



Citizens can track state government's performance using new 'Accountability Minnesota' website

Site reports results on nearly 100 goals at 25 state agencies

For Immediate Release
December 11, 2008

Contact: Jim Schwartz
Communications Office
jim.schwartz@state.mn.us
651/201-2558

(ST. PAUL) – Minnesotans now have a new online resource for evaluating the performance of Minnesota state government agencies and programs.

The new Accountability Minnesota website, www.accountability.state.mn.us, provides performance information on 94 specific goals from 25 Executive Branch agencies and offices. Visitors to the website can learn about state government's progress toward:

- Protecting the safety of the food supply from farm to consumer
- Encouraging and promoting the development of locally owned wind energy projects
- Closing the achievement gap and preparing every Minnesotan for success after high school
- Reducing infant mortality rates
- Developing an effective and accountable mental health system
- Preparing Iron Range communities for change and growth
- Improving workplace safety and health
- Preserving vital natural areas and resources for future generations
- Recruiting and retaining National Guard members
- Restoring impaired waters to their best and highest use
- Increasing the speed, accuracy, convenience and ease of tax filing and paying
- Preserving critical bridge and pavement infrastructure

“State government must measure and report results to be effective,” said Governor Tim Pawlenty. “With this website, citizens can monitor our progress on nearly 100 goals.”

<MORE>

Communications Office
200 Administration Building, 50 Sherburne Avenue, Saint Paul, MN 55155
P: 651.201.2558 / F: 651.297.7909 / Minnesota Relay Service: 1.800.627.3529

The Department of Administration is an Equal Opportunity Employer

NEWS RELEASE: Accountability Minnesota website
December 11, 2008
Page 2

Visitors to the website can locate information by theme, such as education, public safety or transportation; by state agency; and by using the search feature.


In addition to reporting results, the website includes a convenient electronic feedback form that forwards the public's comments directly to the specified agency, as well as links to additional information about agencies and programs.

<END>

Accountability Minnesota Website

Minnesota state agency performance reporting






- www.accountability.state.mn.us
- Public website reports 25 state agencies' progress on 94 goals using more than 180 performance measures
- Objective is to provide consistent, concise, easy-to-understand information to citizens
- Online in November 2008, accessible from the home page of the state's North Star website
- Visitors can view content by theme, agency or using the search feature
- Visitors can submit feedback, which is emailed directly to an agency contact
- Site includes links to additional materials: agency profiles and strategic plans, in-depth information about specific activities and programs
- Agencies submit information to Department of Administration, which developed and maintains the website and coordinates annual summer updates



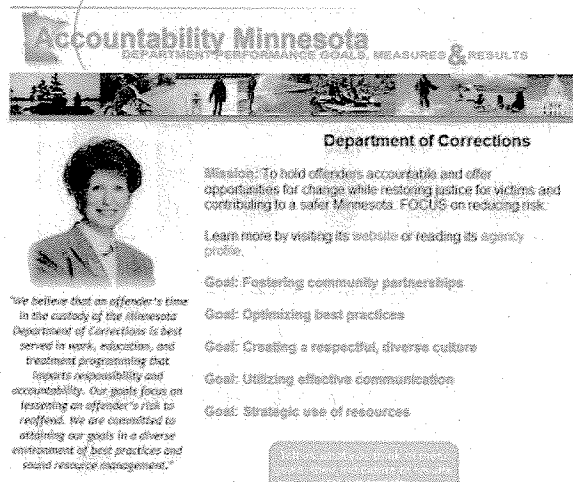
Accountability Minnesota
DEPARTMENT PERFORMANCE GOALS, MEASURES & RESULTS

Accountability Minnesota helps citizens follow the progress of state agencies toward specific goals. The over-arching objective of these goals is to provide citizens with the highest possible quality of government service. Visitors can review results by subject or agency.

RESULTS BY SUBJECT

 Economy	 Education	 Energy & Environment	 Health Care
 Public Safety	 Government Reform	 Facilities & Technology	 Transportation

"Government must be accountable to the people. Through this website, you can track our progress as we work toward providing the highest quality of government service to you."



Accountability Minnesota
DEPARTMENT PERFORMANCE GOALS, MEASURES & RESULTS

Department of Corrections

Mission: To hold offenders accountable and offer opportunities for change while restoring justice for victims and contributing to a safer Minnesota. FOCUS on reducing risk.

Learn more by visiting its website or reading its agency profile.

Goal: Fostering community partnerships

Goal: Optimizing best practices

Goal: Creating a respectful, diverse culture

Goal: Utilizing effective communication

Goal: Strategic use of resources

"We believe that an offender's time in the custody of the Minnesota Department of Corrections is best served in work, education, and treatment programming that reports responsibility and accountability. Our goals focus on lessening an offender's risk to reoffend. We are committed to attaining our goals in a diverse environment of best practices and sound resource management."



Department of Corrections

Why this is important

The work of the Department of Corrections (DOC) is dependent on many community partners: law enforcement; local and county corrections entities; direct care providers; and the communities and families of offenders. The DOC continues to work with these and other groups to increase offender accountability and foster constructive responses to crime.

What we're doing

The Fugitive Apprehension Unit of the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) is increasing fugitive warrant sweeps in cooperation with various law enforcement jurisdictions throughout Minnesota. The unit is also beginning to develop regional liaisons with law enforcement by working cooperatively with the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association.



Productive work assignments for offenders in the



Department of Natural Resources



*In these dynamic times we must focus our priorities and work together to achieve conservation of Minnesota's natural resources. These indicators and targets are one way to help keep pace with trends and track important conservation results.**

- Mark Holsten, Commissioner

Mission: The mission of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is to work with citizens to conserve and manage the state's natural resources, to provide outdoor recreation opportunities, and to provide for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable quality of life.

Learn more about the Department of Natural Resources by visiting its website or reading its agency profile.

Goal: Minnesota's natural lands and habitats will be conserved and enhanced to meet a full range of public values.

Goal: Minnesota's fish and wildlife will be conserved and enhanced.

Goal: Minnesota's water resources and watersheds will be conserved and enhanced.

Goal: Minnesota will have a high-quality and diverse

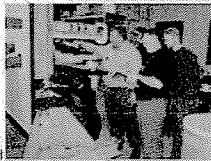


Department of Public Safety

Why this is important

In recent years, the number of lives lost due to traffic and fire deaths in Minnesota is disconcerting.

Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for Minnesotans between the ages of 4 and 34; the majority of traffic deaths are predictable and preventable because they are the result of impaired driving, driving too fast, not paying attention and failing to use or improperly using safety belts and child seats.



Fire fatalities in Minnesota have decreased, however any loss of life is unacceptable when such a large number of fires are preventable.

What we're doing

Creating the behavior of Minnesotans is the best way to reduce deaths and injuries.

Why this is important

Outdoor recreation contributes to quality of life and provides personal, social, economic and environmental benefits. Scenic touring, fishing and visiting state/national parks are among the top five activities for travelers in Minnesota.

What we're doing

DNR manages state parks, recreation areas, trails, scientific and natural areas, wilderness areas, forests, wild and scenic rivers, water access sites, wildlife management areas, aquatic management areas, safe harbors and more. In all of these areas, DNR works to provide access to recreation lands and waters, sustain healthy lands and waters, promote safety, recruit new users, and inform and educate users.



View of Minnesota's top 25 tourist attractions (as in 2005 poll).

Our progress

Minnesota State Parks. Each year some 8 million

visitors enjoy Minnesota's 74 state parks and recreation areas. Visitors spend \$200 million annually on trips to state parks. Park visitors consistently express satisfaction with Minnesota state parks.

Number of boat accesses on Minnesota's lakes and rivers. DNR acquires, develops and maintains boat accesses to provide recreation opportunities for anglers, boaters and other recreational users.

See DNR's Strategic Conservation Agenda for a comprehensive set of measures.

