

Our Mission

Accelerate the agricultural economy by empowering expanded uses and markets of agriculturally derived products

Soy-based roof rejuvenation demo showcases environmental benefits for state soy leaders



AURI recently coordinated a soy-based roof rejuvenation demonstration in conjunction with the Minnesota Soybean Research & Promotion Council's Future of Soy Summit at Breezy Point Resort's Wolf Den cabin. Jaime and Matt Schad, Roof Maxx dealers from Grand Rapids, Minnesota, applied the treatment while Resort Director of Operations Joe Pitt observed and later addressed attendees at the Soy Summit.

"This demonstration with Minnesota Soybean and Roof Maxx was excellent," said Harold Stanislawski, AURI's Business & Industry Development Director. "Attendees were able to see how soy-based roof rejuvenation can extend the life of asphalt shingles while offering property owners a practical, cost-effective alternative to premature replacement."

Discussions covered product performance, application, cost, and insurance considerations. With about 80% of Minnesota

roofs covered by asphalt shingles, soy-based rejuvenation offers commercial and residential property owners a potential way to extend roof life, reduce premature replacement, and keep roofing materials out of landfills.

Tour Redhead Creamery's new on-farm distillery



AURI is happy to cosponsor an August 19 tour of Redhead Creamery with Naturally Minnesota. An AURI client, Redhead, has developed a successful on-farm cheese business model for Minnesota and is now piloting a new on-farm distillery that uses cheese whey.

Guests will explore Minnesota dairy production from pasture to plate, cheese production and cheesemaking, and see how an on-farm distillery operates.

Join Naturally Minnesota, Redhead Creamery, and AURI in Brooten, Minnesota, for an exciting guided tour and register below!

[Register here](#)

AURI taking fun, unique approach to Farmfest



Visit AURI in **booth 612** at Farmfest 2026 to engage with staff and collaborators about their innovative value-added agriculture efforts. Five industry partners — **Cargill**, **Renewing the Countryside**, **Green Fox**, **Cellucomp**, and **MARL** — will join AURI to showcase their products and demonstrate how they benefit Minnesota agriculture. AURI will showcase its current and past initiatives and projects to drive new opportunities forward.

A highlight will be on biogas, which continues to gain momentum across the state, from livestock producers to utilities. Check out our fun interactive displays and spin the trivia wheel to walk away with a special prize! Join us August 4-6 at the Gilfillan Estate in Morgan, Minnesota, to learn all about how AURI is *Changing the Field*.

[Make plans now](#)

Becky Philipp Retires



After 26 years of dedicated service to AURI, Becky Philipp is beginning a well-deserved retirement. AURI is honored to share the positive impact she has made across the organization and Minnesota's agricultural community.

During her time at AURI, Becky served in several leadership positions, including Project Development Director and Director of Learning and Growth. In her most recent role as Project Manager, Becky planned, implemented, and guided projects while working alongside AURI staff, stakeholders, state and federal agencies, and other collaborators to identify new opportunities and support innovative ideas. Since joining the organization, Becky developed extensive institutional knowledge and built lasting relationships throughout Minnesota's agricultural community, reaffirming AURI's mission of supporting innovation and value-added agriculture.

When reflecting on her time at AURI, Becky says it's the people that she will remember the most.

"What I will remember most about my experience is the people — my colleagues, clients, and stakeholders — the camaraderie, the collaborative spirit, the diverse range of innovative projects, the shared pursuit of new ideas and meaningful solutions, and the many places this work has taken me," she said. "I am going to cherish the laughter, friendships built, and the collective experiences that made the

journey so rewarding. I have had a lot of shared laughs over the years and so many great memories. It's been quite a ride."

Over the past 26 years, Becky's dedication and positive attitude have left a lasting mark on AURI and everyone who has had the opportunity to work with her. As she begins retirement, Becky is looking forward to spending more time with family and seeing what comes next.

"In the short term, I'm going to recharge and spend some time with my family. In the long term, we'll see. The sky's the limit."

AURI is hiring!



AURI is hiring for a pair of open positions:

Advance agricultural innovation through hands-on analytical testing and collaborative research supporting food, renewable energy, and biobased products. Bring your scientific expertise, curiosity, and commitment to real-world impact as AURI's **Associate Scientist, Chemistry**.

Lead high-impact bioindustrial projects from concept to implementation while building the partnerships that drive innovation across Minnesota. Bring your talent for navigating complexity, aligning diverse stakeholders, and delivering

meaningful results as AURI's **Bioindustrial Director, Programs.**

[Apply now](#)

AURI in the News

[Farm to Fork](#)
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Upcoming **AURI Events**

August 4-6, 2026

[Visit AURI at Farmfest](#)

August 19, 2026

[Redhead Creamery Tour](#)



Did you miss an event?
We have you covered.

Visit and [Subscribe to AURI's YouTube channel](#) to view more on-demand videos from AURI's Fields of Innovation events, UnTapped, Minnesota Renewable Energy Roundtable, and more!

[Check out our latest webinar](#)

*Why Minnesota's Agricultural Industry Has a Stake in
Maritime Decarbonization Through Renewable Fuels*



Watch Past Webinars



Ag Innovation News

The newspaper is designed to make research and technical information easy to read and enjoyable for the average user. From an initial subscription list of 4,000, it has grown to reach more than 12,000 print and online readers every quarter, covering AURI's work in the development of new food products, renewable energy, biobased products and new uses for agricultural coproducts.



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Ag Innovation News PODCAST

Ag Innovation News podcast features Jamie Dickerman of Red River Farm Network having in-depth conversations with some of the brightest minds and most recognizable personalities in Minnesota's value-added agriculture ecosystem.

Check out our latest podcast:

The journey from soy to peas is reshaping the alternative protein industry



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