



Minnesota River Weekly Update

February 18th, 2014

Cemstone Products Company's wastewater discharge violation leads to water saving project

The discovery of contaminated wastewater discharge flowing to city of Minneapolis' stormwater sewer system has led to the development of a water-saving project. Cemstone Products Company operates a concrete ready-mix facility in Minneapolis, MN. The facility operates under a permit that includes provisions on stormwater and concrete operations to prevent contamination of lakes and streams. In September 2012, the MPCA investigated an off-white discharge from a Minneapolis storm sewer into the Mississippi River. MPCA staff found that the discharge originated primarily from trust rinse water at Cemstone's facility. Cemstone agreed to pay \$32,000 fine and complete a Supplemental Environmental Project, costing at least \$39,000, by October 2014. Staff will install a weir system at Cemstone Midway location in St. Paul. The Midway location currently uses a series of ponds for infiltration and evaporation of wastewater. The future weir system will capture wastewater and stormwater and allow for this water to be reused in a washing process and for batching new concrete. An estimated 3 million gallons of water per year will be recycled. For more information on MPCA's enforcement actions view their [quarterly summary of enforcement actions](#).

Minnehaha Creek Watershed District goes Grassroot

Using almost \$322,000 from a 2013 Clean Water Fund grant awarded by BWSR, MCWD, in partnership with the Freshwater Society, has launched an exciting new grassroots approach to improving water quality in the Minnehaha Creek Watershed. Modeled after Master Naturalist and Master Gardener Programs, the new Master Water Steward programs works to "recruit, inspire, organize and build projects to keep stormwater and the pollutants carried in the stormwater from flowing into lakes and streams." The first group of participants -- the class of 2013 -- came primarily from the downstream part of the watershed in an around Minneapolis. During their time in the program they took classes on topics such as Basic Hydrology, Stormwater 101, Water Policy, Environmental Behavior and Decision making, Creating a Residential Stormwater Plan, and Community Engagement Strategies. Participants worked together to complete

capstone projects involving installation of a stormwater project designed to reduce runoff and nonpoint source pollutants from entering Minnehaha Creek or other downstream water bodies. The program has recruited its next class of participants for 2014, and will start their training program on Jan. 21. This group comes from the middle third of the watershed, including cities of Edina, St. Louis Park, Hopkins, and Minnetonka. Graduates of the program receive certification as Master Water Stewards, and the program's goal is to certify 70 residents of the MCWD by 2015.

For more information about the Master Water Stewards program visit their [website](#).

Long time partnerships result in environmental improvements, success in SW Minnesota.

The joint Powers Board uniting Rock and Nobles Counties, the respective SWCDs, and the Kanarazi-Little Rock Watershed District was originally started as a federal project to address major erosion and flooding through conservation practices with individual landowner contracts. Having projects on the landscape that are 30 years old, and still work, is a testament to the success of the projects, quality engineering and partnerships associated with the watershed project. The Clean Water Fund project wrapped up in December 2012, resulting in construction of eight grassed waterways, a shoreline protection project, 18 water and sediment control basins and a clean water diversion project. Nearly 4,000 pounds of phosphorus and sediment were saved from entering waterways through these projects. The outpouring of landowner support and funding requests in the Kanarazi-Little Rock Watershed has increased since the influx of funding. The Nobles SWCD, NRCS, and KLR partnership is still looking for additional ways to fund projects, either through Federal EQIP funding, State cost-share, Clean Water Funds, or KLR local levy. The Nobles SWCD currently has over \$750,000 worth of landowner estimates for erosion control practices that are looking for funding.

For more information on the watershed and conservation practices visit [Nobles SWCD website](#).

Our new regional MN River Fisheries Specialist recently hired and stationed at the Hutchinson DNR Office

Please welcome Anthony Sindt to the MN DNR, Section of Fisheries as the new MN River Fisheries Specialist Senior. Tony is a native Minnesotan and grew up in Maplewood, MN. He received a B.S. in Biology with an emphasis on Ecology from Minnesota State University, Mankato and during his time in Mankato he spent several summers interning with the MnDNR. After completing his undergraduate experience, Tony pursued an M.S. in Fisheries Biology at Iowa State University. His thesis work Tony sampled fish species of greatest conservation need in wadeable Iowa streams. Most recent he worked as a fisheries biologist for the Ohio Division of Wildlife's Inland Fisheries Research Unit. In Ohio, he worked on a variety of systems from small reservoirs to the Ohio River and with a variety of species from brown trout to blue catfish. Tony's education, work experiences, and knowledge of the Minnesota River will allow him to excel in his new position as the Minnesota River Specialist.

Minnesota moose population trend shows no significant change

Aerial moose survey results for 2014 show no significant change in Minnesota's moose population even though more animals were seen than last year. Results of the MN DNR's annual aerial moose survey place the 2014 statewide moose population estimate at 4,350. The 2013 estimate was 2,760 but due to variability in the estimates, this year's estimate does not represent a statistically significant change. "The higher estimate this winter likely is related to ideal survey conditions rather than any actual increase in the population," said Lou Cornicelli, wildlife research manager for the DNR. "This year's heavy snows across northeastern Minnesota made it comparatively easy to spot dark-bodied moose against an unbroken background of white." Cornicelli said this year's estimate is very close to 2012 estimate of 4,230, which suggests that last year's estimate may have under-counted the population. Long term trends show that Minnesota's moose population does indeed have a significant downward trend.

For a copy of the 2014 aerial survey and more information on moose research visit the [MN DNR's website](#).

ARTICLES

[Renewables disrupt utilities. That's a good thing.](#)

Amory Lovins, Feb. 7, Christian Science Monitor
Renewables are making headway in Europe and bringing a low-carbon electricity system to the forefront. Renewables were 69% of new capacity added in 2012 in Europe and 49% in the United States. Not surprisingly, this threatens utilities unwilling to let go of outmoded business models and fossil-fuel generation.

[Minnesota legislators push for better oil-transport disaster response](#)

David Shaffer, Feb. 12, Star Tribune
Minnesota legislative leaders Wednesday proposed beefing up the state's capacity to respond to crude oil accidents – and to make railroads and pipeline companies pay for it.

[Science vs. Manufactured Climate/Creationsim Arguments](#)

Nicole Simmes Feb. 14, MN 2020
To better contextualize how far out some of the lingering “debate” around climate change has become, let's peak into the controversy around evolution versus creationism. Recently “Science Guy” Bill Nye went against young-Earth creationist Ken Ham on the merits of evolution versus creationism.

[Shakopee biomass energy facility is back online after blast](#)

Feb. 15, Star Tribune
The biomass energy facility in Shakopee that closed that April after an explosion and fire is back online, with \$7 million worth of improvements that will make it safer, company officials say.

[Warming Arctic may be causing jet stream to lose its way](#) (with audio)

Scott Neuman, Feb. 16, MPR News
Increasingly, the jet stream is taking a more circuitous route over the northern latitudes, meaning weather systems hang around longer than they used to. And a warming Arctic is probably to blame, says Jennifer Francis, a professor at Rutgers University's institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences.

[Twin Cities suburbs are facing a new need: Final resting places](#)

Shannon Prather, Feb. 17, Star Tribune

[Wetlands: Replacing onsite vs. buying credits](#)

Janet Kubat Willette, Feb. 10, AgriNews
The relationship between farmers and wetlands can be tricky. Sid Cornelius, an environmental specialist an retiree from the NRCS, explained some of the nuances of wetlands and the options available to replace wetlands at a Plain-Talk Ag Wetland Mitigation Workshop held Feb. 5 in Owatonna.

[Ryan Buck: Farm Bill cuts federal deficit, gives farmers some certainty](#)

Feb. 14, PostBulletin.com
It took more than three years, with numerous partisan speed bumps on the way to legislation that is far from perfect, but we finally have a farm bill that provides farm families with the certainty they need while also reducing our nation's deficit by \$24 billion over the next 10 years.

[Great Lakes become nearly covered with ice](#) (with audio)

AP, Feb. 14, MPR News
It's been so bitterly cold for so long in the Upper Midwest that the Great Lakes are almost completely covered with ice. The last time they came this close was in 1994, when 94% of the lake's surface was frozen.

[Park plan may impact neighbors](#)

March Fischbach, Feb. 16, Mankato Free Press
As the Mankato City Council contemplates what to add to its park and recreation system, being neighborly should be a least part of the equation, according to more than one member of the council.

[A 'silent pandemic' of toxic chemicals is damaging our children's brains experts claim](#)

Susan Perry, Feb. 17, MinnPost
The number of industrial chemicals known to cause neurodevelopmental disabilities among children – such as autism, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and dyslexia – has doubled from six to 12 over the past seven years, according to [a new study](#) published last Friday in the journal [Lancet Neurology](#).

[Important concerns remain unaddressed for PolyMet](#)

Nicole Simms, Feb. 17, MN2020

The suburbs were built with young families in mind. Now, as their population's age, dealing with death has become a new reality. Several churches are adding columbaria, usually aboveground structures made of stone to house cremated remains.

As Minnesota precedes in evaluating PolyMet's proposed copper-nickel mining project, a number of pressing issues still need to be resolved with respect to how much-and what kind-of financial assurance would be necessary to mitigate long-term environmental impacts.

EVENTS

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 Severeid 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 Severeid 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.

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](#) or email [Jodi DeJong-Hughes](mailto:Jodi.DeJong-Hughes) or call (320) 815-4112

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](#).

Lectures in Nature - Aquatic Invasive Species

Thursday, February 20, 2014 @ 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Location: River Bend Nature Center, Faribault, MN

Brief Description: The lakes may be frozen, but there is still time to learn about pests that lurk beneath. Join us and Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist, Allison Gamble from Sakatah Lake State Park to talk about Minnesota invasive species and what you can do to help prevent the spread. Snacks will be provided and pre-

registration is required. \$5 for nonmembers and \$3 for members

For more information and how to register visit [River Bend Nature Center's site](#).

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](#).

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](#).

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](mailto:Scott.Kudelka) or call (507) 384-8890.

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.

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.

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

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 receive 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.

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 Market 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.

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 grazer 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.

Anything to Say or Sing about Book Group

Tuesday, February 25, 2014 @ 7-8 p.m.

Location: River Bend Nature Center, Faribault, MN

Brief Description: River Bend Nature Center is hosting a reading and discussion group to read *Soil not Oil*, written by world-renowned environmental leader Vandana Shiva. This book discusses the relationship between industrial agriculture and climate change and suggests solutions for a more sustainable world. Please bring your voice to this casual and thought-provoking conversation! \$2 nonmembers and free to members.

For more information visit [River Bend Nature Center's website](#).

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.

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](#).

Bagels & Birds
Saturday, March 1, 2014 @ 9:30-10:30 a.m.

Location: River Bend Nature Center, Faribault, MN
Brief Description: Join a naturalist in the comfort of the building to observe bird (and other) visitors to our backyard habitat feeding area. Enjoy coffee and bagels in a relaxed atmosphere while watching the antics of wildlife. The event is free and open to all ages.

For more information visit [River Bend Nature Center's website](#).

Seed Starting and Hydroponics
Saturday, March 1, 2014 @ 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Location: River Bend Nature Center, Faribault, MN
Brief Description: We've finally made it through the toughest parts of winter and now it's time to start thinking about vegetable gardening! We will be discussing and learning some of the basic set-ups for hydroponic or soilless gardening as well as learning and making containers for patio vegetable gardening. Means for starting tomatoes, peppers, and cucumbers will be provided. Event is open to all ages. \$4 nonmembers or \$8 per family and \$2 members.

For more information and to register visit [River Bend Nature Center's website](#).

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

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Lectures in Nature: Bird Nests, How do they do that?

Monday, March 3, 2014 @ 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Location: River Bend Nature Center, Faribault, MN

Brief Description: How does a Baltimore oriole make that graceful hanging nest so high up in the cotton wood tree? What is a woodpecker cavity nest like inside? Are there really birds that nest in tunnels? Join us for a talk by author Clay Christensen about all manner of birds' nests, illustrated by photos and diagrams so you can see for yourself just how these avian architects construct their nests.

For more information and to register visit [River Bend Nature Center's website](#).

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.

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.

20th Annual Horticulture Day: All Things Spring

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

Location: University of Minnesota Southern Research and Outreach Center, Waseca, MN

Brief Description:

Agenda:

- 8:30 a.m. -- Registration
- 9 a.m. -- Welcome
- 9:10 a.m. -- *Invasive Insect Species in MN: Look who wants to come to dinner!* Jeff Hahn, Entomologist at University of Minnesota Extension
- 10 a.m. -- *Don't waste it...Decay it! Growing edible mushrooms on yard and farm wastes* Mason Oliver, University of Minnesota
- 10:45 a.m. -- Break
- 11 a.m. -- *Tomato Grafting Workshop* Andy Petran, Ph. D. student in Applied Plant Science; Cindy Tong
- 12 p.m. - Lunch
- 12:45 p.m. -- *University of Minnesota Top Performing Annuals* Steve Poppe, Horticulture Scientist, University of Minnesota, West Central Research and Outreach Center (WROC)
- 1:30 p.m. -- *The Art of Landscape Gardening* Glenn Ray, Masterpiece

- Landscaping, Ltd.
- 2:45 p.m. -- Q & A / door prizes

The event has a \$25 registration fee (\$15 additional for spouse) that must be turned in by February 28, 2014. Registration fee includes morning refreshments, lunch and handout materials.

For more detail on each presentation and how to register visit the SROC event [brochure](#).

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
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- 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](#).

Winter Family Movie Night
Saturday, March 8, 2014 @6-8:30 p.m.

Location: River Bend Nature Center, Faribault, MN

Brief Description: River Bend Nature Center is kicking off its 2014 Winter Family Movie Night Series! January through March on the 2nd Saturday, River Bend

Nature Center will show a family oriented movie that revolves around themes that River Bend is truly invested in. Movie nights include hands-on activities related to the movie themes and time for socializing and discussion. Feel free to bring your favorite movie snacks and bring quarters too because River Bend will be selling fresh popcorn for 25 cents. Our movie license prevents us from publicizing the titles of our movies online, so please give us a call and we'll fill you in on what our featured film will be (507) 332-7151.

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.

A Farmers Workshop on Soil Health

Wednesday, March 12, 2014 @ 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Location: Elks Lodge, Faribault, MN

Brief Description: To learn more about farming systems and techniques that promote soil health, plan on attending the Farm Profit and Productivity in the 21st Century: A Farmer's Workshop on Soil Health. The workshop includes the following presentations:

- Keeping Soil Healthy, Productive & Sustainable by Using Four Simple Principles - Doug Miller, Soil Health Coordinator for the MN NRCS
- Cover Crops: What to grow, how to grow it, and how it benefits your farm? - Sarah Carlson, Cover Crop Research Coordinator, Practical Farmers of Iowa and Mike Peterson, Cover Crop Farmer
- Conservation Tillage for Improving Soil Quality, Profit and Water Quality - Jodie DeJong-Hughes, UM Extension Tillage Specialist and Rod Sommerfield, an experienced no-till farmer
- How do I know if I'm headed in the right direction? - Tom Coffman, NRCS District Conservationist

There is a \$10 registration fee at the door and a lunch meal provided. Please RSVP to Alana for the meal county at (507) 786-3916 or email alana@crwp.net.

Grandkids in Nature: Forest Tales

Thursday, March 13, 2014 @ 3:30 - 5 p.m.

Location: River Bend Nature Center, Faribault, MN

Brief Description: Inviting grandparents and grandfriends to come spend quality time with their grandkids at River Bend Nature Center. Activities and projects will focus on bridging the generational gap by enjoying time together. \$5 per nonmember family \$4 per member family.

For more information and to register visit [River Bend Nature Center's website](#).

Building from Success: New Models Emerging

Thursday, March 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.

Women in Nature: Maple Syruping

Friday, March 14, 2014 @ 5-7 p.m.

Location: River Bend Nature Center, Faribault, MN

Brief Description: Join us for our all new Women in nature series, a monthly outdoors skills and natural history-based program specifically for women. Women in Nature programs will take place the 2nd Friday of the month and will vary in lengths, times and prices according to the activities planned. River Bend will also have activities for children ages 5-12 during the times of the class for participants who wish to bring the. March's program will introduce participants to the basics of Maple Syruping. We'll explore the history of maple syruping, then go out and practice identifying and tapping sugar trees. \$5 nonmembers \$3 members.

For more information and to register visit [River Bend Nature Center's website](#).

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](#).

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](mailto:Scott.Kudelka) or call (507) 384-8890.

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.

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

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

GYPSY MOTH SURVEY TRAPPER	
Department:	Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Closing Date:	February 19, 2014
Location(s):	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
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<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 www.career.state.mn.us Posting # 140523000001.</p>

NR PROGRAM SUPV SR - FISH HATCHERY

Department:	Fish and Wildlife/Central Office, MN DNR
Closing Date:	February 20, 2014
Location(s):	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>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.</p> <p>Core Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 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. <p>For more information and how to apply visit www.career.state.mn.us Posting # 14DNR000045.</p>

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN

Department:	Benton SWCD
Closing Date:	February 20, 2014
Location(s):	Foley, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>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.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply view the job announcement.</p>

ATLAS PROJECTS HYDROGEOLOGIST

Department:	Ecological & Water Resources, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	February 21, 2014
Location(s):	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply:	Only current employees of agency
Responsibilities:	<p>This position exists to perform advanced professional hydrogeological investigations and analyses to support regulatory and resource management programs. This position will provide high-level professional technical analyses of the nature, distribution, appropriation and sustainability of groundwater in the state. This position provides advanced-level hydrogeological analysis using geographical information systems (GIS) methods and utilizes other high-level geological/hydrogeological methods for hydrogeological analysis and groundwater mapping of complex systems in Minnesota. This position may also provide or assist geophysical investigations and analysis in support of hydrogeological investigations.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting # 14DNR000086.</p>

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN

Department:	East Otter Tail/Wadena SWCD
Closing Date:	February 21, 2014
Location(s):	Wadena, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	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.

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

AREA HYDROLOGIST

Department:	Ecological & Water Resources/Region3, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	February 28, 2014
Location(s):	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	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 primarily in the Metro area. This position also completes work assignments that involve state-wide and regional projects and policy. For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting # 14DNR000088.

FEEDLOT SPECIALIST

Department:	Watershed Division/East Feedlot, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Closing Date:	February 23, 2014
Location(s):	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply:	Only current employees of this agency who are eligible to bid for this job
Responsibilities:	Review animal feedlots permit applications for potential pollution hazards and compliance with Agency rules and standards. Properly register and/or permit feedlots. Work with owners and operators of feedlots to assist them in selecting and implementing proper design and controls to abate potential pollution hazards and to issue interim permits where appropriate. For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting # 14PCA000017.

GYPSY MOTH SURVEY TRAPPER

Department:	Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Closing Date:	February 26, 2014
Location(s):	St. Louis, Itasca, Northern Aitkin, Northern Carlton, East Cass, and Northeast Crow Wing Counties
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	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.

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.

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

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.

For more information and how to apply visit www.career.state.mn.us Posting # 140523000001.

AGRICULTURE PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Department:	Cannon River Watershed Partner
Closing Date:	February 28, 2014
Location(s):	Northfield, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>The primary focus of this position will be to work with farmers and local partners to increase conservation efforts and knowledge sharing to help farmers have productive farms and clean water.</p> <p>ESSENTIAL RESPONSIBILITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Determining priority conservation lands (areas to focus efforts). ● Meet with farmers and landowners to assist with assessing conservation needs and facilitating enrollment in Farm Bill and state conservation programs. ● Convene and facilitate watershed councils ● Host demonstration field days, educational events, and facilitate research projects that will increase the knowledge of farmers, landowners and local partners. ● Coordinate Women Landowner's group. ● Carry out research/feasibility study regarding market based approaches to increasing cover crops on canning crop land. <p>OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Build relationships with those who advise and provide supplies to farmers. ● Compile data and reports for granting agencies. ● Assist with grant writing. ● Attend applicable meetings and conferences to present information and represent CRWP. ● Write project updates and articles for the CRWP newsletter, website and local media as needed. <p>For more information and how to apply view the job announcement.</p>

AREA HYDROLOGIST

Department:	Ecological & Water Resources/Region3, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	February 28, 2014
Location(s):	St. Paul, 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 primarily in the Metro area. This position also completes work assignments that involve state-wide and regional projects and policy.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting # 14DNR000088.</p>

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Department:	Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Closing Date:	February 28, 2014
Location(s):	Prior Lake, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>Providing day-to-day oversight and supervision of all activities and staff of the watershed district, representing the District's interests in the community, as well as providing leadership and coordination in the determination and oversight of the District budget, planning, direction, and operations.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply view the job announcement.</p>

FISHERIES HABITAT SPECIALIST

Department:	Fish & Wildlife/Region 4, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	February 28, 2014
Location(s):	New Ulm, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>This position functions as the DNR Commissioners' delegate in administering aquatic habitat-related programs of the DNR, section of Fisheries in a multi-county region. This position primarily involves the Aquatic Plant Management Program (APM), the Aquatic Aeration Program (AAP), interactions with planning and zoning officials from local government units that deal with shoreline development, assisting with the Aquatic Habitat Program (AHP), and other special habitat projects within the 33 counties in the DNR Southern Region (R4). This position also provides assistance to other staff to protect, preserve, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat through the effective implementation of best management practices as they relate to fisheries management activities. The person in this position is the lead worker in planning and implementing the APM and AAP programs, effectively acting in a supervisory role in</p>

directing and guiding staff at the New Ulm office. This position also assists with AHP projects at the regional level and program consultation/assessment with the statewide AHP coordinator.

For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting # 14DNR000090.

SEASONAL WATER MONITORING TECHNICIAN - LAKE EMPHASIS

Department:	Washington Conservation District
Closing Date:	February 28, 2014
Location(s):	Oakdale, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>The Washington Conservation District (WCD) seeks a self-motivated individual to monitor and assess lake and stream water quality in Washington County, Minnesota.</p> <p>DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Assist with the manual collection of lake and stream water quality data;2. Assist with the installation, operation, and maintenance of automated water monitoring equipment;3. Assist with preparation of water resource monitoring reports; and4. Other duties as needed. <p>For more information and how to apply view the job announcement.</p>

SEASONAL WATER MONITORING TECHNICIAN - STREAM FOCUS

Department:	Washington Conservation District
Closing Date:	February 28, 2014
Location(s):	Oakdale, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>The Washington Conservation District (WCD) seeks a self-motivated individual to monitor and assess lake and stream water quality in Washington County, Minnesota.</p> <p>DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Assist with the manual collection of lake and stream water quality data;2. Assist with the installation, operation, and maintenance of automated water monitoring equipment;3. Assist with preparation of water resource monitoring reports; and4. Other duties as needed. <p>For more information and how to apply view the job announcement.</p>

WATER RESOURCES SPECIALIST

Department:	Chisago County
Closing Date:	March 7, 2014
Location(s):	Chisago County
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>Assists with administrative duties for the Chisago Lakes Lake Improvement District (LID) meeting agenda and packet. Attends the monthly LID meetings, takes minutes and develops resolutions. Distributes meeting minutes. General administrative office work. Assists with environment and natural resource activities within the LID watershed such as the Annual Children's Water Festival. Constructs, installs and maintains lake level gauges and take surveys of the lakes.</p> <p>Essential Duties and Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare monthly LID meeting agenda packet • Attend the monthly Chisago Lakes LID meetings, create meeting minutes and resolutions, and distribute meeting minutes afterward • Complete and send monthly LID meeting summary to local paper • Prepare and submit special meeting and vacancy notices to local paper • Attend Task Force and other subcommittee meetings, prepare and distribute subcommittee minutes as needed • Coordinate financial statement pickup • Specify budget categories for invoice payment, track budget category expenditures, assist in budget preparation • Prepare name tags/name plates/obtain administrative supplies, maintain LID Board contact information • Prepare and submit Per Diem requests for LID Board members • Prepare weekly and year-end lake level reports and assist with LID Annual Report • Organize and maintain LID documents and reports (including historical), update LID materials at Chisago Lakes library, and facilitate information distribution • Perform duties laid out in the LID Communication Project; including but not limited to, website content maintenance and development, writing and submission of articles to the Chisago County Press, Environmental Connections, and Lake Association newsletters • In conjunction with local lake associations, coordinate and staff public information booths at the Chisago Lakes Homes and Business Show, Karl Oscar Days, Ki Chi Saga Days, Carp Fest, and other such community events • Create and present information to community groups such as the Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, Schools, Lake Associations, Homeowner's Associations, the Lions Club and Church groups • Create and conduct community education classes (1-2 per year) on such items as rain gardens, lakeshore restoration projects, invasive species identification, and carp bow fishing • Assist County legal staff with easement acquisition issues • Serve on the Children's Water Festival Planning Committee and participate in the Annual Children's Water Festival either by presenting a station or assisting with festival organization and coordination • Construct, install, and maintain lake level gauges as needed • Coordinate beginning of season lake level gauge survey with DNR survey crew • Monitor lake levels weekly according to the established 2005 Emergency Management Plan, and enter lake level data into excel spreadsheets • Submit weekly lake level readings to DNR and the Chisago County Press for publication

- Construct, install, and maintain Hook, Line & Sinker collection stations as needed
- Obtain annual DNR conditional use permit for Hook, Line & Sinker collection stations at public boat launches
- Assist with seasonal monitoring of nutrients, aquatic life, and other parameters to determine water quality concentration trends and loading
- Assist with periodic inspections and maintenance of the lake system channels and overflow weirs.
- Participate with other organizations, such as PICKM-Alliance and the St. Croix Basin Team, on projects benefiting the LID
- Assist in projects and programs to reduce the severity and spread aquatic invasive species while promoting healthy fish and wildlife habitat, including the watercraft inspection program
- Perform other related tasks and assigned duties in order to fulfill the goals and objectives of the Chisago Lakes LID water resources management plan

For more information and how to apply visit [Chisago County's website](#).

CERTIFICATION PROGRAM SPECIALIST - FORESTRY

Department:	Forestry/Central Office, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	March 10, 2014
Location(s):	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>This position exists to develop, implement, manage and direct the Third-Party Forest Certification Program of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. This program obtains and maintains forest management and chain-of-custody certification under both the Forest Stewardship Council and Sustainable Forestry Initiative standards for 4.9 million acres of DNR managed lands. This position represents department and division interests on numerous external statewide committees; interacts with internal staff, external stakeholders and the public, and engages with Forest Stewardship Council and Sustainable Forestry Initiative certification systems, staff and certification bodies (auditing firms).</p> <p>Under general direction this position:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administers the DNR forest certification program and directs associated policy development so that programs are scientifically based, meet legal requirements, and are in keeping with stakeholder expectations • Serves as statewide technical expert in forest certification so 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 with scientific and political concerns. • Directs forest certification program activities department-wide, or inter-agency, or groups affected by program policies and procedures by meeting with individuals or organizations on management problems or issues; collecting, assembling and providing information on resource issues; and serving as the department representative at meetings. • Develops annual and long-range work plans and targets; formulates program goals, objectives, and strategies; oversee collection and dissemination of data; develops and analyzes legislative proposals, and provides legislative testimony;

- Prepares annual spending plans; provides consultation and coordination to DNR professionals and researchers; serves as a departmental liaison with other agencies and groups; and perform related work as required.
- Manages budgetary resources to efficiently meet program needs by preparing, justifying, monitoring and evaluating budgets and developing statewide spending plans.
- Oversees the development and implementation of informational pieces and education programs, so that clientele, staff, and decision makers are well-informed and have adequate factual information on which to base decisions.
- Frequent travel required statewide.

For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting # 14DNR000089.

"In nature nothing exists along." - Rachel Carson

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.
