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## Minnesota River Weekly Update

February 11th, 2014

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### **Apply now for organic transition cost share program**

The MDA reminds growers of the Feb. 14, 2014 deadline to apply for the 2013 Minnesota Organic Transition Cost Share program. The program helps farmers who are transitioning their land or livestock to certified organic status. It reimburses part of the cost to work with USDA-accredited organic certifying agency during the transition period, which typically lasts 36 months. Certifying agencies visit farms and verify that the farmers' practices comply with federal organic regulations. In addition, farmers can request reimbursement for soil testing costs and registration fees to attend an organic education conference in Minnesota or a neighboring state. Farmers transitioning to organic can receive a rebate of 75% of these eligible costs. The maximum payment is \$750 per year for three years or until they achieve organic certification, whichever comes first. "We've already had several farmers apply for this program, which was brand new in 2013," said program administrator Meg Moynihan. "We'll be offering it again in 2014, but the chance to apply for reimbursements for costs incurred last year - in 2013 - is February 14, 2014."

For more information visit [Organic Agriculture on Minnesota Department of Agriculture's website](#).

### **Legacy funding flowing throughout Minnesota**

Nearly all Minnesota's 81 watersheds are benefitting from projects supported by the Clean Water Fund, as established by the Legacy Amendment in 2008, according to a recent report. The majority of that funding - 84% - is going toward implementation activities. And local partners play an important role as 43% of appropriations were awarded to non-state agencies. State agencies that receive Clean Water Fund dollars released their second collaborative report this past week. The report clarifies connections between the Clean Water dollars invested, actions taken and outcomes achieved. Money in the Clean Water Fund comes from the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment that Minnesotans passed in 2008. Until 2034, approximately \$85 million each year will be invested in various water management activities. The 24 measures in the report provide a snapshot of how Clean Water Fund dollars are being spend and the progress that's been made. The

measures are organized into four categories: investment, surface water quality, drinking water protection, and new this year, external drivers and social measures. External drivers provide context for changes in water resources over time; social measures are being created to track how Clean Water Fund investments affect people and communities, specifically their ability to support and participate in local water projects. These measures are part of a larger set that will be used to consistently track and report clean water outcomes over the life of the amendment. The 2014 report includes six new measurements this year:

- watersheds monitored by local partners
- source water protection grants
- county geologic atlases
- long-term monitoring network wells
- unused groundwater wells sealed
- groundwater levels

For more information on view the [2014 Clean Water Performance Report](#) on Minnesota Legacy's website.

#### **MPCA plans to open federal, state grant applications soon**

MPCA plans to open this year's Clean Water Partnership (CWP) and Federal Section 319 (319) funding rounds by April. For the state CWP, the agency expects \$1.1 million in grant funding and more than \$7 million in loan funding to be available for non-point source pollution water projects. New this year for loans will be funds specifically for green infrastructure stormwater projects. Priority for the grant funding will again be for protection projects that address water bodies which are currently meeting state water quality standards or have not been assessed. This funding round will be open for 60 days and all grant proposals will require no more than a 50% local match. The Federal 319 funding round, the MPCA expects to have about \$2.3 million of grant funding for approved TMDL implementation projects, as well as developmental, education and research projects that test or use innovative methods for controlling nonpoint source water pollution. This funding round will be open for 30 days and all grant proposals will require no more than a 45% local match.

For more information visit the Waterfront Bulletin on [MPCA's website](#).

#### **Wanted: Farmers for ag water quality certification program**

The Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program (MAWQCP) is now enrolling farms. All producers that farm within the four pilot areas are eligible to participate:

- Elm Creek in Faribault, Jackson, and Martin counties
- Middle Sauk River in Stearns County
- Whiskey Creek in Otter Tail and Wilkin counties
- Whitewater River in Olmsted, Wabasha and Winona counties

This new voluntary program is designed to accelerate adoption of on-farm practices that protect Minnesota's lakes and rivers. Producers who implement and maintain approved management practices will be certified and in turn obtain 'regulatory certainty' for a period of 10 years. Under the program, a farmer demonstrating the implementation of BMPs to protect water quality receives a 10-year certification and will be regarded as meeting any new targeted reduction and water quality regulations that occur in those 10 years. The goal of the three-year pilot is to gather feedback from local farmers and partners in order to refine and improve the certification process.

Technical staff, employed by local partners, are now working with farmers to assess their operations for certification. These assessments are conducted with an assessment tool that is customized for this program. This tool evaluates individual farm fields in the following categories: field characteristics, nutrient management, tillage management, pest management, irrigation and tile drainage management, and conservation practices. This provides valuable agronomic information to farmers; it also supports focused conservation and is a critical education tool.

For more information visit the MAWQCP website or contact one of the local partners (Elm Creek: Rural Advantage (507) 238-5449 [www.ruraladvantage.org](http://www.ruraladvantage.org); Whiskey Creek: Buffalo-Red River Watershed District (218) 354-7710 [www.brrwd.org](http://www.brrwd.org); Middle Sauk River: Middle Sauk River (320) 251-7800 ext. 3 [www.stearnscountyswcd.org](http://www.stearnscountyswcd.org); Whitewater River: Whitewater River Watershed Project (507) 523-2171 [www.whitewaterwatershed.org](http://www.whitewaterwatershed.org)).

### Mississippi River Forum: "Envision Infrastructure Evaluation"

Kathryn Jones and Dave Johnson, of HDR, Inc. will discuss Envision, a certification program that holistically evaluates the community, environmental, and economic benefits of infrastructure projects -- including water systems -- at the upcoming [Mississippi River Forums](#). They will speak Friday, Feb. 21 from 8-9:30 a.m. McKnight in Minneapolis and Friday, March 21 from 8-9:30 a.m. at the St. Cloud City Council Chambers. There is no charge for the forums, which include a light breakfast. For more information and to RSVP email [Lark Weller](#) of the National Park Service is required.

### More Minnesota businesses now required to take aquatic invasive species training

The MN DNR is offering aquatic invasive species (AIS) training to owners of lake service provider businesses so they can legally work in lakes and rivers throughout the state. Businesses such as resorts and outfitter that rent, lease or decontaminate boats and other water-related equipment are now required to attend AIS training and acquire a permit under a state law change that took effect last July. These businesses are considered lake service providers, which means they must attend training, apply for a permit, and pay a \$50 application fee every three years to comply with Minnesota law. "Before this change, the law applied only to businesses such as marinas, dock haulers, lawn irrigators and others to install or remove equipment from state waters for hire," said April Rust, DNR AIS training coordinator. "The law change means many more businesses will need to attend training to learn about the threat of zebra mussels and other invasive species, and how to prevent their spread." Seventeen free AIS training sessions are planned around the state. Registering for the winter and early spring sessions will give businesses time to attend training and get a permit before ice-out. Registration deadlines are one week prior to each training. For more information the [2014 training sessions](#) available online.

## ARTICLES

### [Feds to spend \\$30 million on forests across US, including in Minn.](#)

*Feb. 6, MPR News*

The USDA said Thursday it will spend \$30 million this year on forest restoration projects in 12 states to reduce the threat of wildfires, protect water quality and improve wildlife habitat for at-risk species.

### [With reliability a concern, universities looking to microgrids](#)

*Dan Haugen, Feb. 7, Midwest Energy News*

The case for colleges and universities to invest in microgrids often includes mitigating the risk of prolonged blackouts caused by natural disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes, and wildfires.

### [Duluth making gains on 100-mile mountain bike trail](#)

*Dan Kraker, Feb. 7, MPR News*

Last year the [Cyclists of Gitchee Gumees Shores](#) (COGGS) opened five miles of new trails. This year the groups plans to open 20 additional miles by July, said COGGS Chair Adam Sundberg, a chiropractor in West Duluth.

### [Minnesota farmers gird for an end to the corn boom](#) (with audio)

*Mark Steil, Feb. 7, MPR News*

Corn farmers in the upper Midwest have seen record profits in the last three years. But those good times appear to be over.

### [Injuries down, recycling up in Mpls. under new single-sort program](#)

*Emma Nelson, Feb. 8, MPR News*

The job of Minneapolis recycling worker is especially tough in this Minnesota winter, but it's a far cry from previous years under the multi-sort system of hauling several bins of glass and other recycling to the truck, then dumping them into

### [Anderson: Does feeding help or hurt deer?](#)

*Dennis Anderson, Feb. 9, Star Tribune*

Two things are certain in Minnesota during a tough winter like one the state is experiencing: some deer are going to die. And the debate over whether to feed deer artificially, particularly in northern Minnesota, in an attempt to minimize losses to the whitetail population will surface.

different compartments.

**Price tag on future pollution underlies PolyMet mine debate**(with short video)

*Josephine Marcotty, Feb. 9, Star Tribune*

Beneath the controversy over Minnesota's first proposed copper mine lurks a hundred-million-dollar question: How much would it cost to protect the state from water pollution, environmental calamities and mining company bankruptcies that could occur decades, even centuries, after the mine opens?

**Kansas Mayor says sustainability is about community, not politics**(with audio)

*NPR Staff, Feb. 9, MPR News*

In Washington, the debate over what to do about climate change is split largely down party lines. But it hasn't always been that way.

**Farm Bill brings opportunity, loss**

*Haley Hansen, Feb. 10, Minnesota Daily*

The UMN's ties to the agriculture industry and communities in greater Minnesota mean the much-delayed passage of the 2014 Farm Bill hits home for students and employees alike. The new bill could provide strengthened security for agriculture students entering the field, but it has already meant a loss for University programming that reaches out to low-income Minnesotans.

**More than 200,000 households in Minnesota rely on propane as their main source of heat**

*Site Editor, Feb. 11, HometownSource*

After a push from US Senator Amy Klobuchar and other Minnesota lawmakers, the Administration this week announced it is taking action to prioritize propane shipments on pipelines to help alleviate the ongoing shortage.

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## EVENTS

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**Feb. 10 - Feb. 16**

**Crop Nutrient Management Conference**

Tuesday, February 11, 2014 @ 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Location:** Verizon Wireless Center, Mankato, MN

**Brief Description:** Fertilizer and livestock manure are important assets to agricultural production in Minnesota. Managing nutrients efficiently reduces the financial and environmental risks faced by crop producers. At the conference crop producers and ag professionals will hear about the latest nutrient management research and technologies that promote nutrient efficiency and protect water quality. CCA credit will be available.

Due to support of financial sponsors, there is no registration fee for this event. Registration is requested, however, for planning purposes.

For more information on sessions and to register visit [Crop Nutrient Management Conference](#) page on MDA's site

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**Swan Lake Presentation**

Tuesday, February 11, 2014 @ 6 p.m.

**Location:** New Ulm Public Library

**Brief Description:** Join Minneopa Area Naturalist, Scott Kudelka, for a presentation on Swan Lake at the New Ulm Public Library. Swan Lake is considered the largest wetland complex in North America and a critical waterfowl habitat area. Thousands of ducks and other birds stop on their migrating route or breeding on this 10,000 acre wetland. This presentation will focus on the history of Swan Lake including its formation and once the site of a Dakota village. In addition, Kudelka will talk about some of the birds that can be found and how Swan Lake has dealt with a variety of issues including water levels and carp. This program is free and open to the public through the Minnesota's Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

For more information email [Scott Kudelka](#) or call (507) 384-8890.

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**Our water in a Changing World -- Climate Change and the Urban Watershed**

Thursday, February 13, 2014 @ 7-8:30 p.m.

**Location:** Science Museum of Minnesota, St. Paul

**Brief Description:** Please join FMR and the Science Museum as Patrick Hamilton, Director of the Global Change Initiatives Program at the Science Museum of Minnesota, and Sarah Hobbie, professor of Ecology, Evolution and Biology at the U of M, discuss the intersection of climate change and local water quality issues. Mr. Hamilton and Prof. Hobbie will present you with a wealth of fascinating information, spanning topics from changes in growing seasons and urban heat islands, to new stormwater management issues and tree species suitable for the future. This event is free, but registration is required.

For more information and a link for registration visit the [Friends of the Mississippi River website](#).

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#### **Restorative Agriculture: A Way Forward**

Thursday, February 13, 2014 @ 6 p.m.

**Location:** Bluestem Bar, 2610 Lyndale Ave S, Minneapolis, MN

**Brief Description:** Join Bluestem Bar as they will be hosting the first in its Salon Series with authors Paula Westmoreland and Lansing Shepard, authors of *This Perennial Land* to explore restoring sustainability and resiliency in our food system. The theme of the salon is *Not the Rural Minnesota You Used to Know*. Westmoreland and Shepard will discuss restorative agriculture and the quiet revolution happening on the land. With the audience, they will explore current trends and how conditions are changing. Each evening includes a farm-to-table meal with organic, vegan or gluten-free selections from French Meadow Bakery and Café and Bluestem Bar's menu. \$24 for dinner or \$40 for dinner and signed copy of book.

For more information contact [Katherine](#) or call (612) 767-3443.

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#### **Nature's Nook Environmental Activity/Story Time**

Friday, February 14, 2014 @ 9 - 11 a.m

**Location:** Elk's Nature Center, Mankato, MN

**Brief Description:** Families and children pre K - 3rd grade 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 contact Minnesota State University's [Office of Community Engagement](#) or call (507) 389-5789.

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#### **Snowshoe Adventure Hike**

Saturday, February 15, 2014 @ 10 a.m.

**Location:** Minneopa State Park, Mankato, MN

**Brief Description:** Go stomping through the snow at Minneopa State Park on a Snowshoe Adventure Hike. We will head off from the picnic shelter at the waterfalls side into the woods to experience the winter landscape. Be prepared for extreme terrain and conditions. On this hike the Minneopa Area Naturalist will share some of the history of snowshoeing, tips on the different types of snowshoes, and fun places at Minneopa State Park to go snowshoeing. We will be out for around an hour and please dress appropriately for cold temperatures. This sport is one of the simplest and safest ways to get outdoors during the winter. Snowshoes can be rented at Minneopa State Park by calling (507) 389-5464 or stopping by the office. If there isn't enough snow it will become a hike.

For more information email [Scott Kudelka](#) or call (507) 384-8890.

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#### **Animal Tracks & Signs**

Saturday, February 15, 2014 @ 1 p.m.

**Location:** Elk's Nature Center, Mankato, MN

**Brief Description:** Join Minneopa Area Naturalist, Scott Kudelka, for an interpretative program on Animal Tracks and Signs at the Elk's Nature Center in

Mankato's Rasmussen Park. Animals of all sizes and shapes live around us and for the most part we only know this from the signs they leave behind tracks are usually the clue we pick up first, especially when there is fresh mud, wet dirt, or snow. Other signs of an animal can be a feather, a piece of fur, a bone, scat, or even something as simple as a hole dug into the ground. We will take a short hike to identify a wide range of animal signs and tracks along with the change to make your own tracks. This program is free and open to the public through the Minnesota's Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

For more information email [Scott Kudelka](mailto:Scott.Kudelka@mn.gov) or call (507) 384-8890.

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**Feb. 17 - Feb. 23**

**Canoeing with Cree**

Tuesday, February 18, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

**Location:** Belgrade Methodist Church, North Mankato, MN

**Brief Description:** "We were off! The trail stretched ahead, a twisting stream of gleaming green water." Eric Sevareid and Walter Port paddled the entire length of the Minnesota River on the way to Hudson Bay in the summer of 1930. Hear some of the stories from this epic trip and the challenges these two young men faced on an once-in-a-lifetime journey. Their story told is told in the book "Canoeing with the Cree" by Eric Sevareid and will be presented by Scott Kudelka, naturalist. The public is cordially invited to this free program. There will be refreshments available.

For more information call Alice at (507) 388-7008.

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**Conservation Tillage Conference**

Tuesday, February 18 - Wednesday, February 19, 2014

**Location:** Holiday Inn and Suites, St. Cloud, MN

**Brief Description:** Conservation tillage is the focus of the ninth annual University of Minnesota Extension Conservation Tillage Conference and trade show. This conference emphasizes proven farm experience and applied science. Straight from the trenches, learn how heavier, colder soils aren't necessarily the challenge they're made out to be. And, what have long-time no-tillers and reduced-tillage farmers learned that could spare you the same lessons? Conference highlights include: weed species shifts and control; nutrient management in high-residue systems; strip till strategies straight from veteran farmer practitioners; subsurface drainage options; proven crop strategies for your system to anchor nutrients, manage soil moisture extremes and provide free nitrogen; soil health improvements with reduced till systems; climate trends and soil resiliency; vendor sessions: learn about new equipment, products and technology.

For more information on featured speakers, program agenda and the trade show visit the [9th Annual Conservation Tillage Conference website](http://www.conservativedtillage.com) or email [Jodi DeJong-Hughes](mailto:Jodi.DeJong-Hughes@umn.edu) or call (320) 815-4112

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**Minnesota's Waters: Status & Challenges**

Wednesday, February 19, 2014 @ 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

**Location:** Webinar

**Brief Description:** Dr. Deborah Swackhammer, Professor of Science, Technology and Public Policy in the Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs and Co-Director of the University of Minnesota Water Resources Center.

For more information visit the [Minnesota Association of SWCDs website](http://www.mnswcd.org).

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**Watershed Summit 2014: New Management Strategies & Targets for Water Quality and Quantity**

Saturday, February 22, 2014 @ 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Location:** Normandale Community College Partnership Center

**Brief Description:** There are momentous land use decisions playing out across Minnesota and the Nation for which a better understanding of surface and subsurface water interaction is essential. The state has identified the need for Groundwater Management to assure sustainable aquifers to meet Minnesota's water needs and for Nitrogen and Nutrient Reduction Strategies and targets to

halt pollutant loads to our rivers and the Gulf. Please join us for the 2014 Watershed Summit at Normandale Community College. This 9th Summit sponsored by the Izaak Walton League begins with Perry Jones, USGS, on groundwater, Jason Moeckel, DNR, DNR's Groundwater Management Plan and Water Conservation Program, Wayne Anderson, MPCA, on Nitrogen and Nutrient Reduction Strategies and LGU perspectives from involved stakeholders. The afternoon will focus on Wetland monitoring for water quality and quantity by MPCA and DNR followed by the NE Wetland Mitigation Strategy from Doug Norris, Mark Gernes and a NGO perspective from Jill Bathke, MCEA. Your questions and perspectives are welcome to guide Minnesota toward robust strategies and targets.

For more information and to order tickets go to [Minnesota Division - Izaak Walton League website](#).

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**Managing your soils: Crop nutrient needs, soil health and nutrient availability**

Saturday, February 22, 2014 @ 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Location:** Central Lakes College, Brainerd, MN

**Brief Description:** Raising high quality produce with extended shelf life requires effective soil management. Understanding how the interaction of soil mineral, biological and physical components affects soil productivity and plant growth is important to effective, sustainable soil and crop management. Effectively utilizing soil testing information is a critical component of this process. In this workshop led by Dell Christianson, Specialty Crops Instructor Emeritus, growers will learn how to utilize information from their soil test reports and use that information to design a crop management program that builds their soil while raising top quality fruits and vegetables.

Topics included in this day long workshop are:

- Understanding crop nutrients needs and availability throughout the season
- Critical nutrient timing needs of different crops for optimum production
- Selecting the best nutrient amendment program for your soils and crops
- Utilizing the Total Soil Health Assessment Tool to identify production limiting factors in your soil management practices
- The role of soil biological activity in soil health and fertility

This workshop will build upon information presented in last year's session, but is open to anyone. Registered farms will receive college credit.

For more information and how to register visit the [Minnesota's Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association website](#).

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**Animal Tracks Snowshoe Hike**

Saturday, February 22, 2014 @ 1 p.m.

**Location:** Fort Ridgely State Park, Fairfax, MN

**Brief Description:** There are many different animals living all around us but I can be tough to see them. Looking for tracks is a great way to discover who some of these animals might be. Come out to Fort Ridgely State Park for a guided snowshoe hike through both forested and prairie sections and a fun chance at trying to identify 15 different animal tracks. We will be out for around an hour and a half walking up or down a couple of steeper hills. If there isn't enough snow, the event will become a hike. The program starts at the Chalet parking lot.

For more information email [Scott Kudelka](#) or call (507) 384-8890.

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**31st Annual Minnesota Deer Hunter's Association Banquet**

Saturday, February 22, 2014 @ 5 p.m.

**Location:** Ridges at Sand Creek Golf Course, Jordan, MN

**Brief Description:** The [Minnesota River Valley Chapter of the Minnesota Deer Hunter's Association](#) is having their 31st Annual Banquet. Everyone is welcome to attend. Social hour starts at 5 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., and the program starts at 8 p.m. Cost for the banquet is \$25 for adults and \$15 for youth.

For more information and to register contact Barb Breeggemann at (952) 445-4396.

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**An Evening with Teddy Roosevelt, America's Conservationist President**  
Saturday, February 22, 2014 @ 5:30-7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Springbrook Nature Center, Fridley, MN

**Brief Description:** Explore America's outdoor heritage with Adam Lindquist's portrayal of Teddy Roosevelt as he brings to life the origins of the conservation movement in America. During his presidency, Roosevelt created the US Forest Service, established 51 federal bird reservations, 150 national forests, and 5 national forests, protecting nearly 230 million acres of land. Discover the amazing story of how our 26th president came to be known as the "conservationist president," leaving a legacy of environmental protection that remains to this day. Springbrook will begin a series of programs featuring a lively and educational presentation followed by a casual catered meal. The presentations are geared towards an adult audience interest in nature, environmental issues, conservation and outdoor heritage. The evening presentations will be followed by a meal where attendees can gather with friends, family and others that share their passion for the outdoors.

For more information and to pre-register call the nature center at (763) 572-3588.

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**Five Senses Hike**

Saturday, February 22, 2014 @ 7-8 p.m.

**Location:** Minneopa State Park

**Brief Description:** Go stomping through the snow at Minneopa State Park on a Five Senses Snowshoe Hike. We will go for a hike through the woods and along the Minneopa Creek Valley down to the confluence with the Minnesota River using no artificial light source. On the route we will stop a number of times to talk about how we use our five different senses (hearing, taste, sight, touch and smell). We will be out for about an hour and please dress appropriately. Night present a whole new world to most of us. Very few of us spend extended periods of time in the dark and some people may even become fearful to the night. As humans we are constantly trying to reduce the fun of being outside after dark. Please meet at the group campground area on the campground site of Minneopa State Park. Snow shoes can be rented at the park by calling (507) 389-5464 or stopping at the office.

For more information email [Scott Kudelka](mailto:Scott.Kudelka) or call (507) 384-8890

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**Managing the Uncertainty of Specialty Crops**

Sunday, February 23, 2014 @ 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Location:** South Central College, North Mankato, MN

**Brief Description:** As with other businesses, fruit and vegetable growers must deal with changing consumer demands and expectations, but fruit and vegetable producers must also work around unpredictable weather conditions, changing insect pests and increased disease pressure. In this workshop led by Thaddeus McCamant, Specialty Crops Instructor with Central Lakes College, growers will learn key decision making components to start or expand their business. Topics included in this day long workshop are:

- Marketing issues: recent changes in consumer demand for direct market fruit and vegetables
- A work calendar for the growing season: Paying attention to every step when growing your crop in order to reach your financial goal
- Investment in equipment: What is the return on investment for different types of equipment?
- How to avoid burnout: Tales from the field

\*Registered farms will received college credit for this workshop

For information and to register visit the [Managing Uncertainty of Specialty Crops events page](#). Other dates are available Feb. 9, 2014 in Brainerd, MN and Feb. 16 in Anoka, MN.

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**Feb. 24 - Mar. 2**

**2014 3rd Crop Producer Meetings: Scaling Up**  
Monday, February 24, 2014 @ 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.



**Location:** Knights of Columbus Hall, 920 E. 10th St., Fairmont, MN

**Brief Description:**

Agenda:

- 9:30 a.m.** - Registration and coffee
- 10 a.m.** - Growing Grapes in Southern MN; Leslie Curry, Lone Oak Tree Vineyard -Amboy
- 10:30 a.m.** - Taking the High Row (struggles & successes in running a CSA); Judy Harder, Jubilee Fruits & Vegetables - Mountain lake
- 11:30 a.m.** - Produce Locker Concept; Linda Meschke, Rural Advantage
- Noon** - Lunch
- 1 p.m.** - Selling Successfully at Farmer's Markets; Kathy Zeman, MN Farmer's Marker Association
- 2 p.m.** - Selling Local Foods to Institutions: What are they looking for? Ryan Pesch, University of Minnesota Extension
- 3 p.m.** Growing Greens in Winter - Deep Winter Producer's Association; David Fleugel, SW Regional Sustainable Development Partnership - Morris

It is our hope that the topics and speakers of the 2014 Third Crop Producer Meetings will increase your interest and knowledge of third crops. We hope you will be able to join us for at least one of the four meetings. As always, if you need information regarding third crop production or market opportunities, please contact our office at (507) 238-5449.

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**Innovations in Cover Cropping**

Monday, February 24, 2014 @ 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**Location:** Chatfield Lutheran Church, 304 Fillmore St. SE, Chatfield, MN

**Brief Description:** Cover crops take the spotlight during a workshop starting at 10 a.m. and ending in a light lunch at the Chatfield Lutheran Church. "Innovations in cover cropping" will focus on soil building, livestock feed, insurance issues, and grazing possibilities of cover crops with Canton dairy grazier Olaf Haugan, Sarah Carlson of Practical Farmers of Iowa, and Minnesota grazing specialists John Zinn of NRCS and Dean Thomas, Fillmore County SWCD. There will be a light lunch, a free-will donation will be welcome.

For more information contact LSP's David Rosmann at (507) 523-3366.

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**Central Minnesota Farm Show**

Tuesday, February 25 - Thursday, February 27, 2014

**Location:** River's Edge Convention Center, 10 South 4th Avenue, St. Cloud, MN

**Brief Description:** The Central Minnesota Farm Show is held annually in St. Cloud. The show begins the last Tuesday in February and runs for three days. Sponsored and organized by the Farm Show Committee of the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce, the show boasts over 300 booths and 180 exhibitors. Attendees come from all over the state to meet with vendors who represent businesses in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and the Dakotas. Exhibits are expected to be open with staff on the premises each day from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Show is free and open to the public. 10% of the annual revenue from the Show is used to support agriculture in Central Minnesota, such as Dairy Day held in Sauk Center, area seminars and expo's.

For more information on the event call (320) 251-2940.

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**Caring for Creation - Film Event**

Thursday, February 27, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

**Location:** Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, St. Paul, MN

**Brief Description:** The Wetlands and Water Committee North Star Sierra Club & Caring for Creation Team of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church invite you to attend a film discussion. The film that will be shown is GrowthBusters: Hooked on Growth. A documentary film that asks the most critical questions of our time: How do we become a sustainable civilization? This film examines the cultural barriers that prevent us from acting rationally.

For more information visit [Gloria Dei Lutheran Church's website](#) or email [Bill](#)

Barton.

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**Mar. 3 - Mar. 9**

**2014 3rd Crop Producer Meetings: 3rd Crop Production**  
Monday, March 3, 2014 @ 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Location:** Knights of Columbus Hall, 920 E. 10th St., Fairmont, MN

**Brief Description:**

Agenda:

**9:30 a.m.** - Registration and coffee

**11 a.m.** - Growing Local Fruit; Thaddeus McCamant, Specialty Crops Management - Central Lakes College - Staples

**Noon** - Lunch

**1 p.m.** - Wearing Many Hats: Production & Marketing at Living Song Farms & MN River Garlic Festival; Jerry Ford, MN Garlic Festival

**2 p.m.** - Building a Resilient Food System; Reginaldo Haslett-Marroquin, Main Street Project - Northfield

It is our hope that the topics and speakers of the 2014 Third Crop Producer Meetings will increase your interest and knowledge of third crops. We hope you will be able to join us for at least one of the four meetings. As always, if you need information regarding third crop production or market opportunities, please contact our office at (507) 238-5449.

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**Site Assessment & Garden Layout & Plant Design, Part 1**

Tuesday, March 4, 2014 @ 6-7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Washington Conservation District Office, Oakdale, MN

**Brief Description:** Choose from one of three introductory classes to get you started with the nuts and bolts of raingardens, their purposes to improve water quality, inspirational design options and how to tap into free site visits, design assistance and grants through your local watershed district. These raingarden classes are free, but registration is required. Pre-register by Feb. 28.

For more information and to register contact [Shelly Mesler](#) at the Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District by phone (651) 792-7965. Also can visit the [Ramsey-Washington Watershed District](#) webpage.

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**Site Assessment & Garden Layout & Plant Design, Part 1**

Wednesday, March 5, 2014 @ 7-9 p.m.

**Location:** Shoreview Community Center, Shoreview, MN

**Brief Description:** Choose from one of three introductory classes to get you started with the nuts and bolts of raingardens, their purposes to improve water quality, inspirational design options and how to tap into free site visits, design assistance and grants through your local watershed district. These raingarden classes are free, but registration is required. Pre-register by Feb. 28.

For more information and to register contact [Shelly Mesler](#) at the Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District by phone (651) 792-7965. Also can visit the [Ramsey-Washington Watershed District](#) webpage.

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**Managing your soils: Crop nutrient needs, soil health and nutrient availability**

Saturday, February 8, 2014 @ 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Location:** Afton Apple Orchard, Hastings, MN

**Brief Description:** Raising high quality produce with extended shelf life requires effective soil management. Understanding how the interaction of soil mineral, biological and physical components affects soil productivity and plant growth is important to effective, sustainable soil and crop management. Effectively utilizing soil testing information is a critical component of this process. In this workshop led by Dell Christianson, Specialty Crops Instructor Emeritus, growers will learn how to utilize information from their soil test reports and use that information to design a crop management program that builds their soil while raising top quality fruits and vegetables.

Topics included in this day long workshop are:

- Understanding crop nutrients needs and availability throughout the season
- Critical nutrient timing needs of different crops for optimum production

- Selecting the best nutrient amendment program for your soils and crops
- Utilizing the Total Soil Health Assessment Tool to identify production limiting factors in your soil management practices
- The role of soil biological activity in soil health and fertility

This workshop will build upon information presented in last year's session, but is open to anyone. Registered farms will receive college credit.

For more information and how to register visit the [Minnesota's Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association website](#).

#### **Planning a Successful Farm Business**

Saturday, March 8, 2014 @ 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Location:** Ridgewater College, Willmar, MN

**Brief Description:** At the end of the day, you will have a full business plan in a form ready to be implemented on the farm. The business plan may be used to guide you in decision-making in the course of running the farm business. Additionally, it is something you can use in discussions with your banks, private investor(s), grantor(s), or other family members in the event you are seeking outside funding or support.

#### Course Outline:

- Welcome and Introduction - Overview outline and business plan template
- Mission and Goals - Writing mission statement, goal statements, and background
- Organizational and Operational Plans - Writing organizational and operational plans, business structure, defining job duties
- Marketing Planning - Market channels, volume, pricing
- Financial Statements - Balance sheet, cash flow, profit loss
- Wrap-up and Evaluation

For more information and how to register visit the [Minnesota's Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association website](#).

**Mar. 10 - Mar. 16**

#### **Annual Ag Show**

Tuesday, March 11 - Wednesday, March 14, 2014

**Location:** Civic Center in Willmar, MN

**Brief Description:** The Willmar Ag Show, sponsored by the West Central Ag Sales Association, features all agriculture exhibits including crop inputs, material handling, machinery, building, swine, and dairy equipment as well as free seminars.

For more information on the event or to register as an Ag Show exhibitor email the [West Central Ag Sales Association](#) or call (320) 231-1470. To learn about West Central Ag Sales Association visit their [website](#).

#### **Site Assessment & Garden Layout & Plant Design, Part 1**

Tuesday, March 11, 2014 @ 6-7:30 p.m.

**Location:** Shoreview Community Center, Shoreview, MN

**Brief Description:** Choose from one of three introductory classes to get you started with the nuts and bolts of raingardens, their purposes to improve water quality, inspirational design options and how to tap into free site visits, design assistance and grants through your local watershed district. These raingarden classes are free, but registration is required.

For more information and to register contact [Shelly Mesler](#) at the Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District by phone (651) 792-7965. Also can visit the [Ramsey-Washington Watershed District](#) webpage.

#### **Building from Success: New Models Emerging**

Thursday, February 13, 2014 @ 6 p.m.

**Location:** Bluestem Bar, 2610 Lyndale Ave S, Minneapolis, MN

**Brief Description:** Join Bluestem Bar as they will be hosting the first in its Salon Series with authors Paula Westmoreland and Lansing Shepard, authors of *This*

*Perennial Land* to explore restoring sustainability and resiliency in our food system. The theme of the salon is *Not the Rural Minnesota You Used to Know*. Westmoreland and Shepard will discuss restorative agriculture and the quiet revolution happening on the land. With the audience, they will explore current trends and how conditions are changing. Each evening includes a farm-to-table meal with organic, vegan or gluten-free selections from French Meadow Bakery and Café and Bluestem Bar's menu. \$24 for dinner or \$40 for dinner and signed copy of book.

For more information contact [Katherine](#) or call (612) 767-3443.

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### **Managing your soils: Crop nutrient needs, soil health and nutrient availability**

Saturday, March 15, 2014 @ 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Location:** Afton Apple Orchard, Hastings, MN

**Brief Description:** Raising high quality produce with extended shelf life requires effective soil management. Understanding how the interaction of soil mineral, biological and physical components affects soil productivity and plant growth is important to effective, sustainable soil and crop management. Effectively utilizing soil testing information is a critical component of this process. In this workshop led by Dell Christianson, Specialty Crops Instructor Emeritus, growers will learn how to utilize information from their soil test reports and use that information to design a crop management program that builds their soil while raising top quality fruits and vegetables.

Topics included in this day long workshop are:

- Understanding crop nutrients needs and availability throughout the season
- Critical nutrient timing needs of different crops for optimum production
- Selecting the best nutrient amendment program for your soils and crops
- Utilizing the Total Soil Health Assessment Tool to identify production limiting factors in your soil management practices
- The role of soil biological activity in soil health and fertility

This workshop will build upon information presented in last year's session, but is open to anyone. Registered farms will receive college credit.

For more information and how to register visit the [Minnesota's Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association website](#).

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### **Animal Tracks Snowshoe Hike**

Saturday, March 15, 2014 @ 10 a.m.

**Location:** Minneopa State Park, Mankato, MN

**Brief Description:** There are many different animals living all around us but I can be tough to see them. Looking for tracks is a great way to discover who some of these animals might be. Come out to Fort Ridgely State Park for a guided snowshoe hike through both forested and prairie sections and a fun chance at trying to identify 15 different animal tracks. We will be out for around an hour and a half walking up or down a couple of steeper hills. If there isn't enough snow, the event will become a hike. The program starts at the Chalet parking lot.

For more information email [Scott Kudelka](#) or call (507) 384-8890.

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### **Beaver Ecology**

Saturday, March 15, 2014 @ 1 p.m.

**Location:** Join the Minneopa State Park naturalist, Scott Kudelka, for an interpretative program on Beaver Ecology at the Elk's Nature Center in Mankato's Rasmussen Park. This aquatic mammal spends a great amount of time in the water and has the ability to change its environment by building a dam on a river or stream. Humans are the only other animal capable of doing this. As the largest rodent in North America, the beaver has had a major effect on the continent's history. In this program we will learn what makes this animal special and show off some of its unique characteristics by dressing one lucky person as a beaver. In addition, we will also cover the ecology of beavers and some of its physical adaptations. This program is free and open to the public through Minnesota's Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment.

## JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYDROLOGIST	
<b>Department:</b>	Minnesota Department of Health
<b>Closing Date:</b>	February 13, 2014
<b>Location(s):</b>	St Paul, MN
<b>Who May Apply:</b>	All qualified job seekers
<b>Responsibilities:</b>	<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>This position exists to assist with special projects designed to determine the extent of contamination in groundwater supplies used for drinking and to provide guidance to Department staff for protecting drinking water sources.</p> <p>Job responsibilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Designing technical studies to collect and interpret water quality data;</li><li>• Supporting state, county, and local efforts to understand water quality;</li><li>• Interpreting and presenting groundwater quality data so it can be understood by decision makers and the general public; and,</li><li>• Providing environmental review for projects that may affect wellhead protection areas.</li></ul> <p>For more information visit <a href="http://www.career.state.mn.us">www.career.state.mn.us</a> posting # 14HEAL000032</p>

PARKS RESERV/MERCH SYS MGR	
<b>Department:</b>	Parks & Trails/Central Office, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
<b>Closing Date:</b>	February 14, 2014
<b>Location(s):</b>	St. Paul, MN
<b>Who May Apply:</b>	Only current employees
<b>Responsibilities:</b>	<p>Work schedule is generally days, Monday-Friday, with some exceptions for travel.</p> <p>This position serves as a consultant to the Division Leadership Team (DLT) and Department of Natural Resources (DNR) management group. It is responsible for strategic project planning for operations, business modeling and database management, as well as quality assurance, new programs and products to generate revenue and increase participation in the state park system. The position manages all aspects of program direction for the statewide Parks Reservation and Revenue System (PRRS) and directs the business functions and program direction of the statewide parks merchandise system. Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish revenue collection (and data entry) procedures for camping and lodging reservations, tours and merchandise sales, guide and develop recommendations for park rules, policies guidelines and standards for the parks system as they apply to the centralized reservation and revenue system;</li></ul>

manage the state park equipment rental program.

- Coordinate training and support to parks staff and customers of the reservation system.
- Make recommendations for audits, analyzes and provides recommendations to the DLT on revenue trends and directs technical and programming changes in the PRRS system.
- Serve as project manager to work with the contractor on the system technology, data and operations.
- Serve as statewide technical expert in the reservation system area and develop an enterprise approach to management of the reservation system data, analyze data and make recommendations for assessing strategic operation issues.
- Direct policy so program meets legal requirements, is in keeping with stakeholder expectations, assures that programs are innovative and plans can be made for long range resource needs by researching new information, advising technical staff and integrating current technical information and techniques.
- Oversee the statewide collection, reconciliation and depositing of over \$17 million in revenue; manage and enforce the division's Fees and Charges by Commissioner's Order.
- Provide direction and quality assurance for work accomplished by other staff.
- Manage budgetary resources to efficiently meet program needs by preparing, justifying, monitoring and evaluating budgets & developing spending plans.
- Provide program direction department-wide or with groups affected by program policies and procedures so that individuals work with rather than against the department, by meeting with individuals or organizations on management problems or issues; by collecting, assembling and providing information on resource issues; and by serving as the department's representative at meetings.
- Oversee the development and implementation of informational pieces and educational programs so that clientele, staff and decision-makers are well-informed and have adequate factual information on which to base decisions.

For more information and how to apply visit [www.career.state.mn.us](http://www.career.state.mn.us) posting # 14DNR000081.

### PARK SPECIALIST

<b>Department:</b>	Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
<b>Closing Date:</b>	February 17, 2014
<b>Location(s):</b>	Buffalo River State Park, MN
<b>Who May Apply:</b>	All qualified job seekers
<b>Responsibilities:</b>	<p>This is a Full-Time Temporary Unclassified (6 months) position, located at Buffalo River State Park, near Glyndon, MN. Anticipated dates are from March 26th through September 28th, 2014. Days and hours of work will vary and include evenings weekends and holidays. For FLSA purposes, this position is Non-Exempt.</p> <p>This position exists to provide professional support in the management and implementation of Department of Natural Resources' and Division of Parks &amp; Trails programs, activities, policies and rules. Responsibilities include:</p>

- Physical Plant Management - repair, maintenance and custodial services for buildings, grounds, equipment, utilities, swimming pond, water systems, physical inventories, and all other facilities; prepare monthly unit reports.
- Visitor Services, Public Relations and Fiscal Management- implement/administer visitor services and public relations activities, administer revenue systems, budgets (permit and firewood sales, etc.), make deposits, reservations, special events, maintain inventory of printed materials and answer questions, operate all public facilities, etc.
- Enforcement and Emergency Services - enforce park rules and applicable state laws and provide emergency response to ensure visitor safety including night patrol.
- Personnel - Provide lead work direction to staff, participate in selection process, provide input on performance evaluation, etc.
- Cultural and Natural Resource Management - assist with implementing the park's resource management program so natural communities and cultural resources are restored and protected.
- Safety - perform inspections, ensure use of protective equipment and safe work behavior, investigate/report injuries and potential visitor hazards, etc.

For more information and how to apply visit [www.career.state.mn.us](http://www.career.state.mn.us) posting # 14DNR000080.

### SUMMER INTERN

<b>Department:</b>	Heron Lake Watershed District
<b>Closing Date:</b>	February 17, 2014
<b>Location(s):</b>	Heron Lake, MN
<b>Who May Apply:</b>	All qualified job seekers
<b>Responsibilities:</b>	<p>This position is that of Summer Intern for the Heron Lake Watershed District (HLWD) and the North Heron Lake Game Producers Association (NHLGPA) in the counties of Nobles, Jackson, Murray, and Cottonwood. It provides assistance in all aspects of water quality improvement efforts outlined in grant work plans in a manner consistent with the intent of the HLWD Overall Plan. The individual holding this position is an employee of HLWD.</p> <p>MAJOR DUTIES:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Monitor water quality at select stream and lake sites.</li> <li>2. Contact landowners and conduct best management practices site inspections.</li> <li>3. Perform annual artificial nest inspection and survey.</li> <li>4. Complete daily journal of activities.</li> <li>5. Bi-monthly activity report. Provide newsletter articles as needed.</li> <li>6. Develop detailed report of projects and activities completed, with photographs. Computer and writing skills are necessary.</li> <li>7. Assist with goose banding in cooperation with Department of Natural Resources staff.</li> <li>8. Water level readings – Duck Lake, South Heron Lake, and East and West Graham.</li> <li>9. Organize all digital photos by project type.</li> <li>10. Assist HLWD staff with rain garden and shoreline project installation.</li> <li>11. Assist Okabena-Ocheda Watershed District (O-OWD) staff with water quality and flow monitoring within the O-OWD.</li> <li>12. Assist Natural Resources Conservation Service staff with project design and</li> </ol>

- installation.
13. Attend HLWD and NHLGPA meetings.
  14. Present summary of summer activities at August board meeting.
  15. Complete evaluations: self, program, and personnel.
  16. Answer telephone calls.
  17. Work with the public in a polite and courteous manner.
  18. Other duties as assigned.

For a complete job description and application form, please contact [Jan Voit](mailto:Jan.Voit@state.mn.us) at (507) 793-2462, or visit [www.hlwdonline.org](http://www.hlwdonline.org)

### GYPSY MOTH SURVEY TRAPPER

<b>Department:</b>	Minnesota Department of Agriculture
<b>Closing Date:</b>	February 19, 2014
<b>Location(s):</b>	Southern Aitkin, Anoka, Benton, Carver, Northern Dakota, Hennepin, Houston, Northern Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Pine, Ramsey, Scott, Sherburne, Eastern Sibley, Washington, Eastern Winona, and Wright Counties
<b>Who May Apply:</b>	All qualified job seekers
<b>Responsibilities:</b>	<p>Trappers work from their home. Please indicate on your resume which areas you would like to be considered for. Mandatory training is on May 13 and 14, 2014 in St. Paul, MN.</p> <p>The European gypsy moth causes extensive damage when the caterpillars defoliate North American forests. The Gypsy Moth survey program is used to detect this invasive species in Minnesota.</p> <p>Job duties include assembling, setting, monitoring and removing up to 800 cardboard detection traps within a designated route. Trappers collect data using a hand-held global positioning system (GPS) unit (training provided) and report to a lead worker. Trappers work from home and live in the area in which they trap. A reliable vehicle is necessary for driving trap routes. Mileage is reimbursable.</p> <p>These are intermittent positions; however work days will be Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. There will be approximately 4 weeks of intermittent scheduled unpaid leave during the season for approximately 4 weeks of employment.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply visit <a href="http://www.career.state.mn.us">www.career.state.mn.us</a> Posting # 140523000001.</p>

### NR PROGRAM SUPV SR - FISH HATCHERY

<b>Department:</b>	Fish and Wildlife/Central Office, MN DNR
<b>Closing Date:</b>	February 20, 2014
<b>Location(s):</b>	St. Paul, MN
<b>Who May Apply:</b>	All qualified job seekers
<b>Responsibilities:</b>	This position supervises statewide fish hatchery operations as well as directs and manages the statewide hatchery program and special aquaculture projects, including supervision of fish hatchery supervisors.



Core Activities:

- Plan and coordinate the operation of hatcheries to achieve production quotas by evaluating existing facilities and production practices, assigning production goals for each hatchery, making adjustments in production as they arise from management, designing and implementing new projects, and evaluating the success of new plans, programs, and projects.
- Direct the State's hatchery system to obtain maximum benefits from resources by developing plans and budgets; adjusting production capacities to meet management needs; determining stock requirements for statewide programs; arranging fish/egg transfers and exchanges; developing and implementing special projects; developing disease control policies; and monitoring hatchery programs through reports, meetings, and on site review. Work closely with the management staff to ensure accurate and approved stocking requests are submitted and that the associated databases are kept current.
- Administratively supervise a unit/section to ensure the effective allocation of human resources by interviewing, selecting staff affirmatively, assigning, scheduling, directing, evaluating work performance, recommending achievement awards, training new supervisors, and administering necessary disciplinary action on subordinate staff.
- Plan for and develop new fish production facilities and improve the state's present system to meet statewide stocking needs by reviewing equipment and facility needs, establishing project priority, designing new facilities, obtaining funding, and overseeing design and construction.
- Conduct regularly scheduled work group meetings for hatchery personnel to collaboratively discuss issues, solve problems, disseminate information, and give direction.
- Disseminate current information on hatchery techniques and practices so that the hatchery system remains modern and efficient by conferring with other professionals from other jurisdictions, participating in conferences, reading the scientific literature on hatcheries, and designing training sessions for hatchery employees.
- Provide leadership, encourage creativity and exploration of new methods, encouraging teamwork, encouraging supervisor participation in areas outside normal duties, and keeping supervisors informed about current developments within the Division.
- Disseminate information on fish production practices to the public to enhance understanding of the section's policies and programs by responding to inquiries, giving advice, and making presentations.

For more information and how to apply visit [www.career.state.mn.us](http://www.career.state.mn.us) Posting # 14DNR000045.

### DISTRICT TECHNICIAN

<b>Department:</b>	Benton SWCD
<b>Closing Date:</b>	February 20, 2014
<b>Location(s):</b>	Foley, MN
<b>Who May Apply:</b>	All qualified job seekers
<b>Responsibilities:</b>	The duties of this position are assigned at the discretion of the District Manager. The primary purpose of this position is to provide technical assistance and promote BMPs to land users in the Little Rock Lake and Creek watersheds in Benton and Morrison

Counties. Emphasis will initially be placed on irrigation water management, animal feed management and promoting other BMPs in the watersheds. This position is also responsible for coordinating local water plan advisory committee meetings, acts as the coordinator for the water plan and performs WCA duties required of the District (primarily represents the District on the Technical Evaluation Panel). Specific duties of this position are expected to change as the needs of the area change.

For more information and how to apply view the [job announcement](#).

### DISTRICT TECHNICIAN

<b>Department:</b>	East Otter Tail/Wadena SWCD
<b>Closing Date:</b>	February 21, 2014
<b>Location(s):</b>	Wadena, MN
<b>Who May Apply:</b>	All qualified job seekers
<b>Responsibilities:</b>	<p>The person hired for this position will coordinate and implement the County Feedlot Program, the WCA the County Ag Inspector Program, assist with the scheduling and maintenance of rental field equipment, assist with tracking and reporting of projects, assist with tracking grant funding, assist with all aspects of the districts conservation tree program and assist with other duties assigned by the EOT SWCD manager.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply view the <a href="#">job announcement</a>.</p>

### GYPSY MOTH SURVEY TRAPPER

<b>Department:</b>	Minnesota Department of Agriculture
<b>Closing Date:</b>	February 26, 2014
<b>Location(s):</b>	St. Louis, Itasca, Northern Aitkin, Northern Carlton, East Cass, and Northeast Crow Wing Counties
<b>Who May Apply:</b>	All qualified job seekers
<b>Responsibilities:</b>	<p>Trappers work from their home. Please indicate on your resume which areas you would like to be considered for. Mandatory training is on June 10 and 11, 2014 in Cloquet, MN.</p> <p>The European gypsy moth causes extensive damage when the caterpillars defoliate North American forests. The Gypsy Moth survey program is used to detect this invasive species in Minnesota.</p> <p>Job duties include assembling, setting, monitoring and removing up to 800 cardboard detection traps within a designated route. Trappers collect data using a hand-held global positioning system (GPS) unit (training provided) and report to a lead worker. Trappers work from home and live in the area in which they trap. A reliable vehicle is necessary for driving trap routes. Mileage is reimbursable</p> <p>These are intermittent positions; however work days will be Monday through Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. There will be approximately 4 weeks of intermittent scheduled unpaid leave during the season for approximately 14 weeks of employment.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply visit <a href="http://www.career.state.mn.us">www.career.state.mn.us</a> Posting # 140523000001.</p>

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*"SOMETIMES THE QUESTIONS ARE COMPLICATED AND THE ANSWERS ARE SIMPLE."*

-Dr. Seuss

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.