

## Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability

Our mission is to stimulate conversation and action for a sustainable future on the Iron Range of northeastern Minnesota. We are a 501c3 nonprofit corporation.



### IRPS Projects & Events:

#### *Earth Fest Green Inventors Contest*

The Green Inventors Contest is an opportunity for youth and adults to show off their imaginations and creativity, and receive recognition for their inventions designed to solve a sustainability problem in one of the three areas of community, economy or environment.

#### *Everyday Guide to Sustainable Living on the Iron Range*

The Everyday Guide explores the three areas of sustainability - community, economy and environment. We discuss the need for a healthy holistic balance between the three in order for our communities to be sustainable and resilient to the challenges and changes ahead. The Everyday Guide offers resource lists, articles, stories, tidbits, and advertising opportunities.

**Iron Range Earth Fest** is a celebration of local traditions and practical resources for sustainable living on the Iron Range. Participants are invited to learn more about new and existing technological approaches as well as rediscover some of our long standing local traditions. We will tap into the knowledge of cutting edge experts as well as our local indigenous knowledge through exhibits, demonstrations, speakers and vendors. Emphasis is placed on local services, local products, local foods, local traditions and our local wilderness.



The 4<sup>th</sup> annual Iron Range Earth Fest will be presented on April 21, 2012  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mountain Iron, MN  
along the Highway 169 corridor  
Mountain Iron Community Center  
Messiah Lutheran Church  
Merritt Elementary School

**for more information go to  
[www.ironrangeearthfest.org](http://www.ironrangeearthfest.org)**

**Community or social capital** includes the vast resources and potential of each individual and our collective institutions. Think of our knowledge, our education and health care systems, and the many ways we govern and make decisions. Social capital also includes recreation, politics, religion, and cultural traditions.



**Economic capital** encompasses everything we need to produce, deliver, and consumer goods and services. This includes tools and technologies, turning resources into products, our money and financial systems, and transportation and communication infrastructures.



**Environmental capital** consists of the Earth's natural resources: energy, soil, water, air, wood, water, plants and wildlife. It also includes the services that living systems provide, such as plants turning carbon dioxide into oxygen, wetlands absorbing flood water, and soil filtering our water.



## What is Sustainability?

Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

## What is a Sustainable Community?

A sustainable community seeks to maintain and improve the economic, environmental and social characteristics of an area so its members can continue to lead healthy, productive, enjoyable lives there.



## A Three Legged Stool

Think of sustainability like a three legged stool. For a community to be sustainable, the three elements of community, economy and environment all need to exist in a healthy holistic relationship, or like a stool with one leg too long or too short that won't stand up, our communities won't be sustainable for those future generations.

Iron Range Earth Fest is a celebration of local traditions and practical resources for sustainable living on the Iron Range.

The mission of IRPS is to stimulate conversation and action for a sustainable future on the Iron Range.

For more information about:

- Being an Earth Fest exhibitor, speaker or vendor
- Sponsoring Earth Fest
- The Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability (IRPS)

Contact:

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Or go to our website:

[www.ironrangeearthfest.org](http://www.ironrangeearthfest.org)



# 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Iron Range Earth Fest

Mountain Iron, MN



Saturday  
April 21, 2012

Presented by:

Iron Range Partnership for Sustainability

Iron Range Resources  
and Rehabilitation Board