

# Minnesota River Weekly Update

Aug 1, 2017



**"Everybody freak out—it's sweet corn season."**

Image: Grilled corn with miso butter.

Source: [Bon Appétit](#)

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Minnesota River Weekly  
Update, click on the Archive  
button.**

[— Archive —](#)

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# Announcements

## **Applications open for \$8.6 million in Legacy grants**

*July 31, 2017, MDNR*

Groups that want to restore, protect or enhance public land can apply for Conservation Partners Legacy (CPL) grants that help pay for work on Minnesota prairies, forests, wetlands or other habitat for fish and wildlife. Nonprofit organizations and government entities are eligible to submit applications for traditional and metro grant cycles until 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12, on the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources website at [mndnr.gov/cpl](http://mndnr.gov/cpl). Projects must be on public land or land permanently protected by conservation easements. Applicants may request up to \$400,000 with a total project cost not exceeding \$575,000. Projects also must have a 10 percent match from a source outside a state agency. ([read more](#))

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## **New Richland-area hog farm proposes doubling production; environmental review underway**

*[Cathy Rofshus](#), , July 27, 2017, MPCA*

Hi-Way 30 Hogs proposes to double its swine finishing facility about 4 miles west of New Richland in Waseca County, from 2,400 to 4,800 hogs. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) is accepting comments on an environmental review of the proposed expansion through Aug. 23. The facility in Section 15 of Byron Township currently has one barn that holds up to 2,400 swine. Keith Schlaak of Hi-Way 30 Hogs proposes to build a second barn for the additional swine. The swine would produce about 1.7 million gallons of liquid manure annually that would be stored in reinforced concrete pits below the barns, with a total capacity of nearly 2.2 million gallons. The manure would be removed in the manure in the fall and injected into cropland as fertilizer, following an MPCA-approved manure management plan. ([read more](#))

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## **MPCA completes 48 enforcement cases in second quarter of 2017**

*[Steve Mikkelson](#), July 26, 2017, MPCA*

In its ongoing efforts to promote environmental compliance, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) concluded 48 enforcement cases in 33 counties throughout Minnesota during the second quarter of 2017. Penalties from all 48 cases totaled just over \$450,000. Environmental enforcement investigations often take several months, and in highly complex cases more than a year. Although, in rare instances, they can involve courts, they are most often negotiated settlements where the goal is compliance with environmental rules. Fines issued are targeted to match the environmental harm, economic advantage gained or environmental corrective actions. In addition to these 48 recently-completed cases, the MPCA also has 41 ongoing enforcement investigations, 17 of which were opened as new cases during the second quarter of 2017. Not all investigations lead to fines or other official action. ([read more](#))

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## **Collaboration creates new wildlife management area in Dakota County**

*MDNR, July 28, 2017*

A portion of one of the last and largest wooded areas in Dakota County has been permanently protected as a state wildlife management area through the collaborative efforts of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Dakota County and the nonprofit conservation group Friends of the Mississippi River. The new Hampton Woods Wildlife Management Area consists of 191 acres of oak forest that will be managed by the DNR for wildlife habitat and public hunting. Located about four miles east of Farmington off state Hwy. 50, it's the only forest for miles around in a largely agricultural landscape. The area is home to a number of rare species such as the red-shouldered hawk, as well as more common game species including deer, turkeys and squirrels. Each spring, the forest floor blossoms with wildflowers. ([read more](#))

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# News

## **Increased nitrates put more demand on aquifers**

*Jul 25, 2017, Mankato free Press*

In a state rich in water resources, there haven't been a lot of worries about water supplies. But in recent years the Department of Natural Resources, cities and others have raised alarms about the overuse of deep aquifers and about pollution dangers to surface water. Hundreds of feet below southern Minnesota, the Mount Simon aquifer provides drinking water for more than 1 million area residents, including Mankato. As a recent MPR story noted, that aquifer has dropped by as much as 200 feet in some areas since pioneer settlement times. While there's no danger of the aquifer drying up, officials worry about the growing use of the aquifer to provide drinking water and water for watering lawns and crops. ([read more](#))

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## **Fishing opener brought in \$1.3 million in publicity value, report**

## **Virus that affects carp responsible for Lake Elysian fish kill**

*MDNR, July 27, 2017*

Thousands of common carp died last month in Waseca County's Lake Elysian because of a virus likely introduced to Minnesota waters by the release or escape of ornamental koi or pet goldfish. A joint effort by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and the University of Minnesota have determined koi herpesvirus (KHV) was the main cause of the late-June fish kill in southern Minnesota. It is the state's first documented case of the virus in a wild fish population. KHV does not affect humans and is not believed to affect other fish species. ([read more](#))

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## **From farm to yard: garden shows off repurposed materials, creative use of space**

*Jacob Stark, July 27, 2017, Waseca County News*

**says**

*TIMES STAFF REPORT, July 26, 2017*

Media attention during the Minnesota Governor's Fishing Opener in St. Cloud brought more than \$1.3 million in publicity value, according to a report by the Explore Minnesota tourism agency. More than 130 media personnel representing 60 outlets visited St. Cloud for the event May 11-14. Fishing excursions took place primarily on the Mississippi River. The event capped a year of preparation for an event that showcases tourist destinations. [\(read more\)](#)

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### **Wide contamination in U.S. tapwater, though most systems meet standards**

*[Ron Meador](#), 07/26/17, Minn Post*

If your kitchen tap delivers water from a public system, chances are good that it meets federal standards. But that doesn't necessarily mean it's fit to drink. This is the central message of a data-mining analysis [published this morning](#) by the Environmental Working Group, which aggregated and analyzed self-reported contamination statistics from nearly 50,000 systems across the U.S. Prompted by the crisis in Flint, Michigan, the two-year project includes an interactive feature that could bring an entirely new dimension to American awareness of drinking water quality: Each system's contaminant levels are accessible by ZIP code with a few mouse clicks. [\(read more\)](#)

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### **Kernza field day slated Aug. 10**

*[Tom Cherveney](#) on Jul 26, 2017*

MADISON — A field day for those interested in raising a perennial grain crop known as Kernza will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Aug. 10 at the A-Frame Farm owned and operated by Carmen Fernholz

From wheelbarrows and wagons to boots and bricks, Twyla and Randy Schmidt have repurposed several items for a garden that will be open to area residents Aug. 6. The Schmidts' garden is one of seven that will be featured in this year's Waseca Garden Walk, an event sponsored by the Waseca Garden Club. This event features gardens of area residents each year, enabling attendees to tour these locations for free. The Schmidts' front yard displays petunias and glassware that Twyla built over the winter, a washtub they picked up from a flea market at Elko and mirrors acquired at garage sales. [\(read more\)](#)

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### **Legislature frees up money for buffer compliance**

*[Eric Johnson](#), July 25, 2017, Austin Daily Herald*

As a November deadline for buffer compliance approaches, a new resource has been unveiled to help farmers and landowners. The Minnesota Legislature has released nearly \$5 million in overall funding to use in cost-share assistance in meeting the state buffer law set in 2015. According to a press release from the Mower Soil and Water Conservation District on Monday, Mower County will get \$60,000 of that money. The funding, which comes from Minnesota's Clean Water Fund was approved in June by the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources. [\(read more\)](#)

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### **Why Japanese beetles are particularly bad this year**

*[Phil Picardi](#) · Jul 28, 2017. MPR News*

If you think that you are seeing more Japanese beetles eating the plants in your garden this year, you're not mistaken. Entomologists at the University of Minnesota confirm that the destructive

near Madison. The field day is an opportunity for growers, processors and others interested in learning more about this new and exciting grain. The University of Minnesota Forever Green Initiative has been engaged in research and development on the intermediate wheatgrass for several years in partnership with The Land Institute in Kansas, where the grain was first developed. ([read more](#))

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## **2 paddlers remove 5,000 pounds of Minnesota river trash and counting**

*August 01, 2017 By [Julie Kailus](#)*

Do-good adventurers Paul Twedt and Michael Anderson are in the middle of a dirty mission: to remove as much trash as they can while paddling 1,200 miles of Minnesota rivers. So far they've paddled 500 miles and picked up 5,000 pounds of rubbish, ranging from a bowling ball to a 100-pound semi-truck tire. Recently they'd found a push fertilizer spreader, an old snow thrower and a car axle. They knew the rivers were dirty, but not this dirty. ([read more](#))

pests are thriving in Minnesota right now and the problem is only going to get worse. University of Minnesota Professor Vera Krischik, one of the state's leading authorities on Japanese beetles, says climate change is partly to blame. "These cold wet springs we usually have kill them, and if you think about it it's been getting warmer in the spring," Krischik said. "As long as it's above 50 (degrees), they can be active and feed on roots." ([read more](#))

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## **Eastern Minnesota city considers proposed asphalt plant**

*Jul 25, 2017, Mankato Free Press*

COLUMBUS, Minn. (AP) — Supporters of a proposed asphalt plant in an eastern Minnesota city say the development would generate jobs, but opponents say it's not worth the traffic, noise and odors from the facility. Columbus City Council will vote Wednesday on a zoning change that would put Bituminous Roadways' asphalt plant one step closer to construction, the Pioneer Press (<http://bit.ly/2tGNRbo>) reported. Residents and business owners expressed concerns about potential health issues, increased traffic, noise and smell at a planning commission public hearing about the plant last month. ([read more](#))

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# Events

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↓ **Aug 2 - Aug 8** ↓

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## **Indeed We Can – Fresh Energy**

August 2 @ 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Indeed Brewing Company  
711 NE 15th Ave

Minneapolis, MN 55413 United States

**Brief Description:**

Join us for a casual summer evening at Indeed Brewing to learn more about Fresh Energy and our work to electrify Minnesota's transportation system. If you already drive electric, please bring your wheels and we can line up a nice plug-in vehicle display. If you haven't made the switch yet, come and see the cars and talk with owners to learn from their experience.



Fresh Energy is working to electrify everything and power it with renewables. Say hi to our team members and share your thoughts on how we could best accomplish this together.

Fresh Energy is proud to be Indeed Brewing's featured nonprofit for their August 2 Indeed We Can event. Every Wednesday night, Indeed's net profits from both the main and Ox taproom are donated to a non-profit. Join us to raise a glass to Fresh Energy and our shared efforts to power more Minnesota cars and buses with clean, renewable electricity.

For more information click [here](#).

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**Archery in the Park**

08/05/2017, 1 PM to 2:30 PM

**Location:**Fort Ridgely State Park,  
Off State Hwy. 4, 6 miles south of Fairfax  
or 12 miles north of Sleepy Eye.

**Brief Description:**

The sport of shooting arrows has been around for thousands of years. First humans used archery as a way to hunt animals and later as a way to compete against each other. Archery is an activity that people from all walks of life and almost every size and ability can participate and have fun. This program covers the basics of archery (safety, proper care of the equipment and how to use a bow). Participants will be able to practice their new skills. Meet at the Upper Picnic Area.



For more information contact Scott Kudelka at 507-384-8890 or by email at [scott.kudelka@state.mn.us](mailto:scott.kudelka@state.mn.us).

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**38TH ANNUAL WEST NEWTON DAY**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6, 2017 1-4-PM

**Location:**Fort Ridgely State Park,

Off State Hwy. 4, 6 miles south of Fairfax  
or 12 miles north of Sleepy Eye.

**Brief Description:** This 38th annual event celebrates the heritage of the Minnesota village of West Newton that existed halfway between New Ulm and Fort Ridgely from 1856 to 1901. Historical photographs will be on display, as well as the history of the Alexander Harkin family. He was the founder of the 1870's general store with 40% original merchandise still on the shelves, which is all that is left of the village. We invite any descendants of West Newton's earliest settlers to share their stories and any photographs for the event, on Sunday, August 6th, from 1 to 4 pm. We will be able to copy any information and photos for you and us. We will also post any information for contacts.



The store is open from 10 to 5 pm everyday except Mondays in August. The gift shop is open the same hours as the store which has many books, toys, unique and hand crafted items, also 10 cent candy. Admission to the program is included with admission to the store.

The store is located nine miles northwest of New Ulm on Nicollet County Road 21, or the bottom road, or nine miles east of Fort Ridgely. For more information contact the store at [1-507-354-8666](tel:1-507-354-8666), or Nicollet County Historical Society which operates the store at [1-507-934-2160](tel:1-507-934-2160).

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### Sixth Annual Farm Camp Minnesota

August 7, 2017 to August 8, 2017

**Location:** Waseca-Farmamerica

#### **Brief Description:**

Farmers, farm organizations, agribusinesses and volunteers have joined together to organize and host the sixth annual "Farm Camp Minnesota" for youth. This event is open to youth entering grades 3-6. This year the one-day camp will be held four days at three different locations!



On August 7 and 8 Farm Camp Minnesota will be held in the Waseca area at Farmamerica and on August 15 it will be held in the St. Cloud area near Rice, Minnesota on the Schmitt Family Farm. August 16 camp will be held in the Northfield area near Dundas, Minnesota at Wolf Creek Dairy. The camp will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Preregistration is required!

The event will allow campers the opportunity to learn about modern agriculture, where their food comes from, how it is grown and how farm products are used in our daily life. Each camper will have the opportunity to learn about various types of livestock and crop farms, including pork, beef, dairy, turkey, corn, and soybeans. They will also learn about the equipment used in farming and at the Dundas and Waseca sites will each get a ride in a tractor.

For More information click [here](#).

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↓ Aug 9 - Aug 15 ↓

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## Soil Health Field Day

August 9th, 2017

**Location:** Mark Ditlevson's Farm  
7068 East Highway 30  
Blooming Prairie, MN 55917  
(1 mile West of Blooming  
Prairie)



**Brief Description:** The Freeborn Area Soil Health Team will be having a soil health field day on Wednesday August 9th! This event is going to be featuring Frank Gibbs who is a retired NRCS soil scientist from Ohio. Frank will be showing a tile demonstration which consists of Frank using smoke and pressurizing tile lines to force the smoke through the soil surface. In this demonstration smoke is being used as an indicator for water movement through the soil which will show the efficiency of the underlying tile. The more smoke that comes to the surface demonstrates a healthier soil. Soils that are sealed due to compaction will not have smoke rise through the soil surface.

Also on the agenda to speak at this event are Sarah Carlson from PFI, Spencer Herbert from SARE/MDA, Mark Morreim from Morreim drainage, Doug Nopar and Shona Snater from the Land Stewardship Project. Don't miss this event!

To see the entire agenda for the day view the attached flyer for more details! If you have any other additional questions call the Freeborn County SWCD at [507-373-5607 Ext. 3](tel:507-373-5607). ([more information](#))

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## AFTERNOON OF LEISURE

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2017 1- 4 PM

**Location:** Harkin store  
nine miles northwest of New Ulm on  
Niccollet County Road 21,  
or the bottom road, or nine miles east of  
Fort Ridgely.



**Brief Description:** Sunday afternoons in the 1870's were family time or time to relax, visit friends, or maybe do a bit of fancy work. There will be a showing of some of their work in tating, hardanger, knitting and other types of work. Men would do some wood crafts or play music or just read. Anyone

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 1870's store which has 40% original merchandise on the shelves and learn about the village of West Newton and the only thing left of the village, the Harkin Store. The store is open 10 to 5 pm everyday except Mondays. The programs are on Sunday afternoons from 1 to 4 pm is included with the admission to the store. The gift shop is open the same hours as the store and has books, toys, unique and hand crafted items, also 10 cent candy. For more information contact the store at [1-507-354-8666](tel:1-507-354-8666) or Nicollet County Historical Society which operates the store at [1-507-934-2160](tel:1-507-934-2160).

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### **Soil Health Field Day**

08/12/2017, 9 AM to 11 AM

**Location:** Minneopa State Park  
5 miles west of Mankato on State Hwy.  
68 and U.S. Hwy. 169.

**Brief Description:** Swan Lake is North America's largest wetland complex and one of most healthy shallow lakes in southern Minnesota. Take a leisurely



paddle on Swan Lake with the Minneopa Area Naturalist to learn how to paddle and more about this amazing resource. We will take off from the boat ramp at Nicollet Bay (east of the city Nicollet) and paddle out into the lake for just over an hour. Be prepared for all types of weather and bring water and a snack. Contact Scott Kudelka at [scott.kudelka@state.mn.us](mailto:scott.kudelka@state.mn.us) for more information and to register.

For more information contact Scott Kudelka at 507-384-8890 or by email at [scott.kudelka@state.mn.us](mailto:scott.kudelka@state.mn.us).

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↓ Aug 16 - Aug 22 ↓

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### **NEY SENIOR LEARNING SERIES: Renewable Energy**

Thursday, August 17th 12:00-2pm

**Location:** Ney Nature Center  
28238 Nature Center Lane  
Henderson, MN 56044

**Brief Description:** Learn about renewable energy and how it is utilized in Minnesota with the Rural Renewable Energy Alliance's Development Director, Jan Hubbard. Lunch included. Conducted on the third Thursday of each month. Ages 50+

Cost: \$10/member or \$12/non-members

[Register online](#) by August 10th! Reservations required.

For more information click [here](#).



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### Monarch Tagging

08/18/2017, 1 PM to 2 PM

**Location:** Minneopa State Park  
5 miles west of Mankato on State Hwy.  
68 and U.S. Hwy. 169.

**Brief Description:** Monarchs are the one butterfly that everyone knows and can identify with just one glance. This amazing creature over a number of generations will migrate from here in Minnesota all the way down to Mexico. Some scientists call it one of the most spectacular natural phenomena in the world. Monarch butterflies have been hit hard over the last decade and there is an effort to provide more habitat and a better chance for survival. Come out to Minneopa to learn more about the Monarch and hopefully get a chance to tag one. Meet at the turning circle near the office on the waterfalls side of Minneopa State Park.



For more information contact Scott Kudelka at 507-384-8890 or by email at [scott.kudelka@state.mn.us](mailto:scott.kudelka@state.mn.us).

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### BEES AND HONEY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2017 1- 4 PM

**Location:** Harkin store  
nine miles northwest of New Ulm on  
Nicollet County Road 21,  
or the bottom road, or nine miles east of  
Fort Ridgely.

**Brief Description:** Honey was used a sweetener instead of sugar. It could be found out on the prairie and could be made by the pioneers. Crystal Bock from Nicollet, will have equipment and information that she uses for making her honey. Our program is on Sunday, August 20th from 1 to 4 pm. Crystal's



honey will also be available in the gift shop. The Harkin Store is open everyday except Mondays in August from 10 to 5 pm. Admission to the program is included with admission to the store. Our gift shop is open the same hours as the store and has books, toys, unique and hand crafted items, also 10 cent candy.

For more information contact the store at [1-507-354-8666](tel:1-507-354-8666) or Nicollet County Historical Society which operates the store at [1-507-934-2160](tel:1-507-934-2160).

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## Job Announcements

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### —District Technicians—

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**Employer:**

Brown Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)

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**Closing Date:** Thursday, August 3, 2017 at 3:00PM

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**Location(s):** Sleepy Eye, Minnesota 56085

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**Who May Apply:**

All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

The Brown Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is looking to fill two open District Technician positions. The district is seeking highly motivated and experienced individuals that are passionate about implementing conservation practices and working with Brown County landowners to achieve their conservation goals. Applicants should have an understanding of the local agricultural practices in Brown County, where approximately seventy-five percent of the land use is cultivated land. The District Technicians perform various technical and administrative tasks relating to many local and state programs and work in cooperation with landowners, other district staff members, and external partners to implement those conservation programs. The position requires someone who can work independently with limited supervision to accomplish work tasks as well as communicate effectively, both verbally and written. Salary range for the District Technician position is \$16.96-\$25.22 per hour and the starting salary offer will be dependent on qualifications and experience. Brown SWCD offers a great benefits package that includes paid sick leave, paid vacation leave, paid holidays, health insurance, HSA account, and PERA retirement account.

To apply, submit your cover letter, resume, and Brown SWCD application by 3:00pm on August 3, 2017. Interviews will be held on August 9, 2017 for invited applicants. A full job

description and the Brown SWCD application are available in the links listed below.

Application packages can be dropped off in person or mailed to Brown SWCD, 300 2nd Ave SW, Sleepy Eye, MN 56085; or emailed to: [melanie.krueger@brownswcdmn.org](mailto:melanie.krueger@brownswcdmn.org).

[\(more information\)](#)

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### **Director**

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**Employer:**

Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR)

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**Closing Date:**

August 7th, 2017

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**Location(s):**

Saint Paul

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**Who May Apply:**

All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

Manage the process for the LCCMR to support the Legislature in funding natural resource projects from the constitutionally-created Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund. This allocation of about \$50,000,000 a year is recommended by a legislative-citizen commission to the legislature on an annual basis. The Director is responsible for seeing that this is accomplished by the staff in a non-partisan fashion. Ensure the purposes of the Trust Fund are honored by providing a judicious combination of stability and innovation in programs supported by the Trust Fund.

[\(more information\)](#)

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### **—District Technician—**

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**Employer:**

Sibley Soil and Water Conservation District

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**Closing Date:**

4:30 p.m. – August 11th, 2017

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**Location(s):** Gaylord, Minnesota

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**Who May Apply:**

All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

- Conducts site investigations and inventories, assisting the public with enrollment into various local, state, and federal conservation programs.
- Assists with the implementation of the Wetland Conservation Act.
- Participate and assist with various education and outreach activities.
- Performs duties of the Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) including, but not limited to, landowner contact and applications, easement acquisition, practice installation and program compliance.
- Attends meetings and trainings while professionally representing the SWCD as directed by the District Manager.
- Administers the annual Tree Program and is familiar with tree identification, tree pests and diseases.
- Administers the state cost share program.
- Performs other duties of a like or similar nature as assigned.

[\(more information\)](#)

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**—Farm Bill Technician—**

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**Employer:**

NICOLLET SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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**Closing Date:**

4:30 p.m. – August 11th, 2017

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**Location(s):** St. Peter/Gaylord, Minnesota

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**Who May Apply:**

All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

- Contact landowners in Nicollet/Sibley County and encourage the adoption of filter strips, riparian buffers, wetland restorations, wetland buffers, contour buffers, farmstead windbreaks, and grassed waterways through the use of the Continuous Conservation Reserve (CRP) Program.
- Prepare CRP contracts for landowners interested in enrolling land into the program.
- Assist landowners with filling out contracts, developing operation and maintenance plans, and seeding plans.
- Use Global Positioning Systems tools to mark land enrolled in CRP.
- Review sites being enrolled in CRP and guide landowners through the planting and establishment process.
- Conduct follow-up visits to check the status of the planting and inform landowners of any maintenance needed.
- Develop a GIS based reporting system to track all acres enrolled into CRP.
- Other duties as assigned by the District Manager.
- The assigned soil conservation work requires regular prolonged walking over field terrain, bending, lifting, and stretching while carrying required equipment.

- Operation of a motor vehicle on both public and private roads during daylight hours and occasionally after dark is required. A valid state driver's license is required.

[\(more information\)](#)

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### **—Forestry Policy Research Internship—**

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**Employer:** Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness

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**Closing Date:** August 18th, 2017

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**Location(s):** Minneapolis, MN

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**Who May Apply:**

All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

- Research and articulate the current range of forestry management activities occurring on the Superior National Forest
- Research and prepare a report on the stated purposes of those activities, the likely efficacy of the chosen management activities, their likely impacts on ecosystem integrity, and alternatives that may better protect ecosystem integrity.
- Research and prepare a report on landscape level impacts of current forestry management activities in the Superior National Forest, and alternatives that may better protect ecosystems.
- Review the Superior National Forest Plan for cumulative consistency of current forestry management projects with the Forest Plan.
- Attend meetings and other events related to forest management in the Superior National Forest (requires some travel).
- Organize forest management files; filing.
- Assist staff in preparing an advocacy plan for future reviews of forestry management projects in the Superior National Forest.

[\(more information\)](#)

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### **—State Policy Community Organizer—**

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**Employer:** Land Stewardship Project

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**Closing Date:** -

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**Location(s):** Minneapolis, MN

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**Who May Apply:**

All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

- You will work as part of LSP's Policy and Organizing Program as a community organizer on advancing campaigns and policy initiatives to win farm and food policy beneficial to the land, family farmers, and rural and urban communities. This position will focus on advancing policy goals at the state level. This work includes recruiting new LSP members with a focus on farmers and rural residents, and assist in grassroots fundraising and individual giving efforts.

[\(more information\)](#)

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**—Healthy Local Food Exhibit Staff—**

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**Employer:** Renewing the Countryside

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**Closing Date:** -

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**Location(s):** Falcon Heights/St. Paul

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**Who May Apply:**

All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

- Open or close exhibit (exhibit hours are 9 AM to 9 PM daily)
- Check in, orient and support volunteers
- Oversee all exhibit activities and guests
- Assist with food sample preparation
- Maintain the cleanliness and safety of the exhibit area
- Engage with fairgoers about the importance of organic agriculture and supporting our local food system

[\(more information\)](#)

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**—Part-time Fellow, Energy Policy Research—**

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**Employer:** Fresh Energy

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**Closing Date:** -

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**Location(s):**

Minneapolis-St.Paul, MN

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**Who May Apply:**

All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

- Help develop and implement Fresh Energy’s work on specific activities, primarily in the energy performance and energy markets policy program areas, through the following:
- Conduct research and analysis on specific areas of utility regulatory and legislative policies, analyzing past utility performance and comparison with other states. Work requires significant written and oral information synthesis documents, options and recommendations documents, and, internal and shared work products.
- Support, and lead some activities on, collaborative external projects that require contact and strong working relationships with partners, analysts, regulatory, and legislative staff.
- Synthesize existing policy, legislative, legal, technical, and/or financial analyses conducted as related to relevant policy proposals, changes, and approaches.
- In collaboration with communications staff and if/as required for the project, occasionally create and/or publish web content, social media content, or other policy program information for publication or broader dissemination.

[\(more information\)](#)

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**—land Protection Specialist MN, ND, SD—**

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**Employer:** The Nature Conservancy in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota

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**Closing Date:** August 24

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**Location(s):** Western Minnesota, USA

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**Who May Apply:** All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

The Nature Conservancy is seeking an experienced professional to join the team responsible for the Conservancy’s land protection program in MN, ND, and SD.

The Land Protection Specialist (LPS) plays a critical role in negotiating, acquiring land and conservation easements, cooperative acquisition with government partners, developing and implementing landscape level land protection plans, and, where appropriate, transferring land interests to partner agencies. The LPS will work with landowners, Conservancy staff, federal, state, and local agency professionals, and citizens to promote protection programs on public and private land.

The LPS will travel extensively in western MN and to selected locations in North Dakota and/or South Dakota. One of the critical objectives for this position is initiating and developing relationships with landowners and partners in our highest priority conservation landscapes.

[\(more information\)](#)

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Compiled by:

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Nhia Xiong & Bipin Thapa

Please direct all feedback, comments, and questions regarding this newsletter's content and design [here](#).

Thank you!



WATER RESOURCES CENTER  
MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO

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*"Sustainable development is the pathway to the future we want for all. It offers a framework to generate economic growth, achieve social justice, exercise environmental stewardship and strengthen governance."*

-Ban Ki-moon



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