What is the Resilient Communities Project?
The Resilient Communities Project (RCP) is a cross-disciplinary program at the University of Minnesota whose mission is to connect communities in Minnesota with University faculty and students to advance local sustainability and resilience through collaborative, course-based projects. Ultimately, RCP strives to

- build local capacity to address community sustainability and resilience issues
- train students to be future sustainability practitioners in their fields
- produce case studies, tool kits, and other resources that advance sustainability and resilience practice at the community scale

How does RCP work?
Each academic year, RCP selects a partner community (typically a city, county, or tribal government) through a competitive process. RCP collaborates with the selected community to identify between 5 and 30 projects—based on community-identified environmental, social, and economic issues and needs—that will advance local sustainability and resilience. Then, RCP serves as a matchmaker, strategically connecting the community’s projects with existing U of MN courses that can provide appropriate research or technical assistance.

Staff and stakeholders from our partner communities work closely with faculty and students to provide local knowledge and deeper insight into the issues, ensuring the work students undertake is relevant to the community context. Outcomes from each University course are documented in a final report and presentation at the conclusion of the semester. Project results are shared with the community, and disseminated through RCP’s website for use by other communities.

What are the benefits to students of collaborating with RCP?

- Efficient access to high-quality and well-organized community projects
- Experience applying your knowledge and skills to real-world issues
- Opportunities to build your resume or portfolio for future job interviews
- Potential to meaningfully advance local sustainability and resilience
- Local and regional visibility and recognition for your work
- Opportunities to network with local government and industry professionals
For the 2017–2018 academic year, RCP is collaborating with the City of Ramsey on 20 projects that will engage dozens of U of MN courses and hundreds of students to provide information, ideas, and new perspectives on locally identified sustainability and resilience issues.

**Community Identity and Engagement**

Every Voice Matters  
*Resident Engagement and Volunteerism Plan*

A Gathering Place for Community  
*Community Center Plan*

Sustaining Our Legacy  
*Historic Town Hall Plan*

Creating Community Identify  
*Branding and Marketing Plan*

**Land Use and Transportation**

Highway 10: A Community and Regional Focal Point  
*U.S. Highway 10 Corridor Plan*

Connecting Ramsey  
*City-Wide Greenway Plan*

A Gathering Within: An Attraction Beyond  
*The COR Development Plan Update*

Paying for Future Infrastructure Needs  
*Development Fee Study*

**Environmental Stewardship**

Integrating Resources into Our Future  
*Natural Resources Management and Outreach Plan*

Preventing Flood Damage and Disaster  
*Floodplain Communications Plan*

Reduce Waste, Reuse Resources  
*Organics Recycling Plan*

Clean Water, Clean Soil  
*Septic System Communications Plan*

Will the Faucet Turn On?  
*Water Conservation Toolkit*

Restoring Our Edge  
*Mississippi Shoreline Plan*

**Housing and Economic Development**

Encouraging Small Business Growth and Expansion  
*Business Incubator Plan*

Creating Housing Opportunities for All Generations  
*Housing Plan*

Creating Destination  
*Retail Market Analysis*

**Administration**

Protecting Our Investments  
*Asset Management Plan*

Sustaining Our Team  
*Employee Development Plan*

Employee Benefits for the Next Generation  
*Employee Benefits Plan*