



Minnesota River Weekly Update

July 9th, 2013

MPCA proposes to remove 2 sites from, add 2 sites to, Minnesota's Superfund list

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is inviting public comment on the proposed additions of two sites to and the deletion of two sites from the Permanent List of Priorities (PLP), the state Superfund list.

For more information visit <http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNPCA/bulletins/82a0a6> and details on the sites visit http://www.comm.media.state.mn.us/bookstore/stateregister/38_01.pdf

Minnesota River Board Meeting, Monday, July 15th, 2013

The Minnesota River Board will be gathering to discuss current events in the Minnesota River Basin. Guest speakers will be coming to present updates on the Le Sueur River Watershed Civic Engagement meetings and the MN River National Blueways Nomination, along with briefings on the MRB's staff's projects.

For more information contact (507) 389-5491 or visit <http://www.minnesotariver.org/>

Youth Voices of Change: Climate Change Video Competition – Deadline July 15th

The Will Steger Foundation and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency are sponsoring Youth Voices of Change: Climate Change Video Competition to raise awareness about climate change and the amazing youth engaged in solutions throughout the state of Minnesota. Climate change is the environmental issue of our time and we believe in the power of youth to develop solutions.

We invite youth entering Grades 4-12 (Fall 2013) to share their solutions and help raise awareness in the form of a video. Videos should be 30 seconds to 2 minutes, and creatively show how youth are engaging in solutions to climate change in their own homes, schools and/or community.

For more information visit <http://classroom.willstegerfoundation.org/about/youth-voices>

Chippewa River Watershed Project Board of Directors Monthly Meeting

Friday, July 19th, 2013 the Chippewa River Watershed Project Board of Directors will be meeting at 9:00 A.M. at Benson City, Council Chambers to discuss ways in which they can improve water quality and flooding problems within the Chippewa River watershed while promoting healthy agricultural, industrial, and recreation-based economy for the region.

For more information visit <http://www.chippewariver.com/>

Preliminary Draft Water Quality Variance Rule, Monday, July 22nd, 2013

A stakeholder meeting on a preliminary draft of the rules is scheduled for Monday, July 22, 2013, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. The meeting will be held at the MPCA office in St. Paul and will also be Webcast. Stakeholders will have an opportunity to ask questions about the preliminary draft rule and provide informal written comments (the formal comment period occurs when the proposed rules are placed on public notice). More information about this meeting will be provided closer to the date.

For more information visit <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/water/water-permits-and-rules/water-rulemaking/water-quality-variance-rulemaking.html>

Eco Experience at the Minnesota State Fair 2013

The Eco Experience at the 2013 Minnesota State Fair will be filled with many new displays and interactive activities for fairgoers of all ages. The Eco Experience is the largest event of its kind and this year's additions provide something for everyone. A partnership between the Minnesota State Fair, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and over 120 organizations and businesses from across the state, the Eco Experience has become the second most popular exhibit at the fair.

For more information visit <http://www.ecoexperience.org/> or <http://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNPCA/bulletins/815030>

DNR launches Legacy-funded website for kids to encourage getting outdoors this summer

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has launched "Get Out Minnesota," a new Legacy-funded website for kids ages 5 through 11. The site, which uses games and interactive tools to educate children about Minnesota's natural outdoor world, can be found at www.mndnr.gov/gokids. The website will draw children to the Minnesota State Parks and Trails website, but it also encourages them to get away from computers and other electronic devices and to spend time outdoors by visiting Minnesota state parks and trails. "We're combining what kids already do - spend lots of time on computers and other electronic devices - with incentive to unplug and discover the natural wonders of our state parks and trails," said Courtland Nelson, director of the DNR's Parks and Trails Division. "Ultimately, the Get Out Minnesota website is all about connecting the next generation to the outdoors."

To read the full press release visit <http://news.dnr.state.mn.us/2013/06/06/dnr-launches-legacy-funded-website-for-kids-to-encourage-getting-outdoors-this-summer/#more-12365>

Presentations Wanted! MNA is Seeking Presentation Applications for this year's MNA Conference – Deadline August 30th, 2013

The Minnesota Naturalists' Association (MNA) is seeking presenters for the 2013 MNA Conference at Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center, Lanesboro, MN on November 15-17. This year's conference theme Drawn to Nature explores the dynamic relationships between the arts and nature.

The Minnesota Naturalists' Association (MNA) is a non-profit organization of professional environmental educators, park rangers, naturalists, interpreters and volunteers throughout the state of Minnesota and beyond. MNA exists to advance natural and cultural resource interpretation for the purpose of fostering wise stewardship of all resources. Conference presenters qualify to attend the conference at a discounted rate.

For more information and to apply visit <http://mnnaturalists.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/2013-Conference-call-for-presentations.pdf>

Or contact Katie Pata at (651) 554-6532 or katie.pata@co.dakota.mn.us

2013 Midwest Environmental Education Conference (MEEC) will be September 25th – 28th, 2013

The 2013 Midwest Environmental Education Conference (MEEC) will be held September 25-28, 2013 at the Marriott Coralville Hotel Conference Center, Coralville, Iowa. The Iowa Conservation Education Coalition and the Iowa Association of Naturalists invite you to this! Teachers and naturalists throughout the Midwest will find the conference energizing, useful, and rewarding to attend. This regional gathering is meant to enlighten and inspire teachers, naturalists, and other environmental educators.

MEEC is a biennial event planned - on a rotating basis - by environmental educators in Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, and Iowa. We are all affiliate members of NAAEE: the North American Environmental Education Association. Our conference is open to everyone who cares about a sustainable Earth and feels called to make it happen by teaching and inspiring others. We welcome attendees from states beyond the Midwest, as well as the provinces of Canada.

For more information visit <http://2013midwestenvironmentaleducationconference.wordpress.com/>

Articles

[Can we afford Obama's climate plan? This analysis makes it a real bargain](#)

Ron Meador, June 28th, 2013, MinnPost

[Nitrogen Pollution's Farm Policy Roots](#)

Adam Warthesen, June 28th, 2013, Land Stewardship Project

One good way to understand the potential national impacts of President Obama's climate plan, laid out in his speech at Georgetown University on Tuesday, is to peruse a compelling piece of analysis that is widely credited with influencing the White House's thinking in designing the plan.

[Minn. Gets federal money for bat disease](#)

Dan Gunderson, June 29th, 2013, MPR News

ST. PAUL, Minn. — The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is giving money to Minnesota and other Midwestern states to monitor bat populations for white-nose disease, which is caused by a fungus and has wiped out bat populations in parts of the eastern United States.

[Experts optimistic yields will turn out OK in 2013](#)

Janet K. Willette, July 2nd, 2013, AgriNews

WASECA, Minn. — The spring of 2013 is the wettest on record at the Southern Research and Outreach Center in Waseca. Their records date to 1915, said Tom Hoverstad, scientist at SROC. Hoverstad spoke at the June 18 Agronomy Field Tour at the center. A half inch of rain just hours before the event kept everyone indoors -- the fields were too muddy.

[Grasslands the focus of Prairie Summit](#)

Joe Albert, July 4th, 2013, Outdoor News

IN WEST-CENTRAL MINNESOTA – The goal is noble, if not huge: enhance, restore and protect millions of acres of prairie and grassland in Minnesota over the next quarter-century.

[Farm bill support frays amid tight money, shifting alliances](#)

Brett Neely, July 8th, 2013, MPR News

WASHINGTON — For decades, Congress rolled food stamps and farm subsidies together into one giant bill. The tactic generated lots of rural and urban votes from politicians in both parties. Everyone got something out of the deal.

Talk about ignoring the elephant in the room. When Minnesota environmental officials announced the results of a new major nitrogen pollution study on Thursday, they were surprisingly frank about how bad the problem is, but just as surprisingly hesitant to name a major underlying cause: federal farm policy.

[How the frac-sand industry escaped environmental review](#)

Peter L. Gove, July 1st, 2013, MinnPost

Lost in the uproar over silica sand mining is a serious threat to Minnesota's environmental-review procedures with potentially far-reaching implications. And it appears no one in state government or our congressional delegation is taking this threat seriously.

[Wind power is helping cut carbon-dioxide emissions at an impressive rate](#)

Michael Goggin, July 2nd, 2013, MinnPost

Rolf Westgard's July 1 letter doesn't give American wind power the credit it deserves in terms of its impressive growth and record of cutting emissions of carbon dioxide and other pollutants.

[Lost bees more than just lost honey](#)

Lee Egerstrom, July 8th, 2013, Minnesota 2020

Oregon state agriculture officials are doing toxicology studies on dead bees found in parking lot near Portland to learn what is killing bees by the thousands.

[MN SFA hosts fourth Festival of Farms July 13](#)

Carol Stender, July 8th, 2013, AgriNews

MONTROSE, Minn. — A Festival of Farms will be held July 13 featuring tours, demonstrations, food, fellowship and networking.

Events

July 8th - July 14th

WEI'S 2013 Organic Farm School: Moving the Good Food Revolution, "Seed Saving with the Seed Technician Magician"
Monday, July 8th, 2013

Location: Urban Farm Project
Brief Description: Annelle Lindberg-Livingston (Women's Environmental Institute) and Chad Herbert (Urban Farm Project)

For more information visit <http://www.w-e-i.org/calendar> or call (651) 583-0705

Clean Energy, Climate, and Health
Tuesday, July 9th, 2013 @ 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Location: Rejoice Lutheran Church, Clearwater
Brief Description: Join us for a public discussion about the costs of burning coal to our climate, natural resources, economy, and health, and the opportunities for clean energy in Minnesota.

Hear Will Steger's vivid, firsthand account of climate change with stunning photographs from his expeditions. J. Drake Hamilton, science policy director at Fresh Energy, will describe effective clean energy and clean air solutions that benefit our economy. The forum will provide information on upcoming decisions about Xcel Energy's Sherco 1 and 2 coal plants and the opportunities for public comment to help move Minnesota to an innovative, clean energy future based on more solar, wind, and energy efficiency.

For more information visit <http://fresh-energy.org/2013/06/july-9-clean-energy-climate-and-health/> or contact J. Drake Hamilton at hamilton@fresh-energy.org or (651) 726-7562

Worknight in Pine Bend Bluffs

Thursday, July 11th, 2013 @ 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Location: Pine Bluffs Scientific and Natural Area, Inver Grove Heights

Brief Description: The Pine Bend Scientific & Natural Area (SNA) is known for some of the best views of the Upper Mississippi River, and is an award-winning restoration project! Friends of the Mississippi River staff will train volunteers to identify and remove the invasive species spotted knapweed to protect the prairie's threatened native plant species. Gloves, tools and guidance will be provided.

For more information visit http://fmr.org/participate/events/pine_bend_resto-2013-07-11 and to sign up, please contact FMR Event Registrar Lindsay Hefferan at lhefferan@fmr.org or [651-222-2193 x24](tel:651-222-2193)

Birding Renville County's Skalbekken Park

Saturday July 13th, 2013 from 6:00-10:00 a.m.

Location: Skalbekken Park

Brief Description: See and hear mid-summer birds in a lush county park.

For more information <http://www.cureriver.org/calendar/upcoming/> or (320) 269-2984

Final Summer 'Nature's Nook' Reading Program

Friday, July 12th, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m. — Saturday, July 13th, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m.

Location: Elk's Nature Center in Rasmussen Woods

Brief Description: The event will be held July 12-13 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Elk's Nature Center in Rasmussen Woods (555 Stoltzman Road) for children from ages pre-kindergarten through 7th grade along with their families: "Nature's Nook," a program free and open to the public, features story time, activities, games and a short lesson on topics such as recycling, trees and plants, water, pollution and Minnesota wildlife. Children should dress appropriately for weather conditions because hiking is an element of each session.

"'Nature's Nook' is designed to develop student leadership through literacy mentoring," said Denise Billington-Just, assistant director of community engagement at Minnesota State Mankato. "Our main initiative is to make those connections between community and students."

For more information email the Community Engagement Office at community.engagement@mnsu.edu or call (507) 389-5789

Fort Ridgely and the U.S. – Dakota War

Saturday, July 13th, 2013 @ 2:00 p.m.

\$5 admission, MHS & NCHS Members free; state park vehicle permit is required

Location: Fort Ridgely State Historic Site

Brief Description: Independent historian Curt Dahlin will discuss the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862 and the roles played by Fort Ridgely and St. Peter. Curtis Dahlin grew up on a farm near Sisseton, South Dakota, on the Sisseton-Wahpeton Indian Reservation. He has spent decades researching the history of the Minnesota River Valley. Curt has recently published several books and will have them available to sign and sell.

For more information call (507) 426-7888 or (507) 934-2160

Tea Party at the Cox House

Saturday, July 13th, 2013 @ 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Location: Cox House. 500 North Washington Avenue, Saint Peter, MN

Brief Description: Children aged 5 to 10 are invited to bring their American Girl doll (or other favorite doll) and an adult friend to a tea party at the Cox House. Tea and sandwiches will be served. Guests will listen to historical American Girl stories and participate in crafts. In addition, children will learn about the role that tea played in the culture of earlier Saint Peter residents. The home was formerly the residence of Eugene St. Julien Cox, Saint Peter's first mayor, and was a local center of social activity for the prospering riverside town. The cost is \$15 for one child and adult. An additional child may attend for \$10. Guests are encouraged to dress in their finest tea party clothes. Reservations are necessary, as seating is limited.

For more information contact Susan Carlin at (507) 382-5162 or sdgcarlin@gmail.com

WEI's 2013 Organic Farm School: Moving the Good Food Revolution, "Tour of Seed Savers Exchange"

Saturday, July 13th, 2013

Location: Decorah, IA

Brief Description: Car caravan and farm tour at Seed Savers Exchange in Decorah, IA.

For more information <http://www.w-e-i.org/calendar> or call (651) 583-0705

Monte-Granite Riverfront Disc Golf Classic

Saturday, July 13th, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m.

Location: Sunset Lodge # 109 Disc Golf Course in Lagoon Park, Montevideo

Brief Description: The public is invited to come and learn the basic of disc golf. The first 100 participants will receive a free disc. There will be four stations that will teach basic disc skills and beginning at 10:00 a.m. there will be open recreational play to practice those skills.

Saturday July 13th, 2013 @ 1:30 p.m.

Location: Sunset Lodge # 109 Disc Golf Course in Lagoon Park, Brief Description: Montevideo Those folks with a few skills under their belt, registration begins for the first ever Monte-Granite Riverfront Disc Golf Classic. This non-sanctioned open will have three categories for competition: Men's, Women's, and Youth. The entry fee is \$10 per person. There will be prizes awarded on Sunday after the two-day, 36-hole event.

Saturday, July 13th, 2013 evening

Location: Wegdahl County Park

Brief Description: There will be a light supper and beginning at 7:00 P.M. there will be a Disc Golf Exhibition throwing contest. This event is free and open to the public – so bring your own lawn chairs, bug spray, and whatever else you may want with you!

Saturday, July 13th, 2013 @ 8:30 p.m.

Location: Wegdahl County Park

Brief Description: S'mores and a campfire.

Sunday, July 14th, 2013 @ 10:00 a.m.

Location: River's Edge Disc Golf Course in downtown Granite Falls.

Brief Description: Competitors will finish the last 18 holes. Winners and awards will be announced at 1:00 p.m. or when the play finishes.

For more information about The Monte-Granite Riverfront Disc Golf Classic please contact CURE at 1(877) 269-2873 or visit the Facebook pages for CURE MN River, Sunset Lodge #109 Disc Golf Course and River's Edge Disc Golf Course for more details as they are posted.

Afternoon of Leisure

Sunday, July 14th, 2013 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Harkin Store

Brief Description: Sunday afternoons in the 1870's were family time or time to relax, visit friends or maybe do a bit of fancywork. There will be a showing of some of their work in tatting, hardanger, knitting and other types of work. Any one that does this type of work and would like to show their fancywork art is welcome to come and visit with our visitors. Visitors will be able to tour the store, have a game of checkers or visit on the porch while also seeing the displays of work. Refreshments will be served.

For more information call the Harkin Store (507) 354-8666 or Nicollet County Historical Society (507) 934-2160

Lac qui Parle Mission Sunday

Sunday, July 14th, 2013

July 15th -
July 21st

Location: Watson, MN
Brief Description: Historical event.

For more information contact Montevideo Chamber of Commerce (320) 269-5527

The Minnesota River Watershed Alliance Meeting
Tuesday, July 16th, 2013 @ 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Location: Memorial Park in Fairfax, MN
Brief Description: The public is invited to attend a free picnic and farm tour starting at Memorial Park in Fairfax Minnesota and continuing from there to the Simonsen Discovery Farm. Citizens from throughout the Minnesota River watershed will be gathering in Fairfax for the quarterly meeting of the Alliance which is dedicated to working together to advance a common sense plan for a clean Minnesota River. This month's meeting is being sponsored in part by the Minnesota Agricultural Water Resources Center. Attendees are asked to bring a dish to pass at the picnic at the park in Fairfax where an informal networking session will take place over food before carpools leave to learn about the work being done by the Simonsen family to manage for water quality improvements to the river.

For more information, contact the Minnesota River Watershed Alliance blog site:
<http://watershedalliance.blogspot.com> or call Brad Cobb: 320-943-4695.

"State of the River" Presentation (Mississippi River)
Tuesday, July 16th, 2013 @ 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Location: Hayes Community and Senior Center, Apply Valley
Brief Description: At the presentation, the report's principal authors will summarize a wealth of water quality and aquatic ecosystem data, highlighting key trends and emerging issues that impact the river, as well as provide an overview of potential solutions to protect the river and its watershed. The second half of the event will feature a hosted conversation with Trevor, Lark and local water quality experts, where participants will have the opportunity to contribute questions.

For more information visit http://www.fmr.org/participate/events/state_of_the_river-2013-07-16 and to sign up, please contact FMR Event Registrar Lindsay Hefferan at lhefferan@fmr.org or [651-222-2193 x24](tel:651-222-2193).

Paddling the MN River Watershed: One Day Chippewa River Trip
Saturday July 20th, 2013

For more information <http://www.cureriver.org/calendar/upcoming/> or (320) 269-2984

Cause of the U.S.—Dakota War and Battlefield Tour
Saturday, July 20th, 2013 @ 1:00 p.m. program and 2:30 p.m. battlefield tour

Location: Fort Ridgely
Brief Description: The causes of the US/Dakota War in 1862 were many and complicated. Independent Historian John LaBatte will examine why some Dakota Indians wanted war while others opposed war. At least 9 of John's Dakota and white ancestors were involved in the US/Dakota War in 1862. Historic Fort Ridgely is recognized by the National Park Service as a National Battlefield and is listed twice on the National Register of Historic Places. Join LaBatte for the 1pm program, and again for the 2:30 walking tour. \$5 admission, MHS and NCHS members free. A state park vehicle sticker is required for all.

For more information call (507) 426-7888 or (507) 934-2160

Paddling the MN River Watershed: MN River Trip from Memorial Park down to Upper Sioux Agency State Park
Sunday, July 21st, 2013 @ 8:00 a.m.

Location: Memorial Park on Highway 67 just outside of Granite Falls
Brief Description: A sack lunch will be provided. Bring a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, and bug spray and layer your clothes. You might want to wear shoes that can get wet.

For more information and to register visit

<http://www.cureriver.org/calendar/category/programs/> or call CURE at 1 (877) 269-2873

Day in the Life of a Pioneer Woman

Sunday July 21st, 2013 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Harkin Store

Brief Description: Pioneer women were an important part of the development of the territory of Minnesota and the state. The women of that time worked along side of their men while performing the duties of the house as well. Sewing, cooking cleaning, gardening, child rearing. Life was not easy for the women of the prairie. Through various displays, see how the pioneer women live, from the basic housekeeping to entertainment, the display will be all day.

For more information call the Harkin Store (507) 354-8666 or Nicollet County Historical Society (507) 934-2160

July 22nd -
July 28th

WEI'S 2013 Organic Farm School: Moving the Good Food Revolution, "It All Comes Down to 'Humus'"

Monday, July 22nd, 2013

Location: Midtown Global Market Greenway Conference Room, 920 E. Lake St., Minneapolis, MN

Brief Description: Professor Pat Farrell (UMD - Department of Geography)

For more information visit <http://www.w-e-i.org/calendar> or call (651) 583-0705

Rapidan Dam Bike Ride

Tuesday, July 23rd, 2013 @ 3:00 p.m.

Location: Departs from the Centennial Student Union main entrance at Minnesota State University

Brief Description: The annual "Dam Bike Ride!", sponsored by Minnesota State University, Mankato's Student Activities Crew, from Centennial Student Union on the Minnesota State Mankato campus to Rapidan Dam and back. And, participants will have the delicious option of breaking up the ride with a slice of homemade pie at the Rapidan Dam Café. The 12-mile ride, which is open to the public free of charge, departs from the Centennial Student Union main entrance at 3 p.m., said Ashley Strom, coordinator. And while the ride is free, the pie does cost whatever the going rate for a slice of pie is at the Café, she added.

If it's raining on July 23, the ride will be moved to July 24. No registration is needed; just show up with your bike in time to leave at 3 p.m.

For more information contact Ashley Strom ashley.strom@mnsu.edu or (507) 389-6076

Tour the Gneiss Outcrops SNA

Wednesday, July 24th, 2013 @ 5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

Location: Meet at Memorial Park on Highway 67 in shelter

Brief Description: Bring a sack lunch and meet at 5pm to visit about the area and learn a bit about the importance of the river valley to the Dakota people. Raised in the Ortonville area and currently residing in Belview, Robertson brings a bit of his own experience and love of the river valley to this outdoor adventure.

Bring a water bottle, bug spray, wear long pants and sturdy shoes for hiking. You may also want a hat and sunscreen. The group will meet at the Memorial Park shelter and then car pool to the hiking location.

For more information or to register call CURE at 1(877) 269 –2873

Christmas in July

Sunday, July 28th, 2013 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Harkin Store

Brief Description: Harking store will celebrate a Scottish Christmas in honor of Alexander Harkin's native Scotland. There will be Scottish "goodies" for your sampling. There will be decorations and the gift shop will have a tree up with items for Christmas.

For more information call the Harkin Store (507) 354-8666 or Nicollet County Historical Society (507) 934-2160

July 29th -

Harkin Store 34th Annual West Newton Day

August 4th

Sunday, August 4th, 2013

Location: Harkin Store

Brief Description: Find your old pictures of the area and stories for this and come share your bit of history with our visitors and us. We will also post contact information for those who want to find relatives or other information. We will be able to do copying for you and us.

For more information call the Harkin Store (507) 354-8666 or Nicollet County Historical Society (507) 934-2160

**August 5th -
August 11th**

Summer Institute on Minnesota's Changing Climate

Tuesday, August 6th – Wednesday, August 7th, 2013

Location: Fort Snelling State Park, Saint Paul, MN

Brief Description: Dive into the classroom and outdoor components of the Will Steger Foundation's [Minnesota's Changing Climate](#) (MCC) curriculum. Program includes:

A deep introduction to climate science and the impacts of climate change in Minnesota for teachers of grades 3-12

Paddling with professional park rangers, naturalists and Wilderness Inquiry guides on the serene Mississippi River

Hands-on phenology training and weather station activities in the park (and more!)

For more information or to sign-up visit <http://willstegerfoundation.org/summer-institute/summer-institutes-2013/2013-minnesotas-changing-climate>

Paddling the MN River Watershed: Minnesota River Trip in Renville County

Saturday, August 10th, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m.

Location: Skalbakken County Park in Renville County

Brief Description: A sack lunch will be provided. Bring a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen and bug spray and layer your clothes. You might want to wear shoes that can get wet.

For more information and to register visit

<http://www.cureriver.org/calendar/category/programs/> or call CURE at 1(877) 269-2873

Girls Rule— Fishing with Diana: Kinney Landing

Saturday, August 10th, 2013 @ 8:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.

Location: Kinney Landing off of Highway 67 along the Minnesota River

Brief Description: An opportunity to learn the basics of river fishing from tying and baiting your own hook, casting and basic fish identification. Participants should bring a water bottle, bug spray, sunglasses, sturdy shoes that may get wet. CURE has a few rods available for use...be sure to let us know that you need one when you register.

For more information and to register visit

<http://www.cureriver.org/calendar/category/programs/> or call CURE at 1 (877) 269-2873

Paddling the MN River Watershed: New Ulm Area Minnesota River Day Trip

Sunday, July 11th, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m.

Location: Riverside Park in New Ulm

Brief Description: A sack lunch will be provided. Bring a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen and bug spray and layer your clothes. You might want to wear shoes that can get wet.

For more information and to register visit

<http://www.cureriver.org/calendar/category/programs/> or call CURE at 1 (877) 269-2873

**August 12th -
August 18th**

The Real Lizard People: Skinks in the MN River Valley

Thursday, August 15th, 2013 @ 9:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Location: Swede's Forest SNA

Brief Description: A chance to see a species of special concern in Minnesota, the five-lined skink (also known as Blue Devils) and to learn more about why clearing red juniper from granite outcrops helps the small, fast lizards. We'll also see some interesting historical small-scale quarry remains, cactus and other interesting flora.

Wear sturdy shoes suitable for hiking, bring water, insect repellent and sunscreen. Binoculars if you have them. Meet at the Main office parking lot, Upper Sioux Agency State Park for a car pool to the SNA (limited rough parking at the site).

For more information and to register visit
<http://www.cureriver.org/calendar/category/programs/> or call CURE at 1(877) 269-2873

Job Announcements

ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLE RECEIVING

Department: PHL/Env Sample Receiving, Health Department

Closing Date: July 10th, 2013

Location(s): St. Paul, MN

Who May Apply: All qualified job seekers

Responsibilities: This position is located in the Public Health Laboratory, Environmental Sample Receiving Unit in the Minnesota Department of Health. The Environmental Sample Receiving Unit is responsible for the documentation of sample receipt; transfer of information from client custody documents into the Laboratory Information Management System (LIMS); and distribution and inventory management of sample collection supplies provided to clients. This position provides technical, analytical and administrative support for the sample submission and acceptance process for analytical testing of environmental mediums; supports quality assurance processes for regulatory, compliance and contractual obligations to meet client's expectations; performs routine laboratory analysis for microbiological, organic and inorganic analysis; assists in radiochemistry surveys, equipment calibration, and chemical preservation dispensing in accordance with established procedures; adheres to and promotes the chemical hygiene and safety policies of the Public Health Laboratory; reuses, recycles, reduces and eliminates laboratory waste and its toxicity; and performs other miscellaneous functions in the Organic, Inorganic Chemistry, and the Laboratory Operations Units as assigned.

For more information <http://www.careers.state.mn.us/> Posting Number 13HEAL000303

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEER

Department: Department of Agriculture

Closing Date: July 15th, 2013

Location(s): Fergus Falls, MN

Who May Apply: All qualified job seekers

Responsibilities: The incumbent is responsible for the engineering phases of all soil and water conservation work and the integration and coordination of technically sound engineering projects as assigned by the Area Engineer in the Minnesota Area Office. Participates in the preliminary examination of watersheds proposed for improvement and makes recommendations concerning their feasibility. Ensures that NRCS

responsibilities for the inspection of completed project dams are fulfilled.
Responsible for furnishing engineering technical guidance and assistance for CO-01 non-project activities including cost sharing programs in the counties for the respective area as assigned.
Maintains a close cooperation and coordination between NRCS and the technical staff of local and state conservation partners, RC&D areas, numerous special projects, and all other non-project activities.
Provides local coordination of gathering survey, land use, and hydrologic data for preliminary and final design of project and non-project activities. Responsible to provide wetland hydrology evaluations for swamp buster determinations, appeals, and maintenance requests.
Assists the Area Engineer analyzing the engineering phase of the area conservation program. Evaluates equipment and materials, staffing levels, and expertise to assure adequate supervision of engineering work and utilization of personnel. Determines engineering training needs and assures that training is provided to NRCS and SWCD employees in their area.
Provides supervision to civil engineering technicians located within the area as needed as Acting Area Engineer when called upon by the Area Engineer. Will have occasional supervisory responsibilities during these times.

For more information or to apply visit

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/346768100>

REGIONAL WATER SPECIALIST

Department: Water & Soil Resources Board

Closing Date: July 15th, 2013

Location(s): St. Paul, MN

Who May Apply: All qualified job seekers

Responsibilities: This Clean Water Specialist will perform duties necessary for the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) to carry out its statutory responsibilities under the Clean Water Legacy Act and the Clean Water Fund appropriation authority in Minnesota with a primary focus on the Twin Cities Metro Region. This position will provide administrative and advanced technical assistance, leadership and implementation guidance to BWSR staff, soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, watershed management organizations, cities, and counties. This position will provide senior level leadership in the development and implementation of non-point pollution restoration and protection plans, watershed management plans, TMDL implementation plans and will also pilot planning activities under the recently enacted Comprehensive Water Management Planning process. This position will provide coordination of activities with soil and water conservation districts, watershed districts, watershed management organizations, cities and counties in the Metro Region, between state and federal agencies such as the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Departments of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Health, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Metropolitan Council.
For more information <http://www.careers.state.mn.us/> Posting Number # 13BWSR000018

AGRICULTURAL/CIVIL ENGINEER

Department:	Department of Agriculture
Closing Date:	July 17th, 2013
Location(s):	Thief River Falls, MN; Moorhead, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>The incumbent is responsible for the engineering phases of all soil and water conservation work and the integration and coordination of technically sound engineering projects as assigned by the Area Engineer in the Minnesota Area Office.</p> <p>Participates in the preliminary examination of watersheds proposed for improvement and makes recommendations concerning their feasibility. Ensures that NRCS responsibilities for the inspection of completed project dams are fulfilled.</p> <p>Responsible for furnishing engineering technical guidance and assistance for CO-01 non-project activities including cost sharing programs in the counties for the respective area as assigned.</p> <p>Maintains a close cooperation and coordination between NRCS and the technical staff of local and state conservation partners, RC&D areas, numerous special projects, and all other non-project activities.</p> <p>Provides local coordination of gathering survey, land use, and hydrologic data for preliminary and final design of project and non-project activities. Responsible to provide wetland hydrology evaluations for swamp buster determinations, appeals, and maintenance requests.</p> <p>Assists the Area Engineer analyzing the engineering phase of the area conservation program. Evaluates equipment and materials, staffing levels, and expertise to assure adequate supervision of engineering work and utilization of personnel. Determines engineering training needs and assures that training is provided to NRCS and SWCD employees in their area.</p> <p>For more information or to apply visit https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/346938700</p>

MN WATER PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Department:	Conservation Minnesota
Closing Date:	July 17th, 2013
Location(s):	Minneapolis, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>From our four “real” seasons to our 10,000 lakes, the Great Outdoors defines life here. It is where many of our most cherished memories are created with family and friends. Passing our experiences and traditions on to our children, being good stewards of our land and lakes — these are values that we all share. At Conservation Minnesota & Conservation Minnesota Voter Center, we turn your love of Minnesota’s Great Outdoors</p>

into the laws that protect it. We focus on solving the conservation problems that Minnesotans tell us are important, and provide people with information and opportunities to help.

Conservation Minnesota & Conservation Minnesota Voter Center are seeking a water protection enthusiast to develop and carry out a new grant funded program. This person will conduct aquatic invasive species (AIS) trainings across the state while building relationships with Lake and River association members. This position is currently funded for one year, though with success, we hope to renew the grant for many years to come.

Responsibilities include:

Act as a liaison between the organization and members of lake and river associations across the state.

Cultivate network of lake and river association members and engage them in issue campaigns.

Coordinate, promote, conduct, and evaluate AIS trainings around the state.

Conduct outreach activities and assist with member communications regarding AIS and other water related issues.

Work with partner organizations to promote trainings, activate network, and advance water quality related issue campaigns.

Represent the organization in multi-agency planning efforts for 2014 Lakes and Rivers Conference.

Assist lake and river associations with maintenance and hosting of their member websites.

For more information visit <http://www.mepartnership.org/jobs/mn-waters-program-coordinator/> to apply send your cover letter and resume to Rebecca@conservationminnesota.org

FOOD INSPECTOR - INTERMITTENT

Department:	Department of Agriculture
Closing Date:	December 12th, 2013
Location(s):	Butterfield, MN; Cold Spring, MN; Austin, MN; Melrose, MN; Pelican Rapids, MN; Faribault, MN; Marshall, MN; Willmar, MN; Windom, MN; Worthington, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>Entry-level Food Inspector positions filled through this job announcement generally work in slaughter plants. Our Food Inspectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Examine food animals in privately-owned meat or poultry plants· Perform their duties before and after slaughter, guaranteeing that the product is not contaminated· Maintain sanitation procedures· Are a valued member of a dynamic team that ensures the product is fit to eat and compliant with Federal laws <p>Food Inspectors and Consumer Safety Inspectors (slaughter) are involved in ante-mortem inspection of livestock or poultry and post-mortem inspection of red meat or poultry.</p>

This inspection activity is performed in a noisy industrial environment with large moving machinery that cannot be stopped instantly. Workstations and walkway can be extremely narrow and slippery. Excellent stability and balance is required. Frequent physical activities such as walking, climbing, standing, and kneeling are required, including climbing and walking on catwalks. Various environmental conditions, ranging from sub-freezing temperatures to frequent summertime temperatures at 80 to 90 degrees are common, with extreme humidity. Inspection activity requires rapid, constant repetitive motion with both hands and wrists. Red meat viscera inspection requires palpitation of organs and slicing with extremely sharp knives. Accurate color vision is essential to notice subtle shades of product color in the detection of abnormalities that make a product unfit for human consumption.

For more information visit <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/331796400> or to apply visit www.FoodSafetyJobs.gov 'Food Inspector Online Application Process'

"Harmony with land is like harmony with a friend; you cannot cherish his right hand and chop off his left."

-Aldo Leopold

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.
