

## Mississippi River Day Trip – November 3, 2012

By Joyce Russotto

It was chilly and overcast when eleven ISK paddlers launched from Hidden Falls Regional Park onto the Mississippi the morning of Saturday, November 3rd. The group paddled upriver to view Lock and Dam 1 which is a pretty impressive sight. We then headed back downriver and took a break near the point of Pike Island for a snack and some hot and cold beverages. After taking a short break (it was cold out there!), we rounded the point of the island and headed up the Minnesota River. We paddled through the Mendota Cut back to the Mississippi where we headed back upriver to the launch site. On the way back, we had a glimpse of Fort Snelling and were entertained by dogs playing at the Minnehaha Dog Park. It was probably a good thing we got off the river when we did as a barge came barreling down the river while we were getting the boats back on the cars and it needed much of the river to maneuver through the bends. We ended the day with a trip for some lunch to Cecil's in St. Paul. It was a great day both on the water and off!