

### **Invasive weed prompts action on Anderson Chain of Lakes**

Nine Mile Creek Watershed District and Kevin Bigalke was featured on Kare 11 last night about the invasive species called Curly Leaf Pond weed and taking action on the Anderson chain of lakes.

#### **Invasive weed prompts action on Anderson Chain of Lakes**

Northwest and Southwest Anderson Lakes aren't the sandy bottomed lakes you find on a postcard. That doesn't mean they're not treasures

[FULL STORY](#)

[Play Video](#) |

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lake Pepin TMDL Technical Conference**

Save the dates September 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> for this conference to be held at the Alltel Center in Mankato. The conference will outline the extent of pollutant load reductions needed, and engage stakeholders in discussions of how to achieve through phased implementation in upstream basins. To register for the conference, <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/water/tmdl/tmdl-lakepepin.html#events>

Tuesday

- Lake Pepin TMDL as a blueprint for restoration
- Sediment source appointment: ravines, streambanks, and surface erosion
- Watershed connections and implementation strategies

Wednesday

- Preview implementation strategies
- Next steps for restoration

On Tuesday evening, the Minnesota River Watershed Alliance and partners will be hosting a "Minnesota River Event" with a presentation by Tim Krohn and John Cross from the Mankato Free Press about their recent voyage down the entire Minnesota River. There will also be an opportunity for networking and learning from others about Minnesota River issues. More information will be forthcoming.

### **Farm Bill Implementation Roundtables**

U.S. Congressman Tim Walz and U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar are sponsoring a series of local meetings to give residents an overview of the new Farm Bill and outline the implementation process. The discussion will be led by Matthew Wohlman, Outreach Director for Congressman Walz and Dave Frederickson, Outreach Director for Senator Klobuchar and joined by officials with the Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service. Meetings will be held in a variety of places including:

- August 25<sup>th</sup> (Monday) in Owatonna – 8 a.m. - at the Steele County Administration Center; County Board Room (635 Florence Avenue).
- August 25<sup>th</sup> (Monday) in Fairmont – 1:30 p.m. - at the Ranch Family Restaurant (1330 N. State Street).
- August 28<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) in New Ulm – 8 a.m. - at D.J.'s Restaurant (1200 N. Broadway Street)
- August 28<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) in Windom – 12 noon - at Happy Chef (745 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue North)
- August 28<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) in Luverne – 3:30 p.m. at the Pizza Ranch (110 East Main Street)

For more information contact Matthew Wohlman, Office of Congressman Tim Walz by email [matthew.wohlman@mail.house.gov](mailto:matthew.wohlman@mail.house.gov) or phone at 507-993-1284.

### **Gulf 'dead zone' suffocating fish and livelihoods**

Veteran fishermen and Oceanographers both agree the waters off the Gulf of Mexico are in tough shape. According to scientists, they aren't finding enough oxygen to support aquatic life. For the entire article go to the CNN web site,

<http://www.cnn.com/2008/TECH/science/08/18/dead.zone/index.html>

### **Job Announcements:**

See the **NextStep job board** for a variety of organizational postings and opportunities, links to the selected jobs below, and other job boards that post jobs in the field of sustainability:

- **MPCA: Clean Diesel Program Administrator**
- MN Dept. of Commerce: Energy Efficiency Program Administrator
- Fresh Energy: Clean Energy Director; Transportation Program Coordinator
- The Nature Conservancy: Renewable Energy Coordinator
- MN Community Land Trust Coalition: Executive Director
- St. Paul: RFP for Twin Cities Solar Strategic Plan
- SEEK (environmental education):  
<http://www.seek.state.mn.us/jobs.cfm>
- MN Council of Nonprofits: <http://www.mncn.org/jobs/default.asp>
- Idealist: <http://www.idealists.org>
- MEP: [http://www.mepartnership.org/mep\\_jobs.asp](http://www.mepartnership.org/mep_jobs.asp)

### **Crow Wing Water Planner / Administrative Assistant**

This position is that of a Water Planner/Administrative Assistant responsible for conducting and assisting with water planning, secretarial, clerical, educational, and public relations activities for the Crow Wing Soil and Water Conservation District. For more information,

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

### **Events:**

August 28<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) is the **Shakopee Creek Headwaters Project Summer Bus Tour and Open House** at the Sibley State Park – Cedar Hill Picnic Area – from 3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. For more information: <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/shakopeecreekopenhouse.pdf>

August 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> (Friday & Saturday) is **RIVER BLAST 2008** at Riverside Park in New Ulm. Look on [www.riverblast.org](http://www.riverblast.org) to see a YouTube video link, and pictures of last year's event; along with the application to participate in the float flotilla.

August 31<sup>st</sup> (Sunday) is the **State Parks of Minnesota: A Photo Journey** starting at 7:00 p.m. in the AV room at Fort Ridgely Historic Site commissary. Go on a Minnesota vacation with photographer, Doug Ohman as he explores many of the states most interesting state parks. Doug has visited all 66 parks and has stories, history and personal adventures to share. For more information, <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/dougohmanpressrelease.pdf>

September 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> (Friday & Saturday) is the **Mussel Weekend in the Chippewa River Watershed**. Come out on Friday evening at 7 p.m. to hear Mike Davis of the MN DNR talk about the wonderful world of mussels in the Assembly Room of the Chippewa County Courthouse, Montevideo. On Saturday morning we will be gathering at 9:00 a.m. for a mussel hike in the

Chippewa River at the Highway 40 bridge. Be prepared to get wet. For more information, <http://mavdisk.mnsu.edu/kudels/musselpresentation.pdf>

September 7<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) **Paddle the Pomme de Terre River** with the Clean Up the River Environment (CURE) staff. Meet at the Appleton City Park at 1:30 p.m. to start the adventure. For more information, <http://www.curemriver.org/events.htm>

September 18<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) **Pomme de Terre River Watershed Project Public Meeting** from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Old #1 Bar and Grill Southside (412 Atlantic Avenue), Morris. Come and find out about the new Pomme de Terre Watershed Turbidity TMDL project and get an update on the approved Fecal Coliform TMDL and implementation plan. For more information, contact Shaun McNally, Coordinator at 320-589-4886 ext. 109 or [shaun.mcnally@mn.nacdn.net](mailto:shaun.mcnally@mn.nacdn.net)

September 23-24 is the **Third Annual Lake Pepin TMDL Technical Conference: Creating a Blueprint for Restoration** at the AllTel Center in Mankato. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is hosting a technical conference to review the science behind the process. Latest modeling results will show the extent of sediment and phosphorus reductions that will be needed from upstream tributaries to meet water quality standards on the Mississippi River and Lake Pepin. Stakeholders and water resource managers from each part of the Lake Pepin watershed are invited to attend. Email [norman.senjem@pca.state.mn.us](mailto:norman.senjem@pca.state.mn.us) for more information.

**Check out additional upcoming events and workshops on the Minnesota River Calendar at:** <http://mrbdc.mnsu.edu/calendar/index.html>

### [Water Quality Articles](#)

[Food vs. fuel splits farmers](#) (Morris Sun Tribune). Emotions are rising nationally as leaders debate the question about whether biofuels such as ethanol are driving up food and other prices.

[Mitch Grussing -- Be thankful for state's clear skies](#) (Morris Sun Tribune). With the 2008 Summer Olympics being held in Beijing, the city has been in the news a lot lately. Some have been questioning China's press freedoms and human rights record or praising Beijing's multibillion-dollar effort to transform the city, but others have been raising concerns about air quality and the government's inability to reduce pollution to acceptable levels.

[Judy Helgen: Hey — let's stay in touch](#) (Minneapolis Star Tribune). To know what's up with nature (frogs, for instance), we've got to make personal visits.

[Farmers Union says carbon credit program includes nearly 2,300 farmers and ranchers nationally](#) (Minneapolis Star Tribune). Everett Dobrinski recently got a \$4,000 check for storing carbon dioxide in his soil.

[Global warming team finds audience in Minnesota](#) (Minnesota Public Radio). Two men with unique perspectives on global warming are teaming up to share their concerns with politicians, young people, and anyone else who will listen.

[Perspective on the health of Minnesota lakes](#) (Minnesota Public Radio). Summer at the lake is an iconic Minnesota experience. But how many people regularly check the health of their lake? Here's some perspective from a man who has spent 70 summers on the same Minnesota lake.

[Jorgenson, Drager say Farm Beginnings helped them](#) (Agri News). Mike Jorgenson and his wife, Kathy Drager, graduated last week. They completed the Farm Beginnings program in Marshall. During the 10-month course, the couple and other classmates began a holistic farm plan for their operations.

[Opinion: Nation needs more acreage in production, not more CRP](#) (Fargo Forum). If you don't like dependence on foreign oil, think of being dependent on foreign food. That's where we'll end up if we continue to idle more and more acres of U.S. cropland.

[Forum Editorial: Nonsense about food and ethanol](#) (Fargo Forum). The convergence of conservative and liberal thinking (?) about the role of ethanol in the nation's energy pantheon is a wonder to behold. Rarely has there been so much condescending feel-good hokey from anti-government (read, subsidies) conservatives and anti-big business, save-the-world liberals. It's an aligning of the ideological stars that has as much credibility as astrology.

[Receive carbon credits for land practices that store carbon](#) (Hutchinson Leader). Minnesota landowners have an opportunity to receive carbon credit payments for land practices that store carbon, such as no-till or strip-till farming, grasslands and woodlands.

[Crafty cows at work? 'Crop circles' take root in Fosston](#) (MinnPost). The wheat is beginning to turn a lovely golden brown alongside a county road a few miles east of this northwestern Minnesota town, and the signs left by recent visitors have faded some into the waving grain.

['Yes' men pull for the environment](#) (Austin Daily Herald). Ken Martin and Charlie Poster are "yes" men. "Vote Yes Minnesota," that is. Martin is the campaign manager for the "Vote Yes Minnesota" effort to convince the state's voters to approve the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment Nov. 4.

[Letter: Big Stone II project will cut mercury emissions by half](#) (Detroit Lakes Tribune). Big Stone II project will cut mercury emissions by half. I'd like to respond to a letter ("Big Stone II won't provide 'clean' Energy") that appeared in the July 30 edition of the Becker County Record, submitted by Amanda Swanson. She makes points about Big Stone II that are not accurate.

[UND professor says recoverable oil in Bakken could more than double after study](#) (Grand Forks Herald). A UND professor says the amount of recoverable oil on the U.S. side of the Bakken Formation could more than double as a result of a three-year study by UND researchers looking at how to increase the amount of oil that can be extracted from the Bakken's dense shale.

[Our View — Good news on energy front](#) (Mankato Free Press). Slowly but surely, the United States is putting in place infrastructure that will make us less dependent on oil imports and move more quickly toward energy independence.

[Waking up to the threat of 'peak oil'](#) (MinnPost). The recent dip in the world oil market has given consumers relief from surging pump prices, and his investors and commentators waxing with hope that the dip will become a trend.

[Study suggests low-level arsenic exposure may be linked with Type 2 diabetes](#) (Associated Press). A new analysis of government data is the first to link low-level arsenic exposure, possibly from drinking water, with Type 2 diabetes, researchers say. The study's limitations make more research necessary. And public water systems were on their way to meeting tougher U.S. arsenic standards as the data were collected.

[Women fought to save buffalo from extinction](#) (Fargo Forum). You might call them the unsung heroines in the saga of sparing the buffalo from extinction. Few people have heard of Mary Ann Good Elk Woman Dupree or Sarah Philip.

[Fecal Coliform](#) (Morris Sun Tribune). "Poo bacteria" is what the host of "Dirty Jobs" would probably call it. Fecal Coliform is an all encompassing name for a group of several different kinds

of bacteria and other microorganisms found in the intestines of warm-blooded animals and is always associated with fecal matter.

[Rain gardens: The eco-friendly landscaping option is catching on](#) (Pioneer Press). If Brown's Creek had arms, it would hug Elizabeth Brod. The creek is healthier now that Brod has installed two water-cleansing rain gardens in her back yard. Better yet, her homeowners association helped persuade 12 neighbors to do the same.

*Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better.* – Albert Einstein

*Forget not that the earth delights to feel your bare feet and the winds long to play with your hair –*  
Kahlil Gibran

**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. We meet four times a year and encourage landowners and recreational users of the river to be part of the effort. For more information on the Watershed Alliance: <http://www.watershedalliance.blogspot.com>**

Thanks,

Scott

Scott Kudelka  
Minnesota River Watershed Alliance  
Communications Coordinator  
Water Resources Center  
184 Trafton Science Center S  
Mankato, MN 56001  
507-389-2304  
[scott.kudelka@mnsu.edu](mailto:scott.kudelka@mnsu.edu)  
<http://watershedalliance.blogspot.com>