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Now!

Greetings Seasonal Owners: Only days left in the Political Campaign Contribution Refund Program

Summer is in full swing — and the MSRPO Executive Director has been attending a number of Lake Association meetings and events. Particularly interesting was the gathering of communities at [Communities Growth Options](#) last week in Minneapolis. Planners and city officials were very receptive to MSRPO's message of using incentives to promote land stewardship.

After the Fourth of July holiday, MSRPO and Heers and Heers Law firm will co-sponsor two more [Legacy Seminars](#) on creating a cabin trust for your family. The first is July 6th at Fortune Bay Casino on Lake Vermilion. The second, two days later on July 8th, will be at Maddens on Gull Lake in Brainerd. MSRPO member Frank Heers has years of experience; he understands the dynamics of family cabins, and can really help navigate the complicated tax laws surrounding legacy issues.

Finally, on July 1st the "Unallotment" process will begin. One program that was cut is Minnesota's [Political Contribution Refund](#) (PCR) program. The PCR refund was designed to allow ordinary citizens to have a voice in Minnesota politics. Minnesota will refund up to \$50 for an individual, \$100 for a couple. But the refund is only available on contributions made before the July 1 deadline. Now is the time to send a message to your representatives.

As the "Unallotment" process moves forward, and various government entities make adjustments, the full impact of this will be made clear on property taxes. That is the bad news. But worse news is that this year's pinch is just the beginning. In future years, one-time money from the federal government will not be available. Deficits in 2010 and 2011 are likely to be three or four times worse than this year's record-breaking deficit.

According to a recent [Capitol Report](#), Minnesota's deficits are structural, and will increase in the future, leaving ever bigger holes.

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system. Our political leaders, locked in partisan brinkmanship, will have a hard time accomplishing this.

If the people lead, the leaders will follow.

MSRPO has a starting point — a plan that will turn Crisis Into Opportunity. [Click here](#) to see how increased efficiencies, a restructuring of the tax code, a realignment between state and local governments, and an increase in transparency can fund government for less. Forward the plan to your legislator and ask them to support a broad overhaul of the state's fiscal system.

Have a great Fourth of July weekend — a celebration of a group of citizens who took the future into their hands, and shaped our collective destiny. And please stay in touch.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Forester". The signature is stylized with loops and is positioned above the typed name.

Jeff Forester
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Not a member of MSRPO? [Click here](#) to join our mailing list. Together, we can protect the family lake place from confiscatory property taxes.