

## GIS DIVISION

The GIS division has adopted a new logo! Heidi Jerke & Darin VanDeberg each created six different logos. Department members voted for their top two choices from each list, then a second vote was cast from the combined top six logos. Heidi and Darin wanted the logo to represent the new technologies which are being used in the GIS mapping division. Look for the logo on all printed maps and on the web site.



## AGRICULTURAL TOURISM

The County Commission approved amendments to the Minnehaha County Zoning Ordinance on June 16th which are intended to support existing farming operation's expansion into agriculturally related enterprises.



The Planning Commission had been working on the amendments since last year. They wanted to develop regulations which would encourage farm operator's to think of new ways in

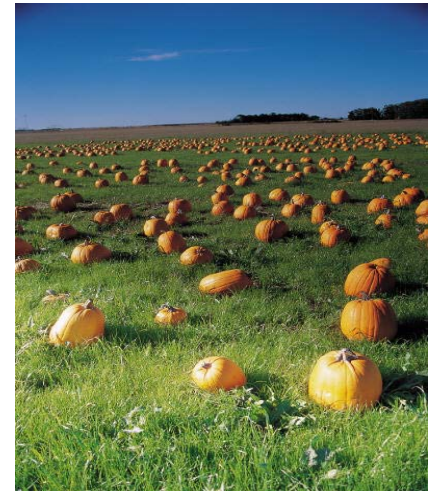
which to use their crops and farms.

Known as agricultural tourism, the uses need to be complementary to agriculture and are not intended to be preformed by individuals owning one or two acres of land.

There are six permitted special uses which fall under the umbrella of agricultural tourism - wineries, produce stands, seasonal u-pick operations & orchards, seasonal outdoor mazes, holiday tree farms, and farm experiences.



In the past five years, the Planning Staff noticed that more applications were being submitted for these six use types. Each applicant was required to go through the conditional use process which included a public hearing.



Currently there are five wineries, two of which are open to the public, two orchards and a u-pick pumpkin patch in the County as well as a number of produce stands.

Applications for an agricultural tourism use are available in the Planning Department. There is a fee of \$250.00. Applying for this use has been made easier as no public hearing is required and there are no deadlines to meet. Applicants need to make an appointment with one of the planners in the office and discuss how the use will meet the conditions listed in the ordinance. The permit is then issued administratively. Applicants still have the option to go before the Planning Commission if they are unable to meet or wish to amend the ordinance requirements.

# WALL LAKE TRIATHLON

On June 27, 2009, the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Wall Lake Triathlon was held at Wall Lake Park. The swimming, biking and running event drew 98 participants and several hundred spectators. Participants ranged in age from 17 to 71. The 1<sup>st</sup> placer finisher, Barry Hein of Sioux Falls, finished with a time of 58 minutes and 50 seconds. The event went off without a hitch, thanks in part to the County's seasonal park workers!



The warm up - of course the wind was blowing!



The race starts with a splash. Last one in is a.....



The County's representative - Gene Nelson from Equalization. He was still smiling at the end of the race. Great job Gene!



Change over to the bikes. Are these the leaders or the stragglers?