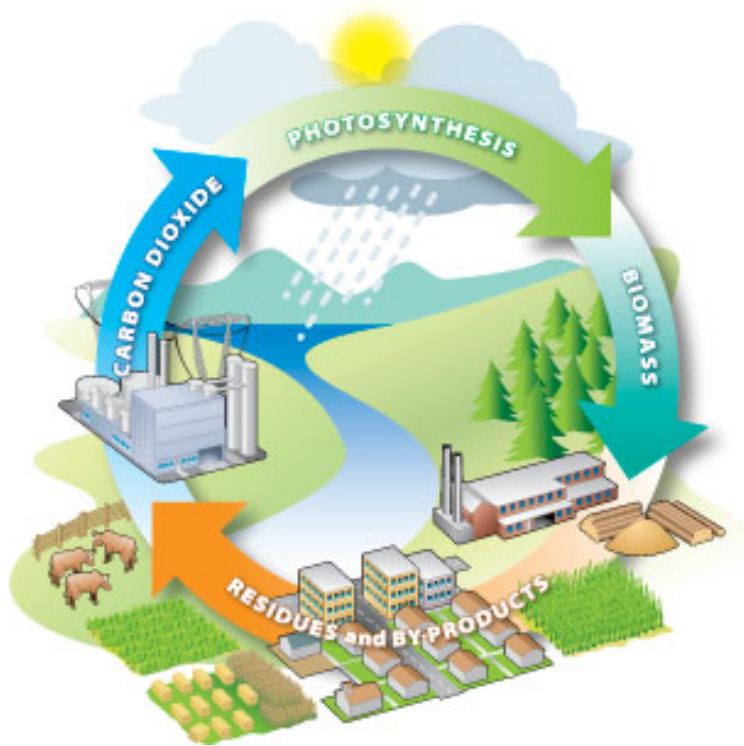


# Lake of the Woods County AURI Bio-Energy Report



PREPARED BY THE HEADWATERS REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

## Table of Contents

Acknowledgements.....	3
Disclaimer.....	4
Introduction.....	5
Study Area: Lake of the Woods County, Minnesota.....	6
Crop Residues.....	8
Woody Biomass.....	11
Wind.....	12
Solar Intensity.....	14
Geothermal/Earth Energy Systems.....	15
Energy Use Estimate.....	15
Residential Energy Use.....	16
Transportation Energy Use.....	18
Agricultural On-Farm Energy Use.....	19
Industrial Energy Use.....	20
Commercial, Retail and Office Energy Use.....	21
Resources Data Base.....	22

## Acknowledgements

The Headwaters Regional Development Commission gratefully acknowledges the support and assistance from the following in preparing this report.

- Agricultural Utilization and Research Institute, Crookston, Minnesota
- Clean Energy Resource Teams
- Northwest Minnesota Foundation
- The Assessor's offices of Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahnommen Counties

## Disclaimer

This document provides the reader an estimation of energy demand and bioenergy resources at the County level. The inventory of available resources is a starting point and identifies potentially underutilized resources. The existence of a resource does not necessarily mean it should be exploited and this is particularly true with respect to crop and forest residues.

No assurance is given and none should be inferred that any financial estimate, projection or forecast contained in this report will in fact be realized. Nothing in this report should be construed as recommending a specific investment or the undertaking of a specific project of any kind.

## Introduction

The Headwaters Regional Development Commission in partnership with, Clean Energy Resource Teams, Agricultural Utilization Research Institute, Northwest Minnesota Foundation, and Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Lake of the Woods, and Mahnommen Counties, exploring opportunities to utilize natural resources to generate bioenergy in the Headwaters Region.

As part of this process the Headwaters Regional Development Commission has created an inventory of bioenergy resources available and energy used at the County level. This report was created using the “AURI Template for Estimating County Level Energy Use and Renewable Energy Potential.” Created by 6Solutions LLC on behalf of the Agricultural Utilization Research Institute, this document provided a step by step method for summarizing energy use and the renewable energy potential at the County level.

This report is envisioned as a planning tool for county and regional economic development. A critical step in developing the bioenergy energy industry is to assess local strengths and weakness. The overall objective of this report is help individual and organizations exploring ways to utilize bioenergy resources to generate renewable energy.

Currently a minimal percentage of energy in the United States is produced from renewable sources. This presents the Region with a unique opportunity because barriers to entry are still low and demand continues to rise. This trend will be especially strong within the state of MN. In his 2006 State of the State speech, Governor Tim Pawlenty set Minnesota on a course to have 25% of our energy come from renewable sources by the year 2025. This 25/25 initiative is the most aggressive in the nation and will require a sustained effort from our energy industry, state government and the citizens of Minnesota.

This shift presents rural communities, such as those in Lake of the Woods County, new opportunities for economic development. Renewable energy not only offers an alternative to fossil fuels, but also acts as a potential source for economic growth. The benefits of this growth come in various forms, including job creation, diversified tax revenue and increased ability to compete as a Region.

The primary forms of bioenergy evaluated for use in were:

- **Wind Energy:** Wind energy is harvested from moving air that is converted to electric power to create electricity. Due to unequal solar heating of the earth, wind is generated. As air flows past the rotors of a wind turbine, the rotor spins and drives the shaft of an electric generator. Wind turbines with small rotors are often used for battery charging while larger rotors are used to generate large amounts of electricity that is fed into the regional grid.
- **Biomass:** Biomass energy is harvested from organic materials in the environment. Originating as solar energy absorbed by plants, it is converted into chemical energy through photosynthesis. This energy is available in wood, crops, crop residues, industrial and municipal organic waste, food processing waste, and animal wastes. These by-products of various human and natural activities can be burned to create heat and/or steam that are used to generate electricity.

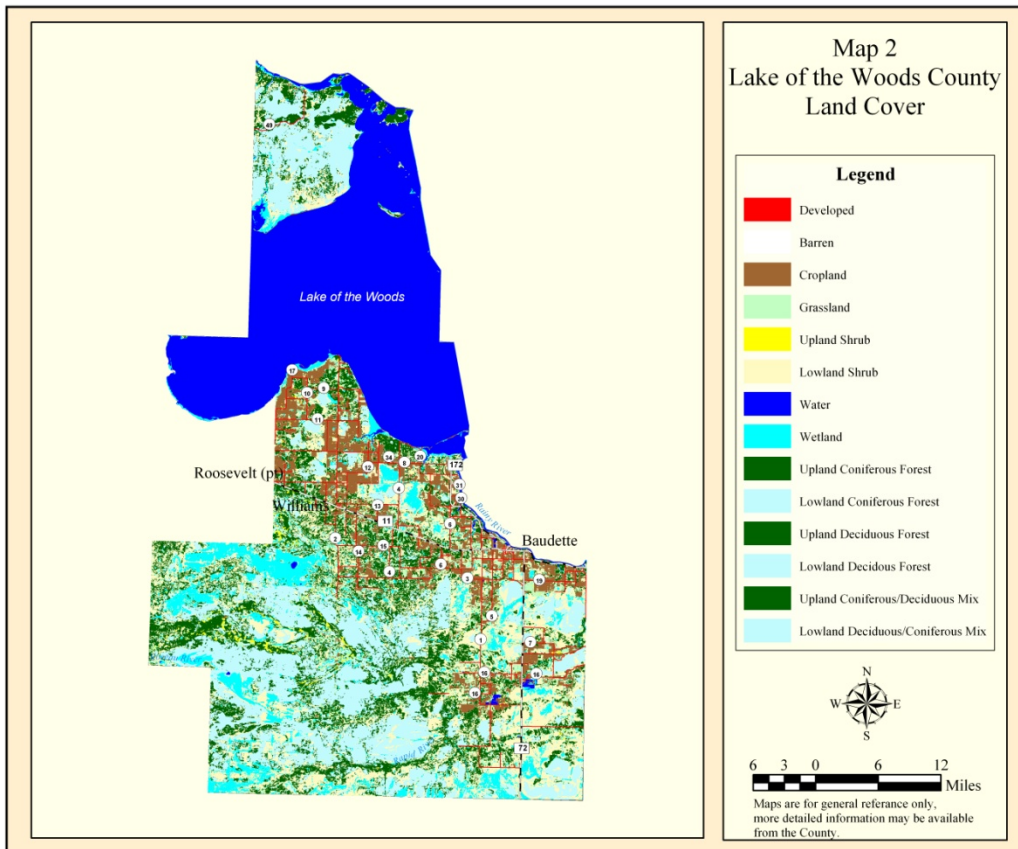
- **Solar:** Photovoltaic (or solar electric) systems convert energy in sunlight directly into electricity. Photovoltaic (PV) cells are made primarily of silicon, the second most abundant element in the earth's crust, and the same semiconductor material used for computers. When the silicon is combined with one or more other materials, it exhibits unique electrical properties in the presence of sunlight. Electrons are excited by the light and move through the silicon. This is known as the photovoltaic effect and results in direct current (DC) electricity.

All units used in this document are in conventional English units such as pounds, tons, and Btu's. All final values are converted to BTU's, because a conversion to a common unit is needed in order to summarize and totalize energy consumption and production.

The report was completed using publicly available on-line data sets. These consist chiefly of Census Bureau data and Department of Agriculture databases for crop and forestry operations.

## **Study Area: Lake of the Woods County, Minnesota**

Rural and mostly undeveloped Lake of the Woods County is rich in natural resources and has tremendous potential in the renewable energy industries. The county has a total area of 1,775 square miles, of which 1,297 square miles is land and 478 square miles is water. Lake of the Woods County is one of the most sparsely populated counties in Minnesota, primarily covered by wetlands and forests, with a smaller portion dedicated to farming. Wetlands account for over 48 percent of the land area in the county which is a challenge to development and use. A majority of the southern half of the County is wetlands. Deciduous forest, mixed wood forest, and coniferous forest covered over 32 percent of land area. The largest concentration of forest lands are located in the northern half of the County. Land dedicated to farming, grassland, and cultivated land, covered only 15 percent of the county. These lands lie primarily along and north of Trunk Highway 11 and south of Baudette in the Carp area. Land used for urban and rural development in the categories urban/industrial, other rural development, and farmsteads and rural residences, are a very small percentage of land use at less than one percent.



The table below provides a summary of potential renewable energy sources available in Lake of the Woods County. In the following sections each individual resource will be discussed and the template worksheets will be provided. The AURI template provided a method to calculate a fairly general and very liberal assessment of the renewable energy potential at the County level. As can be seen below, Lake of the Woods County has the potential to create just over 38 trillion Btu's of energy from renewable sources. This could easily reach current levels of demand. It should be noted that while not calculated in this report solar and geothermal sources can provide almost unlimited energy. At this point these resources are unavailable be transported from source. While this inventory is at best estimation it does provide an overview of the untapped energy resources available.

Resource	Quantity	Units	Energy Content
			Trillion Btu per year
Agricultural Crop Residue	370879	Tons	4.11657984
Manures and Animal Wastes	113592370	SCF	0.0136
Wood/woody Biomass	113963249	Tons	0.3171
Wind	9896040950	kw-hr	33.765
Solar	Site Specific		
Geothermal	Site Specific		
<b>Total</b>			<b>38.21227984</b>

### Crop Residues

Agricultural activities generate large amounts of biomass residues. While most crop residues are left in the field to reduce erosion and recycle nutrients back into the soil, some could be used to produce energy without harming the soil.

Biomass is any organic material not derived from fossil fuels that can be converted to a fuel useful for energy. Agricultural wastes are good examples of potential biomass fuel. Most biomass is converted to energy the same way it always has been—by burning it. The heat can be used directly for heating buildings, and industrial processes. It can also be used to produce steam and generate electricity. For example, many electric generators and businesses burn biomass by itself or with other fuels in conventional power plants.

Agricultural waste can also be converted into liquids or gases to produce electricity or transportation fuels. A well known example, Ethanol is typically produced through fermentation and distillation, in a process much like that used to make beer. Soybean and canola oils can be chemically converted into a liquid fuel called biodiesel. These fuels can be used in conventional engines with little, if any, modification.

A process that is increasingly being used is “gasification.” This method converts organic material into a gas by heating it under pressure without oxygen in a “gasifier.” Other biogas applications are still in development, but show great potential

Also included in this section of the report is Brush land, and (CRP) land. The volume of brush and grass in an area can be viewed in several different ways. These grass and brush lands offer exciting potential as a renewable energy feedstock. In most cases these areas grow perennial, grasses or brush that does not have to be replanted every year. Additionally there are few costs associated with producing the feedstock given the minimal inputs required.

While grass and brush lands do have great potential as a biomass feedstock, it must be kept in mind that because biomass is not cultivated specifically to allow for future harvesting, it may be difficult to reach, in an entirely inaccessible area, or on undulating or rocky land that harvesting equipment cannot operate on. It may also be growing on private land that the owner is not amenable to being cut, park land, or other sensitive habitats that cannot be disturbed and are otherwise off-limits for harvesting.

The data used in this report was obtained from the National Agricultural Statistic Service, and can be found at, [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Data\\_and\\_Statistics/Quick\\_Stats/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Data_and_Statistics/Quick_Stats/index.asp).

When available, 10 years of data for each crop was collected. This report used the average yields and acres planted over the last ten years to calculate the potential of crop residue. It should be noted that there were many instances of missing data, or incomplete data for agricultural statistics in Lake of the Woods County.

The calculations shown in this report required a judgment on the fraction of the crop residue which can be removed and still provide adequate ground cover to mitigate wind and rain erosion. This amount will vary by local weather, soil type and gradient. These figures should be adjusted based on local conditions such as Highly Erodible Land (HEL) or other erosion or environmental conditions.

The table below provides a summary of potential agricultural residues that could be used to generate renewable energy available in Lake of the Woods County. As can be seen below, Lake of the Woods County has the potential to create .48 trillion Btu's of energy from agricultural residues. As stated before there was missing and incomplete data. Anecdotal evidence would suggest that wheat, and potatoes are unreported, yet are very important to farming operation in Lake of the Woods County. Additionally, hay, and grass seed, which are not a part of this template, is also important to the farming economy. The greatest opportunities appear from agriculture residues appear to be canola, oats, and soybeans. From the available statistics, the greatest overall opportunity appears to be in the undeveloped lands (Grasslands, Brushland, and CRP) of Lake of the Woods County. Due to its undeveloped nature there is a huge potential for these lands to be producers of bioenergy feedstocks. Due to the large amount of wetlands the harvesting of this biomass will be challenging.

As with the rest of the data in this report, this data should only be used as a starting point. Individuals and organizations interested in using an available resource should do further research before going ahead with a project.

Crop Residue Summary Table										
Column		C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Formula								=B*C*E*F*(1-G)*H		=H*/10^6
Crop	Acres Planted	Yield	Units	Convert to pounds	Removal Fraction	Moisture %	Residue to Crop Ratio	Annual Biomass Potential (lbs)	Btu content per dry lb	Million Btu/year
Barley	1625	58	bu	48	1	14.5%	1.2	4641624	7500	34812
Canola	4257	124.8	lbs	50	1	8.0%	2.2	53764888.32	7500	403237
Corn for Grain	0		bu	56	0.5	15.5%	1	0	7768	0
Cotton	0		lbs	1	1	12.0%	4.5	0	7500	0
Dry Edible Beans	0		lbs	1	1	13.0%	1.2	0	7500	0
Flaxseed	1200	14	bu	1	1	8.0%	1.2	18547.2	7500	139
Oats	1728	52	bu	32	1	14.0%	1.3	3214688.256	7626	24515
Peanuts	0		lbs	1	1	9.9%	1	0	7500	0
Potatoes	0		cwt	100	1	13.3%	0.4	0	7500	0
Rice	0		lbs	1	1	15.0%	1.4	0	7500	0
Rye	0		bu	56	1	10.0%	1.6	0	7500	0
Safflower	0		lbs	1	1	8.0%	1.2	0	7500	0
Sorghum for grain	0		bu	56	1	12.0%	1.4	0	7500	0
Soybeans	1400	21.5	bu	60	1	13.0%	2.1	3299562	7500	24747
Sugar Cane			lbs	1	1	62.8%	1.6	0	7500	0
Sunflower	0	0	lbs	1	1	10.0%	2.1	0	7500	0
Wheat - all	0	0	bu	60	1	13.5%	1.3	0	7375	0
CRP and similar grassland	1220	37	tons	2000	1	0.0%	1	90280000	7500	677100
Brushland on 5 yr cycle	61,105	0.84	tons	2000	1	0.0%	1	102656400	7500	769923
Total Energy Potential	4,654									487449.874
IN TRILLION BTU/year										<b>0.48744987</b> trillion Btu/yr

## B. Animal Wastes

Energy from animal wastes can be produced by anaerobic digestion. Anaerobic digestion is a biological process in which biodegradable organic matters are broken-down by bacteria into biogas, which consists of methane, carbon dioxide, and other trace amount of gases. The biogas can be used to generate heat and electricity.

Combustion of animal wastes is not usually considered a high priority due to the high moisture content of animal waste; moreover many consider the loss of the nitrogen content to be problematic. Poultry wastes are not generally good candidates for digestion due to ammonia toxicity. Hog manure is typically too dilute to be a good candidate for methane production but may become a suitable substrate either by concentration or as part of an odor emission control program. Even with these limitations, in the right scenario animal wastes have the potential to be a good bioenergy feedstock.

The data used in this report was obtained from the National Agricultural Statistic Service, and can be found at, [http://www.nass.usda.gov/Data\\_and\\_Statistics/Quick\\_Stats/index.asp](http://www.nass.usda.gov/Data_and_Statistics/Quick_Stats/index.asp). When available, the last 10 years of data for each Animal was collected. This report used the average number of each animal from over the last ten years to calculate the availability of animal wastes.

The table below provides a summary of animal wastes that could be used to generate renewable energy available in Lake of the Woods County. As can be seen below, Lake of the Woods County has the potential to create only very limited energy from agricultural residues. As stated before there was missing and incomplete data, however opportunities for creating bioenergy from animal wastes remain limited at best in Lake of the Woods County. The greatest opportunities would most likely be in creating a byproduct from waste, or in a farming operation large enough that small scale anaerobic digestion is economically feasible.

As with the rest of the data in this report, this data should only be used as a starting point. Individuals and organizations interested in using an available resource should do further research before going ahead with a project.

Animal Residue Methane Potential									
Column		B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
Formula					=B*C*D			=E*F*G	=H*I*970/10 <sup>6</sup>
Herd Inventory	Assumed herd composition	Animal Count	Typical Animal Mass	Volatile Solids/lb TAM	Total Vol. Solids	Vol Solids	Cu Ft Methane Yield	Methane Yield	Methane Yield
Enter herd or flock inventory reported by USDA in column C		lbs	per year	per year	% Destruction	per lb VS destroyed	cu ft/year	mm Btu/year	mm Btu/year
<b>Beef Cows</b>	<b>Enter total here --&gt;</b>	1875							
Steers and Heifers	33%	618.75	915	2.6	1472006.25	55%	5.29	4282802.18	4154.32
Calves	33%	618.75	397	2.6	638673.75	55%	5.29	1858221.28	1802.47
Steers		0	794	2.6	0	55%	5.29	0.00	0.00
Heifers		0	794	2.6	0	55%	5.29	0.00	0.00
Cows	33%	618.75	1102	2.6	1772842.5	55%	5.29	5158085.25	5003.34
Bulls		0	1587	2.6	0	55%	5.29	0.00	0.00
<b>Dairy Cattle</b>	<b>Enter total here --&gt;</b>	200							
Calfs	18%	36							
Heifers	18%	36	903	3.65	118654.2	55%	3.84	250597.67	243.08
Cows	64%	128	1345	3.65	628384	55%	3.84	1327147.01	1287.33
<b>Swine</b>	<b>Enter type below</b>								
Market		180	101	3.1	56358	65%	7.53	275844.23	267.57
Breeding		150	399	3.1	185535	65%	5.77	695849.02	674.97
<b>Poultry</b>	<b>Enter type below</b>								
Layers		0	3.5	4.4	0	60%	5.45	0.00	0.00
Broilers		0	1.5	6.2	0	60%	4.81	0.00	0.00
Turkeys		0	7.5	3.32	0	60%	4.81	0.00	0.00
<b>Sheep</b>		100	154	3.36	51744	55%	5.77	164209.58	159.28
Total annual energy potential in mm Btu/year									13592.37
Total annual energy potential in trillion Btu/year									<b>0.0136</b>

## Woody Biomass

The term ‘woody biomass’ encompasses all feedstocks derived from harvested trees. For the purposes of this report, only material left behind in timber harvesting and processing operations is evaluated. This report does not examine harvesting timber for renewable energy production because the alternative value as lumber or paper feedstock is too important to make diversion to energy desirable.

Forest wastes arise from logging and thinning operations and have historically been left to decompose in the forest or used in other byproducts. Using these residues for renewable energy has caused a re-examination of this practice.

Generally, if wood waste is used for energy it is burned, to produce heat (as in any simple fireplace or furnace). In most power plants this heat is captured by boiling water to generate steam, which turns turbines and drives generators that convert the energy into electricity.

Like with agricultural waste, wood waste has the potential to be used for biomass gasification in which biomass is heated to convert it into a gas. This gas is used directly in a gas turbine, which drives a generator (a *simple gas turbine* system). In some cases, the waste heat from the gas turbine may be used to drive a secondary steam turbine, thus converting more of the fuel energy into electricity (a

*combined-cycle* system).

Data on forest residues was obtained from the Department of Agriculture Forest Service at [http://www.ncrs2.fs.fed.us/4801/fiadb/rpa\\_tpo/wc\\_rpa\\_tpo.ASP](http://www.ncrs2.fs.fed.us/4801/fiadb/rpa_tpo/wc_rpa_tpo.ASP).

The table below provides a summary of logging residues available in Lake of the Woods County. As can be seen below, Lake of the Woods County has the potential to create over .3 trillion Btu’s of energy from logging residues. Woody biomass is one of the greatest potential sources of bioenergy in the Region as the most abundant renewable natural resource is its forests. Much of the current economy in the Headwaters Region is dependent upon the forest, either through the harvesting and manufacturing of the wood product, or through tourism. Given this dependence, finding a way to utilize logging residue is a natural fit with current economic strengths. While the logging activity appears low in Lake of the Woods County, it should be noted that timber harvests have grown steadily in the County over the last ten years and are expected to keep growing.

It should be noted that removing forest residues is potentially controversial and best practices are subject to debate and interpretation. Forests work on a much longer time frame than crops and there is less understanding about the issues of soil tilt and habitat associated with residue removal than with crop residue.

As with the rest of the data in this report, this data should only be used as a starting point. Individuals and organizations interested in using an available resource should do further research before going ahead with a project.

Logging Residue Energy Estimate						
Column	B	C	D	E	F	G
Formula				=B*C/D		=E*F
Units	cu ft/year	% harvested	cubic feet/cord	cords/year	million Btu/cord	million Btu/year
Hardwood	2,474,848	33%	85	9608.23	25	240205.8353
Softwood	1,320,451	33%	85	5126.46	15	76896.85235
Total energy potential million Btu/year						317102.6876
Energy potential in trillion Btu/year						<b>0.317102688</b>

## Wind

Wind energy systems transform the kinetic energy of the wind into mechanical or electrical energy that can be harnessed for practical use. Wind electric turbines generate electricity for homes and businesses and for sale to utilities. The output of a wind turbine depends on the turbine's size and the wind's speed through the rotor. Wind turbines being manufactured now have power ratings ranging from 250 watts to 5 megawatts

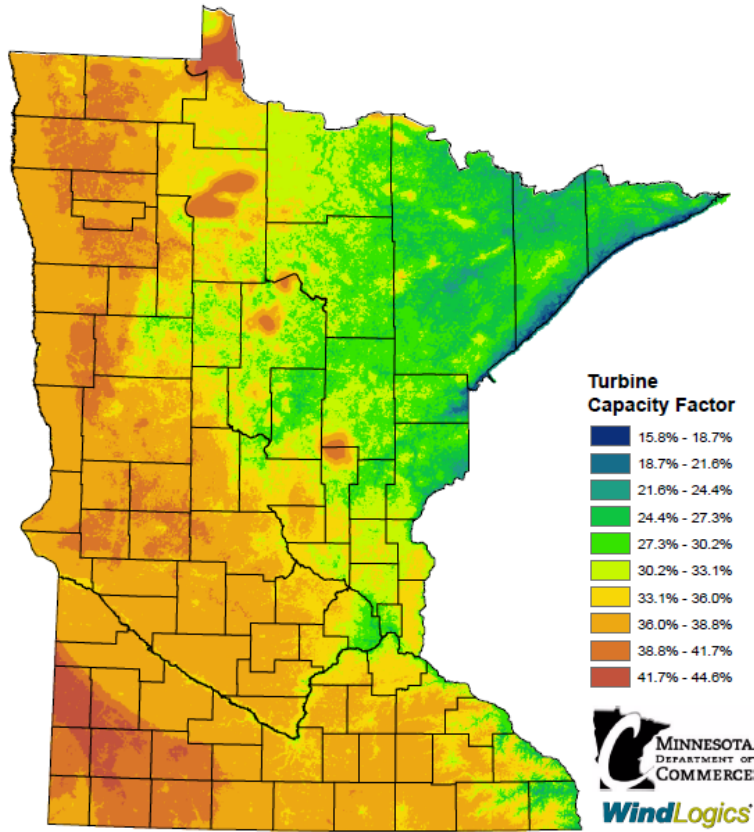
Utility-scale wind turbines for land-based wind farms come in various sizes, with rotor diameters ranging from about 50 meters to about 90 meters, and with towers of roughly the same size. A 90-meter machine, definitely at the large end of the, with a 90-meter tower would have a total height from the tower base to the tip of the rotor of approximately 135 meters (442 feet). Small wind turbines intended for residential or small business use are much smaller. Most have rotor diameters of 8 meters or less and would be mounted on towers of 40 meters in height or less.

Within the limits of the currently available technology a “rule of thumb” is that one 1.65 megawatt rated turbine can be installed per each 40 acres. Among the reasons for this limitation is required spacing between turbines to mix higher speed wind with the wind that has been slowed down by passing through the turbine. While turbine size and efficiencies will probably improve with time, the mixing distance seems likely to remain close to this value indefinitely.

In general, wind speeds and available energy are higher at higher altitudes. The usefulness of low altitude, single homeowner is limited by low speed winds close to the ground. Some systems have been built by individuals either to offset part of their energy use or to supply power to off-grid locations

A turbine rated for 1 megawatt almost never operates at that output because the wind velocity is not constant at the design rate. The capacity factor is the per cent of the nominal annual potential output of a turbine operating at design rate for 8760 hours which is actually achieved. The capacity factor is turbine specific and height specific. Nevertheless, capacity factors provide a good qualitative indication of a region's wind resource. Capacity factor maps provide a convenient way to summarize the relative wind resource across a region.

## Minnesota's Wind Resource by Capacity Factor at 80 Meters



The table below provides a localized estimate of the wind resource in Lake of the Woods County. As can be seen below, Lake of the Woods County has the potential to create over 3 trillion Btu's of energy from wind energy. Wind energy is one of the greatest potential sources of bioenergy in the Region. As shown in the above map, Lake of the Woods County greatest potential for wind development is in the northern half of the County where winds off of Lake of the Woods can be utilized. Unlike biomass and animal waste resources which are limited by source, wind resources are chiefly limited by restrictions on land use. A further limitation is the ability of the grid to absorb power produced. Finally, the cost of wind systems can be barrier to all but the largest of companies.

Wind Energy Estimate				
Line				Formula
A	County area in acres	829888		
B	% available for wind development	0.01	acres	
C	Acres available for development	8298.88		=A*B
D	Turbine size	1.65	MW	
E	Acres per unit	40		
F	MW installed per acre	0.04125	MW/acre	=D/E
G	Capacity factor	0.33		
H	Annual hours	8760	hours/year	
I	MW hours per year	989604.095		=C*F*G*H
J	Trillion Btu/year	3.37652917		=I*3.412/10 <sup>6</sup>

The calculation method described above is a very crude estimate of the wind energy potential. To further evaluate the potential a wind analysis and economic analysis is required. Consult experts in the field for guidance.

### Solar Intensity

The total solar energy flux annually is a staggering sum and only 0.2% of the solar energy striking the continental United States would be required to supply the entire 102 quadrillion Btu used annually. Unlike wind or biomass sources, however, solar energy is not usually exportable. The significance of this is that when estimating the renewable energy potential for a region, the solar component is limited by the demand and applications for solar energy rather than the supply.

Solar energy may be collected either by photovoltaic cells as electricity or as thermal energy. At this writing photovoltaic cells are prohibitively expensive and find application only where the high cost of the cells does not determine their economic viability. Thermal energy capture, however, finds application under present conditions. Thermal solar applications are legitimately renewable energy production but the energy collected cannot be economically transported away from the site. Therefore, the chief limitation on solar energy production is matching it to a co-located demand.

The solar resource may be characterized either by its intensity or by the annual flux. In addition, the solar resource varies with season and with method of collection. Minnesota average solar radiation intensity has been mapped by the Minnesota Department of Commerce as shown in the map below for the period 1998 to 2002. The reported inter year variability is about 15%. The northern tier of counties has a solar intensity of around 135 watts per square meter while the southwest counties have a solar intensity around 160watts per square meter. These values are useful for estimating photovoltaic potential.

NREL provides maps of the daily solar thermal potential by month at [http://rredc.nrel.gov/solar/old\\_data/nsrdb/redbook/atlas/](http://rredc.nrel.gov/solar/old_data/nsrdb/redbook/atlas/)

Collector orientation affects the total available solar radiation. A flat plate at an angle of the latitude plus 15 degrees is the most efficient for winter operation. Since our primary interest is in heating, this is the most appropriate angle for Minnesota. Minnesota falls in the region of 3 to 4 kWh per square meter per day. Translated to English units this amounts to about 1000 Btu per square foot per day.

Although we may feel in the dead of January that the sun is scorning us, there are still plenty of opportunities for solar energy in Minnesota. Minnesota has more annual solar energy potential than Houston, Texas and nearly as much as Miami, Florida. The amount of potential solar energy available in Lake of the Woods County is almost unlimited. Unfortunately as stated above solar energy can only be utilized at the source. Due to these limitations, the most pragmatic approach to estimating the solar energy contribution appears to be as displacement of home or commercial space heating. Although the cost of generating solar electricity is currently expensive relative to traditional sources, solar energy can be economic in many situations, such as for heating hot water and when it is impractical to connect to the electric grid. When buildings are designed to maximize the light and heating potential from the sun, significant “passive solar” energy savings can be realized.

## **Geothermal/Earth Energy Systems**

Geothermal and earth energy systems are frequently used interchangeably to describe extraction of heat energy from the ground. This refers to Earth Energy Systems or EES. A few feet beneath the surface, the earth’s temperature remains fairly constant year round, ranging from 45° or so in northern latitudes to about 70°F in the Deep South.

This constant temperature can be taken advantage of to provide extremely efficient heating and cooling. In winter, a water solution circulating through pipes buried in the ground absorbs heat from the earth and carries it into the home. A system inside the home uses a heat pump to concentrate the earth’s thermal energy and then to transfer it to air circulated through standard ductwork to fill the interior space with warmth. In the summer, the process is reversed: heat is extracted from the air in the house and transferred through the heat pump to the ground loop piping. The water solution in the ground loop then carries the excess heat back to the earth. The only external energy needed for this process is the small amount of electricity needed to operate the ground loop pump and fan. An EES can displace energy consumption but cannot produce energy for export. As with solar thermal systems, the renewable energy potential is based on the energy use displaced not on the basis of what could theoretically be available.

As with solar energy, the amount of energy available through geothermal systems is almost unlimited and the most pragmatic method to use the renewable energy potential from earth energy systems is as a displacement of the energy used to heat and cool building space.

## **Energy Use Estimate**

In addition to making estimates about potential bioenergy available to the County, The AURI template also made estimations of local energy demand. Identifying local energy use can guide individuals and organizations to match local resources with local demand. As noted in the sections on solar and earth energy systems, the local demand creates the opportunity for application of these technologies. All of these estimates are annualized energy use, sizing for peak hourly or daily demand is not within the scope of this estimates.

Energy Use Summary Table						
Energy Type	Residential	Transport	Agriculture	Industrial	Commercial/Public Bldg	Totals
All units in Trillion Btu/year						
Gasoline	0	0.24	0.0013	0	0	0.2413
Diesel Fuel	0	0.07	0.048	0	0	0.118
Heating Oil	0.262998	0	0	0	0	0.262998
Natural Gas	0.222255	0	0	0.26166	0	0.483915
Kerosene	0.058047	0	0	0	0	0.058047
Coal/Coke	0	0	0	0	0	0
Wood	1.540698	0	0	0	0	1.540698
Delivered Electricity	0.463759	0	0.0052	0.20826	0	0.677219
Geothermal	0	0	0	0	0	0
LPG	0.122061	0	0.0019	0	0	0.122061
Other	0	0	0	0.06408	0	0.06408
Total	2.547757	0.31	0.0564	0.53	0	3.568318

The following sections will explore local energy demand by the following users:

- **Residential**
- **Farm/Agriculture**
- **Industrial**
- **Commercial**

## Residential Energy Use

The ability to maintain a desired temperature, lighting, and modern appliances in the home are all important parts of modern life. Keeping our homes comfortable uses a lot of energy, therefore residential properties are large consumer of energy.

While all the homes in the County use all different fuel types, the Census Bureau calculates the average energy consumption per household. This value can be used to provide a quick, simple estimate of residential energy consumption. We use this to get a rough calculation of the average total energy used in residential units. Results for Lake of the Woods County are shown below

<b>Estimated Residential Energy Consumption by Household Number Method</b>			
Total number of households	<b>1903</b>	Enter from census QuickFacts	
Column	B	C	D
Formula	=household number * B		
Energy Type	million Btu per household per year	Annual Energy Million Btu per year	On Site
Electricity - Primary	<i>111.5</i>	212,185	
Electricity - Site	<i>37.3</i>	70,982	70,982
Natural Gas	<i>85.0</i>	161,755	161,755
Fuel Oil	<i>75.4</i>	143,486	143,486
Kerosene	<i>0.0</i>	-	-
LPG	<i>63.9</i>	121,602	121,602
Wood	<i>29.3</i>	55,758	55,758
Total	<i>365.1</i>	694,785	553,583
In Trillion Btu per year		0.69	<b>0.55</b>

The Total Household Method is quick and easy but lacks specificity for the community in question. An alternate method of estimating household energy consumption takes into account the year when the housing stock was built. The year of construction is available in the DP-4 Profile of Selected Housing Characteristics from the US Census. As shown in the following table, the year of construction method provides a more detailed look at residential energy consumption and may provide a more robust test of reasonableness.

Estimated Residential Energy Consumption by Age of Household Method							
	1990	1980	1970	1960	1950	1949	
	to	to	to	to	to	or	
	2000	1989	1979	1969	1959	before	
<i>Census Data on Household Energy Consumption by Year of Construction</i>							
Electricity Primary	130.9	127.9	97.8	97.2	85	85	
Electricity Site	43.8	42.8	40.8	32.7	28.4	28.4	
Natural Gas	70.9	64.3	63	64.6	72.9	84.3	
Fuel Oil	77.8	91.4	77.3	68.3	79	87.5	
Kerosene	21.3	13.5	23.2		11.4	11.6	
LPG	41.1	36.6	37.5	34.2	26.3	51.6	
Wood	14.8	20	23	21.1	2706	48.5	
Total	254.9	248.6	241.8	199.8	218.0	263.4	
Houses per group	507	540	844	419	545	383	
Energy Use in Million Btu per year							On Site
Electricity Primary	66,366	69,066	82,543	40,727	46,325	32,555	
Electricity Site	22,207	23,112	34,435	17,095	15,478	10,877	123,204
Natural Gas	35,946	34,722	53,172	26,397	39,731	32,287	222,255
Fuel Oil	39,445	49,356	65,241	32,389	43,055	33,513	262,998
Kerosene	10,799	7,290	19,581	9,721	6,213	4,443	58,047
LPG	20,838	19,764	31,650	15,713	14,334	19,763	122,061
Wood	7,504	10,800	19,412	9,637	#####	18,576	1,540,698
Total for all households							2,329,262
In Trillion Btu per year							2.3

## Transportation Energy Use

In the transportation sector, energy provides mobility for people and goods. For people, mobility provides access to employment opportunities, friends and family, grocery and clothing stores, entertainment and leisure activities, and medical and financial services, to name a few. For businesses, mobility provides access to the means of production (raw materials, human resources, and the output of other businesses), as well as access to markets for their products.

The transportation sector energy demanded is related to the number of vehicles in the region and to the number of vehicle miles traveled (VMT). The VMT is used in this report as an indicator of the fuel consumption that actually occurs in a region because it is tied to actual vehicle operation.

The VMT method of estimating fuel consumption assumes the composition of vehicle miles traveled in the region is approximately the same as the national average.

To make the estimates used in this report we used VMT data that is available at the Minnesota Department of transportation website. Results for Lake of the Woods County are shown in below.

	Annual Vehicle Miles Traveled			
County Name	Bituminous	Concrete	Dirt	Total
				46,432,380
				-
				-
				-
Total VMT in Region				46,432,380
		= B*Total VMT		= C/D
Composition of VMT	% of VMT	Miles Traveled	Mileage	Annual Fuel Use
Passenger Cars	55.8%	25,909,268	22.4	1,156,664
Light Trucks/SUV	36.1%	16,762,089	18	931,227
Single Unit Trucks	2.7%	1,253,674	8.2	152,887
Combination Trucks	4.7%	2,182,322	5.1	427,906
Total	99.3%	46,107,353		
			= B*C	= D/10 <sup>12</sup>
Convert Fuel Use to Btu's	Gallons per year	LHV Btu/gallon	Btu/year	Trillion Btu/yr
Gasoline	2,087,891	116,090	2.42383E+11	<b>0.24</b>
Diesel	580,793	129,060	74957190001	<b>0.07</b>

## Agricultural On-Farm Energy Use

Agriculture requires energy as an important input to production. U.S. farm production whether for crop or animal products has become increasingly mechanized and requires timely energy supplies at particular stages of the production cycle to achieve optimum yields. Energy's share of agricultural production expenses varies widely by activity, production practice, and locality.

For the purposes of this report, on-farm energy use refers to the energy actually used on the farm to plant and harvest crops, dry corn for storage and raise livestock. This does not include the energy used to manufacture fertilizers which is a separate and substantial figure.

The Department of Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota has studied energy use on the farm and its impact on global climate change. One of the results of these studies was an estimation of energy used by different on the farm activities. These results were used in the template to create an estimation of on the farm energy use. The results of these calculations can be found below.

On Farm Energy Use Estimate										
Column	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
Formula							= B*C	= B*D	= B*E	= B*F
	Energy Input per Unit					Annual Energy Use				
Commodity	Acres	Diesel	Gasoline	LP Gas	Electric	Unit	Diesel	Gasoline	LP Gas	Electric
		gallons	gallons	gallons	kW-hr		gallons	gallons	gallons	kW-hr
Barley All	1625	7.24	0.89	0.82	29.88	acre	11765	1446.25	1332.5	48555
Beans Dry Edible	0	7.43	0.91	0.75	27.5	acre	0	0	0	0
Canola	4257	4.5	0.75	0	26.8	acre	19156.5	3192.75	0	114087.6
Corn for Grain	0	8	1.15	9.58	35.63	acre	0	0	0	0
Corn for Silage	0	9.37	1.15			acre	0	0	0	0
Flaxseed	1200	7.24	0.89	0.82	29.88	acre	8688	1068	984	35856
Green Peas for Processing		5.19	0.64	0.35	12.75	acre	0	0	0	0
Hay Alfalfa (Dry)	6800	9.8	0.81	0	32.73	acre	66640	5508	0	222564
Hay All	12900	9.8	0.81	0	32.73	acre	126420	10449	0	422217
Hay Other (Dry)	0	9.8	0.81	0	32.73	acre	0	0	0	0
Oats	1728	7.24	0.89	0.82	29.88	acre	12510.72	1537.92	1416.96	51632.64
Potatoes Dry Land	0	24.18	2	0	170.73	acre	0	0	0	0
Potatoes Irrigated	0	48.89	2	0	345.38	acre	0	0	0	0
Rye	0	7.24	0.89	0.82	29.88	acre	0	0	0	0
Soybeans	1400	7.43	0.91	0.75	27.5	acre	10402	1274	1050	38500
Sugarbeets	0	28.92	3.54	2.76	100.75	acre	0	0	0	0
Sunflower All	0	7.18	0.88	1.87	40.75	acre	0	0	0	0
Sunflower Seed for Oil	0	5.7	1	2	30.72	acre	0	0	0	0
Sunflower Seed Non-Oil Uses	0	5.7	1	2	30.72	acre	0	0	0	0
Sweet Corn for Processing	0	7.99	0.98	0	0	acre	0	0	0	0
Wheat All	11400	7.24	0.89	0.82	29.88	acre	82536	10146	9348	340632
Wheat Durum	0	7.24	0.89	0.82	29.88	acre	0	0	0	0
Wheat Other Spring	0	7.24	0.89	0.82	29.88	acre	0	0	0	0
Winter Wheat All	0	7.24	0.89	0.82	29.88	acre	0	0	0	0
	Head count									
Dairy	200	0.13	0.02	0.11	4	cwt	3900	600	3300	120000
Swine Farrow	0	9.05	1.11	4.06	148.25	litter	0	0	0	0
Beef Calf	1875	6.07	0.74	1.62	59.25	head	11381.25	1387.5	3037.5	111093.75
Beef Cattle	425	3.78	0.46	1.08	39.38	head	1606.5	195.5	459	16736.5
Turkeys	0	0.09	0.01	0.5	1.24	head	0	0	0	0
Total Units per year							355,006	36,805	20,928	1,521,874
Conversion factor Btu/unit							129,090	116,090	91,547	3412
Trillion Btu per year							0.0458	0.0043	0.0019	0.0052

## Industrial Energy Use

Industrial/ manufacturing often times can be the largest energy users in a community. A stable, competitively priced energy supply is potentially a significant advantage for attracting or maintaining a local industry. The cost of energy can be one of the largest inputs that firms have in many industries. Therefore, identifying local energy demand can be an important to help explore opportunities to match local demand with local renewable energy supply.

In this report we estimated industrial energy using three elements; volume, intensity and composition. The template provided formulas to calculate industrial energy use in two different ways:

The tables below present the options available for calculating industrial demand. No approach will always be preferable. Testing of the template has shown the industrial energy consumption figures are widely scattered based on the method used. This appears to be an inherent limitation of the methods and data sets available.

#### ***Manufacturing Dollars Shipped Method***

No data was available for Lake of the Woods manufacturing shipments.

#### ***People Employed in Manufacturing***

Lake of the Woods County reported 531 people employed in manufacturing. The template provides that the average energy use per employee is 1,007.4 million Btu. The calculated industrial energy budget use on employment is 1.73 trillion Btu annually.

Energy budget =  $531 * 1,007.4 * 10^6 = 534,929,400,000$  or .54 trillion Btu's annually.

## **Commercial, Retail and Office Energy Use**

Commercial, office and retail space is a large energy consumer. In some communities studied schools, public buildings and hospitals are among the largest users of natural gas ranking behind only large industrial users.

The minimum data required to estimate commercial space energy use are the square feet of space and the energy intensity (Btu/square foot per year). Refinements may be made based on building age, use and Census region.

At this time no generally applicable and readily available database of building area has been identified. Data on building size and use is catalogued by County Assessor offices but navigating these records is a slow cumbersome process. The template was still included in this report as it can be helpful for public officials and building owners to help determine individual energy demand.

Commercial Building Energy Use					
A	B	C	D	E	F
Principal Bldg Activity	<i>kwhr/sq ft</i>	<i>thousand Btu/Sq ft</i>	Total Area by Use	kw-hr/yr	thousand Btu/yr
				=D*B	=D*C
Education	11	38.1		-	-
Food Sales	49.4	51.7		-	-
Food Service	38.4	145.6		-	-
Health Care	22.9	95.3		-	-
Inpatient	27.5	113.2		-	-
Outpatient	16.1	51.8		-	-
Lodging	13.5	50.4		-	-
Mercantile	19.2	33.5		-	-
Retail	14.3	31.9		-	-
Enclosed and Strip Malls	22.3	34.4		-	-
Office	17.3	32.8		-	-
Public Assembly	12.5	37.5		-	-
Public Order and Safety	15.3	45		-	-
Religious Worship	4.9	31.2		-	-
Service	11	55.8		-	-
Warehouse and Storage	7.6	24.1		-	-
Other	22.5	69.7		-	-
Vacant	2.4	23.7		-	-
Total energy use				-	-
Million Btu per year				-	-
Trillion Btu/year				-	-

## Resources Data Base

There are a number of different local, state, and federal resources that are beneficial to individuals and organization looking to learn more about energy production, use, or efficiency. These have been included in this report to help interested parties explore next steps. There are many other resources that can be helpful to a party interested in developing a renewable energy project. The ones listed below are a good place to start when investigating a potential project.

**AURI:** The AURI is a nonprofit corporation created to improve the economy of rural Minnesota through new uses and new markets for the state's abundant agricultural commodities. For more information, please visit their website at [www.auri.org](http://www.auri.org)

**CERTS:** The Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs) Project, started in 2003, is made up of community members across Minnesota who share a bold vision for Minnesota's energy future: to foster strong communities, to create local jobs, and to develop clean and reliable energy from

clean sources. For more information, please visit their website at [www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/](http://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/)

**DSIRE:** The Database of State Incentives for Renewable Energy (DSIRE) is a comprehensive source of information on state, local, utility, and federal incentives and policies that promote renewable energy and energy efficiency. For more information, please visit their website at [www.dsireusa.org](http://www.dsireusa.org)

**HRDC:** The Headwaters RDC is a regional development organization that is committed to helping create successful communities and a successful region. They have a number of resources to help assist individuals and organizations pursuing a renewable energy project. For more information, please visit their website at

**REDI:** The Rural Energy Development Initiative (REDI) is a statewide program administered by the Southwest Initiative Foundation (SWIF) and sponsored by the State of Minnesota and the Center for Rural Policy and Development. The goal of REDI is to maximize rural economic development and stabilize rural economies by building renewable energy capacity, expertise and leadership throughout Minnesota.

**Windustry:** Windustry promotes progressive renewable energy solutions and empowers communities to develop and own wind energy as an environmentally sustainable asset. Through member supported outreach, education and advocacy we work to remove the barriers to broad community ownership of wind energy.