

### Upper Minnesota River Watershed Gathering

CURE is sponsoring three events on November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with a visit from 30 college students and a couple of professors to Montevideo.

- November 19<sup>th</sup> (Wed.): 5 – 6 p.m. is a HECUA PIP Intern Grant information session at the Montevideo Public Library. For more information, <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/internworkshop.pdf>
- November 19<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday): 8 – 10 p.m. is a “Reading Riot” at Java River. For more information, <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/readingriot.pdf>
- November 20<sup>th</sup> (Thursday): 10 a.m. – 12noon is a “Writing for Social Change” Panel Discussion at the UCC Church. For more information, <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/socialchange.pdf>

For more information about the three events please contact CURE at 1-877-269-2873 or go to their web site at [www.curemriver.org](http://www.curemriver.org)

### Minnesota River Board Meeting

Hello all! It's that time again, and I don't mean the snow☺. The next full board meeting is November 17<sup>th</sup> – **please note the change in time and location.** We are expecting a large group so we moved the meeting location to the Arlington Community Center/ City Hall- a map is attached also. Senator Frederickson and Representative Lanning will be at this meeting so you don't want to miss it. Plus we will get to hear a recounting of Tim Krohn and John Cross of the Mankato Free Press “Minnesota River Voyage, along with Sean Bloomfield and Colton Witte (students) traversing the Minnesota River on their way to the Hudson Bay. You don't want to miss it! The full board packet will be on the MRB website at <http://minnesotariver.org>. Any questions let me know. See you on the 17<sup>th</sup>! Thanks Diane

## Job Opportunities

### Surface Water Monitoring Coordinator

RMB Environmental Laboratories, Inc. of Detroit Lakes is hiring a Surface Water Monitoring Coordinator to assist surface water clients in designing lake and stream monitoring programs. This position would be responsible for surface water data analyses, conducting citizen volunteer monitoring workshops for both lake and stream monitoring, along with lake and stream monitoring fieldwork. For more information, <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/rmbwatermonitoringcoor.pdf>

### Administrative Assistant

Sherburne Soil and Water Conservation District in Elk River, MN is hiring an administrative assistant. This position provides secretarial and clerical support for all SWCD and USDA – Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff, processes and assists in the administration of office communications, maintains District office records, and maintains District financial records. For more information, <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/sherburneswcd.pdf>

### St. Peter/Mankato Area Field Organizer

Minnesota Environmental Partnership (MEP) seeks a qualified field organizer in the Mankato/St. Peter area. The field organizer will coordinate with and support the work of member groups in local communities, educate and create support for MEP's collaborative legislative agenda and help to build capacity of member groups in targeted areas. For more information, <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/mepfieldorganizer.pdf>

## Events:

November 15<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) is the **Ney Nature Center's Annual Meeting** starting at 9:00 a.m. with coffee and rolls. Guest Speaker Bob Douglas will be giving a presentation on “What Log Cabins

Can Tell Us.” The Ney Nature Center is located across the Minnesota River east from Henderson (2 miles) on State Hwy 19.

November 18th (Tuesday) is a **Minneapolis to Hudson Bay in 49 Days Presentation** at 7:00 p.m. at the Belgrade Methodist Church in North Mankato. Colton Witte and Sean Bloomfield paddled up the Minnesota River, down the Red River and all the way to the Hudson Bay this past summer.

November 20th (Thursday) is **“Writing for Social Change” Panel Discussion** from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon at the United Church of Christ (212 North 4th Street) in Montevideo. Sponsored by Clean Up the River Environment (CURE), the panel discussion will include Joe Amato, Joe Paddock, Florence Dacey, Jim Van der Pol and Athena Kildegaard and moderated by Patrick Moore. For more information go to [www.curemriver.org](http://www.curemriver.org)<<http://www.curemriver.org/>>

November 25th (Tuesday) is the **“Voyage down the Minnesota River” presentation** starting at 7:00 p.m. at the New Ulm Public Library (17 N. Broadway Street). Join Tim Krohn and John Cross of the Mankato Free Press for an amazing look at their journey down the Minnesota River this past summer and the interesting people they met along the way. This event is co-sponsored by the Regional River History Center of New Ulm and the Minnesota River Watershed Alliance. For more information contact Scott Kudelka at 507-389-2304 or by email at [scott.kudelka@mnsu.edu](mailto:scott.kudelka@mnsu.edu)<<mailto:scott.kudelka@mnsu.edu>>

**Check out additional upcoming events and workshops on the Minnesota River Calendar at:** <http://mrbdc.mnsu.edu/calendar/index.html>

### Water Quality Articles

[Voters pass amendment to fund outdoors, arts](#) (Associated Press). Minnesota voters have said yes to raising their taxes. They approved a constitutional amendment Tuesday that will raise the sales tax by three-eighths of 1 percent to provide a new pool of funding for outdoors, environmental, arts and cultural programs.

[Voters pass outdoors, arts constitutional amendment](#) (Minnesota Public Radio). Minnesotans approved a constitutional amendment to provide sales tax funding for outdoors projects and the arts. The vote was 56 percent yes and 39 percent no.

[Savage ELC: A blueprint for going green](#) (Minneapolis Star Tribune). The new Environmental Learning Center is a lesson itself, showing how development can be kinder to Mother Nature while still being practical and attractive.

[Pawlenty convinced renewable energy is value-added opportunity](#) (Agri News). Renewable energy is an enormous value-added opportunity for agriculture, Gov. Tim Pawlenty said during his State of the State on Agriculture Address.

[Corn cobs values could soar as energy source](#) (Morris Sun Tribune). Their grandparents knew the value of corn cobs as a fuel, and used them to help warm the house or heat up the oven for baking bread.

[Bias accusations fan dispute over ethanol plant](#) (Minneapolis Star Tribune). A fight over a proposed ethanol plant in southeastern Minnesota raises a testy question for the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency: Whose side are you on?

[Wind turbine proposal generates plenty of heat in Medina](#) (Minneapolis Star Tribune). Medina is weighing the pros and cons of adding a 40-story wind tower to its rural landscape.

[Chemical in plastic raises issues](#) (Minnesota Daily). The U.S. Food and Drug Administration acknowledged that additional study of health effects from an estrogen-like chemical found in hard plastic water bottles and other food and beverage packaging would be valuable.

[Shed light on recycling project](#) (Rochester Post-Bulletin). While working at the Ritz Camera shop in the Apache Mall in Rochester, Andy Janus hated to see old photographic slides being discarded. Then he had a brainstorm idea.

[Freshwater Society prepares to make a bigger splash](#) (Star Tribune). The group spent two years studying key issues and selecting a new leader as it enters its fifth decade.

[Outdoorsmen celebrate approval of Minn. amendment](#) (Associated Press). Joe Duggan has spent his adult life hunting and fishing, and he's seen a lot of changes. Often not for the better. So he's hoping the constitutional amendment Minnesota voters approved Tuesday will make it easier to find places to hunt and ensure a healthy supply of game and fish for generations to come.

[Widespread, nonpartisan support produced victory for constitutional amendment](#) (MinnPost). Minnesota voters recorded an impressive accomplishment Tuesday in balloting on the proposed constitutional amendment: More citizens cast "Yes" ballots for the amendment than voted for either Barack Obama, John McCain, Norm Coleman or Al Franken.

[Amendment funds for arts still nine months away](#) (Minnesota Public Radio). Minnesota voters approved a constitutional amendment Tuesday that will dedicate sales tax funds for outdoors projects and the arts. But environmentalists and artists still have several hurdles to jump through before they see any money. For arts groups across the state, the amendment offers a reliable infusion of cash for the next 25 years.

[How to invest new money in the environment: a nice problem to have](#) (Minnesota Public Radio). In Tuesday's election, more Minnesotans voted to tax themselves to pay for a healthier environment than voted to send Barack Obama to the White House.

[How to spend \\$275 million on outdoors, clean water, arts?](#) (Minneapolis Star Tribune). The new tax is expected to yield \$275 million a year, and lawmakers will need to decide which groups or individuals should have input on how it's spent.

[Jaunich sentenced in wind-energy fraud](#) (Minneapolis Star Tribune). The pioneer in the field drew 21 months for overcharging the state and Xcel Energy, with which he still does business.

[Rural Minnesota's water deficit](#) (Daily Planet). We've heard the argument dozens of times; polluted water is bad. Bad for fish, bad for humans, and bad for everything in between.

[Harvest still looks solid but not as good as a month ago](#) (Morris Sun Tribune). Minnesota's 2008 corn and soybean crop may increase slightly from 2007, but the forecasts aren't as good as they appeared last month.

[Minnesota voters approve Clean Water, Land and Legacy plan](#) (Agri News). The president of Minnesota's Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts admits he was surprised Minnesota voters approved the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

[Turn turkey manure into energy? Not through here](#) (Faribault Daily News). A federal program might be encouraging farmers to help turn turkey manure into energy, but Holden Township is not.

[New round of hearings scheduled for Wednesday in St. Paul over proposed Big Stone II power plant](#) (West Central Tribune). Five electric utilities proposing the Big Stone II power plant in

South Dakota will have a chance Wednesday to question independent experts hired by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission who concluded the utilities underestimated power plant construct costs and overestimated alternative energy costs.

[Pawlenty unveils new package of tax breaks](#) (West Central Tribune). Pawlenty unveils a new package of tax breaks designed to help the state's economy and spur new "green" employment in the field of sustainable energy.

[Some Who Live Green Also Want To Die Green](#) (WCCO TV). The move to go green has gone well beyond reduce, reuse and recycle. It now includes a final resting place.

*The most unhappy thing about conservation is that it is never permanent. Save a priceless woodland or an irreplaceable mountain today, and tomorrow it is threatened from another quarter*  
– Hal Borland

**The Minnesota River Watershed Alliance (Watershed Alliance) is an organized network of citizens, public agencies, and private organizations dedicated to communicating the benefits of an ecology healthy Minnesota River Watershed to others and are actively working towards its improvement and protection. We meet four times a year and encourage landowners and recreational users of the river to be part of the effort. For more information on the Watershed Alliance: <http://www.watershedalliance.blogspot.com>**

Please register at the Minnesota River Watershed Alliance's bulletin board at <http://mail.mnsu.edu/mailman/listinfo/mrwa> to receive regular updates on what is happening in the Minnesota River Watershed.

Thanks,

Scott

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