



Minnesota River Weekly Update

May 21, 2014

"Congress" to explore new course of environmental work in Minnesota River Valley

Several citizen organizations focused on Minnesota River natural and economic environments are planning to hold the first Minnesota River Congress Thursday, June 19, at Turner Hall in New Ulm. The schedule begins with afternoon events, followed by dinner, and discussion in the evening. The public is welcome and invited to attend. Although scores of groups and government have worked for years to promote the economic and natural vitality of the valley, the effort at times may seem to be a fractious chorus of conflicting voices. Some contend that measurable results are modest compared with the amount of time and resources spent over the last two decades. In April the former Minnesota River Board was disbanded; for some, it was a welcome departure of an unnecessary "layer of government." However, others believe the need still exists to create more unity and harmony among the many groups working to sustain the land and water in the valley. Organizers believe there is a need for a watershed wide, non-governmental, non-regulatory organization to provide visions, leadership, coordination, and advocacy to improve the land and water connection in the Minnesota River Valley. The main purpose of the first congress will be to discuss the merits of having a citizen-led, basin-wide organization, and how it could be structured. Results of the discussion would be shared in following months at several regional locations. A second congress will then be convened in the fall to review the actions and steps resulting from the first congress, and to move forward.

Schedule of Events during the first congress:

- 1-3 p.m. - Tour of the Minnesota River History Center, Riverside Park
- 3-5 p.m. - Networking Fair-displays by organizations, Turner Hall
- 5 p.m. - Social hour and music
- 5:30 p.m. - Buffet dinner
- 6:15 p.m. - Presentation by Natalie Warren and Wild River Academy students

- 6:45 p.m. - Overview-purpose of congress
- 7 p.m. - small and large group discussion
- 9 p.m. - Adjourn

Pre-register for the Congress by contacting Coalition for a Clean Minnesota River, PO Box 488, New Ulm, MN 56073. The cost is \$15 per person, with checks payable to CCMR. Admissions is free for young adults under 19 or with a college ID. Admission at the door is \$20. For more information contact [Scott Sparlin](#) (507) 726-2280.

Using perennial plantings to improve water quality workshop

The University of Minnesota Extension will be hosting two major workshops this summer to understand the how perennial plantings/systems can improve water quality save the dates!

- Fairmont, MN - June 24, 2014
- Glenwood, MN - July 16, 2014

The workshops are designed to help farmers and landowners, including natural resource professionals, implement perennial plantings that would improve water quality and achieve other ecosystem services such as improve soil health and wildlife. Each day-long workshop will include presentations by local professionals, University of Minnesota Extension faculty and University of Minnesota researchers. Topics to be covered in these workshops include:

1. agroforestry options for your farming operations;
2. ways to restore wetlands on your farm to improve water quality;
3. channel restoration decision support tool: how does it relate to my farm?;
4. using cover crops to improve water quality, soil health, and productivity of future crops;
5. herbaceous and woody perennials: can they be integrated for production and conservation benefits in the farm?;
6. decision support tools to restore impaired waters: demonstrating usability and applicability in the farm;
7. grazing your woods: problems and solutions; and
8. controlling and managing native and invasive species in my farm land.

For more information about the workshops visit the [workshop's website](#), and [click here](#) to register.

MPCA offers small-business grants to clear the air

The MPCA is offering \$320,000 in grants to help small businesses reduce their harmful air emissions. The grants will help small businesses such as auto body shops, print shops, gas stations, and dry cleaners take steps to help reduce volatile organic compounds (VOCs). These chemicals are emitted from many industrial and commercial processes used in businesses all around us. VOCs are found in the fumes coming from coatings, inks, solvents, adhesives, gasoline, and other everyday products. Direct exposure to VOCs can cause eye, nose, and throat irritation, and headaches, nausea and dizziness. Exposure over long periods can increase cancer risk and damage the liver, kidneys, and central nervous system. When VOCs are released into the atmosphere, they can be chemically transformed into ground-level ozone, which is a component of smog and is itself a harmful air pollutant. Minnesota is hovering close to the national air quality standard for ozone and the US EPA is planning to tighten the limit in the next couple of years. The MPCA will offer matching grant funds up to \$100,000 for projects to reduce use of VOC-containing chemicals or put in cleaner or more efficient equipment. This helps businesses by saving them money on disposal and permitting fees, reducing regulatory obligations, and using less chemicals in their operations. It also means less exposure and better health for workers, and helps keep us within federal ozone standards. Applications for the VOC reduction grants are being accepted through August 13, 2014.

For more information and to apply go to [MPCA's website](#).

MPCA to check health of Lower Minnesota River and its tributaries

Crews from MPCA will be examining the health of the Lower Minnesota River and its tributaries this spring and summer. Called biological monitoring, this effort helps scientists determine the condition of rivers and streams by studying fish, aquatic invertebrates, and plant life as well as habitat, flow and water chemistry. Stream and water chemistry provides information about the quality of the water where these fish and

invertebrates live. All this information provides an overall picture of health, helping identify waters that meet standards and need protection or waters that fail to meet standards and need restoration. Starting this month, crews will be working at more than 100 sites in the watershed, which includes parts of Sibley, Scott, Le Sueur, Carver, Hennepin, Dakota, Rice, Nicollet, Renville, and McLeod counties. Local water management groups will also be sampling a smaller set of sites for water chemistry from May through September. This project is funded by the Clean Water Legacy Amendment, and is a part of the agency's effort to assess the conditions of rivers, streams and lakes in Minnesota on a watershed-scale. The Lower Minnesota River watershed includes the lowest section of the Minnesota River and flows into the Mississippi at Fort Snelling. For more information about the Lower Minnesota River and biological monitoring go to the [MPCA's website](#).

ARTICLES

[Mobile grocery stores may soon bring veggies to food deserts](#)

Eric Roper, May 13, Star Tribune

Several entrepreneurs and non-profits interested in expanding healthy options – particularly in under-served areas – approached the city about changing the ordinances on portable stores to sell pre-packaged foods. The Twin Cities Mobile Market intends to serve low-income areas that have been designated as food deserts, selling fruits, vegetables, dairy, frozen meats and other foods. They plan to launch this summer in St. Paul and hope to expand to north Minneapolis.

[Evidence builds that insecticides are the main – or only – driver of bee die-offs](#)

Ron Meador, May 15, MinnPost

A new study of honeybee die-offs from the Harvard School of Public Health adds much to the case that neonicotinoid insecticides are a key cause of the problem.

[DNR Naturalist invites St. Peter-area residents on canoe trips down Minnesota River](#)

Jessica Bies, May 17, St Peter Herald

In cooperation with the Nicollet County Historical Society, the DNR will give residents several chances to get more familiar with the river this summer, Kudelka said, by hosting three early evening canoe trips.

[Mississippi River lock could close to prevent spread of Asian carp](#)

Maureen McCollum, May 17, Sawyer County Record

A congressional conference committee recently reached a deal in finalizing the long-awaited Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA). Part of that bill would require the USACE to close the Upper St. Anthony Falls lock in one year from now. The closure is meant to keep Asian carp and other invasive species out of the Mississippi River watershed.

[Climate change will force us to abandon coastal cities. We'd better start preparing right now](#)

Danny Vinik, May 18, New Republic

On Monday, the *New York Times* reported on two new climate change studies that came to the same terrifying conclusion: “The heat-trapping gases could destabilize other parts of Antarctica as well as the Greenland ice sheet, potentially causing enough sea-level rise that many of the world’s coastal cities would eventually have to be abandoned.”

[Reader's view: Protecting bats will pay off for farmers and loggers](#)

May 18, Duluth News Tribune

White-nose syndrome has killed nearly 7 million bats since 2006. This translates into about 7,000 tons of insects per year that are not being consumed by bats. As a result, farmers and timber growers need more pesticides to protect their crops. This is costly and potentially harmful to the environment and your family.

[The environmental costs of abundance](#)

Kira Liu, May 19, Minnesota2020

Far more nitrate contaminants in our drinking

[Eat bass, not walleye, DNR urges Mille Lacs anglers](#)

Steve Karnowski, May 19, MPR News

While fisheries managers try to figure out how to

water actually come agriculture than industrial pollution. In 2013, the growing crop yield increased use of inorganic fertilizers on conventional monoculture farms.

restore the struggling walleye population on Mille Lacs Lake, they're encouraging anglers to consider what had been unthinkable for many: eat bass instead.

[Photos: Researchers give baby eagles a spring checkup](#) (with audio)

Jennifer Simonson, May 20, MPR News

Scientists from the National Park Service are conducting an eagle survey along the Mississippi River and elsewhere, collecting blood and feather samples from eaglets to measure contaminants the eaglets ingest from their prey.

[Why those tiny microbeads in soap may pose problem for Great Lakes](#) (with audio)

Cheryl Corley, May 21, NPR

From the shoreline at North Avenue Beach in Chicago, the blue water of Lake Michigan stretches as far as the eye can see. But beneath that pristine image, there's a barely-visible threat.

EVENTS

**May 19 -
May 25**

2014 Minnesota State Envirothon
Monday, May 19, 2014

Location: St. John's Arboretum, Collegeville, MN

Brief Description: The Envirothon, an outdoor learning for high school students in grades 9-12, is one of the state's largest environmental education competitions. Teams consisting of 5 students from the same school/organization visit 6 different learning stations covering Aquatics, Forestry, Soils, Wildlife, and a current environmental topic that changes every year. Students are given a 25-point exam relating to the station's topics. At the sixth station, the students are required to give a brief (8-9 minute) pre-determined oral presentation to a panel of judges, also based on the current environmental topic for the year. Natural resource professionals from across the state are presenters at each of the stations. They use the outdoor setting, as well as their own props to add to the experience.

For more information visit the [MASWCD website](#).

Wetland Restoration Area Identification Workshop

Tuesday, May 20, 2014 @ 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: MnDOT Training and Conference Facility, 1900 County Road West, Shoreview, MN

Brief Description: Resource managers now have an online tool for identifying potential areas for wetland restoration. The MPCA contracted with the Natural Resource Research Institute (NRRRI) to develop this wetland restoration prioritization tool. Wetlands retain water and provide a critical reduction in several pollutants. The goal of the new tool is to help watershed professionals target wetland areas for effective watershed restoration and protection. Training workshops have been scheduled to help watershed managers and wetland restoration practitioners get the most from this new online tool. Space is limited so reserve your spot. There will be other opportunities available:

- May 21: Ottertail Power Community Room, 216 S. Cascade St., Fergus Falls, MN

There is no fee to attend the workshops, but lunch is on your own. To register email or call [Laura Dickison](#) 651-757-2689 at MPCA

For more information on the [Wetland Prioritization Tool click here.](#)

Wetland Restoration Area Identification Workshop

Wednesday, May 21, 2014 @ 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location: Ottertail Power Community Room, 216 S. Cascade St., Fergus Falls, MN

Brief Description: Resource managers now have an online tool for identifying potential areas for wetland restoration. The MPCA contracted with the Natural Resource Research Institute (NRRRI) to develop this wetland restoration prioritization tool. Wetlands retain water and provide a critical reduction in several pollutants. The goal of the new tool is to help watershed professionals target wetland areas for effective watershed restoration and protection. Training workshops have been scheduled to help watershed managers and wetland restoration practitioners get the most from this new online tool. Space is limited so reserve your spot. There will be other opportunities available:

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For more information on the [Wetland Prioritization Tool click here.](#)

Triclosan & Public Health: Perceptions and Educational Recommendations

Thursday, May 22, 2014 @ 9-10:30 a.m.

Location: Minnesota Department of Health, St. Paul

Brief Description: As you know, triclosan is an antimicrobial chemical that is commonly used in soaps, toothpastes, and clean products that are often labeled "antibacterial" or "antimicrobial." A recent MDH grant provided funding for research on public beliefs and attitudes about the value and use of triclosan and other antibacterial compounds used in personal care products. Please join the MDH, Action Media, and Friends of the Mississippi River for an innovative workshop on the fascinating results of this research, and the education and public outreach recommendations resulting from this work. This event is free and there will be coffee and treats! Directions and parking are [here](#). Space is limited so please RSVP to [Katie Nyquist](#).

Swan Lake Presentation

Friday, May 23, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

Location: Flandrau State Park, New Ulm, MN

Brief Description: North America's largest wetland complex is located north of the Minnesota River near Nicollet and considered one of the most important breeding and migratory stopover for a diverse selection of birds. In this presentation we will talk about the rich history of Swan Lake and the struggle to save this valuable resource. Over the years it has faced many challenges including a petition to drain it for agricultural purposes and a significant decrease in the production of waterfowl. Meet at the playground at the Day Use Area near the swimming pond.

For more information contact [Scott Kudelka](#) (507) 384-8890.

Minnesota River Paddle

Saturday, May 24, 2014 @ 10 a.m.

Location: Minneopa State Park, Mankato, MN

Brief Description: Go for a 10 mile paddle on the Minnesota River from the Judson access point to the Land of Memories Park. On this stretch of the Minnesota River we will be paddling along the boundary for Minneopa State Park. We will lead the paddle and provide the canoes, life jackets and paddles. You will need to provide your own transportation to the put-in and take-out point. The Minnesota River flows for 335 miles from Big Stone Lake to the confluence with the Mississippi River near Fort Snelling. Please sign up at the park office (prior reservation required). Meet at the Judson Boat Access Point.

For more information contact [Scott Kudelka](#) (507) 384-8890.

Water Art Installations

Saturday, May 24, 2014 @ 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Location: Maplewood Mall, Maplewood, MN

Brief Description: Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District invites the public to celebrate two new public art installations - *Water is Life* and *Rainy Day*. These two outdoor public artworks highlight themes about the interactions between water, nature and the built environment. The festivities will begin at the mall's west entrance with the unveiling of the interactive sculpture *Water is Life*. A procession will then weave through the mall to the east entrance for a ceremony to honor the completion of the mural, *Rainy Day*. Performances and poetry created by local students will round out the celebration. A reception with the artists follows.

For more information contact [Sage Passi](#) (612) 598-9163.

Causes of the US Dakota War and Battlefield Tour

Saturday, May 24, 2014 @ 1 p.m.

Location: Fort Ridgely State Park

Brief Description: The causes of the US Dakota War in 1862 were many and complicated. Independent Historian John LaBatte will examine these. At least nine of John's Dakota and white ancestors were involved in the US Dakota War of 1862. Historic Fort Ridgely is recognized by the National Park Service as a National Battlefield and is listed twice on the National Registry of Historic Places. Join John LaBatte for the 1 p.m. program and again for the 2:30 p.m. battlefield tour. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors, students with ID, and children ages 6-17. MNHS and NCHS members are free. A State Park vehicle sticker is required for all.

For more information call the Nicollet County Historical Society (507) 354-8666.

River Otter Ecology

Saturday, May 24, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

Location: Minneopa State Park

Brief Description: This social mammal is known for its child-like personality and often appears to spend time playing. After a significant decline due to hunting, trapping and loss of habitat the otter population is beginning to make a comeback in the Minnesota River Basin. We will learn about some of the special characteristics of a river otter and what this animal tells us about the quality of our rivers, lakes and wetlands. One lucky person will get the chance to dress like an otter! Meet at the group campground.

For more information contact [Scott Kudelka](#) (507) 384-8890.

Night Hike

Saturday, May 24, 2014 @ 9 p.m.

Location: Minneopa State Park

Brief Description: Night presents a whole new world to most of us. Very few of us spend extended periods of time in the dark and some people may even become fearful of the night. As humans we are constantly trying to reduce the fun of being outside after dark. On the other hand, animals adapt their lives and themselves to the conditions of both day and night. On this hike we will learn how to use our five senses (sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell) in the dark without using any artificial light. Meet at the parking lot on the gravel road about halfway to Seppmann Windmill on the north side and please no flashlights.

For more information contact [Scott Kudelka](#) (507) 384-8890.

Music for all Ages at the Harkin Store

Sunday, May 25, 2014 @ 1-4 p.m.

Location: Harkin Store

Brief Description: Musician, Bill Cagley, who plays "music for all ages" will be performing at the Harkin Store. Cagley sings and plays guitar, mandolin, banjo and harmonica. He has performed many years at the Harkin and at many other historical sites in Minnesota. He and his musical friend will be a delight to the young and young at heart. He will bring along his daughter to do some dances for us while he is playing. Come and listen to him from our porch or bring along a lawn chair. The admission will include the program and the tour of the store. The gift shop will be open the same hours as the store and has many books, toys, unique and hand crafted items. The Harkin will be open Saturday and Sunday and Memorial Day and Tuesdays to Sundays from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. in June, July, and August.

For more information call the Nicollet County Historical Society (507) 354-8666.

May 26 - June 1

Archery in the Park

Friday, May 30, 2014 @ 4 p.m.

Location: Fort Ridgely State Park

Brief Description: The sport of shooting arrows has been around for thousands of years. First humans used archery as a way to hunt animals and later as a way to compete against each other. Archery is an activity that people from all walks of life and almost every size and ability can participate and have fun. This program covers the basics of archery (safety, proper care of the equipment and how to use a bow). Participants will be able to practice their new skills on a number of different targets including a white-tail deer and wild turkey. Please meet at the Creek Picnic Area.

For more information contact [Scott Kudelka](#) (507) 384-8890.

Coyotes

Friday, May 30, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

Location: Fort Ridgely State Park

Brief Description: This member of the dog family is one of the most adaptable animals in North America. Coyotes have survived and increased in numbers and territory despite the all-out effort of government agencies to kill them off. As one of the more misunderstood candid, the coyote has similar and also unique characteristics compared to the wolf and fox. We will talk about how the coyote can live pretty much anywhere including our urban areas and their place in the natural ecosystem. To get a better understanding of it unique characteristics someone will get a chance to dress up like a coyote. Meet at the Creek Picnic Area.

For more information contact [Scott Kudelka](#) (507) 384-8890.

Minnesota and the Solar Energy Revolution - presentation by Bill Grant

Friday, May 30, 2014 @ 6:30-8 p.m.

Location: REI, Bloomington, MN

Brief Description: Bill Grant is Deputy Commissioner of MN Department of Commerce, Division of Energy Resources. He develops and manages programs and policies in Energy Planning and Advocacy, Energy Facility Permitting, the State Energy Office, Energy Assistance and others.

For more information go to the [Izaak Walton League of America website](#).

Prairie Planting at Indian Mounds Park

Saturday, May 31, 2014 @ 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: Indian Mounds Park, St. Paul, MN

Brief Description: Carver's Cave Overlook in Indian Mounds Park is home to an exciting restoration project that is now in its second phase: expanding restoration work to the east side of the overlook. Join the multi-year effort! Volunteers will work alongside Friends of the Mississippi River and St. Paul Parks staff to plant a variety of native prairie plants to expand the prairie.

For more information and to RSVP go to [FMR'S event page](#).

Water Fest 2014

Saturday, May 31, 2014 @ 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Location: Lake Phalen Park, St. Paul, MN

Brief Description: "Water Is Life" is the theme of this year's WaterFest. This is a celebration of clean lakes and an opportunity for outdoor hands-on learning about clean water, wildlife, and land and water conservation. This event is sponsored by the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District, cities of St. Paul, Maplewood, Little Canada, Oakdale, Roseville, Shoreview, Landfall, and North St. Paul, Ramsey County and other partners.

For more information go to [WaterFest 2014 event page](#).

Archery in the Park

Saturday, May 31, 2014 @ 1 p.m.

Location: Minneopa State Park

Brief Description: The sport of shooting arrows has been around for thousands of years. First humans used archery as a way to hunt animals and later as a way to compete against each other. Archery is an activity that people from all walks of

life and almost every size and ability can participate and have fun. This program covers the basics of archery (safety, proper care of the equipment and how to use a bow). Participants will be able to practice their new skills on a number of different targets including a white-tail deer and wild turkey. Please meet at Group Campground on the campground side of Minneopa State Park.

For more information contact [Scott Kudelka](#) (507) 384-8890.

Nature Hike

Saturday, May 31, 2014 @ 4 p.m.

Location: Minneopa State Park

Brief Description: There are many cool places to go exploring at Minneopa State Park. On this walk we will start out at the picnic area on the campground side and head down into the Minneopa Creek Valley ending up at the confluence with the Minnesota River. Along the way we will stop to talk about some of the plants, wildlife, trees, and geology of this area. A hike is a great way to experience the natural world around us. The total distance is around 2 miles and it will take us around an hour and half. Be prepared for some steep and rough terrain. Meet at the Group Campground on the campground side of the park.

For more information contact [Scott Kudelka](#) (507) 384-8890.

What Lives in the River: Mussels

Saturday, May 31, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

Location: Minneopa State Park

Brief Description: This is all about those other mussels, not the one in your arms! At one time at least 40 freshwater and native mussels were found in the Minnesota River Basin but unfortunately today is has dropped half of that. Mussels are considered to be the biological indicators of a river's health and have one of the coolest lifecycles. In this program we will touch on history of mussels and how they impact water quality. Plus one lucky person will get the chance to dress up like a mussel! Meet at the Group Campground on the campground side of the park.

For more information contact [Scott Kudelka](#) (507) 384-8890.

Dairy Day

Sunday, June 1, 2014 @ 1-4 p.m.

Location: Harkin Store

Brief Description: The Harkin Store will be honoring the dairy industry by serving home made ice cream made by Sylvia Reinhardt. We will also be having other dairy products for sampling. The Harkin Store is open daily, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except Mondays in June, July and August.

For more information and scheduling of large four groups contact the store (507) 354-8666 or Nicollet County (507) 934-2160.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONSERVATION GIS TECHNICIAN

Department	South Central - Technical Service Area
Closing Date	May 23, 2014
Location(s)	Mankato, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>This position will provide Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs), South Central Technical Service Area (SCTSA) and other local organizations in our area a better ability to utilize available GIS information for conservation planning and implementation. This position will work with professionals in technology, engineering, hydrology, and other natural resource managers to support local planning, targeting, prioritizing, implementing and monitoring of Best Management Practices (BMPs).</p> <p>For more information and how to apply check out the job announcement.</p>

PARK NATURALIST

Department	Parks & Trails/Region 4, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date	May 23, 2014
Location(s)	Sibley State Park
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>This is a Temporary Full-Time position at Sibley State Park, near New London, Minnesota. This position will perform all of the responsibilities listed below. Hours and days of work will vary and include evenings, weekends and holidays. Anticipated end date is October 31st, 2014.</p> <p>This position exists to implement, publicize and continue development of the park's interpretive and information services; to enhance the public's awareness, appreciation and understanding of the natural, cultural, and recreational resources and their management at Sibley State Park (plus Monson Lake State Park and other nearby Parks & Trails units); to change visitor attitudes and behaviors in order to foster resource stewardship; and to inform the public about the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) programs and current environmental issues.</p> <p>It is responsible for identifying and interpreting the natural, scientific, cultural, historical and recreational aspects of the ecological subsection and watershed and area. It will develop non-personal interpretive materials, environmental curriculum and opportunities in partnership with schools. It has an emphasis on working with community partners to provide outreach and on providing outdoor recreation activities such as geo-caching, birding, canoeing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and shooting sports.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply go to http://www.careers.state.mn.us/Posting#14DNR000372.</p>

WASTEWATER COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT

Department	Metro Regional Unit, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Closing Date	May 23, 2014
Location(s)	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>This position performs compliance and enforcement duties for the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and State Disposal System (SDS) permitting programs of the Municipal Wastewater Section.</p> <p>Job duties include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performing inspections and determining the compliance of assigned wastewater facilities and permittees • Determining and initiating appropriate enforcement actions as necessary • Negotiating settlements as part of a team • Investigating water quality complaints • Acting as case manager for assigned enforcement cases • Reviewing permits for enforceable conditions • Participating on special projects as assigned <p>This position requires 20% travel.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply go to http://www.careers.state.mn.us/Posting # 14PCA000061.</p>

FEEDLOT TECHNICIAN	
Department	Brown County
Closing Date	May 27, 2014
Location(s)	New Ulm, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>This position serves in the following capacity: developing, administering, interpreting, monitoring and enforcing county feedlot regulations and Minnesota Rule 7020; developing and presenting education and information programs for feedlot operators; assisting feedlot operators in permit applications and registration and developing plans for pollution abatement and implementing BMPs; responding to and investigating complaints; extensive contact with the public; maintenance of certain data base records; working closely with the County Zoning Administrator and Zoning office staff, and other responsibilities as assigned.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply go to Brown County's website.</p>

REGIONAL A&D AND OPS SPEC	
Department	Parks & Trail, Region 4, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date	May 29, 2014
Location(s)	New Ulm, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers

Responsibilities	<p>This position is located in New Ulm, MN. Work will generally be weekdays, but some evenings and weekends will be required for meetings and travel.</p> <p>This position provides professional assistance to the Regional Strategic Programs Manager in the administration and management of outdoor recreation programs and facilities in the Southern Region. The position coordinates with and acts as the liaison between project partners; builds effective relationships with key stakeholders with trail activities, including local clubs, state associations, sponsors, conservation organizations, chambers of commerce and other county, state and federal agencies, and communicates with the general public. Position provides GPS and GIS support for other Parks & Trails Division projects. Position assists the Strategic Program Manager in the operation of the Minnesota Trail Assistance Program (Grant-In-Aid). Coordinates acquisition and development projects.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply go to http://www.careers.state.mn.us/Posting # 14DNR000355.</p>
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COUNTY FEEDLOT OFFICER	
Department	Todd County SWCD
Closing Date	May 30, 2014
Location(s)	Long Prairie, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>Todd Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) is seeking a highly motivated professional to serve as Feedlot Officer. The position ensures that Minnesota Feedlot Rules and county ordinances are followed for feedlots throughout Todd County. Work activities will include field site visits, completing feedlot registration, feedlot inspection, preparing construction short forms, developing solutions to problem areas, and providing information to landowners and the public related to feedlots. Develops and follows an annual work plan acceptable to Todd County and MPCA. Must maintain relations with and work closely with MPCA, Todd Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors, Planning and Zoning, County Board of Commissioners and the county livestock committee, BWSR, MN DNR, and USDA staff on joint projects and activities. Overall supervision received from SWCD Director.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply check out the job announcement.</p>

AGRIC UNIT SUPERVISOR	
Department	Pesticide & Fertilizer Management, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Closing Date	June 17, 2014
Location(s)	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>This position will be responsible for the supervision and technical direction of the Clean Water Technical Assistance Unit. The incumbent will be responsible for providing technical assistance to the State's watershed approach to protecting and restoring Minnesota's surface waters and for supervising the selection and coordination of complex research projects on impaired waters in agricultural</p>

landscapes.

For more information and how to apply go to <http://www.careers.state.mn.us/> Posting # 14AGR000044.

DISTRICT MANAGER

Department	Root River SWCD
Closing Date	June 20, 2014
Location(s)	Caledonia, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>The Root River SWCD District Manager, reporting to the Board of Supervisors, provides strategic oversight of all operations of the agency including fiscal functions, program development and management, delivery of educational programming, and staff development and supervision, in conformance with the SWCD's goals and objectives. The District Manager collaborates with federal and state agencies, county departments, cities and townships, local watershed authorities, non-profit organizations, and residents to address the current and future conservation needs of Houston County. The District Manager prepares the Board agenda and presents the business of the agency to the Board of Supervisors.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply check out the job announcement.</p>

SENIOR MANAGER

Department	Agriculture and Environment Program, Environmental Initiative
Closing Date	Open until filled
Location(s)	Minneapolis, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>This is a management-level position with primary responsibility for designing and leading projects related to agriculture and the environment. The senior manager plans, executes and evaluates key projects, and provides support to other Environmental Initiative projects. They will also work with staff internally to develop and implement organizational strategy.</p> <p>The senior manager reports to Environmental Initiative's associate director of environmental projects. The senior manager will work with Environmental Initiative's executive director to plan and fund new projects related to agriculture and the environment, and to establish an ongoing program focused in this area. The position includes responsibility for project development, design and fundraising. The senior manager will work closely with both Environmental Initiative staff and external partners representing agriculture stakeholders, other nonprofits state and local government, academia, and other members of the private sector.</p> <p>The initial focus of the position will be leadership of the Responsible Crop Certificate project. This project is on the cutting edge of developing markets to support practices in agriculture that will keep our waters clean while helping farmers prosper. The project will advance the conceptual development of a tradable certificate system that would provide a cost-effective, market-based means for large numbers of</p>

conventional farmers to improve their environmental performance. This will be achieved, in the current phase of the project, through watershed-based pilot activities, market assessment, and brand development.

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

EDUCATION MANAGER

Department	Minnehaha Creek Watershed District
Closing Date	Open until filled
Location(s)	Minnetonka, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>Performs intermediate administrative work planning, developing, and implementing education and outreach programs for internal and external audiences, designed to meet audience needs and build capacity around water resource management to enhance and protect the water quality within the Minnehaha Creek watershed. Work is performed under the general direction of the Communications Director.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply go to the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District website.</p>

"Conservation is a state of harmony between men and land." - 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.