



Nearly Four Decades of Accomplishments

Empowering students and the community to take collective action since 1971.

1971 ▪ University of Minnesota students petition 63% of the student body to establish the first PIRG chapter in the country. Statewide 50,000 students sign petitions to create a dozen other chapters.

1973 ▪ MPIRG, local unions and state AFL-CIO conduct a joint study in 1972 that results in a ban of the use of asbestos in new building construction.

1974 ▪ MPIRG helps to pass legislation requiring lobbyists to register and disclose spending and contributions, establishing the Minnesota Ethical Practices Board to oversee them.

1977 ▪ MPIRG research and legislation creates a state ban on fluorocarbons.

1978 ▪ After a six year legal and legislative battle, MPIRG passes the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness Act to create the nation's sole "paddle-only" wilderness area.

1979 ▪ MPIRG drafts and lobbies for the Renewable Energy Tax Credit and gains an extension of the credit in 1982.

1983 ▪ MPIRG sues Northwestern Bell to reduce telephone rates by \$69.1 million.

1983 ▪ MPIRG lobbies for the state Superfund and citizen Right-To-Know legislation to clean up toxic dumps and protect citizens from exposure.

1984 ▪ MPIRG mobilizes 10,000 citizens across the state to halt the siting of a high-level radioactive waste dump in Minnesota.

1985 ▪ MPIRG establishes a statewide, toll-free Tenant/Landlord hotline.

1986 ▪ MPIRG works with farmers, sports enthusiasts and environmentalists to establish the Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) program.

1987 ▪ MPIRG prevents the deregulation of small business and residential phone service. MPIRG obtains the nation's most progressive voter registration legislation.

1988 ▪ MPIRG re-establishes the Renters Credit property tax refund, which had been cut 33%.

1989 ▪ MPIRG passes the New and Used Car Lemon Laws in 1988 and 1989. MPIRG obtains \$650,000 for consumers in a Solar Tax Credit Class Action lawsuit.

1990 ▪ MPIRG bans the dumping of "low-level" radioactive waste in landfills and incinerators. MPIRG helps to draft and pass the Minnesota Pollution Prevention Act to reduce toxic air emissions.

1993 ▪ Minnesota court of appeals rules in MPIRG's favor on Prairie Island radioactive waste storage case. Dry cask storage must have legislative approval and be considered permanent. The Minnesota Supreme Court upholds this decision.

1994 ▪ MPIRG passes the strongest legislation in the nation to stop Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP), which are filed against citizen activists who publicly oppose proposed policies or projects.

1996 ▪ MPIRG passes truth in environmental advertising legislation that it drafted and first introduced in 1983.

1998 ▪ MPIRG successfully lobbies for allocation of \$4 million to Metro Greenways and Natural Areas Project.

2000 ▪ MPIRG successfully lobbies for \$110 million comprehensive package of environmental investments in the Legacy Initiative.

2001 ▪ MPIRG secures increases in the amount spent on energy conservation, and raises requirements for energy-efficiency in publicly-funded buildings as a part of the POWER Campaign (People Organizing for Workers the Environment and Ratepayers).

2002 ▪ MPIRG wins a campaign at the University of Minnesota to ensure that all apparel is sweatshop free. Students successfully convince campus administration to sign onto a Code of Conduct.

2006 ▪ MPIRG works with the Better Ballot Campaign to bring Instant Run-off Voting to Minneapolis city elections. IRV passed as a ballot referendum by 65%.

2007 ▪ MPIRG works with the Clean Energy MN Coalition to help pass a Renewable Electricity Standard for MN. The RES sets a requirement that a growing percentage of power generation must come from new renewable energy resources until we reach 25% by 2025. Additionally, Xcel Energy, which supplies approximately half of the electricity in the state, is required to provide 30% from renewables by 2020.

2009 ▪ MPIRG works with the Healthy Legacy Coalition to make Minnesota the first state to phase-out the use of Bisphe-nol-A (BPA), a known endocrine disruptor and carcinogen, from use in children's products.

2009 ▪ MPIRG, in coalition, works to make Minnesota the 14th state to adopt clean cars standards which succeeds in pressuring the federal government to adopt automobile emissions reduction targets of 30% by 2016.

2010 ▪ MPIRG works in coalition and passes "Complete Streets" legislation which requires that all new roads and bridges be built with walking, biking, and transit in mind.