

Hello all,

The non-profit organization Conservation Minnesota launched an interactive on-line magazine this month to reach Minnesotans who don't typically track state conservation or environmental policies. It seeks to enable citizens themselves to "tell the Minnesota story," according to executive director Paul Austin, and provides opportunities for readers to submit copy and video.



The goal is to tie the everyday environmental and outdoor concerns of Minnesotans to local and state public policy decisions. The debut issue focuses on stories about Minnesota water, with citizens talking about fishing and kayaking, and articles on drinking water safety and citizen water stewardship efforts lead by Minnesota Waters. Also included is a summary of 2007 state legislation on Great Lakes water use, energy efficiency and renewables, climate change, and recycling of consumer electronics.

Conservation Minnesota Debuts Interactive On-Line Magazine can be found at the following web sites:

<http://www.conservationminnesota.org/magazine>

<http://rs6.net/tn.jsp?t=yz6o6dcab.0.daoiqecab.uxz59bcab.956&ts=S0274&p=>

<http%3A%2F%2Fwww.conservationminnesota.org%2Fmagazine>

For further information on Conservation Minnesota and the magazine, contact Dave Dempsey at [dave@conservationminnesota.org](mailto:dave@conservationminnesota.org) [<mailto:dave@conservationminnesota.org>]

The Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) will be talking about conservation easements at their September 24<sup>th</sup> (Monday) at The Nature Conservancy Office Building (3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Falls Conference Room of Padilla, Speer and Beardsley) at 1101 West River Parkway, Minneapolis from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The agenda:

<http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/lccmragenda.pdf>

#### Events:

Explore the wonderful world of mussels on September 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> in New Ulm. Mike Davis of the DNR will be doing a presentation on Friday evening and a mussel walk Saturday morning on the Cottonwood River.

Friends of the Minnesota Valley are holding a "Rally for the Valley 5k Fun Run on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at Fort Snelling. The run starts at 9:00 a.m. For more information [www.friendsofminvalley.org](http://www.friendsofminvalley.org)

On September 25<sup>th</sup> attend Paul Rogat Loeb's lecture on the need to speak out and organize citizen action to slow down global warming at 7 p.m. at the Southwest State University in Marshall. For more information [www.curemnriver.org](http://www.curemnriver.org)

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is holding series of public information meetings on "Minnesota's List of 'Polluted Waters.'" Meetings in the Minnesota Watershed include October 8<sup>th</sup> at the MPCA Marshall Office and October 17<sup>th</sup> at the Blue Earth County Library in Mankato. Both meetings go from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Check out more up-coming events clink on the calendar at

<http://mrdbc.mnsu.edu/calendar/index.html>

#### Grant Opportunity:

Metro WaterShed Partners is accepting proposals for coordination services for its *Minnesota Water – Let's Keep it Clean!* stormwater education outreach program. For more information on the grant proposal: <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/mnwaterkeepcleanrfp.pdf>

The Environmental Assistance Fiscal Year 2008 (FY08) Grant Round is now posted at the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency web site: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/grants/eagrants.html>. The deadline for submittal of Preliminary Applications is October 29, 2007.

The 2008 Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund proposals are now available to view online at the LCCMR web site: <http://www.lccmr.leg.mn>

**Water quality related articles:**

The Minneapolis Star Tribune is doing a series of articles called "The Longest Cleanup" about lasting effects of chemicals in our ground water.

- Sunday's article: "Battling tainted water" at <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/battlingtaintedwater.pdf>
- Monday's article: "Hunting the invisible" at <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/huntingtheinvisible.pdf>
- Tuesday's article: "A toxic well, a life changed" at <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/atoxicwellalifechanged.pdf>
- Wednesday's article: "'It is amazing how much we don't know' about our water sources; House panel aims to fill in the blanks" at <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/unknownwaterquality.pdf>

Two utilities withdraw plans to buy power from the proposed Big Stone II coal plant on the South Dakota side of Big Stone Lake: <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/coalplantsetback.pdf>

"Big Stone II: Who wins, loses" Mary Jo Stueve of South Dakota Clean Water Action writes about how people will be affected under the construction of this coal plant: <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/bigstonell.pdf>

The positive side of conservation practices in terms of the recent devastating flooding in southeastern Minnesota: <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/conservationmeasures.pdf>

The Fernholz sisters are growing organic food on their family farm near Madison and helping lead the wave of more environmental friendly farming methods: <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/sistersgroworganic.pdf>

A call by the editors of the Mankato Free Press to publicly debate the pros and cons about the production of ethanol: <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/ethanoldebateneedsairing.pdf>

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency releases the new Impaired Waters list and the need to properly fund the Clean Water Legacy Act: <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/landof10000pollutedlakes.pdf>

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

**The Minnesota River Watershed Alliance (Watershed Alliance) is an organized network of citizens, public agencies, and private organizations dedicated to communicating the benefits of an ecology healthy Minnesota River Watershed to others and are actively working towards its improvement and protection. The Watershed Alliance meets four times a year and encourages landowners and recreational users of the river to be part of this effort.**

Thank you,

Scott