



Friends of Tamarac NWR



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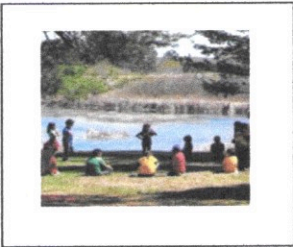
The Far Reaching Impacts of the US Governmental Shutdown



The US Federal Government shutdown is now entering its 5th week. While it is obvious to most that the current governmental shutdown has affected scores of adult Federal employees across the nation, it has also had a profound impact in Becker County. The threat to the livelihood of regional Federal workers in a wide variety of occupations is very real.

In addition:

Did you know that numerous employees of our regional "jewels," the Tamarac National Wildlife Refuge and the Detroit Lakes Wetland Management District/ Hamden Slough National Wildlife Refuge have been furloughed?



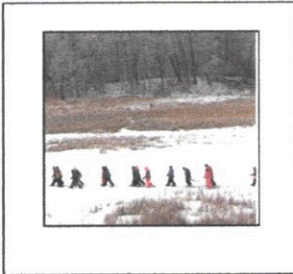
Did you know that the shutdown has significantly hampered activities at the Tamarac Visitor Center?

Did you know that hundreds of school children from our regional school districts are likely to be casualties of this shutdown as well?



Both Refuges sponsor numerous outdoor learning experiences for our children. For some, these environmental education programs represent the only or first encounters with our remarkable Becker County forests, lakes and prairies and their inhabitants. In a period of time in our country, when environmental education and the training of as many conservation stewards as possible is sorely needed, this shutdown is threatening those very wintertime outdoor experiences.

It would be wise for all of us to both support in any way we can all those affected directly and indirectly, and communicate to our policymakers the absolute need to re-open those governmental agencies currently shuttered.



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