



Minnesota River Weekly Update

March 4th, 2014

Sustainability Expo 2014 on Saturday, April 5, 2014 @ 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Minnesota State University, Mankato, Environmental Committee, Transition Mankato, and the Center for Earth Spirituality and Rural Ministry are co-sponsoring a Sustainability Expo at the Centennial Student Union Ballroom, Minnesota State University, Mankato. The expo is a free, all day event that includes informational tabling, speakers, reskilling workshops, music, vendors, kid friendly activities, and FUN! Exhibitors and presenters are being sought. A link to registration form is available on the website above for organizations and businesses that would like to have a table at the event.

For more information contact [Erica Johnson](#) at (507) 389-5254

The State of Water Conference: Minnesotans Protecting our Lakes and Rivers on May 1-2

Minnesota and water: two words synonymous to Minnesotans. But people are the third critical leg of this triangle. We all depend on --and impact--water through decisions we make every day. This conference is an opportunity for citizens to come together and learn and share what we know so we can all be better stewards of our water resources.

Who is this conference for? Lake association members, lake and riverfront property owners, local leaders, and all concerned citizens.

How will this conference benefit me? Select from over 70 presenters and 35 breakout session topics. Go in-depth with a half-day workshop (4 to choose from). Hear the latest news about water issues from 4 plenary speakers. See new products and services offered by 40+ expected exhibitors. Connect with lake associations, watershed districts, citizen groups, state agencies, non-profit organizations, university, and colleges.

Registration is now open and the number of attendees will be limited, so sign up early! To register or learn more, visit our [Facebook page](#) and the [conference website](#). An article about the conference is available online in the current issue of [From Shore to Shore](#).

For more information contact [Alex Gehrig](#) at the Freshwater Society or call (763) 219-1251.

Comment period for copper-nickel mine Supplemental Draft EIS closes on March 13

The 90-day public comment period for the NorthMet Mining Project and Land Exchange Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) will end March 13, according to MnDNR. So far, the agency has received more than 19,000 comments. The co-lead agencies appreciate the high level of public interest in the SDEIS and have made efforts to ensure the public has had ample opportunity to review and comment on the document. Those measures include a comment period that is twice as long as required, three public meetings and supplemental materials such as videos and fact sheets. The SDEIS provides an analysis of the environmental effects of PolyMet Mining Inc.'s proposed NorthMet project. The copper-nickel mine would be located in northeastern Minnesota, near Hoyt Lakes and Babbitt. Public input on the SDEIS is a critical component to informing governmental decision makers about potential environmental consequences of the proposed mining project and associated land exchange. The co-lead agencies encourage the public to continue to provide comments until the deadline on March 13. Email comments can be submitted to NorthMetSDEIS.dnr@state.mn.us. Email submissions should include a full name and legal mailing address. Written comments may also be submitted to: Lisa Fay, EIS project manager, DNR Ecological and Water Resources Division, Environmental Review Unity, 500 Lafayette Road, Box 25, St. Paul, MN 55155-4025. After the comment period ends, the co-lead agencies will carefully consider all comments received and determine if additions or revisions are needed for the Final EIS. For more information about the project view the [NorthMet SDEIS PolyMet Mining Inc. Project](#).

Watershed Network spring meeting April 17

Although spring may seem far off, it's getting time to start planning for the Watershed Network spring meeting, tentatively set for April 17 at the Redwood Falls Pizza Ranch. The spring and fall meetings offer the opportunity to meet informally with other watershed professionals, and hear interesting presentations on a wide variety of topics. If you have ideas for topics, or other suggestions for the event, please contact [Forrest Peterson](#) (320) 441-6972. A list of past meetings, with links to some of the presentations if available on the [Watershed Network webpage](#).

Minnesota River Board addresses termination details

In what may have been its final meeting, the Minnesota River Board gathered Feb. 24 in North Mankato to work on administrative details prior to closing down the organization, and the State of Minnesota River progress report. Following the board meeting, several presentations comprised the annual conference: Tina Stueber, MRB research assistant, Status of Redetermination of Benefits in the Basin; Rick Moore, Water Resource Center research analyst, Water Storage Approaches Update; Kerry Netzke, Area II River Basin Projects, Storing Water on the Landscape in Southwestern Minnesota; and Zach Hermann, Houston Engineering, Detention Planning Efforts in the Red River Basin. On Dec. 16, 2013, the Board voted to disband, with recommendation only that the state look at creating a new entity with a stable funding source to replace it.

For more information on the Minnesota River Board visit their [website](#).

Last chance for expedited DNR grants

The MnDNR still has money available for the [Expedited Conservation Projects \(ECP\)](#) grant cycle, but the fourth round is anticipated to be the final funding opportunity for Fiscal Year 2014. [Applications](#) must be submitted online by the end of the day March 12 to be considered. Grants from \$5000 to \$50,000 are available for conservation projects that restore or enhance forests, prairies, wetlands or habitat for Minnesota's fish, game and wildlife. Projects must be on public lands or waters open to all seasons of hunting and fishing. Government entities and nonprofit organizations may apply, and a 10% match is required. ECP is non-competitive, but projects must be listed on the Eligible Activities List and are subject to departmental review. For more information, please visit [MnDNR's website](#) or email LSCPLgrants.dnr@state.mn.us.

Prairie Wetlands Learning Center

The Prairie Wetlands Learning Center is located in Fergus Falls and lies at the gate to the Prairie Pothole Region. We are dedicated to providing environmental education opportunities for students, private landowners, and the general public and to fostering stewardship by demonstrating methods for protection, enhancement and restoration of the prairie pothole ecosystem. It includes 330 acres of native and restored prairie, 28 wetlands and nearly 4 miles of trails. The Visitor Center features classrooms, a 2500 square foot exhibit areas, dining hall and kitchen, as well as deck that provides views of the surrounding prairies. The dormitory and residential EE program can accommodate up to 65 students and teachers. Registration is now open for the [Teaching in the Outdoor Classroom Workshop: An Immersion Experience for K-12 Educators](#) from July 14-17, 2014. Learn how to use the outdoors as a classroom with integrated curriculum in support of your state's academic standards - plus earn 30 clock hours.

ARTICLES

[Minnesota farms fewer, larger and farmers getting older, USDA says](#)

Tom Webb, Feb. 20, Pioneer Press

Five years of farm prosperity hasn't reversed long-term trends in agriculture: Minnesota continues to have fewer but bigger farms. And the average farmer is getting older.

[Minn. researchers study road salt use](#)

Feb. 26, Crookston Times

Roads across Minnesota remained icy Monday after last week's storm, which was nasty by most people's standards. But road salt researchers at Minnesota State University in Mankato couldn't have been happier.

[Duluth doctors: PolyMet study skips health impacts](#)

John Meyers, Feb. 27, Pioneer Press

A group of Duluth area physicians, nurses, and medical school faculty says human health impacts of copper mining haven't been adequately addressed in the PolyMet environmental review.

[Volcanoes may be slowing the rate of warming](#)

(with audio)

The Daily Circuit, Feb. 27, MPR News

The rate of global warming has been slower in the past decade than scientists had predicted. Now, some of them are pointing to a possible answer: Volcanoes.

[Oil transportation poses dangers, Minnesota House panel told](#)

Don Davis, Feb. 27, Pioneer Press

Public safety officials across Minnesota lose sleep at night over the possibility of major crude oil transportation disasters as ones last year in North Dakota and Quebec.

[EPA set to reveal tough new sulfur emissions rule](#)

Coral Davenport, March 3, The New York Times

The EPA plans to unveil a major new regulation on Monday that forces oil refiners to strip out sulfur, a smog forming pollutant linked to respiratory disease, from American gasoline blends, according to people familiar with the agency's plans.

[Can we feed the planet without trashing it? Jon Foley's 'yes' wins major award](#)

Ron Meador, March 4, MinnPost

We have been working for a number of years now to do two things: one is to get a global picture of agriculture and the environment put together with real data – to say, look, we could have all the debates and discussions and arm-waving we want.

[Town square: Major road projects will disrupt south metro in 2014](#)

March 4, StarTribune

A new four-lane bridge over the Minnesota River downtown in Shakopee. The two-lane Hwy. 101 to Chanhassen will be widened and lifted above floodwaters, and a roundabout will appear at the "Y" on the Carver County side.

EVENTS

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.

Documentary Film Series - Queen of the Sun

Thursday, March 6, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

Location: Treaty Site History Center

Brief Description: Please join us for the 2013-14 documentary film series. A partnership between St. Peter Community and Family Education and the Nicollet County Historical Society, films are screened the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. through May. *Queen of the Sun* is 83 minutes long and Not Rated. From the director of the *The Real Dirt on Farmer John* comes a profound, alternative look at the tragic global bee crisis. Juxtaposing the catastrophic disappearance of bees with the mysterious world of the beehive, *Queen of the Sun* weaves an unusual and dramatic story of the heart-felt struggles of beekeepers, scientists and philosophers from around the world. Featuring Michael Pollan, Gunther Hauk and Vandana Shiva, *Queen of the Sun* reveals both the problems and the solutions in renewing a culture in balance with nature. Admission to the film is free for all.

For more information contact the Society at (507) 934-2160 or email museum@nchsmn.org for more details.

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 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](mailto:Sara.Grover@statepark.com).

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, March 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.

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

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Sunday, March 9, 2014 @ 1-3 p.m.

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Comment Parties on PolyMet Mining Proposal

Sunday, March 9, 2014 @ 2-4 p.m.

Location: Augsburg Park Library, Richfield, MN

Brief Description: Join the Izaak Walton League-Bush Lake Chapter and the Friends of the Boundary Waters Wilderness informative presentations and comment-writing parties on the proposed PolyMet mine. If approved, this copper-nickel mine will threaten our pristine northern waters, wetlands, and forests and may take more than 500 years to clean up after. Make your voice heard in the decision-making! PolyMet is the first of many sulfide mines expected to be proposed for NE Minnesota that could potentially pollute the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and Lake Superior, the largest body of fresh water on earth. Join the Izaak Walton League to send a strong message in opposition of this proposal.

For more information contact [John Crampton](mailto:John.Crampton@mn.gov) (612) 396-6010.

Mar. 10 - Mar. 16

Bees and Agriculture

Monday, March 10, 2014 @ 6-8 p.m.

Location: Andover Senior Center, Andover, MN

Brief Description: Local bee keeper Jim Meyers will present a program of agricultural importance including his own beekeeping experiences. Meyers' presentation will be followed by a brainstorming session that leads to action planning: what can we as League of Women Voters and what can our partners do to help enhance and protect populations of pollinators? Light support with honey-related foods at 6 p.m. and meeting begins at 6:30 p.m.

For more information contact [Gretchen Sabel](mailto:Gretchen.Sabel@mn.gov).

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](mailto:WestCentralAgSalesAssociation@mn.gov) or call (320) 231-1470. To learn about West Central Ag Sales Association visit their [website](http://www.westcentralag.com).

Elm Creek Ag Research Meeting

Tuesday, March 11, 2014 @ 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: Knight's of Columbus Hall, 920 E. 10th Street, Fairmont, MN 56031

Brief Description: All agricultural producers in south central Minnesota welcome. Join us to hear about agricultural research and projects being done in the Elm Creek watershed and surrounding area. This event is free to the public. Please

RSVP for lunch so we can have a good count. There is no charge for lunch.

Agenda:

- 9 a.m. Registration & Coffee
- 9:30 a.m. *U of MN Research Efforts in Elm Creek* - Dean Current, U of MN
- 10 a.m. *Saturated Buffer Survey of Landowners* - Charlene Brooks, U of MN
- 10:30 a.m. *Riparian Alley Cropping for Perennial Biomass Production* - Josh Gamble, U of MN
- 11 a.m. *Tile Outlet Treatment Trains* - Joe Magner, U of MN
- 12 p.m. Lunch
- 1 p.m. *Water Quality Improvements Associated with County Ditches & Martin County Multipurpose Drainage Plan* - Chuck Brandel, I&S Group, Inc.
- 2 p.m. *MN Ag Water Quality Certainty Program* - Elm Creek - Linda Meschke, Rural Advantage
- 2:30 p.m. *Streambank Erosion Processes & Tools for Prioritizing Stream Restoration Actions* - Chris Lenhart, U of MN
- 3:30 p.m. Headed Home

For more information and to register email greta@ruraladvantage.org or call (507) 238-5449.

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](#).

Winter Wind Down to feature Climate Talk with Mark Seeley
Thursday, March 13, 2014 @ 5:30 p.m.

Location: Starbuck Community Center (305 E 5th St.)
Brief Description: The role more resilient agricultural systems could play in counteracting the negative effects of climate change will be the focus of a special "Winter Wind Down" event. Featured speaker at this Land Stewardship Project event will be University of Minnesota Extension Meteorologist and Climatologist [Mark Seeley](#). A light, locally-sourced soup and bread supper will be served, and a \$5 per person contributions is requested to help defray the cost of the meal. Attendees of the Winter Wind Down will also have an opportunity to learn more about the Chippewa 10% Project, an LSP-Chippewa River Watershed Project initiative that is working to help farmers implement diverse, profitable production systems in the region.

For more information or to RSVP contact [Robin Moore](#) (320) 269-2105.

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 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](#).

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](#) 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

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](#).

**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@umn.edu).

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.

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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 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 Sistad, 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.

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

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

**March 31 -
April 6**

Networking in the Environmental Field
Wednesday, April 2, 2014 @ 6-9 p.m.

Location: Hamline University, St. Paul, MN

Brief Description: Join the Women's Environmental Network and Hamline University for our popular networking only event! Co-hosted by the Hamline University's Center for Global Environmental Education. Meet one-on-one with our event sponsors as well as representatives from a variety of organizations. Find out what it takes to perform their job and what courses in college helped them. Learn about environmental job opportunities in a variety of business sectors. Bring your resume. Career professionals will be available to assist you with ideas. Talk to others who have found jobs in the environmental field. Add these people to your network. The regular rate is \$20, the student rate is \$10.

For more information visit the [Women's Environmental Network](#) webpage and to [register click here](#).

Sustainability Expo 2014
Saturday, April 5, 2014 @ 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Location: Centennial Student Union Ballroom, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Brief Description: MSU-M Environmental Committee, Transition Mankato, and the Center for Earth Spirituality and Rural Ministry are co-sponsoring this free, all day event that includes informational tabling, speakers, reskilling workshops, music, vendors, kid friendly activities, and FUN! Exhibitors and presenters are being sought. A link to registration form is available on the website above for organizations and businesses that would like to have a table at the event.

For more information contact [Erica Johnson](#) at (507) 389-5254

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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 <p>Seeking individuals pursuing degrees in Environmental Studies/Science, Biology, Hydrology, Soil and Water Conservation or related fields. Coursework in biology,</p>

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

Department:	Carver SWCD
Closing Date:	March 14, 2014
Location(s):	Cologne, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>The Carver Soil & Water Conservation District is accepting applications for a District Technician.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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](#).

MONITORING HYDROLOGIST

Department:	Ecological & Water Resources, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	March 14, 2014
Location(s):	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply:	Only current employees of MnDNR
Responsibilities:	<p>THIS VACANCY IS BEING POSTED AT BOTH THE HYDROLOGIST 1 AND THE HYDROLOGIST 2 LEVELS. THERE IS ONLY 1 POSITION AVAILABLE. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THE HYDROLOGIST 1 LEVEL POSITON, PLEASE APPLY TO THIS POSTION (14DNR000101). TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THE HYDROLOGIST 2 LEVEL, PLEASE APPLY TO: 14DNR000100. YOU MAY APPLY TO BOTH POSTINGS, BUT WILL ONLY BE CONSIDERED FOR THE POSTING(S) IN WHICH YOU MEET THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS.</p> <p><u>Hydrologist 1:</u> This position will collect, manage and analyze hydrologic data to support science-based water resources management decision-making.</p> <p>Job duties include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the operation and maintenance of DNR Ecological and Waters Resources stream, lake and ground water data collection programs. • Assist in the organization and management of DNR Ecological and Waters monitoring and geologic mapping data. • Assist with the analysis of surface and ground water data to support sound conclusions and recommendations on water resource management issues. <p><u>Hydrologist 2:</u></p>

This will provide professional hydrologic, hydraulic, monitoring and computer expertise and coordination to support the Division's statewide surface water gaging, data and technical analyses programs .

Job duties include:

- Provide assistance in the development, installation, operation, deployment, and maintenance of the DNR Waters physical gaging networks and of manual and computerized data storage systems so that appropriate data are available to Division staff and other interested parties. This includes conducting necessary field investigations so that appropriate physical and hydrologic data are available for use.
- Analyze and evaluate surface water levels and flow data and prepare and disseminate reports using data from DNR Waters data systems and from other agencies so that study results and appropriate information are available to division staff and other interested parties.
- Perform projects as assigned so that technical information is collected, documents are reviewed, information is presented, and/or DNR staff are advised of technical resource issues.
- To provide stream flow and data collection training to new and existing employees.

For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting #14DNR000101 (Hydrologist 1) #14DNR000100 (Hydrologist 2)

NR SPECIALIST-ECOLOGICAL SVCS

Department:	Ecological & Water Resources
Closing Date:	March 14, 2014
Location(s):	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<p>THIS IS A 1 YEAR TEMPORARY UNCLASSIFIED POSITION.</p> <p>This will provide technical support to Area Hydrologists, the Groundwater Protection Hydrologist and the Invasive Species Specialist in the South District of the Central Region. The person in this position will conduct assessments of aquatic ecosystems and of surface and groundwater use; analyze and communicate assessment results and provide technical assistance involving invasive species prevention and management activities as well as in groundwater and surface water permitting.</p> <p>Job duties include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coordinate and/or oversee the required support and technical review of permit applications for work in public waters, water appropriations, preliminary well applications and for violations of public water. ● Provide technical support and review to Area Hydrologist, the Groundwater Protection Hydrologist and Central Office staff. ● Provide technical support to DNR programs and staff whose work responsibilities involve prevention and management activities related to aquatic invasive species. ● Monitor populations of selected aquatic invasive species in the region, tabulate collected data, and provide data to central database. ● Assist in the management of populations of selected harmful invasive species.

For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting #14DNR000137

ASSISTANT AREA WILDLIFE MANAGER

Department:	Fish & Wildlife/Region 4, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date:	March 17, 2014
Location(s):	Windom, MN
Who May Apply:	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● This position exists to assist the Area Wildlife Manager in planning, developing, and implementing DNR wildlife management programs, activities and policies by managing, preserving, and conserving wildlife habitat and populations on public and private lands in Region 4 within Cottonwood, Jackson, Martin, and Watonwan Counties. Wildlife populations, habitat, and plant communities will be managed for their intrinsic values and long-term benefits to the people of Minnesota. <p>Core Activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide assistance in the implementation of wildlife habitat management programs and policies on public private lands so that maximum benefits for wildlife and the management of wildlife populations and habitat, and the public. ● Aid in the implementation of wildlife population management programs and policies as well as environmental protection programs so that wildlife and habitat are not adversely affected. ● Assist in the development and implementation an information and education program that the public will be better informed about wildlife issues, current DNR conservation efforts, and the management of wildlife populations and habitat. ● Contribute to planning and development of policies so that wildlife habitat and wildlife populations are given consideration and protection. ● Train, direct, evaluate, review, and effectively recommend rewards and discipline for subordinate personnel assigned to the Area Wildlife Office so that wildlife management activities can be efficiently implemented. ● Assist in the administration wildlife management programs of the Area Wildlife Office so that resource management is smoothly and efficiently implemented according to plans, policies, and legal mandates. <p>For more information and how to apply visit www.careers.state.mn.us Posting #14DNR000129.</p>

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. <p>For more information and how to apply view the job announcement.</p>
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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>

"When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world." - John Muir

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.
