



YOU ARE INVITED!

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the Central Plant Board invite you to attend and participate in the 2010 Annual Conference to be held in Minneapolis, Minnesota on Monday, March 8 through Thursday, March 11, 2010. The Program Committee has lined up a variety of knowledgeable speakers to talk about current topics in the plant industry.

Dates to Remember	
2010 CPB Annual Conference	March 8-11, 2010
Registration due	February 19, 2010
Hotel reservations at group rate due	February 19, 2010

Meeting Registration

Please return the enclosed registration forms as soon as possible. Registration for all three days of the conference will be **\$200** per person with a **\$50** late fee for registrations received after February 16, 2010. A one-day registration is available for \$100. A link to the most current agenda is available on the National Plant Board website at: www.nationalplantboard.org

The Registration table will be open beginning on Sunday, March 7 from 3:00-6:00pm and continuously during the conference. Payment will be accepted by check, money order, or by credit card. We apologize that we cannot accept Purchase Orders at this time.

Accommodations

2010 CPB Annual Conference attendees need to make their own reservations by calling the Crowne Plaza Northstar at 1-800-556-7827 or 612-338-2288. The room rate is under the federal government per diem at \$89 plus 13.4% tax for single occupancy. Upgrades are available at a discounted rate. On-line reservations can be made through the NPB website. Reservations must be made by **Friday, February 19, 2010** to obtain the group rate. A block of rooms is reserved for the 2010 CPB Annual Conference. The booking link to the hotel is:

http://www.ihg.com/h/d/CP/1/en/rates/MSPCP?groupBookingCode=CPB&_IATAno=99801505 Please make your reservations early to ensure accommodations.

Exhibit Displays

Don't worry about bringing your own display board this year! Tabletop display boards will be available for your state/agency/industry posters to display throughout the meeting. Several sizes are available, please specify your needs on the registration sheet. This is an excellent way to broadcast news and distribute outreach materials from your state.

State Reports

A representative from each state should bring a short summary of notable activities in your state. These reports will be placed for distribution to attendees. Please provide **60 copies** when you register on-site. Don't forget to take advantage of the free display boards to showcase your state's results.

Speaker Presentation Requirements

Speakers should notify us at cpb.mn@state.mn.us for media needs in addition to the standard laptop, projector, screen and microphone, which will be provided. Speaker presentations are due immediately before your session and should be uploaded into the appropriate folders on the main laptop.

Attire

Minnesota is well-known for its sub-zero temperatures. Fortunately, early March is generally between 20°F-30°F. Because of the long winters here, downtown Minneapolis features plenty of indoor walkways (called skyways) connecting the buildings above street level by which you can arrive at nearly any destination without having to brave the cool weather. Please pack accordingly.

We look forward to your attendance at our annual meeting. If you have any questions, please call us at (651) 201-6095 by fax at (651) 201-6108. You may also email us at cpb.mn@state.mn.us.

For additional local information visit these websites:

2010 Central Plant Board Annual Conference

Central Plant Board www.nationalplantboard/meetings
Minnesota Department of Agriculture www.mda.state.mn.us

Travel / Accommodations

Minneapolis/Saint Paul International Airport www.mspairport.com
Minneapolis Crowne Plaza Hotel www.ichotelsgroup.com/h/d/cp/1/en/home
Hiawatha Light Rail Transit www.metrotransit.org/rail

City Information

The City of Minneapolis www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us
The City of Saint Paul www.stpaul.gov

Natural Scenic History

Minnesota State Parks & Trails www.dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/index.html
Minnesota Rivers and Lakes www.dnr.state.mn.us/lakes/index.html
Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge www.fws.gov/midwest/MinnesotaValley

Sports

Minnesota Vikings (professional football) www.vikings.com
Minnesota Wild (professional hockey) <http://wild.nhl.com/>

Other Interests

Swedish American Institute www.americanswedishinst.org/ASI/Home.html
Russian Museum of Art www.tmora.org
Mill City Museum www.millcitymuseum.org
Minneapolis Institute of Arts www.artsmia.org
Mall of America www.mallofamerica.com

Local News

Star Tribune www.startribune.com
St. Paul Pioneer Press www.twincities.com

