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EAGLE LAKE'S BRECKENRIDGE TOWNHOMES PRESERVES AND EXPANDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR WORKING FAMILIES

- Maximizes Resources to Create an Inclusive, "Green" Community -

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According to the [2012 Out of Reach report](#), an estimated 53% of renters in Blue Earth County are unable to afford a modest two bedroom apartment. Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership's [Breckenridge Townhomes](#) not only prevented the loss of affordable apartments in the county, but also added additional affordable housing choices in Eagle Lake, MN.

Through a partnership with Blue Earth County Economic Development Agency and a creative mix of financing mechanisms, SWMHP was able to create 18 2-to-3 bedroom townhome units for working families, saving the county from losing essential local housing resources and expanding housing options. Four units are reserved for families experiencing long-term homelessness - connecting them to job opportunities and local amenities. The other 14 are available to low-income, working families.



Breckenridge Townhomes has earned a Green Communities rating by incorporating sustainable building practices into the project's design. Working with the Department of Natural Resource and Blue Earth County Environmental Services, SWMHP was able to restore the surrounding wetlands and create paths for Breckenridge residents.

The Breckenridge Townhomes is featured as the project-of-the-month for Minnesota Housing Partnership's [Impact Spotlight](#). Breckenridge Townhomes was selected because of its innovative layering of financing mechanisms and its sustainable development practices. The *Impact Spotlight* celebrates the work of affordable housing partners in creating healthy, sustainable communities. Pace-setting projects are selected based on ingenuity in housing development and collaborative efforts linking housing for low-to-moderate income families to transportation, jobs, or services.

About SWMHP: The Southwest Minnesota Housing Partnership is a non-profit community development corporation serving thirty counties in rural Minnesota. SWMHP's mission is to *"Create thriving places to live, grow, and work through partnerships with communities."*

About MHP: The Minnesota Housing Partnership (www.mhponline.org) supports affordable housing development for low- and moderate-income people to strengthen Minnesota communities and families. MHP provides information, consulting, training, resources and advocacy for communities to bolster options for safe and affordable housing.

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