Name: Shaun Hainey

Address: 202 W Superior St, #600

City: Duluth

State: Minnesota

Phone: 218.481.7737

Email: shainey@northspan.org

Website: <https://www.northlandconnection.com>

NORTHSPAN

Documents

[Listing Flyer.pdf](#)

Availability

For Sale: Yes

Sale Price: \$1,500,000.00

Description

Take the opportunity to move your business or add another location! Office spaces with a combination of heated and cold storage. This industrial site provides room for large trucks and equipment to keep them out of the weather. The property includes a main office/shop and two pole buildings. The main office shop (100 ft. x 125 ft.) constitutes about 60% of the total Gross Building Area, with concrete block construction and a mix of office and shop space. The pole buildings include one 60 ft. x 120 ft. insulated storage building with in-floor heat and one 60 ft. x 170 ft. cold storage building with concrete floor. The quality/appeal and condition of the improvements is rated average. The property includes a fenced/secured outdoor storage area and significant frontage on US Highway 169.

Building Details

Total Building sf: 45,504 sf

Office sf: 12,500 sf

Amenities: 45,504 SF industrial building located on a 21.57 acre +/- site at 36559 US Highway 169, Aitkin, MN. The building functions as the headquarters for Mille Lacs Energy Cooperative. •Highway traffic, visible location •High-speed Fiber-to-the-Premise Internet •Spacious yard and maintained landscaping •2 large storage buildings •Fenced equipment yard •Recent interior renovations •Semi truck assessable driveway

Site Details

Total Acres: 21.57 acres

Incentives

Opportunity Zone: Yes

Transportation

Nearest Airport: Aitkin Municipal Airport

Distance to Airport: 1.2 miles

Port: Yes

Distance to Port: 86.0 miles

Nearest Interstate: I 35

Distance to Interstate: 50.4 miles

Nearest Highway: Hwy 169

Distance to Major Highway: .04 miles

Utilities

Electric Service Provider: Mille Lacs Electric Cooperative

36559 US 169, Aitkin MN

Contact me directly for any details and additional opportunities: mark.jeffers@co.aitkin.mn.us.

Are you ready to move you, your family and/or your business to an amazing area? We welcome you to visit anytime. Tour any of our available properties, enjoy our recreational assets, amazing dining and our unique entertainment offerings. We think you will agree, it is Naturally Better here. Aitkin County is a community with

momentum. We are confident once you visit, you will live here!

naturallybetterhere.com

Aitkin County Business Spotlight



McGregor Print Pros
171 North Maddy Street
McGregor, MN

218.768.4442

McGregorPrintPros@gmail.com



McGregor Print Pros

Community

Aitkin

McGregor

Shamrock
Township



Palisade Events Committee

JET
NORTHEAST MINNESOTA
OFFICE OF JOB TRAINING

Cities



Contact Us



AITKIN COUNTY

Mark Jeffers
Economic Development Coordinator
mark.jeffers@co.aitkin.mn.us
218-513-6188



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