

## West Central Region



### **City of Brownton: Brownton Center Light Replacements**

Brownton, MN - The Brownton Community Center was built in 1993 and the lighting is original. Ballasts are now beginning to burn out, so it's time to upgrade. This grant will allow us to replace all the fixtures and lights in the Community Center, which will ultimately be more energy efficient. Many people use the building every year and it will be a great opportunity for them to learn about the benefits of LED lighting, too. **(\$1,400)**

### **City of North Mankato: North Mankato Police Station Energy Savings**

North Mankato, MN - The North Mankato Police Station is upgrading its existing lighting, 75 total fixtures, to energy-efficient LEDs. This project includes the replacement of three exterior metal halides and 72 interior T8 fluorescents. This building experiences high volumes of traffic from community members and includes a community room where meetings and community events are held often. By making the switch to more energy efficient lighting we will see a reduction in annual costs by over \$2,000 and energy usage by over 18,000 kWh. **(\$1,000)**

### **Upper Sioux Community: Round House Energy Efficiency Project**

Granite Falls, MN - The Upper Sioux Community has one remaining public building that does not have energy efficient lighting installed. This project will include a lighting upgrade that will save over \$500 in costs per year. This project will launch a community-wide education component on energy efficiency through creative outreach, engaging both youth and adults and tapping the cultural resources and values of the Dakota people. **(\$3,100)**

### **UMN West Central Research and Outreach Center: Financial Modeling of Solar PV and Battery Storage Systems for Dairy and Swine Farms**

Morris, MN - The capital cost of solar PV has significantly declined in the last decade. Livestock farms are prime candidates for installing solar due to high energy consumption on-site, a load matched well with the generation curve, and the availability of roof space and land required. However, due to varying policies, the financial viability of solar PV in Minnesota is highly dependent on which utility serves the farm. This project seeks to address the specific financial viability of solar PV on West Central Minnesota swine and dairy farms by modeling the impact of rates, incentives, and the addition of storage. **(\$5,000)**

### **Morris Area Schools Robotics (a.k.a. Plaid Pillagers Robotics Team): Solar PV on Morris High School for the Robotics Team**

Morris, MN - A 7 to 8 kW solar PV system will be installed on the roof of the Morris High School. Electricity savings at the school will be used to provide ongoing funding for the robotics team and performance data will be made available to science teachers for renewable energy labs. High school students will hold public solar informational meetings with help from the Morris Model team. **(\$6,500)**