

Why protest the Sandpiper pipeline?

- Carlton County is unique in that it has highly productive soil compared to much of the region – and it is in short supply.
- This soil should be protected for the sustainable future of our county
- The number of restaurants, grocery stores and institutions that have committed to purchasing 20% local food by 2020 has quadrupled in the past year and Carlton County food producers are eager to supply the bulk of that food.
- The number of families receiving produce through CSAs has nearly doubled in the last five years—nearly 800 families are served by Wrenshall area CSAs alone.
- Pipeline construction damages the productive capacity of these carefully tended farmland soils by inverting the soil profile, destroying the biological activity and natural drainage relied upon to grow healthy crops, negatively impacting food production for decades and more.
- The proposed pipeline route has already put hundreds of thousands of dollars of investment in the local food movement on hold.
- The proposed pipeline route will take hundreds of acres of timber. Farms depend on their forest lands for habitat for birds and insects that are a part of a carefully balanced biological system for organic farming.
- The Carlton County Soil and Water Board has been working for years to get increased tree cover to protect the Lake Superior watershed. A loss of tree cover causes quicker snow melt and increased sediment load on the Nemadji River, an impaired waterway which flows directly to Lake Superior.
- Enbridge has a history of major pipeline failures. An oil spill in our local food basket would be as devastating as the impacts of construction on the soil. In 2010 an Enbridge pipeline ruptured and released over one million gallons of tar sands in Michigan's Kalamazoo River system harming people and wildlife, cleanup continues to this day –beyond the time allowed. In May, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation reported on how Enbridge, Canada's biggest oil and gas pipeline company, is breaking National Energy Board safety rules at 117 of its 125 pump stations across the country.

- Enbridge already has six pipelines across prime farmland in Wrenshall and Carlton, the oldest was installed in 1949.
- Once one pipeline goes across a particular piece of land, a precedent has been set for more to follow on that land.
- Viable route alternatives exist and have been endorsed by elected Carlton County officials, the Soil and Water Conservation District and by Wrenshall Township supervisors.

For further information contact Carlton County Land Stewards at www.carltoncountylan stewards.org or 1-888-382-7940