

# **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** 9/22/11

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## \*\*\*\*\* MEDIA ADVISORY \*\*\*\*\*\*

Thousands will Gather in St. Paul to Demand Bold Action on Climate: On Saturday, September 24, people will gather in over 2000 events around the world for Moving Planet: a day to move beyond fossil fuels. In the Twin Cities MN350 will host an event at the State Capitol where Minnesotans will send the message that the President and Congress must take bold action to protect the EPA's work to set air, water, and climate standards that protect our environment and safeguard people's health.

**WHAT**: Moving Planet Minnesota, the local expression of a worldwide day of action for climate change solutions, with thousands of Minnesotans joining in the call to move beyond fossil fuels and towards clean energy. Speakers will outline actions that people can take to move Minnesota and the country to climate solutions.

**WHO**: MN350, 41 organizational partners and 7 business partners (*see list below*), several thousand Minnesotans who demanding policy and on the ground solutions to our climate crisis. Speakers include Karen Monahan, John Abraham, Shawn Otto, Lissa Jones, J. Drake Hamilton, Scott Strand and many others. Music will be provided Lucy Michelle and the Velvet Lapelles, Alicia Wiley, The New Primitives and Brian Laidlaw.

**WHERE**: The Lawn of the Capitol building, 75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155. Mass Bike Ride starts at on north side of the Stone Arch Bridge at Father Hennepin Park

WHEN: Saturday, September 24th from 2:00 to 7:00 p.m. (Mass Bike ride starts at 11:00 a.m.)

**VISUALS:** Hundreds of bicyclists streaming in to the Capitol, an interfaith procession of hundreds of people and towering Heart of the Beast puppets, youth speakers, massive solar-powered AV system

Moving Planet Minnesota will serve to inspire thousands of our fellow Minnesotans to rise to the challenge of our shared climate crisis. The event will be carbon neutral and zero waste, with free bus passes available for participants, a solar-powered AV system, and recycling and composting. The program will illuminate the many dimensions of the climate movement—from scientific to moral, from local to global—and inspire Minnesotans to action through music, dance, and spoken word.

For more information or to interview an organizer of Moving Planet Minnesota, contact Julia at julia@mn350.org or (612) 810-1577. Additional details can also be found below or at mn350.org

### **ADDITIONAL DETAILS:**

## **Organizational Partner**

Oxfam Actions Corps Minnesota \* Alliance for Sustainability \* Sierra Club \* MN Renewable Energy Society \* HECUA \* Campus Beyond Coal \* Summer of Solutions \* Our Power \* Citizens Climate Lobby \* Alaska

Wilderness League \* Clean Water Action \* Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy \* Will Steger Foundatiaon \* 350.org \* Northland Sustainable Solutions \* Transit for Livable Communities \* Natural Resource Defense Council \* MN Conservation Federation \* Defenders of Wildlife \* Cool Planet \* Defenders of Wildlife \* MN Interfaith Power and Light \* Fair Trade Coalition \* Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy \* Alliance for Metropolitan Stability \* Minnesota Environmental Partnership \* Audubon Minnesota \* Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness \* Minnesota Ornithologist's Union \* Trout Unlimited \*MN State Council \* Windustry \* Permaculture Research Institute, Cold Climate\* Izaak Walton League \* Fresh Energy \* Blue Green Alliance \* Twin Cities Tar Sands Action Group \* Climate Rapid Response Team \* Climate Crisis Coalition \* Ecowatch \* Northern Transitions

#### **Businesses Partners**

Minnesota Wind Technology/Go Green Energy\* One Dish at a Time \* St. Paul Smart Trips \* Applied Energy Innovations \* Dero Bike Racks \* Metro Transit \* Eureka Recycling \* Peace Cofee \* Quality Bike Products \* Environmental Alliance \* Featherstone Farm \* Milkweed Editions \* Nice Ride MN

#### **Schedule of Events:**

- 11:00 a.m. Mass bike ride event starting on north side of Stone Arch Bridge at Father Hennepin Park
- 2:00 p.m. Interfaith Procession gathers for short program @ Cass Gilbert Memorial Park located on the corner of Sherburne Ave and Cedar Street in Saint Paul (Heart of the Beast Puppets included)
- **2:00 p.m.** Official start of the event @ the State Capitol (resource fair, kites, art, Frisbee, yoga, music by Brian Laidlaw & the Family Trade)
- 3:00 p.m. Mass Bike Ride and Interfaith Procession will arrive @ the Capitol lawn.
- **3:15-4:45 p.m.** Program designed to examine the many dimensions of the climate movement and inspire us to action with music, dance, and spoken word.
- 4:45-7:00 p.m. Concert with Lucy Michelle and the Velvet Lapelles, Alicia Wiley, The New Primitives

## MN350's Goals for this Event:

To gather thousands of our friends, neighbors, peers, and loved ones across the state to:

- 1. **Learn** about the urgent need to move beyond fossil fuels in order to dramatically reduce carbon emissions and restore our climate to balance.
- 2. **Inspire** each other, our elected officials, and all Minnesotans about the possibilities for a transition to a renewable future that creates enduring prosperity and respects our common good.
- 3. **Build** the global climate movement to solve the climate crisis by joining with people around the world and raising our voices in a collective call to action.

**The Mission of MN350 is**: to inspire Minnesotans to rise to the challenge of the climate crisis—to recognize the urgency and create a new sense of possibility for our planet. To do this, we shine a light on individuals and organizations already doing this incredible work, knitting these many efforts together into a powerful call to action—a call that is global, scientific, and specific. By providing a shared platform with the 350 target, we can work together to form a whole that is truly greater than the sum of its parts.

What is 350 all about? 350 ppm (parts per million) is what scientists, climate experts, and progressive national governments are saying is the safe upper limit for Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in our atmosphere. We are already above this safe zone at our current 394 ppm, and unless we are able to rapidly return to below 350 ppm, we risk reaching a tipping point with irreversible impacts. To read more about the science, visit 350.org.