



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Mississippi National River  
and Recreation Area

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## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 25, 2008

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### Evidence of Saint Paul's Past

Change the World. Start at Home Week begins on April 28, but some of the behind the scenes work will begin on Saturday, April 26 at the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary. Saint Paul, along with five other cities was chosen via a nationwide online contest where hundreds of thousands of people cast votes for the city they felt most deserved a makeover. As part of the campaign week, three revitalization projects in each city will receive volunteer help at a home in the community, an educational facility and a shared open space will receive volunteer help.

Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary, 4th St E and Commercial St., is Saint Paul's shared open space recipient. On Saturday, April 26 and continuing through Sunday, April 27, the Midwest Archeological Center will use remote sensing to locate and define the foundation of the early North Star Brewery, which later became Jacob Schmidt's first brewery. Remote sensing includes ground-penetrating radar and electronic and magnetic detection to locate objects without having to disturb the soil. Once located, the foundation will be outlined using gravel, allowing visitors to experience the "rooms" of the former brewery. National Park Service historian John Anfinson will be the onsite project manager and available for details and interpretation. Beginning April 28, the 106 Group will expose part of an original stone wall in the bluff. The overarching ambition of the project is to enhance the visitor experience of Saint Paul's early history.

Also beginning on Saturday is the ecological restoration piece of the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary project. Volunteer crew leaders from the Mississippi National River and Recreation Area will guide scores of volunteers in removing invasive plants and planting native trees and shrubs. Throughout the coming week, over 700 native trees and shrubs will be planted, caged and mulched; invasives and trash removed; and part of the stream disturbed by bluff erosion from above will be restored through dredging and appropriate planting.



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