

Subject: MINNESOTA'S LIST OF "POLLUTED WATERS" UPDATED: PUBLIC MEETINGS  
SCHEDULED THROUGHOUT THE STATE

For immediate release: Sept. 13, 2007

Contact: Nancy Miller, 507-280-3590

St. Paul, Minn. -- The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) announced today its biennial update of the federally required list of the state's polluted lakes and stream segments. The draft update adds 287 new polluted waters to the existing list, bringing the current total to 1,469.

The listed waters, also known as "impaired waters" under the federal Clean Water Act, do not meet water-quality standards. The waters contain pollutants at levels above acceptable limits designed to protect public uses. The listed waters need further study to determine how they can be restored to a healthy condition.

Only a small fraction of Minnesota's lakes and streams have been assessed so far for impairments. As the agency gathers more data, other waters may be added to the list. In recent years, public concern about the number of waters on the list has risen. To help address issues related to impaired waters in our state lawmakers passed the Clean Water Legacy Act in 2006. In 2007, the Governor proposed and the legislature passed additional funding for water assessment, monitoring, clean up and protection activities.

The proposed 2008 Impaired Waters list, methodology for listing and regional maps are available on the MPCA's Web site at [www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/tmdl-303dlist.html](http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/tmdl-303dlist.html). The list is formally on public notice from Oct. 8 to Nov. 7, 2007. Submit questions, comments or requests for additional information to Howard Markus at MPCA, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, MN, 55155, by phone at 651-296-7295 or e-mail at [howard.markus@pca.state.mn.us](mailto:howard.markus@pca.state.mn.us).

The MPCA will host a series of public information meetings throughout the state as follows.

Thursday, Sept. 27, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
St. Paul-MPCA Office  
520 Lafayette Rd. N

Monday, Oct. 1, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Duluth-MPCA Office  
525 Lake Ave. S

Tuesday, Oct. 2, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
International Falls  
Rainy River Community College

Wednesday, Oct. 3, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Brainerd-MPCA Office  
7678 College Rd., Baxter

Thursday, Oct. 4, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Detroit Lakes-MPCA Office

714 Lake Ave.

Monday, Oct. 8, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Marshall-MPCA Office  
1420 E. College Dr.

Wednesday, Oct. 10, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Rochester-MPCA Office  
18 Wood Lake Drive SE

Wednesday, Oct. 17, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Mankato  
Blue Earth County Library

#### Broadcast version

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has announced its latest draft list of polluted waters in Minnesota. The list, which is compiled every two years, contains an additional 287 water bodies. The listed waters need further study to determine how they can be restored to a healthy condition.

The MPCA will host public information meetings throughout the state to share details about the list. The draft list and a schedule of the public meetings is available on the agency's Web site at [www.pca.state.mn.us](http://www.pca.state.mn.us).

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The mission of the MPCA is to work with Minnesotans to protect, conserve and improve our environment and enhance our quality of life.