

Moose found in the Boundary Waters. Source: Save the Boundary Waters

Happy 50th anniversary to the Wilderness Act! September 3rd marks the day when the Wilderness Act was signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson. To learn more about what led up to the Wilderness Act and the valuable resources that have been conserved due it, go to National Geographic's webpage.

Minnesota River Weekly Update September 2, 2014

Regional meetings set to discuss ideas from Minnesota River Congress

A series of public meetings are scheduled in September to hear about and discuss the June 19 Minnesota River Congress, leading up to a second congress scheduled for Oct. 30 in New Ulm. Congress organizers believe there's a need for greater unity and communication among the many groups working to sustain the water and land in the Minnesota River Valley for agriculture and the overall economy. Regional meetings are planned for 7 p.m. at the following dates and hosts. Everyone is welcome to attend.

- o Sept 10 Clean Up the River Environment, Community Center, 550 1st St SW, Montevideo
- Sept. 11 Rural Advantage, Knights of Columbus Hall, 920 E. 10th St, Fairmont
- o Sept. 15 JR Brown Heritage Society, Henderson Community Center, Henderson
- o Sept. 16 Friends of the Minnesota River Valley, National Wildlife Refuge, Bloomington
- o Sept. 17 Lower Sioux Community, Jackpot Junction, Morton

The June 19 congress generated a wide range of ideas. Many expressed support for citizen participation and leadership, either at the basin-scale or starting our first at the watershed scale - the basin consists of 13 separate watersheds. Since the disbanding of the Minnesota River Board earlier this year, the need for collaboration and communication among groups

working the basin ranked high. "There was a lot of support for a citizen-led, all-inclusive organization, but less agreement about the possibly structure," Sparlin said. "The regional meetings will give more people the chance to help us focus the ideas leading up to the second congress on Oct. 30. Congress co-sponsors include: MRWA, CCMR, FMV, MAWRC, WRC MSU,M, CURE, MDNR, MPCA, Minnesota Earth Sabbath, Wild River Academy, New Ulm Sport Fishermen, and U of M Southwest/Southeast Regional Sustainable Development and Partnerships.

For more information contact Sparlin at (507) 276-2280 <u>yasure@lycos.com</u>. A summary of the June 19 congress is posted on the <u>Minnesota River Watershed Alliance webpage</u>.

MPCA board adopts special standard for Lake Pepin

As part of recent changes to water quality standards, the MPCA Citizen's Board adopted a site specific standard for Lake Pepin designed to reduce several algal blooms. Based on research, the site specific standard for Lake Pepin consists of: 100 micrograms per liter for TP and 28 micrograms per liter for chlorophyll-a. For perspective the mean level of TP in Lake Pepin from 2000-2009 was 171 micrograms per liter. Reductions in phosphorus loads from wastewater over this same period resulted in Mississippi River concentrations approaching 150 micrograms per liter in 2009. The mean level of chlorophyll-a from 2000-2009 was 30 micrograms per liter. A draft of the amendments was released in June 2013, followed by public cmment period from November 2013 to January 2014, including a public hearing held Jan. 8 2014. Seventeen parties commented on the amendments. See their comments, the MPCA responses and more details in the board packet online. The MPCA Citizen Board adopted the standards at its June 24, 2014 meeting. Following that meeting, the Minnesota Environmental Science and Economic Review Board petitioned the MPCA Citizens Board for a stay and reconsideration of the standards. At its July 22 meeting, the board heard from several parties about the petition before voting to deny the stay. A webcast of the meeting, along with the board packet is available on the agency website.

Minnesota River basin a priority for water sampling grants

The Minnesota River basin is a priority area for sampling grants through Watershed Pollutant Load Monitoring Network. Grants under this program are financed through the Minnesota Clean Water Fund established by the Legacy Amendment. The MPCA will award up to \$300,000 in one-year grant contracts through a competitive process. All proposals must be submitted through the SWIFT e-supplier portal and must be received no later than Sept. 19, 2014.

For more information on who is eligible to apply and what the program objectives are go to MPCA's WPLMN webpage.

DNR seedlings sales are in full swing

The MDNR State Forestry Nursery is accepting seedling orders for April and May pickup or delivery in 2015. Millions of seedling will be available for the 2015 planting season, including 21 species of native barefoot trees and shrubs grown from seeds collected in Minnesota. A minimum of 500 seedlings must be ordered, which is enough seedlings to cover an acre of land. Seedlings vary in size from 6-18 inches in height, and prices start as low as \$125 for 500 seedlings. These seedlings can be used for reforestation, improving wildlife habitat, creating shelterbelts, developing green buffers to protect water quality and cleaning the air by removing carbon dioxide. Minnesota landowners with forest stewardship plans should contact their plan

writer for cost-share program information that cover costs to purchase and plant seedlings, Contact your local Forestry office or visit the <u>forest stewardship webpage</u> to learn more.

ARI	FICLES
Enbridge wins Minnesota OK for oil pipeline Elizabeth Dunbar, Aug. 29, MPR News Minnesota regulators have approved an oil pipeline project for northern Minnesota. The decision allows Enbridge to increase the Alberta Clipper pipelines capacity to 800,000 barrels per day.	Snakes in the grass: A key to Minnesota's vanishing prairie(with audio) Elizabeth Baier, Aug. 29, MPR News The scientist's visit to Weaver Dunes, is the latest foray to the area where researchers have long studied turtles, falcons, bald eagles, and other wildlife populations. But LeClere isn't looking up. Instead, he has eyes open for reptiles that slither in the grass.
Tribe 'disappointed' in waste storage rule Michael Brun, Aug. 30, Red Wing Republican Eagle The US Nuclear Regulatory Commission approved Tuesday a final rule and environmental impact station governing the continued storage of spent nuclear fuel at reactors across the country.	Wisconsin apple growers say crop looking good Aug. 31, Pioneer Press Wisconsin apple growers say they expect their crop this autumn to be good or a little above average
Riverside Park in New Ulm Rocks RiverBlast <i>Kassandra Sepeda, Sept. 2, KEYC-TC Mankato</i> And if you're looking for something else to do over your Labor Day weekend, you might want to head over to New Ulm. There the town is celebrating its 21 st annual River-blast.	Runners, Vols Sought for Scenic Byway Races Sept. 2, Belle Plaine Herald Runners and volunteers are currently being sought for this year's Minnesota River Valley Scenic Byway 5K and half-marathon that will start and end in Belle Plain on Saturday, Oct. 11. Proceeds from Minnesota River Valley Scenic Byway Half- Marathon benefit the Belle Plaine businesses community and Minnesota River clean-up project.
St. Paul presses ahead with plans for bids on recycling Frederick Melo, Sept. 2, Pioneer Press Faced with the potential fee increases for St Paul residents, Mayor Chris Coleman's administration is backing off plans to roll out wheeled, lidded carts next year for household recycling.	Small vs. large: Which size farm is better for the planet? Tamar Haspel, Sept. 2, Washington Post There's a kind of farm that has caught the imagination of the food-conscious among us. It's relatively small, and you know the farmer who runs it. I talked with a passel of people who either study (agricultural economist) or live (farmer) this issue, and there were a few ideas that generated enough consensus that I'm willing to call them facts:

EVENTS

Sept. 1 -Sept. 7 Total Tillage Solutions Field Day Thursday, September 4, 2014 @ 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: Appleton, MN

Brief Description: Crop producers and other agricultural professionals can see how different tillage systems impact soil, fertilizer and residue movement through the soil profile at the field day scheduled for Sept. 4 south of Appleton, MN. After an introduction, participants will rotate through several stations that showcase different tillage systems in customized soil pits:

- **Shallow tillage pit** (0-4") will showcase vertical till, field cultivator, and a soil finisher. *Francisco Arriaga* (University of Wisconsin) will discuss fertilizer incorporation, seedbed preparation and residue management.
- Medium depth tillage (6-10") will have a chisel plow set-up with 3 different sets of points and a strip till unit with both coulter and shank options. *Dave Franzen* (NDSU) will discuss band vs. broadcast fertilizer and *Maria Riekman* (MAFRI, Winnipeg Manitoba) will present nitrogen loss data from different tillage implements.
- **Deeptillage pit** (12-18") will display a moldboard plow, zone till and a disk rippe. *Jodi DeJong-Hughes* (University of Minnesota) will discuss soil compaction alleviation and the importance of soil structure.
- Naturalsoilpit (biotill) Hal Weiser (North Dakota NRCA) will discuss how to build soil structure through soil biology and building soil health.
- Dronetechnology Will Anderson (Rx Ag Services) will talk about the practical applications of drones and the challenges they have come across.

Field demonstrations by major and local equipment manufacturers will run immediately after the soil pit sessions. The event will be held rain or shine and is hosted by Jeff Olson. Lunch will be available for purchase on the grounds. Pre-registration for the field day is encouraged.

For more information and to register email <u>foxxx055@umn.edu</u> or call (320) 235-0726 x2001 or mail the form found in the <u>Total Tillage Solutions Field Day</u> brochure.

Hazelnut Harvesting Demonstration Walk-N-Talk Thursday, September 4, 2014 @ 5 p.m.

Location: 1256 230th Ave, Fairmont, MN

Brief Description: Hazelnut growers interested in mechanical harvest of hazelnuts should mark their calendars and travel to the Don, Judy, and Richard Moritz Farm in Fairmont, MN for a hazelnut harvest demonstration with a BEI Blueberry Harvester. In addition, Don Moritz will talk about his families operation and Linda Meschke will discuss the American Hazelnut Company that is forming to purchase and process hazelnuts. Hazelnut is a multi-use crop and the kernels, oils and meal can be used in a broad range of food products like edible oils, spreadable nut butters, nut flours, and confections. Beside food uses, the oil, shells, husks and wood may have use as oils in cosmetics, antioxidant qualities, and as a feedstock in bioenergy applications. With so many uses and so many markets, hazelnuts provide economic opportunities for growers and processors. Commercial processing will soon be available to growers. As a perennial shrub, hazelnuts hold soil, tightly cycle nutrients and don't require annual tillage inputs. These ecosystem services make hazelnuts an excellent conservation crop that can provide economic return and environmental benefits.

For more information email or call <u>Linda Meschke</u> (507) 238-5449 at Rural Advantage.

Documentary File Series - America's Lost Landscape: The Tallgrass Prairie Thursday, Sept. 4, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

Location: Treaty Site History Center

Brief Description: Please join us for the 2014-15 documentary film series. A partnership between St. Peter Community and Family Education and Nicollet County Historical Society, films are screen every month at the Treaty Site

History Center through May. The Tallgrass Prairie tells the rich and complex story of one of the most astonishing alterations of nature in human history. Prior to Euro-American settlement in the 1820's, one of the major landscape features of North America was 240 million acres of tallgrass prairie. But between 1830 and 1900 -- in the span of a single lifetime -- the prairie was steadily transformed to farmland. This drastic change in the landscape brought about an enormous social change for Native Americans. In an equally short time their cultural imprint was reduced in essence to a handful of place-names appearing on maps. The extraordinary cinematography of prairie remnants, original score and archival images are all delicately interwoven to create a powerful and moving viewing experience about the natural and cultural history of America. Admission to the film series is free for all.

For more information contact the Society at (507) 934-2160 or<u>museum@nchsmn.org</u>.

Causes of the US Dakota War and Battlefield Tour Saturday, September 6, 2014 @ 1 p.m.

Location: Fort Ridgely

Brief Description: The causes of the US Dakota War in 1862 were many and complicated. Independent Historian John LaBatte will examine these. At least nine of John's Dakota and white ancestors were involved in the US Dakota War of 1862. Historic Fort Ridgely is recognized by the National Park Service as a National Battlefield and is listed twice of the National Registry of Historic Places. Join John LaBatte for the 1 p.m. program and again for the 2:30 p.m. battlefield tour. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors, students with ID, and childrens ages 6-17. MNHS and NCHS members are free.

For more information contact Amber Bentler (507) 766-0994.

Posse Paddle: Amateur Canoe & Kayak Race Sunday, September 7th, 2014 @ 8:30 a.m.

Location: Park at Dundas trailhead Parking lot (corner of Railway St. North and County Rd 1 in Dundas)

Brief Description: Join the Cannon River Watershed Partnership during the Posse Paddle - an amateur canoe and kayak race during the Defeat of Jesse James Days. Registration fee is \$15/person before the event or \$20/person . The registration fee includes a button to the Defeat of Jesse James Day "Button" events. CRWP can mail buttons in advance for those who preregister by August 29 or they can pick them up at our office at 400 Washington St. in Northfield. You must have your own personal flotation device (PFD) to wear during the race.

For more information and to register go to the CRWP's website.

Sept. 8 -Sept. 14 Minnesota River Congress Regional Meeting in Montevideo Wednesday, September 10, 2014 @ 7-9 p.m.

 $\mbox{Location:}$ Clean Up the River Environment, Community Center, 550 1st St W, Montevideo, MN

Brief Description: In June, several dozen people gathered at the Minnesota River Congress in New UIm to discuss ideas for the future of collaborative efforts to protect and improve land and water resources in the Minnesota River Basin. Now, that discussion is traveling throughout the basin at 5 regional public meetings planned in mid-September. CURE is co-hosting one of these regional meetings on September 10, and we hope that all concerned citizens will be able to attend!

If you can't make it to the meeting in Montevideo, try one of the four other regional meetings:

- September 11 co-hosted by Rural Advantage at the Knights of Columbus Hall (930 E 10th St.) in Fairmont
- September 15 co-hosted by JR Brown Heritage Society, Henderson Community Center, Henderson
- September 16 Co-hosted by the Friends of the Minnesota Valley at the National Wildlife Refuge in Bloomington
- September 17 co-hosted by the Lower Sioux Community at Jackpot Junction in Morton

For more information contact Sparlin at (507) 276-2280 <u>yasure@lycos.com</u>. A summary of the June 19 congress is posted on the <u>Minnesota River Watershed</u> <u>Alliance webpage</u>.

Brews and Canoes

Wednesday, September 10, 2014 @ 7 p.m. Location: Aria in Minneapolis, MN

Brief Description: We are pleased announce that <u>Chowgirls Killer Catering</u>will be providing the food, and <u>The Boomchucks</u> and <u>The Roe Family Singers</u> will be providing the music for the event! There are nine breweries from across Minnesota participating in Brews and Canoes – a craft beer competition celebrating Minnesota's outdoors and the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act. The competing breweries ready to battle for the coveted L'Etaile du Nord (Best in Show) trophy are:

- Bent Paddling Brewing Co. (Duluth, MN)
- Big Wood Brewery (White Bear Lake, MN)
- Dangerous Man Brewing Co. (Minneapolis)
- Indeed Brewing Co. (Minneapolis)
- Lake Monster Brewing (Minneapolis)
- Lift Bridge Brewing Company (Stillwater, MN)
- Mankato Brewery (North Mankato, MN)
- NorthGate Brewing (Minneapolis)
- Summit Brewing Company (St Paul, MN)

Craft brewers are encourage to draw inspiration for their entries from the wilderness themes reflected in the Wilderness Act: untrammeled, nature tranquil, rugged adventure and camaraderie. The Wilderness Act protects one of our state's natural treasures, the Boundary Waters, which was one of the first protected under its legislation. Tickets to attend the tasting event and live concert go on sales at <u>EventBrite</u> beginning Aug. 1. Admission will include beer samples, food and a signature take-home Brews and Canoes tasting glass. For more event information, ticket prices and updates on the tasting event, continue to visit the <u>Brews and Canoes page on the FBWW website</u>throughout the summer.

Native Wetland and Green Infrastructure Planting

Thursday, September 11, 2014 @ 6-8 p.m.

Location: Crosby Farm Regional Park, St. Paul, MN Brief Description: Join other River Gorge Stewards volunteers and staff from FMR and Saint Paul Parks & Recreation as we expand the native plant/restored area at this significant riverfront park! Volunteers will help install native wetland plants along, and drought-hardy plants atop a large-scale nativeprairie berm previously planted by FMR volunteers. This green infrastructure will help prevent erosion, build better soils and filter stormwater runoff pollution before it can reach the river. The plants will also provide much-needed urban wildlife habitat. As always staff will provide all guidance, tools, and gloves needed for a productive and fun events. Children accompanied by a parent or guardian are welcome.

For more information and to register contact FMR Event Registrar Janna Knittel via the contact form (please select Janna by name from the staff list under 'Category') or jknittel@fmr.org (651) 222-2193.

The Big Woods

Thursday, September 11, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

Location: Traverse des Sioux, St. Peter, MN

Brief Description: Please join us for our "two-part trail tour" presented by Scott Kudelka, Minneopa Area Naturalist. The two programs, one in August and one in September, will take place out on the Traverse des Sioux trails and will teach participants about the two very different landscapes on either side of the Minnesota River - the Prairie and the Big Woods. During the Prairie tour we will learn how prior to Euro-American settlement of southern Minnesota, the tallgrass prairie dominated the landscape through the Minnesota River basin. A hike through our restored prairie will give us a chance to learn about some of the plants and wildlife found in this ecosystem. Scott will talk about its benefits to the natural environment and how people over time have viewed and managed it as a resource. During the Big Woods program we will examine how these forests formed in the first place, some of the rare species found in this ecosystem and its history over time. The dense forest dominated by maple and basswood once covered a 3,000 square mile area of southern Minnesota reaching all the way to present-day Mankato. Called "Bois Grand" or "Big Woods" by early French explorers, it was recognized as a distinct area from the band of hardwood forests.

For more information email or call Alyssa Auten (507) 934-2160.

Minnesota River Congress Regional Meeting Thursday, September 11, 2014 @ 7-9 p.m.

Location: Rural Advantage at the Knights of Columbus Hall (930 E 10th St.) in Fairmont

Brief Description: In June, several dozen people gathered at the Minnesota River Congress in New Ulm to discuss ideas for the future of collaborative efforts to protect and improve land and water resources in the Minnesota River Basin. Now, that discussion is traveling throughout the basin at 5 regional public meetings planned in mid-September. CURE is co-hosting one of these regional meetings on September 10, and we hope that all concerned citizens will be able to attend!

If you can't make it to the meeting in Fairmont, try one of the four other regional meetings:

- September 15 co-hosted by JR Brown Heritage Society, Henderson Community Center, Henderson
- September 16 Co-hosted by the Friends of the Minnesota Valley at the National Wildlife Refuge in Bloomington
- September 17 co-hosted by the Lower Sioux Community at Jackpot Junction in Morton

For more information contact Sparlin at (507) 276-2280 <u>yasure@lycos.com</u>. A summary of the June 19 congress is posted on the <u>Minnesota River Watershed</u> <u>Alliance webpage</u>.

	MN River Cleanup from Kinney Landing to the Granite Falls Dam Saturday, September 13, 2014 @ 9 a.m 1 p.m. Location: Memorial Park, Hwy 67 off of Hwy 23, Granite Falls, MN 56241 Brief Description: For an opportunity to get your hands dirty doing real, honest-to-goodness work on the Minnesota River, join CURE and other river- conscious folks at Lion's Shelter in Memorial Park for a river cleanup and lunch! We will meet at 9 a.m. and break into groups to tackle the litter that the river collects. Some groups will be working on the banks; others will actually wade through the water to pull out trash. September is a good time of year because the river is low enough that we can really get to all the junk out there: in the past, we have pulled out tires, appliances, batteries, metalWho knows what treasures we will find this year? Please wear close-toed shoes that can get wet, long pants, long sleeves and bring gloves if you have them. Be prepared to get dirty, but that's half the fun! We will meet at the Lion's Shelter in the Memorial Park picnic area at 9 a.m. and work in the morning. At noon, we will celebrate our success and a clean stretch of the Minnesota River with a free lunch for all of you that helped out. For more information email or call Peg (320) 269-2984.
Sept. 15 - Sept. 21	Minnesota River Congress Regional Meeting Monday, September 15, 2014 @ Henderson Community Center, co-hosted by JR Brown Heritage Society
	Tuesday, September 16, 2015 @ National Wildlife Refuge in Bloomington, co- hosted by the Friends of the Minnesota Valley
	Wednesday, September 17, 2015 @ Jackpot Junction in Morton, co-hosted by the Lower Sioux Community Center
	Brief Description: In June, several dozen people gathered at the Minnesota River Congress in New UIm to discuss ideas for the future of collaborative efforts to protect and improve land and water resources in the Minnesota River Basin. Now, that discussion is traveling throughout the basin at 5 regional public meetings planned in mid-September. CURE is co-hosting one of these regional meetings on September 10, and we hope that all concerned citizens will be able to attend!
	For more information contact Sparlin at (507) 276-2280 <u>vasure@lycos.com</u> . A summary of the June 19 congress is posted on the Minnesota River Watershed Alliance webpage.
	Henderson Heritage Days
	Saturday, September 20 - Sunday, September 21, 2014 Location: Henderson, MN Brief Description: The celebration includes guided tours of the city's parks and historic buildings, a mini quilt show on Main Street and street actors giving visitors a glimpse into Henderson's past on Saturday, Sept. 20 and a community worship service on Sunday, Sept. 21. A variety of food and craft vendors will be in attendance. Open both days: The historic Sibley County Museum (\$2 donation) and JR Brown Minnesota River Center named after the 19th century entrepreneur and salesman who founded Henderson. Tickets for Saturday event are \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids 5-12. Those 4 and under are free. The event runs from 10 a.m 5 p.m. For more information on events go to Henderson Heritage Days Facebook page. Tools and House Building - Mid 1800's
	Sunday, September 21, 2014 @ 12-4 p.m.

	Location: WW Mayo House, 118 N Main St, Le Sueur, MN Brief Description: The historic WW Mayo House will be open for tours from noon to 4 p.m. with a special interpreted display of carpentry tools from the mid- 1800's. Dr. WW Mayo hand-built the little Gothic-style house with the help of his brother James. Discuss what tools he would have had available to him and what building practices he used that makes the house unique. Regular site admission; free to MNHS, MHIS and NCHS members. For more information email or call <u>Alyssa Auten (</u> 507) 934-2160.
	JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS
	AGRIC SPECIALIST
Department	Pesticide & Fertilizer Management, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Closing Date	September 5, 2014
Location(s)	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	This position exists to provide regulatory outreach to fresh market (fruits/vegetables/ornamentals)immigrant/minority farmers, conduct inspections, perform investigations and initiate appropriate field enforcement actions under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), the Food Quality Protection Act, the Minnesota Pesticide and Fertilizer Control Laws, M.S. 18B, 18C, 18D, 18E and rules promulgated under both federal and state law; provide information and education to regulated clientele and the general public regarding the use, storage, handling, distribution and disposal of agricultural chemicals. Special emphasis will be on working directly with immigrant/minority farmers who use fertilizers and pesticides. For more information go to Minnesota State Jobs website, Posting #14AGR000068.
	MULTI-MEDIA DATA MANAGER
Department	EAO/Environmental Data Manager
Closing Date	September 5, 2014
Location(s)	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	Position provides data and project management for the PCA's enterprise level- multi-media monitoring activities using EQuIS database management system. The position will provide high-level project management, leadership, and contract management. The incumbent will also coordinates meetings, timelines, budgeting, implementation of the system across users groups, and coordinate with the EQUIS System Administrator and the systems vendor for improvements and updates to the system. For more information go to <u>Minnesota State Jobs website</u> , Posting #14PCA000112
ASSISTANT Z	ONING ADMINISTRATOR/ASSISTANT EMERGENCY MANAGER DIRECTOR
Department	Brown County
Closing Date	September 11, 2014
<u> </u>	
Location(s)	New Ulm, MN

	Supervise office staff in absence of Department Head. For more information go to <u>Brown County's website</u> .
	WATERSHED COORDINATOR
Department	Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed Director
Closing Date	September 20, 2014
Location(s)	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	This position provides project management and technical oversight of water resource protection as identified in the District's Water Management Plan.
	For more information and how to apply go to www.plslwd.org.
″∿	1an is a complex being: he makes deserts bloom - and lakes die." - Gil Stern
at <u>http://mail</u>	er at the Minnesota River Watershed Alliance's bulletin board I.mnsu.edu/mailman/listinfo/mrwa/ to receive regular updates on what is happening in the ver Basin.