

Minnesota River Weekly Update February 28, 2013

Events:

Documentary Film Series- We Still Live Here

March 7, 2013

Treaty Site History Center

St. Peter

7-9pm

For more information:

<https://www.google.com/calendar/render?eid=NDc5bmtrOG92cm11YWJrMnBnbGFjaWxyb2dfM...>

Email: ben@nchsmn.org

Learn about local foods and 3rd crops

March 11th

Fairmont, MN

Rural advantage and University of Minnesota Extensions will be hosting a local foods and 3rd crops workshop as part of the 2013 Third Crop Producers Meetings. The local foods and 3rd crops third crop producer meeting will be held at Knights of Columbus in Fairmont, Minnesota, from 10:00am to 3:00pm on Monday, March 11, 2013.

Contact. Jill Sackett, UMN Extension/Rural Advantage [507-238-5449](tel:507-238-5449)
sackel032@umn.edu

Prairie Enthusiasts 25th Annual Prairie Conference

March 16, 2013

Centennial Student Union

Minnesota State University, Mankato

8am-9pm

For more info and full schedule see: <http://www.theprairieenthusiasts.org/conference13/conference13.htm>.

Contact: Scott Kudelka - [507-384-8890](tel:507-384-8890)

email: scott.kudelka@state.mn.us

For more information <http://www.asla-mn.org/jobseducation/the-key-to-successful-designs-a-installations-soil>

Animal Track Snowshoe Hike

March 23, 2013

Minneopa State Park

Mankato

11 am

There are many different animals living all around us, but it can be tough to see them. Looking for tracks is a great way to discover who some of these animals might be. Come out for a guided snowshoe hike to identify 15 different animal tracks. This program starts at 11 am at the picnic area in the group campground.

Contact: Scott Kudelka - [507-384-8890](tel:507-384-8890)

email: scott.kudelka@state.mn.us

Job Announcements:

Water Policy Specialist

Minnesota Department of Ag

Date posted: 2/20/13 - 3/08/13

Working title: Agency Water Policy Specialist

Location: St. Paul, MN

Posting number: 13AGR000011

Job description:

The position exists to serve as a policy resource to support the non-point source water protection activities for ag chemicals (pesticides and fertilizers) in the Pesticide and Fertilizer Management Division of the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA). This is accomplished by helping research, develop, and implement MDA and state policies that will protect the water resources of Minnesota from ag chemical contamination while supporting a competitive and profitable agricultural economy. Actions and policies must be consistent with management instructions and in compliance with MDA's overall mission, goals, and objectives. The position will routinely represent the PFMD and MDA on inter-agency teams and work groups and will communicate frequently on water policy issues with the media, the legislature, and interested groups.

This position is only open to existing employees of the MDNR and is for Minneopa State Park in Mankato, MN. The job closes June 22, 2012.

Responsibilities include: Provide lead work direction to seasonal park operations and maintenance staff, plus other supplemental work crews and volunteers, implement visitor services and public relations activities including collection and documentation of fees; operation of the park reservation system; posting of information on bulletin boards and kiosks; assisting with special events; and interacting with park visitors to provide information/help, park's development, rehabilitation and maintenance programs including custodial and maintenance activities for buildings, facilities, trails and grounds, installing/maintaining park signs; operating and maintaining fleet/non-fleet equipment and maintaining park utilities, enforce park rules and applicable state laws as a trained Minnesota State Park Ranger. This includes implementation of emergency procedures and actions in the event of an emergency; implementation of enforcement activities; enforcement of self-registration and compliance with permit requirements; collaboration with other enforcement agencies and completion of incident reports and violation notices, assist with implementing park's resource management program, including identifying resource-related concerns/problems; implementing the control and elimination of problem species; application of pesticides and other chemicals; assisting with prescribed burns; assisting with the protection of cultural resources, soil stability and other geologic resources, ensure a safe park environment that includes; maintaining and updating park emergency plans; use of proper Personal Protection Equipment; compliance with work safety policies and practices; maintaining a hazard-free work place in compliance with OSHA requirements; properly storing and care for hazardous materials; instructing and training other staff in proper safety techniques and methods.

Full posting:

https://statejobs.doer.state.mn.us/JobPosting/View?_posting=13AGR000011

Environmental/Conservation Articles:

Frac sand mining awakens activism in southeastern Minnesota

Amy Nelson joins a swell of protestors demanding study, protection as mining explodes.

Star Tribune - Feb 19, 2013

<http://www.startribune.com/local/191764351.html?page=1&c=y>

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency

Feb 27, 2013

MPCA's environmental initiatives help drive engineering excellence

Some of the more innovative engineering projects undertaken in Minnesota in 2012 came into being as a result of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's environmental initiatives.

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Minnesota announced the winners of its 2013 Engineering Excellence Award. Several of the twenty-nine projects that won awards were funded or

overseen by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, or initiated as a result of M-P-C-A regulations. Three of these projects will compete for recognition at the national level.

M-P-C-A Commissioner John Linc Stine said the projects are examples of how the agency's environmental work drives economic growth and generates jobs for Minnesotans.

I believe a leaf of grass is no less than the journey-work of the stars.

~Walt Whitman

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 Basin.