



Minnesota River Weekly Update

February 25th, 2014

Farmers invited to unique opportunity involving Minnesota's lakes, rivers and streams

The MDA and the Stearns County SWCD invite farmers in the Middle Sauk River area to two open houses on March 4 and 5 to learn how they can get involved in the MAWQCP. This is a voluntary program designed to accelerate adoption of on-farm conservation practices that protect Minnesota's lakes and rivers. Producers who implement and maintain approved farm management practices will be certified in turn assured that their operation meets the state's water quality goals and standards for a period of ten years. The Middle Sauk River Pilot Area was selected as one of our four pilots throughout the state to test and refine the program. This pilot area includes most of Stearns County. At the open houses, MDA and SWCD staff will provide a brief presentation on the program and demonstrate the assessment tool used to evaluate individual operations. A panel discussion will feature local farmers, advisory committee members, and technical staff. Attendees will also have the opportunity to ask questions about the program or receive a free assessment of their farms.

Open houses will be held on:

Tuesday, March 4 @ 1-3 p.m.
Melrose City Center
225 1st St. NE, Melrose, MN 56352

Wednesday, March 5 @ 1-3 p.m.
Rocori District Education Facility
527 Main St. Cold Spring, MN 56320

No registration is required for the open houses. Farmers with questions about the events can contact Mark

Lefebvre, Stearns County SWCD (320) 251-7800 ext. 3.

For more information on the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program visit [MDA's website](#) or [Stearns County website](#).

Minnesota agricultural councils seek candidates

Four Minnesota agriculture research and promotion councils are seeking candidates for their board elections. Positions are open on the board of directors for the Canola, Dry Edible Bean, Sunflower and Area One Potato councils. Farmers interested in running in the election must contact their respective commodity council by April 4, 2014. Candidates should be producers of the commodity they represent, be active in the industry, knowledgeable about promotion initiatives, and interested in representing growers in their region.

Minnesota Canola Research and Promotion Council

One position (each): District 3, At-large position

Contact: Beth C. W. Nelson, Executive Director

4630 Churchill St, Ste. 1

St. Paul, MN 55126

(651) 638-9883

Minnesota Area One Potato Research and Promotion Council

Two Open Positions

Contact: Diane Peycke, Executive Secretary

Box 29

East Grand Forks, MN 56721

(218) 773-3633

Minnesota Dry Edible Bean Research and Promotion Council

Two Positions (District 3 & District 4)

Contact Timothy Corneya, Executive Vice President

50072 E. Lake Seven Road

Frazee, MN 56544

(218) 334-6351

Minnesota Sunflower Council

Two Positions (District 1 & District 2)

Contact: Lerrene Kroh

2401 46th Ave SE Ste 206

Mandan, ND 58554-4829

(701) 328-5107

Cold weather causing winterkill on some southern Minnesota lakes

An especially cold winter is showing its effects around some southern Minnesota shallow lakes and ponds with dead or dying fish. In most cases it is the result of a normal process known as "winterkill," according to the MN DNR. Shallow lakes in southern Minnesota with an average depth of less than six feet are most susceptible. Winterkill conditions are created when sunlight is unable to penetrate the ice, and oxygen levels in the water drop, said Craig Soupir, Waterville area fisheries supervisor. Fish may be unable to survive in these low oxygen conditions. "Lack of sunlight limits oxygen production in some aquatic plants and at the same time, decomposing aquatic plant matter causes a drop in oxygen," Soupir said. "When this process occurs under ice cover it can cause fish to become stressed and, if severe enough, to suffocate." Winterkill is a natural process that can actually benefit a lake. In lakes with high numbers of carp, for example, periodic winterkill can thin out their numbers and create a void in the fish community. This void is often followed by improved water clarity, increased aquatic vegetation and a reintroduction of native game fish. Anyone observing dead or struggling fish should report their findings to the local DNR fisheries office. Note the species and approximate numbers and sizes of each kind of fish. The information will help the DNR identify which lakes experienced winterkill and the extent in conjunction with ice-out netting assessments and observations.

Follow-up stocking of fish may ensue, if consistent with DNR lake-specific management plans. For more information, contact a DNR area fisheries office.

ARTICLES

[Do renewables lower energy consumption?](#)

Robert Wilson, Feb. 18, [theenergycollective](#)

If a coal power plant is closed and replaced by a wind farm and that wind farm produces the same amount of electricity as the coal plant, what happens to energy consumption?

[Paul Douglas on Climate Change](#)

Greg Laden, Feb. 19, [ScienceBlogs](#)

Last night I attended a talk by meteorologist Paul Douglas, at the Eden Prairie High School. The talk was “Weird Weather: Minnesota’s New Normal? Our Changing Climate and What We Can Do About It,” and it was sponsored by Environment Minnesota, Cool Planet, and the Citizens Climate Lobby.

[Environmental projects make the legislative agenda](#)

Feb. 21, [CBS Minnesota](#)

When it comes to the outdoors and the environment in Minnesota, the 2014 legislative session is going to be about money for projects. The big borrowing bill for public works projects will be the top item on lawmaker’s agenda during the short session that convenes Tuesday.

[65-mile stretch of Mississippi River closed after oil spill](#)

Janet McConaughy, Feb. 23, [Pioneer Press](#)

A 65-mile stretch of the Mississippi River, including the Port of New Orleans, was closed to all water traffic Sunday as crews cleaned up oil that spilled from a barge after it ran into a towboat between Baton Rouge and New Orleans, the Coast Guard said.

[Minnesota closer to terms on community gardens](#)

Dan Haugen, Feb. 21, [Midwest Energy News](#)

Minnesota utility regulators on Thursday answered most but not all questions about the shape of a new community solar gardens program.

[Economists say rosy mining forecasts should count costs and lost jobs, too](#)

Ron Meador, Feb. 21, [MinnPost](#)

Of all the exchanges in last week’s hearing on the financial guarantees to be required of PolyMet Mining Corp. if it gains permission to dig for precious metals on the Iron Range, this one stood out for its concise and counterintuitive thrust.

[Washington County’s clean water efforts get a million-dollar boost](#)

Jim Anderson, Feb. 22, [Star Tribune](#)

Efforts to clean up water across Washington County got a big financial boost with the approval last month of more than \$1 million in grants from BWSR.

[Minnesota frac sand mining update: grassroots resistance continues while legislature slumbers](#)

Sally Job Sorenson, Feb. 23, [Bluestem Prairie](#)

While state legislative leaders declared concerns about frac sand mining off the table for the coming session, grassroots opponents in Southeastern Minnesota’s bluffs and sand hills are shifting their resistance to a different branch of government.

[Supreme Court to consider EPA’s authority to regulate greenhouse gases](#)

Robert Barnes, Feb. 23, [Washington Post](#)

The Supreme Court’s first big battle over climate change was initiated by states and environmentalists charging that the EPA under President George W. Bush has abdicated its duty to regulate greenhouse gases.

[Don’t look for spring any time soon in the Minnesota River Valley](#)

Jaci Smith, Feb. 25, [St. Peter Herald](#)

While spring officially begins on March 20 and there are signs of a pattern change beginning around that date, winter may not be in a hurry to let go over much of the Central and Eastern states completely, according to AccuWeather.com reports.

EVENTS

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.

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.

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.

Seed Saving 101

Thursday, February 27, 2014 @ 6-8 p.m.

Location: Spark-Y Youth Action Lab, Minneapolis, MN

Brief Description: Have you always wanted to save your own seeds but don't know where to start? Would you like to start a regionally-based seed system to exchange locally-adapted seeds? In this seed saving overview, you will acquire a basic foundation of knowledge to save your own seeds this season. Seed saving is a practice that ensures we have the ability to care for the earth and each other by forming the foundation of our community food systems: diversified seed sources.

For more information on how to register for classes, and more information about a numerous and wide variety of classes available, visit the [Permaculture Research Institute-Cold Climate's website](#).

Caring For Creation - Film Event

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

Location: Gloria Dei Lutheran, St. Paul

Brief Description: The Wetlands and Water Committee North Star Sierra Club & Caring for Creation Team of Gloria Dei Lutheran invite you to attend a film and discussion. The film that will be showed is *GrowthBusters: Hooked on Growth*. A documentary film that asks the most critical question 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 the [events webpage](#) or contact [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 its 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

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.

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 cottonwood 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](#).

Speak out Against Sulfide Mining Pollution

Monday, March 3, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

Location: White Beak Unitarian Church, Mahtomedi, MN

Brief Description: This workshop will help citizens learn how to have an effective voice when speaking about the PolyMet sulfide mining plan in Northeastern Minnesota. It is crucial for the future of Minnesota's clean water that we make our voices heard on the first proposed copper-nickel mine proposal. Come to this presentation to learn how to write and submit effective comments on this inadequate Environmental Impact State (EIS) with WaterLegacy board president, Diadra Decker. Bring your laptop, if you can, to get ready for action! Citizens won't get to vote on environmental review of PolyMet's proposed open-pit sulfide mine, a dangerous and precedent-setting project, but we can submit effective comments now. The deadline for your input is March 13, which is only about two weeks away!

You can learn more about speaking out against PolyMet by visiting the [WaterLegacy comment page](#).

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.

Designing for Minnesota's Changing Climate: Ecological Context and Changing Conditions

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

Location: Ecological Contact and Changing Conditions

Brief Description: Minnesota's climate is changing. Designing a sustainable landscape and home is becoming more challenging! In this series you can explore Minnesota's ecology, the changing conditions, and ways to design for these changes.

Permaculture design seeks to build restorative, ecologically intensive systems to holistically meet our needs. Take this series and learn about the challenges and opportunities presented by climate change, as well as how we can effectively respond to the changing conditions in Minnesota.

For more information on how to register for classes, and more information about a numerous and wide variety of classes available, visit the [Permaculture Research Institute-Cold Climate's website](#).

Visit the [design series web page](#) for more information.

Solar Powering Minnesota Conference

Friday, March 7, 2014 @ 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Location: University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN

Brief Description: The Solar Powering Minnesota Conference program is packed with an energizing mix of large-group speakers, breakout sessions, and networking time. Conference topics include 2013 legislative outcomes, financing, incentives, utility programs, permitting, storage and community solar gardens. Keynote: The event will be kicked off by Minh Le, the Solar Program Manager with the US DOE. Ming Le, helps manage and balance the portfolio of research, development, demonstration, and deployment programs for the national SunShot Initiative.

This conference is sold out, but you can you add yourself to the wait list by clicking [here](#).

Maple Syrup making for the Whole Family

Saturday, March 8, 2014 @ 9-11:30 a.m.

Location: Whitewater State Park, Altura, MN

Brief Description: Celebrate spring in Whitewater State Park's sugar bush! This activity will introduce the long history of maple syrup and sugar making, as well as the equipment and procedures used. Participants will tap trees, gather and boil sap and best of all taste pure maple syrup! Schools, Scouts, 4H and other groups of 10 people or more can schedule an activity specifically for their group by calling (507) 932-3007 ext. 226 or email [Sara Grover](#).

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
- 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](#).

Women's Maple Syruping in your Backyard
Saturday, March 8, 2014 @ 1-2:30 p.m.

Location: Fort Snelling State Park

Brief Description: Join us for our annual Maple Syruping in your Backyard workshop. Learn about the natural history of maple trees and the history of making maple syrup. Find out what equipment is required, how to tap trees, how to process sap into syrup! Program starts at the Thomas Savage Visitor Center.

For more information call (612) 729-3550 or call the Visitor Center (612) 725-2724.

Maple Syrup making for the Whole Family
Saturday, March 8, 2014 @ 1-3 p.m.

Location: Whitewater State Park, Altura, MN

Brief Description: Celebrate spring in Whitewater State Park's sugar bush! This activity will introduce the long history of maple syrup and sugar making, as well as the equipment and procedures used. Participants will tap trees, gather and boil sap and best of all taste pure maple syrup! Schools, Scouts, 4H and other groups of 10 people or more can schedule an activity specifically for their group by calling (507) 932-3007 ext. 226 or email [Sara Grover](#).

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.

Maple Syruping in your Backyard

Sunday, March 9, 2014 @ 1-2:30 p.m.

Location: Fort Snelling State Park

Brief Description: Join us for our annual Maple Syruping in your Backyard workshop. Learn about the natural history of maple trees and the history of making maple syrup. Find out what equipment is required, how to tap trees, how to process sap into syrup! Program starts at the Thomas Savage Visitor Center.

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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 count at (507) 786-3916 or email alana@crwp.net.

Designing for Minnesota's Changing Climate: Building a Resilient Systems in a time of Change

Wednesday, March 12, 2014 @ 7-9 p.m.

Location: Ecological Contact and Changing Conditions

Brief Description: Minnesota's climate is changing. Designing a sustainable landscape and home is becoming more challenging! In this series you can explore Minnesota's ecology, the changing conditions, and ways to design for these changes.

Permaculture design seeks to build restorative, ecologically intensive systems to holistically meet our needs. Take this series and learn about the challenges and opportunities presented by climate change, as well as how we can effectively respond to the changing conditions in Minnesota.

For more information on how to register for classes, and more information about a numerous and wide variety of classes available, visit the [Permaculture Research Institute-Cold Climate's website](#).

Visit the [design series web page](#) for more information.

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.

An Evening with Paula Westmoreland and Lansing Shepard: Tackling Obstacles: Making Changes

Thursday, March 13, 2014 @ 6-9 p.m.

Location:

Brief Description: This monthly Salon Series will explore restore sustainability and resiliency in our food system. There will be wine and a farm-to-table meal. \$60 per evening which includes meal and signed copy of *This Perennial Land*.

For more information and to register email katherine@frenchmeadowcafe.com.

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 them. 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](#).

Maple Syrup making for the Whole Family

Saturday, March 15, 2014 @ 9-11:30 a.m.

Location: Whitewater State Park, Altura, MN

Brief Description: Celebrate spring in Whitewater State Park's sugar bush! This activity will introduce the long history of maple syrup and sugar making, as well as the equipment and procedures used. Participants will tap trees, gather and boil sap and best of all taste pure maple syrup! Schools, Scouts, 4H and other groups of 10 people or more can schedule an activity specifically for their group by calling (507) 932-3007 ext. 226 or email [Sara Grover](#).

Maple Syruping in your Backyard

Saturday, March 15, 2014 @ 1-2:30 p.m.

Location: Fort Snelling State Park

Brief Description: Join us for our annual Maple Syruping in your Backyard workshop. Learn about the natural history of maple trees and the history of making maple syrup. Find out what equipment is required, how to tap trees, how to process sap into syrup! Program starts at the Thomas Savage Visitor Center.

For more information call (612) 729-3550 or call the Visitor Center (612) 725-2724.

Maple Syrup making for the Whole Family

Saturday, March 15, 2014 @ 1-3 p.m.

Location: Whitewater State Park, Altura, MN

Brief Description: Celebrate spring in Whitewater State Park's sugar bush! This activity will introduce the long history of maple syrup and sugar making, as well as the equipment and procedures used. Participants will tap trees, gather and boil sap and best of all taste pure maple syrup! Schools, Scouts, 4H and other groups of 10 people or more can schedule an activity specifically for their group by calling (507) 932-3007 ext. 226 or email [Sara Grover](#).

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 nutrient 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](#) 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@mn.gov) or call (507) 384-8890

Maple Syruping in your Backyard
Saturday, March 15, 2014 @ 1-2:30 p.m.

Location: Fort Snelling State Park

Brief Description: Join us for our annual Maple Syruping in your Backyard workshop. Learn about the natural history of maple trees and the history of making maple syrup. Find out what equipment is required, how to tap trees, how to process sap into syrup! Program starts at the Thomas Savage Visitor Center.

For more information call (612) 729-3550 or call the Visitor Center (612) 725-2724.

Maple Syrup making for the Whole Family
Saturday, March 15, 2014 @ 1-3 p.m.

Location: Whitewater State Park, Altura, MN

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**March 17 -
March 23**

Markets, Laws & Poultry
Monday, March 17, 2014 @ 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Location: Knights of Columbus Hall, 920 E. 10th St., Fairmont, MN 56031

Brief Description:

Agenda:

- 10 a.m.** Brandt Gardens - Developing Innovative Markets - Bill Brandt, Brandt Gardens-Lakefield
- 11 a.m.** License Requirements for Local Foods Ventures - MDA
- 12 p.m.** Lunch
- 1 p.m.** Raising Pastured Poultry for Profit - Dr. Wayne Martin, UMN-Extension
- 2 p.m.** Poultry Panel: 7 Hills Farm-Hollandale, Michelle Miller; Hall's Across the Prairie-Butterfield, Terese Hall; Windjammer Farm-New Ulm, Dennis Jeske
- 3:30 p.m.** Production & Marketing Discussion, Speakers & Attendees

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.

Maple Syrup making for the Whole Family
Saturday, March 22, 2014 @ 9-11:30 a.m.

Location: Whitewater State Park, Altura, MN

Brief Description: Celebrate spring in Whitewater State Park's sugar bush! This activity will introduce the long history of maple syrup and sugar making, as well as the equipment and procedures used. Participants will tap trees, gather and boil sap and best of all taste pure maple syrup! Schools, Scouts, 4H and other groups of 10 people or more can schedule an activity specifically for their group by calling (507) 932-3007 ext. 226 or email [Sara Grover](mailto:Sara.Grover@mn.gov).

Maple Syruping Demonstration
Saturday, March 22, 2014 @ 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Location: Lake Maria State Park

Brief Description: Come learn the process of making real maple syrup. Start with a short hike to see how the trees are tapped and sap is collected. Then return to the Trail Center to find out about the cooking and finishing process. You'll also get to sample the finished product. Demonstration is ongoing, come anytime between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

For more information call (763) 878-2325.

Maple Syruping in your Backyard

Saturday, March 15, 2014 @ 1-2:30 p.m.

Location: Fort Snelling State Park

Brief Description: Join us for our annual Maple Syruping in your Backyard workshop. Learn about the natural history of maple trees and the history of making maple syrup. Find out what equipment is required, how to tap trees, how to process sap into syrup! Program starts at the Thomas Savage Visitor Center.

For more information call (612) 729-3550 or call the Visitor Center (612) 725-2724.

Maple Syrup making for the Whole Family

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**March 24 -
March 30**

Central Plains Dairy Expo

Tuesday, March 25 - Thursday, March 27, 2014

Location: Sioux Falls, SD

Brief Description: The Central Plains Dairy Association is a non-profit organization that works to grow the dairy industry in the Central Plains states and the I-29 Corridor through education and communication activities. The membership region currently includes Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, Minnesota, and North Dakota. CPDA members receive E-news, an email newsletter. They also receive company listings in the Central Plains Dairy Directory which is a guide to dairy products and services in the five state membership region. This directory is mailed to all dairy producers in the region. The CPDA hosts the Central Plains Dairy Expo, a trade show and conference each March.

For more information on the expo and how to register visit [Central Plains Dairy](http://www.centralplainsdairy.com).

[Expo website.](#)

Waseca County Farmer Forum

Wednesday 26, 2014 @ 8:30 a.m. - 2:15 p.m.

Location: FarmAmerica, 7367-360th Avenue, Waseca, MN

Brief Description:

Agenda:

- 8:30 a.m.** Registration and Consultation with Resource Personnel
- 9 a.m.** Welcome, Opening Remarks: Stewardship Opportunities for Southern Minnesota
- 9:30 a.m.** Focus on Feedlots: Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED) and Biosecurity, Beth S. Thompson, JD, DVM, Senior Veterinarian, MN Board of Animal Health; Terry Sistas, Agriculture Advisor, MN Board of Animal Health
- 10:30 a.m.** Farmer-led Watershed Councils - Julia Olmstead, Project Coordinator, University of Wisconsin Extension
- 11:30 a.m.** Integrated Drainage & Wetland Landscape Systems - Challenges & Opportunities - Shawn Richmond, Iowa CREP Program Coordinator
- 12:30 p.m.** Lunch
- 1 p.m.** Ethanol: Prospective on the Industry and its Future Nationally and Here in Waseca County
- 1:45 p.m.** How Organics and Non-GMO Products Contribute to Agriculture in Minnesota - Chad Stannard, SunOpta Grains
- 2:15 p.m.** Closing Comments - Blair Nelson, Waseca County Board Chairman; Mark Leiferman, Waseca County Planning & Zoning

For more information on the presentations and to register for the event visit [Waseca County's](#) website.

Maple Syrup Making in Camden's Sugar Bush

Saturday, March 29, 2014 @ 1-3 p.m.

Location: Camden State Park

Brief Description: Learn all the tools and steps involved in making maple syrup from the tree to tasting! The cool valley of the Redwood River has protected a unique maple tree population from hotter, drier prairies surrounding the park. Learn how this special resource gives us the gift of maple syrup with a little know and simple tools.

For more information email or call [David Drefolge](#) (507) 865-4530.

Maple Syruping in your Backyard

Saturday, March 29, 2014 @ 1-2:30 p.m.

Location: Fort Snelling State Park

Brief Description: Join us for our annual Maple Syruping in your Backyard workshop. Learn about the natural history of maple trees and the history of making maple syrup. Find out what equipment is required, how to tap trees, how to process sap into syrup! Program starts at the Thomas Savage Visitor Center.

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JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

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:	<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 www.career.state.mn.us Posting # 140523000001.</p>

NR TECHNICIAN - WILDLIFE

Department:	Fish & Wildlife/Region 4, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	February 27, 2014
Location(s):	Hutchinson, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>**This is a full-time, seasonal position. Season dates will be April 1 - December 31 of each year. Normal work hours will be 8:00AM-4:30PM, but position may work occasional weekends and holidays. This position exists to provide technical and para-professional support in carrying out natural resource management and development activities on Aquatic Management Areas (AMAs) administered by Fisheries.</p> <p>Primary Responsibilities Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide technical and operational support in the restoration, maintenance and enhancement of prairie, forest and wetland natural communities on any of the AMA lands administered by Fisheries as directed or assigned so that important sites are protected and work plan goals, policies, and procedures are fulfilled. • Develop and maintain public use facilities such as parking lots, roads, signs, gates and fences to protect the natural resources and promote appropriate

- public activities on AMA's.
- Conduct assigned natural resource management tasks on specified AMA's; and other tasks as assigned to maintain and improve native plant and animal communities and prevent and correct damage or nuisance problems as well as participate as a member of a multi-region burn crew in spring and fall, if assigned, and occasionally participate in other management and development projects in other regions of the state.
- In the absence of the AMA Specialist, direct the work of interns, Conservation Corps Minnesota (CCM), volunteers, temporary crews in the operation and repair of equipment, in providing assistance to other staff, and in establishing and maintaining natural resources and facilities on AMA's.
- To collaborate in administration of management and program records so that resource management is smoothly, safely, and efficiently implemented according to plans, policies, and legal mandates.

For more information and how to apply visit www.career.state.mn.us Posting # 14DNR000099.

POLLUTION CONTROL SPEC

Department:	Environmental Analysis & Outco, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Closing Date:	February 27, 2014
Location(s):	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>The incumbent will provide quality assurance monitoring of contaminants in air. The incumbent is responsible for air quality monitoring field work, primarily working on frac sands and silicate sample collection. The incumbent will work closely with industry, other State Agencies, the Air Quality Section, and others performing the States monitoring for a variety of pollutants throughout the State</p> <p>For more information and how to apply visit www.career.state.mn.us Posting # 14PCA000018.</p>

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.

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 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.

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:	<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 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.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting # 14DNR000090.</p>

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; and 4. 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; and 4. Other duties as needed. <p>For more information and how to apply view the job announcement.</p>

AREA HYDROLOGIST

Department:	Ecological & Water Resources, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	March 3, 2014
Location(s):	Ortonville, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>This position exists to ensure sustainability of the State's water resources through management of the activities of the public within a geographic work area comprised of Big Stone, Swift and Lac Qui Parle counties. This position also completes work assignments that involve state-wide projects and policy.</p> <p>Duties include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide assistance to local communities, Rural Water Systems and other water appropriators regarding the management of both surface and groundwater water. Work with inter-agency Drinking Water/Groundwater team to define, prioritize and establish Water Appropriation and use Management Plans Groundwater Management Areas) in Minnesota. • Participate in and facilitate data collection, monitoring, and analysis to develop a comprehensive water sustainability framework. Assess impacts of projects to drinking water quantity and quality, existing water appropriations, and establish thresholds on water users to protect limited and/or threatened aquifers and surface water features. • Provide advanced technical and planning assistance to state agencies, local government units, watershed districts, lake, river, and watershed associations and other teams in the development of watershed studies, including Major Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategies (MWRAPS). These studies will strive to address sources of water quality impairments and identify water resource protection and restoration strategies. • Provide expertise in a variety of areas to help local government units, interest groups and landowners restore and manage landscapes resulting in cleaner water and long-term ecosystem health. Utilize natural landscape options to create healthy watersheds including normalizing the hydrograph. • Promote and implement water resource conservation and sustainability.

- Conduct technical analysis and to provide assistance to the general public, local units of government and other resource professionals.
- Develop and expand partnerships with the general public and other governmental agencies.
 - Provide early coordination on proposed ideas and projects which will affect natural resources and reviewing formal environmental review documents.
 - Ensure water resource projects conducted within public waters are completed and sustained in accordance with applicable State statutes and rules.
 - Administer the operation and functions of the area office, including budgetary and lead worker responsibilities.

For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting # 14DNR000102.

FEEDLOT SPECIALIST

Department:	Watershed Div/East Feedlot, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Closing Date:	March 3, 2014
Location(s):	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>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.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting # 14PCA000017.</p>

FISHERIES SPECIALIST

Department:	Fish & Wildlife/Region 3
Closing Date:	March 3, 2014
Location(s):	Montrose, MN
Who May Apply:	Qualified bidders
Responsibilities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This position exists to assist the Area Fisheries Supervisor in the planning, organization, direction, and evaluation of a fish management program in the Montrose Management Area. • Natural Resources Specialist - Fisheries positions perform professional fisheries management work, acting as a project leader for technicians and laborers involved in the implementation of a variety of professional and technical field management projects and activities; may function as project specialist on efforts devoted to fisheries management operations on a single major lake, or function as a technical specialist within a region. These duties include: design, implementation, and supervision of projects. • Coordinate and complete scheduled lake and stream surveys and population assessments and use the information to formulate management plans so that problems are clearly identified and goals are established.

- Coordinate creel and recreational use surveys, analyze results, and present data in written reports so that management decisions can be based on sound data on angler use and fish harvest.
- Provide field direction on walleye, and muskellunge fingerling distribution and coldwater stocking operations so that individual lake and stream stocking objectives are met in an efficient matter.
- Maintain and promote public relations so that the various clientele are informed of fisheries management programs and educated in aquatic resource issues.
- Protect critical habitat in area waters so that degradation of aquatic resources is minimized.
- Conduct special fish management and habitat improvement projects so that angling opportunities are improved.

For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting # 14DNR000109.

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION HYDROLOGIST

Department:	Ecological & Water Resources, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	March 3, 2014
Location(s):	Hutchinson, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>This position exists to provide professional work in groundwater management, in the southern part of Minnesota. The position will increase the capacity of the EWR Division to assist with local water supply management in the face of growing stress on groundwater resources and associated impacts to domestic well users, municipal water supplies and surface water resources. This position will work closely with Area Hydrologists and the Groundwater Unit as well as assist with the planning and implementation of the Bonanza Groundwater Management Area.</p> <p>Examples of Work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide compliance with groundwater and public water rules, including approved permit conditions, compliant volume and pumping rates, and submission of required monitoring volumes. • Provide input to resolution of long-term sustainable water supply concerns through establishing appropriate monitoring wells, setting of aquifer thresholds, limits of appropriation pumping rates and volumes. • Provide input/direction concerning comprehensive planning efforts related to land use controls and resource stewardship, particularly as they pertain to water use. • Identify areas of special concern for appropriation. Conduct and coordinate extensive hydrologic and hydrogeologic investigations to determine the impacts from and necessary management of over-appropriations affecting complex ground and surface water systems. • Participate in management decisions for Ground Water Management Areas and identify additional areas of special concern for sustainable water supply. Maintain inventory of well logs submitted with permit applications. • Draft ground water and surface water appropriation permits, and on a limited basis, public waters permits. • Review preliminary well construction applications.

- Document and survey hydrologic events (flood, drought, climate change) and associated water use and prepare data for presentation to the general public, DNR and other local, state, and federal agencies.

For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting # 14DNR000097.

EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL INSPECTOR - INTERN

Department:	Prior Lake - Spring Lake
Closing Date:	March 7, 2014
Location(s):	Prior Lake, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review permit applications, issue permits, and otherwise administer the permitting program. • Perform field inspections to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure compliance with City of Prior Lake, District, and MPCA regulations regarding erosion and sediment control. • Verify the state of buffer and restoration easements. • Document field inspections. • Maintain and improve inspection and permitting procedures. • Maintain electronic, Laserfiche, and physical files for the office. • Additional administrative and/or field duties as assigned. • Potential project management with smaller projects as needed <p>For more information and how to apply view the job announcement.</p>

GROUNDWATER HYDROLOGIST

Department:	Ecological & Water Resources, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	March 7, 2014
Location(s):	Park Rapids, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>This position exists to ensure sustainability of the State's groundwater resources through management of groundwater appropriations within the Ecological and Water Resources NW Region. The incumbent may also complete work assignments that involve state-wide projects and policy.</p> <p>Duties include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure groundwater resource uses are permitted and sustained in accordance with applicable State statutes and rules. • Conduct technical analysis and to provide quality assistance to the general public, local units of government and other resource professionals so that data, information, and regulations may be correctly interpreted in a useful manner. This includes quantitative, as well as qualitative information. • Promote and implement groundwater resource conservation and sustainability.

- Develop and expand partnerships with the general public and governmental agencies to improve collaboration and better integrate responsibilities among resource managers.

For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting # 14DNR000097.

MONITORING - INTERN

Department:	Prior Lake - Spring Lake Watershed District
Closing Date:	March 7, 2014
Location(s):	Prior Lake, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect water samples • Download data from monitoring equipment • Maintain monitoring equipment • Read lake levels • Take flow measurements • Inspect culverts for blockage, erosion, or other issues • Remove debris from culverts if needed • Document field inspections • Create and send reports • Assist volunteers with lake monitoring • Database entry • Filing and other office work as needed • Additional administrative and/or field duties as assigned <p>For more information and how to apply view the job announcement.</p>

WATERSHED PROJECT INTERN

Department:	Chippewa River Watershed Project (CRWP)
Closing Date:	March 7, 2014
Location(s):	Montevideo, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>The Chippewa River Watershed Project (CRWP) is accepting applications for a summer intern. The CRWP is a joint powers organization located in western Minnesota with goals of improving water quality in the Chippewa River and its tributaries. The Chippewa River Watershed Project works towards this goal through community outreach, monitoring and best management practices implementation activities.</p> <p>Internship responsibilities include are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stream transparency data collection • Collecting water samples for lab analysis • Operating basic water quality monitoring equipment • Taking stream flow measurements • Assisting with water quality data collection, entry and analysis

- Macroinvertebrate sampling and identification
- Assisting with BMPs as needed
- Preparing newsletters, brochures, and social media messages
- Attending/participating in meetings, workshops, events of the CRWP

Seeking individuals pursuing degrees in Environmental Studies/Science, Biology, Hydrology, Soil and Water Conservation or related fields. Coursework in biology, chemistry, or hydrology recommended. Preference will be given to candidates who have completed their sophomore year of post-secondary education. Individuals must be responsible, highly motivated and able to work independently as well as with a team. The ability to accurately collect and record data is essential. Applicant will be expected to work outdoors in varied conditions and perform duties that require some physical labor. Applicant must possess a current valid driver's license. This is a temporary, seasonal environmental internship for approximately 12 weeks in the summer of 2014. Interns will work approximately 40 hours a week. Flexible start date in May 2014 and end date in August 2014. Wage: \$10.00/hr.

To apply submit resume, including cover letter, via email or postage (Chippewa River Watershed District, 629 N 11th St. Ste 17, Montevideo, MN 56265)

For more information contact Jennifer at [320-269-2139 x120](tel:320-269-2139) or jennifer.hoffman@chippewariver.org

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:	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).

Under general direction this position:

- 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.

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN

DISTRICT TECHNICIAN	
Department:	Carver SWCD
Closing Date:	March 14, 2014
Location(s):	Cologne, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	The Carver Soil & Water Conservation District is accepting applications for a District Technician. Under the supervision of the District Manager, the District Technician assists with the technical aspects of implementing conservation practices. This position works with landowners, communities, and other

units of government to install conservation projects and implement conservation programs.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Conducts site investigations and inventories, assisting the public with enrollment into various local, state, and federal conservation programs.
- Survey, design, stake and construction oversight of best management practices. Implements the native vegetation program, assisting the public with planting plans, drill calibration, scheduling and delivery of the Truax drill.
- Performs drainage ditch inspections and assists with duties of the drainage ditch inspector as outlined in MN Statute 103E.
- Assists with the District Tree Program and is familiar with tree pests and diseases.
- Presents information about conservation programs to the public and to school groups, civic groups, and other organizations.
- Performs duties of the Reinvest in Minnesota (RIM) program including, but not limited to, landowner contact and applications, easement acquisition, practice installation, and program compliance.
- Assists with conducting construction site erosion and sediment control inspections for compliance with federal, state, and local regulations.
- Provides technical assistance for the implementation of the Wetland Conservation Act.
- Attends meetings and professionally represents the SWCD at various meetings as directed by the District Manager; assists with grant writing and reporting.
- Keeps records of land use activities and maintains landowner records of conservation practices.
- Performs other duties of a like or similar nature as assigned.

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

HYDROLOGIST - INTERN

Department:	Pope SWCD
Closing Date:	March 21, 2014
Location(s):	Glenwood, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>Hydrologist Intern will be responsible for drawing water samples through vacuum lysimeters, conducting and documenting nitrate sample test results at Rosholt Farm near Westport, Minnesota.</p> <p>ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Collect water samples from each of the suction lysimeter stations. ● Perform water testing, document and record test results for each lysimeter at the job site. ● Prepare and submit test samples to a certified laboratory for analysis according to MDA/QC requirements. ● Maintain and organize data. Assist where needed with plot nitrogen fertilization. ● Maintain and secure equipment properly at the project site. ● Perform operations and maintenance tasks at Herman Rosholt Farm project

- site.
- Comply with health and safety procedures. May involve other duties as assigned to complete work related to Rosholt Farm Project activities.

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

POPE SWIFT COOPERATIVE WEED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM - INTERN

Department:	Pope SWCD
Closing Date:	March 21, 2014
Location(s):	Glenwood, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>This position is a seasonal position under direct supervision of the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Manager and the Pope SWCD Board of Supervisors. The person will work closely with the Pope County Ag Inspector and Swift County Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The seasonal position is primarily responsible for implementing projects in regards to weed management in Pope and Swift Counties. This is a multi-pronged approach focused on our newest invasive weeds that will include: education, documentation, treatment, and where applicable, re-seeding with local eco-type native seed sources. Education includes organizing workshops and/or tours and distributing weed identification field guides. This position will monitor, treat, and document the locations of invasive species infestations with a GIS, Arc Pad or GPS unit. Herbicide, bio-controls, and local-ecotype seed will be purchased and distributed to landowners. Operation of machinery, spraying equipment, and farming background or experience preferred. The work hours are 8:00 to 4:30 Monday through Friday. The hours may vary also based on what work is available to be completed. This position is funded through a grant.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply view the job announcement.</p>

"Ethical behavior is doing the right thing when no one else is watching - even when doing the wrong thing is legal." - Aldo Leopold

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.