



Minnesota River Weekly Update

November 26th, 2013

Multi-agency research project finds half of Minnesota's stream miles physically altered

A first-of-its-kind research project have found that nearly 50% of Minnesota's stream miles have been physiologically altered by humans. Alterations like channelizing, ditching, or impounding change the natural hydrology of streams and their drainage areas. Over the past two years the MPCA and the MNGeo have been visually reviewing stream channels using a combination of available sources, including:

- Aerial imagery from the previous 30 years
- Historical aerial imagery dating back to the 1930s
- Very recent LiDAR imagery (high resolution elevation data)
- MPCA biological monitoring photographs

The results indicate that 49.6% of stream miles in Minnesota have been altered by humans, a higher percentage than previously thought by watershed professionals/ The results also represent the first comprehensive baseline of stream channel conditions in the state of Minnesota. It is known that altered stream channels can result in higher flows, higher levels of pollutants entering waterways, and decreased habitat. Water quality monitoring results can now be compared with altered watercourse data to help the MPCA determine potential causes of pollution problems within a given watershed.

With funding made available through the Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment, the Altered Watercourse Project was a collaborative effort between the MPCA, MNGeo and the MN DNR.

For more information on the project visit the [MNGeo Altered Watercourse Project webpage](#).

Conservation goes long - from field-scale to nationwide

A new "Farm Portfolio" approach shows that the U.S. economy, human health and the environment can benefit in measurable ways from coordinating conservation at all levels. The USDA highlighted the new six-step approach to focusing conservation programs in a first-of-its-kind Farm Portfolio webinar on "[Conservation Practices: From Fix-it to Farm Portfolio](#)." Since the 1930s, USDA NRCS has relied on the 9-step conservation plan and its local and state partners to meet with landowners and install conservation

practices like field terraces and streambank filter strips. While farm bill conservation programs remain an important component of the new farm portfolio approach, the priority shifts to national-scale environmental outcomes and using resource-driven, data-based professional expertise.

Tim Gieseke, president of Ag Resource Strategies, fourth-generation farmer and author, presented the farm portfolio based on concepts from his book, *EcoCommerce 101* www.ecommerce101.com and three case studies. In the webinar, Gieseke described the complex nature of farm and natural resource management and how using verified land management data simplifies the assessment, planning and accounting for conservation benefits.

"In the last decade our nation's conservation focus has shifted from on-farm needs to on-farm needs to off-farm impacts. This seemingly simple shift has added a lot of complications for farmers, agricultural professionals and the traditional conservation delivery system," Gieseke said. He explained that the farm portfolio model shifts conservation toward management and outcomes-goals which farmers are familiar with and which agricultural professionals can support. Gieseke explains that a professionally developed farm portfolio provides the answers he was asking for. He now knows how many BMPs he needs and the environmental benefits they deliver such as reducing soil loss and nutrient runoff. The portfolio data can be scaled up for large watersheds such as the Mississippi River Basin and the Chesapeake Bay and applied to major sustainability supply chain efforts such as the Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture's Field to Market.

The recording of USDA's November 21 "Farm Portfolio" webinar is available [online](#).

Achieving healthy landowners: Open houses set for statewide strategy to reduce nutrients in waters

Several agencies have stepped up Minnesota's efforts to reduce nutrient levels in water resources with a statewide strategy that is open for public comment through Dec. 18. The statewide plan aims to get various agencies and groups working together to increase current efforts to reduce nutrients in Minnesota waters and those downstream. Open houses and presentations on the draft strategy include the following:

Nov. 26 @ 3-5 p.m. - Kandiyohi County Government Center, Willmar

Dec. 2 - [Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts](#), DoubleTree Hotel, Bloomington

Dec. 3 @ 4-6 p.m. - St. James Hotel, Red Wing

Dec. 4 @ 3-5 p.m. - Otter Tail County Services Building, Fergus Falls

Dec. 10 @ 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. - MPCA office, Duluth

Dec. 12 - [Crop Production Retailers](#), Minneapolis Convention Center

Dec. 18 - [Basin Alliance for the Lower Mississippi in Minnesota](#), Rochester MPCA office

Phosphorus and nitrogen are the primary nutrients that in excessive amounts can pollute lakes, streams, wetlands and groundwater. Excess nutrients make up 18 percent of Minnesota's water impairments, and the number is expected to grow in the coming decade. Surface water leaving Minnesota flows north to Lake Winnipeg, east to Lake Superior, and south to the Gulf of Mexico. Agencies and organizations can use the strategy to focus and adjust state-level and regional programs. Watershed managers and local water planners can also translate strategy ideas and priorities into the best practices on the ground to meet goals. Minnesota's state-level strategy will be completed by the end of 2013. Involvement of interested citizens and organizations is vital. Success depends on actions from many people around the state. For more information on the strategy development process and opportunities to provide feedback, visit the [Nutrient Reduction](#) website or email nutrientreduction.pca@state.mn.us.

New catalog offers easy access to water information online

To make it easier for citizens and water professionals to find information about Minnesota waters online, six agencies have worked together to set up the Key Water Information (KWI) Catalogue. The KWI Catalogue lists links to key water information on the websites of six state and regional agencies: MN BWSR, Metropolitan Council, MDA, MDH, MN DNR, MPCA. The project was made possible by the Clean Water Fund. Before this online catalog, it was difficult for web browsers to understand the type and extent of information available online from six agencies. The goal in developing the KWI Catalogue has to keep the list of agency water links small, understandable, and useful. The catalog developers have organized the links into four water subjects

1. Surface Water
2. Groundwater and Drinking Water
3. Geographic Information
4. Water Implementation Programs and Information

Browsers will find is an "Expand for more information..." option below each information source web link in the KWI Catalogue. When clicked, this option provides more detail about the information, such as type of information, intended user, and how often the information is updated. Agencies involved have added or are adding links to the KWI Catalogue on their main water related webpages. For more information on the project visit the [KWI Catalogue](#) website.

ARTICLES

Information sought into shooting of trumpeter swans

Dan Gunderson, Nov. 21, MPRNews
MOORHEAD, Minn. - Minnesota officials are investigating the shooting of two trumpeter swans this week near Detroit Lakes, Minn., and are seeking the public's help.

Agriculture's deal with the dark side

Bonnie Blodgett, Nov. 23, Star Tribune
What's widely hailed as the Green Revolution indeed is, if 'green' means money and a few companies control it.

Recycling kicks into overdrive in Washington County

Kevin Giles, Nov. 23, Star Tribune
Striving to set a better example for recycling, Washington County offices have engaged in an aggressive campaign to divert 70 percent of what's thrown into garbage cans to greener uses.

Can copper mining be done safely? No: Even Wisconsin's Flambeau mine demonstrates pollution is unavoidable

Jane Reyer, Nov. 24, Duluth News Tribune
After a victory in a recent lawsuit, mining advocates have been pointing to the Flambeau mine in Wisconsin as an example of the ability of the copper-mining industry to protect water. But is the water really unpolluted?

Great Lakes waterfowl die offs: Finding the source

Jason Bardi, Nov. 24, American Physical Society Press Release
WASHINGTON, D.C. - a deadly menace stalks the loons, gulls and other water birds of the Great Lakes region: Type E. botulism, a neuromuscular disease caused when birds eat fish infected with toxin-producing bacteria.

Five Minnesota Ojibwe no longer face poaching

Ethanol makers may be looking for new markets

David Shaffer, Nov. 23, Star Tribune
U.S. ethanol makers will be looking to boost exports of the fuel if the federal government, as expected, scale back the amount of mandated for use in the domestic market.

Briefs: Recycle lights before and after Christmas

Nov. 23, Star Tribune
ProAct is teaming up with the Recycling Association of Minnesota for "Recycle Your Holidays," a program to collect and process holiday lights, electric, appliance and phone cords for recycling from Nov. 15 through Jan. 31.

Wind and Natural Gas: best friends, worst enemies

Amy Harder, Nov. 24, National Journal
DENVER - Managing wind power makes flying a kite look easy. Wind usually blows the most between 1-4 a.m. when people need electricity the least. But every now and then, the weather gets surprisingly windy at other times. The challenges at the hear of what is one of the biggest obstacles facing widespread adoption of wind power: its inherent intermittency.

Can copper mining be done safely? Yes: Technology and regulations ensure protection of environment

Frank Ongaro, Nov. 24, Duluth News Tribune
The days of dig first and fix the damage (and pay) later have been replaced with years of exhaustive environmental reviews, stringent regulations, and the ability to predict with great confidence how mining and processing facilities will affect the natural environment during mining and long after it ceases.

Only half of chemical contaminants in Great Lakes are removed by Treatment Plants

Nov. 24, AllGov
Water treatment plants remove barely half of the prescription drugs and other 'chemicals of emerging concern' (CECs) from sewage, according to a new report by the International Joint Commission (IJC).

Minnesota soybean breeder targets 2017 for

indictments

Randy Furst, Nov. 26, Star Tribune

Judge rules that fishing rights are protected by 1837 federal treaty. A federal judge in Minneapolis on Monday threw out the indictments of five American Indians arrested in major fish poaching case on Indian reservations in northern Minnesota, saying the men were protected under an 1837 treaty.

introduction

Jonathan Knutson, Nov. 26, Grand Forks Herald

Soybean growers in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota should have high-oleic varieties available for planting in 2017, a Minnesota soybean breeder says.

EVENTS

Nov. 25-Dec. 1

Open House Set On Strategy to Reduce Nutrients in Water

Tuesday, November 26, 2013 @ 3-5 p.m.

Location: Department of Natural Resources Office, New Ulm, MN

Brief Description: Open house public meetings have been scheduled around the state to review and comment on a proposed statewide strategy for reducing nutrients - phosphorus and nitrogen - escaping into surface and groundwater. A draft strategy is open for public review and comment through Dec. 18 on the [web](#). The statewide plan aims to get various agencies and groups working together to increase current efforts to reduce nutrients in Minnesota waters and those downstream from Minnesota. The kick-off is scheduled for 3-5:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 18 at the MPCA office in St. Paul, 520 Lafayette Rd. N. Open house meetings are scheduled.

Phosphorus and nitrogen are primary nutrients that in excessive amounts can pollute lakes, streams, wetlands, and groundwater. Excess nutrients make up 18% of Minnesota's water impairments, and the number is expected to grow in coming decade. Surface water leaving Minnesota flows north to Lake Winnipeg, east to Lake Superior, and south to the Gulf of Mexico. The initial targets are a 35% reduction in phosphorus and 20% reduction in nitrogen by 2025 in the Mississippi River basin, as well as reductions for the Red River/Lake Winnipeg and Lake Superior basins. The ultimate goal is a 45% reduction for the Mississippi River. In addition to the open houses, MPCA staff will be providing information at a variety of association and trade show events in coming months.

Minnesota's state-level strategy is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2013. Involvement of interested citizens and organizations is vital. Success depends on actions from many people around the state.

For more information on the strategy development process and opportunities to provide feedback, visit the [Nutrient reduction strategy website](#) or [email](#).

Wildlife Family Program

Tuesday, November 26, 2013 @ 6-7 p.m.

Location: New Ulm Public Library

Brief Description: John Knisley will present "Winter Snoozers: Minnesota Wildlife Gets Ready for the Cold Season." This family program is a chance for all to learn more about the wonders of wildlife.

For more information email [Katy Hiltner](#) or call (507) 359-8336.

The Christmas Tomten

Friday, November 29, 2013 @ 2-3 p.m.

Location: New Ulm Event Center

Brief Description: Come and listen to Alice Lind, portrayed by local teacher, Vickie Tambornino, who will read the story 'The Christmas Tomten' on the Kinderwelt State at 2 p.m. on Friday at southern Minnesota's premiere [Christmas Festival](#). Put on your elf hats and learn the circle dance from Anita Prestidge! After the story, a free hot cocoa bar will be provided courtesy of Rich and the New Ulm Event Center. This activity is funded with grants from the Target Foundation, 3M Corporation, the New Ulm Optimist Club, and in part by the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council with

an appropriation from the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the State general fund.

For more information email [Mary Jane](#) or call (507) 276-6298.

Legend of the Christmas Stocking
Friday, November 29, 2013 @ 3-4 p.m.

Location: New Ulm Event Center

Brief Description: Come and listen to the Legend of the Christmas Stocking as told by Wanda Gag at New Ulm's Christmas Festival. Put on your elf hats and decorate your own Christmas stocking! After the story, a free hot cocoa bar will be provided courtesy of Rich and the New Ulm Event Center. This activity is funded with grants from the Target Foundation, 3M Corporation, the New Ulm Optimist Club, and in part by the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council with an appropriation from the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the State general fund.

For more information email [Mary Jane](#) or call (507) 276-6298.

The Library Hosts a visit with the Grinch
Friday, November 29, 2013 @ 4-5:15 p.m.

Location: New Ulm Public Library

Brief Description: A 'Meet and Greet with the Grinch' will be held at the New Ulm Public Library. Stop by before the Parade of Lights to take a photo and wish the Grinch 'happy holidays!' Wait, don't delay. The Grinch has to leave at 5:15 p.m. to join the 'Whos in Whoville' to get ready for the parade. In celebration of the Grinch's visit, the library staff will also be hosting holiday movies and crafts in the Children's Room from 3:30-6 p.m.

For more information email [Katy Hiltner](#) or call (507) 359-8336.

Kiwanis Holiday Lights Parade
Friday, November 29, 2013 @ 6-7 p.m.

Location: Sibley Park, Mankato

Brief Description: Join in the fun as the Greater Mankato Young Professionals present the [Kiwanis Holiday Lights](#) Parade! Up to 50 lighted floats will travel along Hubbell Avenue into the park, where Santa will turn-on the lights for the season!

For more information email [Scott Wojcik](#) or call (507) 385-9129.

Dad's Belgian Waffles
Sunday, December 1, 2013 @ 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Location: [Farmamerica](#)

Brief Description: Come for Dad's freshly made Belgian Waffles! A variety of toppings, sausage, and beverages will be included in your all you can eat ticket. \$7 per person and free for kids under 5.

For more information call Crystal Paulson (507) 835-2052 or email [Farmamerica](#).

MASWCD 77th Annual Meeting & 23rd Annual Trade Show
Sunday, December 1, 2013 @ 2:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Location: Double Tree Hotel Bloomington, Minneapolis South, Bloomington, MN

Agenda for Sunday

2:30-4:30 p.m. - Pre-Convention Bonus Session
SWCD Governance 101 Workshop - Joint Working Arrangements
& Employment Liability Issues
5:00-7:00 p.m. - Registration Open
7:30-9:30 p.m. - Convention Kickoff Social

Dec. 2-Dec. 8

MASWCD 77th Annual Meeting & 23rd Annual Trade Show
Monday, December 2 - Tuesday, December 3, 2013

Location: Double Tree Hotel Bloomington, Minneapolis South, Bloomington, MN

Agenda for Monday

7:00 a.m. -- Continental Breakfast
7:00-8:15 a.m. -- Registration Opens
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. --Trade Show Open
8:30-9:00 a.m. -- Business Meeting
9:00-10:00 a.m. -- Keynote: Conservation Effects Assessment Program and Lesson Learned, *Tom Christensen, Associate Chief for Operations, USDA NRCS*
10:00-10:30 a.m. -- Refreshment Break in the Trade Show
10:30-11:30 a.m. -- Panel: The MPCA Report on Nitrogen in Surface Waters: What is means for SWCDs and Next Steps, *John Linc Stine, Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency*, *Al Kean, Chief Engineer, Board of Water and Soil Resources*, *Justin Hanson, Technician, Mower Soil and Water Conservation District*
11:45 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. -- Awards Luncheon
1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. -- Refreshment Break in the Trade Show
2:30-3:30 p.m. -- Concurrent Sessions
 Responding to Elevated Nitrates in Groundwater - The Nitrogen Fertilizer Management Plan, *Bruce Montgomery, Fertilizer Non-Point Section Manager, Minnesota Department of Agriculture*
 Status of the Ag Water Quality Certification Program (pilot watersheds), and Next Steps, *Brad Redlin, Project Manager, Minnesota Department of Agriculture*, *SWCD representatives*
 Creating a Culture of Civility, *Toby Spanier and Lisa Hinz, University of MN Extension Center for Community Vitality*
3:30-4:00 p.m. -- Refreshment Break in the Trade Show
4:00-5:00 p.m. -- Concurrent Sessions
 The Watershed Nitrogen Reduction Planning Tool, *William Lazarus, Department of Applied Economics, University of Minnesota*
 David Wall, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
 Positive Outcomes from SWCDs and Partners Managing Water on a Watershed Basis, *Doug Thomas, Senior Policy and Program Advisor, Board of Water and Soil Resources, SWCD representatives*
 Soil health campaign and the role of cover crops, *Joshua Dukart, Burleigh County Soil Conservation District – North Dakota*
 Importance of an SWCDs data practices policy, *Karin Sonneman - Winona County Attorney, Karen Clayton Ebert, Staff Counsel, Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust*
5:30-7:30 p.m. -- Dinner and entertainment
7:00-7:30 p.m. -- Auctions for Conservation

Agenda for Tuesday

7:30-8:15 a.m. -- Continental Breakfast
7:30 a.m. -- Registration Opens
8:30-10:00 a.m. -- Outstanding Conservationist Program: National Eagle Center out of Wabasha, MN
8:30-10:00 a.m. -- Business Meeting
8:30-10:00 a.m. -- Employee Sessions
 Root River Field to Stream Partnership, *Kevin Kuehner, Minnesota Department of Agriculture*
 Minimal Impact Design Standards - Information and Tools for SWCD Technician, *John Chapman, P.E., Erosion and Stormwater Management Certification Program, University of Minnesota - Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering Department*
 MNsure and Implications for SWCD Health Care Options, *Darcy Hitesman, attorney, Hitesman & Wold, P.A.*
10:00-10:30 a.m. -- Refreshment Break
10:00-11:45 a.m. -- Outstanding Conservationist Photos
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. -- Business Meeting
10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. -- Employee Sessions
 Joint Powers Agreements: Tools for SWCD/MDA Water Quality Project Partnerships, *Ron Struss, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, and SWCD representation*

Tree and Forest Establishment and Management in Minnesota's Prairie Region, *Mark Lindquist, Department of Natural Resources, Mark Oja, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service*

SWCD Audits and Pay Equity, *Michael Peterson, CPA, Peterson Company Ltd., Cyndee Gmach, Pay Equity Coordinator, Minnesota Management & Budget*

12:15-2:15 p.m. -- Outstanding Conservationist Luncheon and Awards, Closing Comments

For more information and descriptions of events go to the [MASWCD event](#) webpage.

Open House Set On Strategy to Reduce Nutrients in Water
Tuesday, December 3, 2013 @ 3-5 p.m.

Location: Kandiyohi County Government Center, Willmar, MN

Brief Description: Open house public meetings have been scheduled around the state to review and comment on a proposed statewide strategy for reducing nutrients - phosphorus and nitrogen - escaping into surface and groundwater. A draft strategy is open for public review and comment through Dec. 18 on the [web](#). The statewide plan aims to get various agencies and groups working together to increase current efforts to reduce nutrients in Minnesota waters and those downstream from Minnesota. The kick-off is scheduled for 3-5:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 18 at the MPCA office in St. Paul, 520 Lafayette Rd. N. Open house meetings are scheduled.

Phosphorus and nitrogen are primary nutrients that in excessive amounts can pollute lakes, streams, wetlands, and groundwater. Excess nutrients make up 18% of Minnesota's water impairments, and the number is expected to grow in coming decade. Surface water leaving Minnesota flows north to Lake Winnipeg, east to Lake Superior, and south to the Gulf of Mexico. The initial targets are a 35% reduction in phosphorus and 20% reduction in nitrogen by 2025 in the Mississippi River basin, as well as reductions for the Red River/Lake Winnipeg and Lake Superior basins. The ultimate goal is a 45% reduction for the Mississippi River. In addition to the open houses, MPCA staff will be providing information at a variety of association and trade show events in coming months.

Minnesota's state-level strategy is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2013. Involvement of interested citizens and organizations is vital. Success depends on actions from many people around the state.

For more information on the strategy development process and opportunities to provide feedback, visit the [Nutrient reduction strategy website](#) or [email](#).

Breakfast and Convening: Finding New Environmentalists in the Good Government Community

Wednesday, December 4, 2013 @ 8:30 a.m.

Location: [The New Louisiana Café](#), Selby & Dale, St. Paul

Brief Description: This presentation is intended to give a better idea of how organizations can use new research on government relationships to promote a cleaner government and cleaner environment. The specifics include a new league of Women Voters Minnesota report on the impact of corporate spending in Minnesota, stemming from Citizens United, as well as a discussion of how to reduce the impact of special interests in local government planning. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet with good government groups interested in partnering to make our government cleaner.

We hope you can join us! RSVP to Gwen Myers, League of Women Voters Environmental Lobbyist.

For information contact [Jeremy Schroeder](#), Executive Director of Common Cause Minnesota at (612) 605-7978; or [Sherri Knuth](#), Policy and Outreach Manager, League of Women Voters Minnesota at (651) 224-5445 ext 299.

Open House Set On Strategy to Reduce Nutrients in Water
Wednesday, December 4, 2013 @ 4-6 p.m.

Location: St. James Hotel, Red Wing, MN

Brief Description: Open house public meetings have been scheduled around the state to review and comment on a proposed statewide strategy for reducing

nutrients - phosphorus and nitrogen - escaping into surface and groundwater. A draft strategy is open for public review and comment through Dec. 18 on the [web](#). The statewide plan aims to get various agencies and groups working together to increase current efforts to reduce nutrients in Minnesota waters and those downstream from Minnesota. The kick-off is scheduled for 3-5:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 18 at the MPCA office in St. Paul, 520 Lafayette Rd. N. Open house meetings are scheduled.

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MPCA Announces 2014 Draft Impaired Waters List

Thursday, December 5, 2013 @ 10-11 a.m.

Location: MPCA Office, 525 Lake Avenue, Duluth, MN

Brief Description: The MPCA has announced the [draft 2014 Impaired Waters List](#), which be open for public comment in January 2014. Ten lakes and 20 stream reaches across Minnesota have been removed from this year's list, an accomplishment which represents monumental work on the part of watershed organization around the state. Some highlights of this year's list include:

- Thirty-two miles of the Mississippi River have been impaired since 2008 because of the presence of certain perfluorochemicals (PFCs) in fish tissue. PFC concentrations have decreased markedly in the impaired sections of the Mississippi, and three out of four sections of the river can now be removed from the Impaired Waters List for this particular problem
- Two sections of the Red River of the North near Fargo-Moorhead, which had been impaired since 1994 because of fecal coliform bacteria, have been removed from the draft list. Working cooperatively, the two cities enhanced their flood mitigation efforts and improved stormwater and wastewater infrastructure to reduce bacteria counts in the river to a safer level. The river now meets state water quality standards for fecal coliform bacteria.
- Nine metro-area lakes have been removed from the list as a result of work to correct their impairments. Howard Lake in Anoka County was restored by removing rough fish such as carp that disturbed the lake bed, and installing barriers to keep them out. These actions improved water quality and allowed rooted vegetation to be re-established in the lake.

A series of public meetings will take place throughout the state in December to present the content of the Impaired Waters List. Individuals who are unable to attend in person can phone in to the meetings in real time.

For more information, visit the Impaired [Waters List](#) website or contact [Miranda Nichols](#) (651) 757-2614.

Documentary Film Series - Strongman

Thursday, December 5, 2013 @ 7 p.m.

Location: Treaty Site History Center

Brief Description: Please join us for the 2013-14 documentary film series. A partnership between St. Peter Community and Family Education and the Nicollet County Historical Society, films are screened the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m., through May. STRONGMAN is a cinema verite documentary about Stanless Steel, The Strongest Man in the World at Bending Steel and Metal. Told with the kind of intimacy that can only be achieved with years of filming, STRONGMAN follows the dreams and heartbreaking humanity of Stanless Steel-the only man alive

who can bend a penny with his fingers-as he struggles to gain control of a world that seems constantly out of his grasp. STRONGMAN is a film about faith, about believing in yourself and a film about never giving up. It is a film about weakness and a film about strength.

Admission to the film is free for all. The center features a national award-winning exhibit on the Traverse des Sioux Treaty of 1851 and its consequences, as well as local history, and a full-service archive.

For more information contact the Nicollet County Historical Society at (507) 934-2160 or museum@nchsmn.org.

Mayo House Candlelight Tours

Friday, December 6 - Saturday, December 7, 2013 @ 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Location: Mayo House Historic Site

Brief Description: Visit the Mayo Home decorated for a turn of the century Christmas all enchanting in a soft glow of light. Enjoy special Christmas music in the parlor performed by local, nationally acclaimed Harpist Koleesa Amundson. Children will enjoy a craft table that allows them to make a small gift and ornament from the past. Cookies and cider will be served. Tours will include interpretation of holiday traditions from the 1850's to turn of the century, incorporating traditions both the Mayo and Cosgrove Families would have celebrated while living in the Mayo Home. An admission fee is charged to tour the Mayo Home (\$6 adults, \$5 seniors, \$3 children 6-16).

For more information visit [WW. Mayo House](http://WW.MayoHouse) webpage or call Nicollet County Historical Society(507) 934-2160

Dec. 9-Dec. 15

MPCA Announces 2014 Draft Impaired Waters List

Tuesday, December 10, 2013 @ 9-10 a.m.

Location: MPCA Office, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, MN

Brief Description: The MPCA has announced the [draft 2014 Impaired Waters List](#), which be open for public comment in January 2014. Ten lakes and 20 stream reaches across Minnesota have been removed from this year's list, an accomplishment which represents monumental work on the part of watershed organization around the state. Some highlights of this year's list include:

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For more information, visit the Impaired [Waters List](#) website or contact [Miranda Nichols](#) (651) 757-2614

Open House Set On Strategy to Reduce Nutrients in Water

Tuesday, December 10, 2013 @ 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Location: MPCA Office, Duluth

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draft strategy is open for public review and comment through Dec. 18 on the [web](#). The statewide plan aims to get various agencies and groups working together to increase current efforts to reduce nutrients in Minnesota waters and those downstream from Minnesota. The kick-off is scheduled for 3-5:30 p.m., Monday, Nov. 18 at the MPCA office in St. Paul, 520 Lafayette Rd. N. Open house meetings are scheduled.

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2013 CPM Short Course and MCPR Trade Show Tuesday, December 10 - Thursday, December 12, 2013

Location: Minneapolis Convention Center and Minneapolis Hilton Hotel

Brief Description: The Crop Pest Management Short Course and MCPR Trade Show is a one of a kind educational and social gathering of the Minnesota and Upper Midwest crop input industry. Over the three days we offer education programs, training programs, and an industry trade show second to none! Attending this gathering are the key 1200 crop input personnel who are the decision makers, operators, and public policy leaders of the Minnesota and upper Midwest crop input industry. Whether your marketing focus is equipment, the Big Iron of all colors, specialty products, seed, fertilizer, pesticides, herbicides, cutting edge technology, the latest precision ag software and equipment, ag dealer staff and managers, cooperative leaders, ag industry executives, regulators, lawmakers, state and federal ag department staff and leadership, University administrators, faculty and researchers, young and/or seasoned chemical applicators, Technical Service Providers, Certified Crop Advisers, Independent Crop Consultants...you will find exactly what you are looking for at this popular summit of the best and the brightest!

Schedule of Programs Offered:

Dec. 10 @ 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Nutrient Management Planning Training
Dec. 10 @ 1-3:30 p.m. - Nutrients in the Environment and Agricultural Productivity
Dec. 10 @ 2-3:30 p.m. - Pesticide Applicator and Recertification
Dec. 10 @ 3-6:30 p.m. - Trade Show
Dec. 10 @ 5 p.m. - Annual Ice Breaker Reception
Dec. 11 @ 8:30-11 a.m. - Crop Pest Management Short Course General Session
Dec. 11 @ 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Trade Show
Dec. 12 @ 9-11 a.m. - Trade Show
Dec. 11 @ 1-5 p.m. - Crop Pest Management Short Course Concurrent Sessions

For more information on events hosted and how to register visit [MCPR event](#) page.

2013 Nonprofit Advocacy Webinar Series Wednesday, December 11, 2013 @ 10-11 a.m.

Location: Webinar

Brief Description: Join us for this one-hour conversation with an elected official in order to get their best tips on how to communicate with and maintain a working relationship with decision makers at all levels of government. Learn how to be a resource to them in order build long-term trusting relationship toward the common

good.

For more information and to RSVP visit the [event page](#).

MPCA Announces 2014 Draft Impaired Waters List

Wednesday, December 11, 2013 @ 1-2 p.m.

Location: MPCA Office, 714 Lake Avenue, Detroit Lakes, MN

Brief Description: The MPCA has announced the [draft 2014 Impaired Waters List](#), which be open for public comment in January 2014. Ten lakes and 20 stream reaches across Minnesota have been removed from this year's list, an accomplishment which represents monumental work on the part of watershed organization around the state. Some highlights of this year's list include:

- Thirty-two miles of the Mississippi River have been impaired since 2008 because of the presence of certain perfluorochemicals (PFCs) in fish tissue. PFC concentrations have decreased markedly in the impaired sections of the Mississippi, and three out of four sections of the river can now be removed from the Impaired Waters List for this particular problem
- Two sections of the Red River of the North near Fargo-Moorhead, which had been impaired since 1994 because of fecal coliform bacteria, have been removed from the draft list. Working cooperatively, the two cities enhanced their flood mitigation efforts and improved stormwater and wastewater infrastructure to reduce bacteria counts in the river to a safer level. The river now meets state water quality standards for fecal coliform bacteria.
- Nine metro-area lakes have been removed from the list as a result of work to correct their impairments. Howard Lake in Anoka County was restored by removing rough fish such as carp that disturbed the lake bed, and installing barriers to keep them out. These actions improved water quality and allowed rooted vegetation to be re-established in the lake.

A series of public meetings will take place throughout the state in December to present the content of the Impaired Waters List. Individuals who are unable to attend in person can phone in to the meetings in real time.

For more information, visit the Impaired [Waters List](#) website or contact [Miranda Nichols](#) (651) 757-2614

Telling Your Sustainability Story: Balancing Privacy and Transparency

Thursday, December 12, 2013 @ 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: Aveda Corporation Headquarters, Blaine

Brief Description: From new reporting requirements and disclosure laws; to increasing demands from customers, shareholders, and NGOs; to unprecedented levels of information sharing, increased transparency in sustainability communications is becoming the new normal. Join Environmental Initiative for a morning of expert presentations and peer-to-peer learning that will help you consider what to tell, what not to tell, and how to tell it when communicating about your company's environmental practices. We'll hear about emerging trends in sustainability reporting and transparency that will impact businesses of all sizes - including the new [Sustainability Accounting Standard Board \(SASB\)](#), an organization that's creating industry-specific reporting standards for publicly traded companies. Case studies from local business leaders will explore the challenges, risks, and opportunities related to sharing more information, while small group discussions will give you a chance to hear from peers, ask questions, and discover solutions together.

For more information visit the [Environmental Initiative event](#) page.

Nature's Nook

Saturday, December 14, 2013 @ 9-11 a.m.

Location: Elk's Nature Center in Rasmussen Woods

Brief Description: Families and elementary school-aged children are invited to join us for an environmental story and activity time at Elk's Nature Center in Rasmussen Woods! We plan to host this once a month, perhaps more if there is interest. Join us as we explore the seasons through reading!

For more information email [MSU Mankato Office of Community Engagement](#) or call

(507) 389-5789.

**Dec. 16 - Dec.
22**

MPCA Announces 2014 Draft Impaired Waters List
Wednesday, December 18, 2013 @ 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: MPCA Office, 18 Wood Lake Drive SE, Rochester, MN (in conjunction with [BALMM](#) meeting)

Brief Description: The MPCA has announced the [draft 2014 Impaired Waters List](#), which be open for public comment in January 2014. Ten lakes and 20 stream reaches across Minnesota have been removed from this year's list, an accomplishment which represents monumental work on the part of watershed organization around the state. Some highlights of this year's list include:

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A series of public meetings will take place throughout the state in December to present the content of the Impaired Waters List. Individuals who are unable to attend in person can phone in to the meetings in real time.

For more information, visit the Impaired [Waters List](#) website or contact [Miranda Nichols](#) (651) 757-

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

AGRICULTURE UNIT SUPERVISOR

Department:	Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Closing Date:	November 26, 2013
Location(s):	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply:	Only current agency employees
Responsibilities:	<p>This position will be responsible for the supervision and technical direction of the Clean Water Technical Assistance Unit. The incumbent will be responsible for providing technical assistance to the state's watershed approach to protecting and restoring Minnesota's waters and for supervising the selection and helping coordinate complex research projects on impaired waters in agricultural landscapes.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply visit http://www.careers.state.mn.us/ Posting #13AGR000122.</p>

DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER

Department:	Minnesota Environmental Partnership
Closing Date:	November 30, 2013
Location(s):	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>MEP is seeking to grow and diversify its team by adding staff to manage MEP's development program and expand its communications work. This person will be crucial in charting MEP's continued success while expanding and engaging our network of members and supporters. Primary responsibilities will be leading all aspects of MEP's development work and working with other staff and consultants to advance engaging communications. This is a great opportunity for the right person to make a real impact on our state's natural resources while enhancing MEP's development and communications programs. MEP is committed to recruiting and retaining a diverse staff. Individuals from all backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply.</p> <p>MAJOR DEVELOPMENT RESPONSIBILITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and lead the implementation of annual development plan in conjunction with the Executive Director, key staff and Board of Directors to meet short- and long-term revenue goals; • Serve as lead staff to MEP Board Development Committee; • Conduct prospect research on foundations and individual donors and prepare briefing materials; • Prepare letters-of-inquiry and proposals for submission; • Create and manage individual donor campaigns and appeals, including bulk mailings and emails • Work closely with the Executive Director and key volunteers to cultivate and solicit major gifts; • Track foundation grants, work with program staff to develop and submit required reports; • Track and update prospects, donors and acknowledgments on database; • Use database to create reports, analyze results and create mailings; • Prepare and present summary information on MEP as required; • Work with volunteers and staff to organize special events; and • Manage submission of new members, and renewal of current, MEP member organizations. <p>MAJOR COMMUNICATIONS RESPONSIBILITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and update MEP website; • Maintain MEP's social media presence; • Collaborate on polling projects and message development; • Coordinate annual message training for member organizations; • Lead development and distribution of press releases and statements; • Develop presentations as needed; • Produce communication materials including appeals, brochures, flyers and other materials as needed;

- Supervise communication intern and oversee tasks including distribution of weekly email update and daily News Watch service; and
- Report on development and communications activities to board and others as needed.

For more information and how to apply visit [MEP](#) webpage.

ASSISTANT HATCHERY SUPERVISOR

Department:	Fish & Wildlife/Region 3, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	December 2, 2013
Location(s):	Peterson Hatchery, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>This position performs coldwater fish hatchery work, primarily assisting a supervisor of a fish hatchery in all technical and administrative aspects of operations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functions as station lead worker to other professional, technical, or laborer staff; makes independent program and administrative decisions requiring application of work rules and advanced fish hatchery principles and practices. • Directs the work of laborers, technicians, and other professionals to ensure that fish hatchery operations goals are met by setting work priorities, assigning work, evaluating work completion, recommending purchasing materials, informing staff of developments and recommending training. • Conducts and monitors fish production activities so that hatchery objectives are met by feeding fish, cleaning raceways, recognizing and treating stress and disease, planning and conducting spawn-taking operations, projecting feed and growth, analyzing growth data, transporting and stocking fish, and providing information for periodic production reports. • Assists supervisor in administrative responsibilities including personnel matters, purchasing supplies, processing bills, and maintaining equipment records. Directs personnel, administrative operations, and fish production during the hatchery supervisor's absence so that office and production operations remain effective and efficient. • Oversees maintenance or maintains hatchery equipment so production quotas are met by constructing or repairing equipment and recommending equipment and materials needs. • Provides information to the public by leading hatchery tours, meeting with interested groups and speaking about fisheries programs; makes presentations, and answering questions. <p>For more information and how to apply visit http://www.careers.state.mn.us/ Posting # 13DNR000814</p>

AQUATIC ECOLOGIST

Department:	Ecological and Water Resources, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	December 2, 2013

Location(s):	Brainerd, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>From mid-May through September, fieldwork may require this position to work extended hours and/or travel overnight as much as 3-4 days per week.</p> <p>This position will be responsible for accelerating data collection and analysis activities related to Minnesota aquatic plant communities, including the development of a statewide Aquatic Plant Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI). As the junior member of a team of aquatic scientists, this position will contribute to a wide range of the team's work activities including planning, field assessment, sample processing, data management and analysis, and reports and presentations.</p> <p>Job Duties include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct standardized vegetation and other habitat surveys of assigned lakes, either independently or as a team. • Manage and analyze data from assigned lake surveys so that survey results are organized in appropriate databases and made available for use for management, research and educational efforts. • Monitor and maintain in good working condition field equipment including motor vehicles, watercraft, outboard motors, trailers, and electronic and mechanical field equipment. • Contribute to Team projects, including reports, manuals, presentations and workshops that summarize and evaluate aquatic plant data to enhance management, research and educational efforts. <p>For more information and how to apply visit http://www.careers.state.mn.us/ Posting # 13DNR000802</p>

HYDROLOGIST 2/HYDROLOGIST 3

Department:	EH/DWP/SWP, MDH
Closing Date:	December 2, 2013
Location(s):	Freeman Building, St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>NOTICE TO APPLICANTS: There is one vacancy, which will be filled at either the Hydrologist 2 or the Hydrologist 3 level based on the qualifications of the selected candidate. If you are interested in and qualify for the Hydrologist 3 position, please apply to 13HEAL000483. THIS REQUISITION MAY BE CANCELLED IF THE VACANCY IS FILLED AT THE HYDROLOGIST 3 LEVEL.</p> <p>This position is located in the Source Water Protection (SWP) Unit of the Drinking Water Protection (DWP) Section within the Environmental Health (EH) Division.</p> <p><u>Hydrologist 2:</u> This position exists to support the development and implementation of wellhead protection plans for public water suppliers. The position</p>

has responsibility for ensuring that public water supply systems have wellhead protection areas and vulnerability assessments for the public water supply wells and drinking water supply management areas, as specified under the state wellhead protection rules. In addition, this position provides support to Department staff and public water suppliers regarding inquiries related to drinking water supply problems as they relate to public health and groundwater protection (such as new well siting, environmental reviews and potential contaminant inventories), technical studies, and wellhead and grant implementation.

Must be able to work outdoors in all seasons of the year.

Must be able to accommodate occasional working during evenings and weekends.

Hydrologist 3:

This position exists to support the development and implementation of wellhead protection plans for public water suppliers. The position has responsibility for ensuring that public water supply systems have wellhead protection areas and vulnerability assessments for the public water supply wells and drinking water supply management areas, as specified under the state wellhead protection rules. In addition, this position provides support to Department staff and public water suppliers regarding inquiries related to drinking water supply problems as they relate to public health and groundwater protection (such as new well siting, environmental reviews and potential contaminant inventories), technical studies, and wellhead grant implementation.

For more information and how to apply visit

<http://www.careers.state.mn.us/> Posting #13HEAL000478/13HEAL000483.

AREA HYDROLOGIST

Department:	Eco & Water Resources Region 4, MN DNR
Closing Date:	December 6, 2013
Location(s):	Windom, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>This position exists to ensure sustainability of the State's water resources through management of the activities of the public within a geographic work area comprised of the following counties: Pipestone, Murray, Cottonwood, Rock, Nobles and Jackson. This work area encompasses the following watersheds: Upper and Lower Big Sioux River, Rock River, Des Moines River, East Fork Des Moines River and Little Sioux River. This position also completes work assignments that involve state-wide projects and policy.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply visit http://www.careers.state.mn.us/ Posting #13DNR000829</p>

**INTERDISCIPLINARY: RESEARCH ECOLOGIST/ENTOMOLOGIST/BOTANIST/AGRONOMIST
(POSTDOC RESEARCH ASSOCIATE)**

Department:	Agricultural Research Service, MDA
Closing Date:	September 30, 2014
Location(s):	Morris, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>The incumbent will develop a database and GIS-type model of pollen and nectar production for a wide variety of oilseed and legume crops that are adapted to the Upper Midwest and Northern Great Plains. Methods will include diurnal and seasonal analyses of individual flowers, biotic and abiotic influences on nectar and pollen production, and landscape simulations of daily and seasonal unit-area production given varying acreages of differing crop assemblages. The incumbent will sample plant materials and pollinator populations in field settings. The incumbent will operate agency vehicles as needed to travel to field sites.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply visit https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/354271100</p>

*"PEOPLE OFTEN SAY THAT MOTIVATION DOESN'T LAST. WELL, NEITHER DOES BATHING.
THAT'S WHY WE RECOMMEND IT DAILY." -ZIG ZIGLAR*

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.