



Log Jam on the Cobb River (Courtesy of Mark Bosacker).

Minnesota River Weekly Update

August 5, 2014

RFA expands offer of zero-interest loans for farmers in flood disaster counties

The Minnesota Rural Finance Authority (RFA) is expanding the eligibility of its zero percent interest rate Disaster Loan program. The loans are now available in 32 counties to help farmers cover the costs to repair and replace items not covered by insurance from flooding that occurred in early July. The eligibility expansion matches the additional 24 counties that have been added to the federal disaster declaration from July 21st. The complete list now includes Beltrami, Blue Earth, Brown, Carver, Chippewa, Dodge, Faribault, Freeborn, Jackson, Koochiching, Lac qui Parle, Lake of the Woods, Le Sueur, Marshall, Martin, McLeod, Murray, Nicollet, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rice, Rock, Roseau, Scott, Sibley, Steele, Todd, Wadena, Waseca, and Yellow Medicine counties. As with other RFA loans, the Disaster Loan program will be available for farmers through their existing agricultural lenders for financing for these repairs. The loans can be used to help clean up, repair, or replace farm structures and to replace seed, other crop inputs, feed, and livestock. Interested borrowers should contact their lender or call RFA at (651) 201-6004.

For more information go to the [RFA's website](#).

New law to get more mercury out of the waste stream takes effect

Starting August 1, Minnesota state law prohibits disposing of any mercury-containing product, such as fluorescent bulbs, mercury thermometers, and some thermostats, in the garbage or down the drain. Instead,

residents should take unwanted items to any household hazardous waste facility, where most mercury-containing products will be accepted at no charge (some facilities do charge a small amount for fluorescent lamps). Business-generated mercury products are accepted at any collection site for hazardous waste generators. Exposure to mercury can damage the nervous system, kidneys, and liver. It is particularly hazardous for fetuses and children, even in very small quantities. These items are now banned since the FDA no longer requires their use in such facilities.

Minnesota says EPA wrong to reverse Mesabi Nugget variance decision

The Commissioner of the MPCA has sent a letter to the US EPA Administrator at Region 5 in Chicago asserting the EPA was wrong to disapprove a water quality variance for the Mesabi Nugget facility that it had earlier approved. The letter requests the EPA to reconsider and reverse its decision. The variance gives the facility a schedule to comply with limits on four pollutants in the discharge from water-filled pits left over from the years that LTV steel operated the facility near Hoyt Lakes, Minnesota EPA had approved the variance in December 2012, but reversed that decision in a letter to the MPCA earlier this month.

ARTICLES	
<p><u>This huge corporation is tackling climate change – because it’s a threat to the bottom line</u> <i>James West, July 28, MotherJones</i> A few months ago, the international food manufacturing giant General Mills was branded a “clear laggard” by climate activists for not doing enough to cut its carbon footprint.</p>	<p><u>EPA carbon rules are a good step</u> <i>July 29, Albert Lea Tribune</i> On June 2 the EPA announced first-ever rules to limit carbon pollution from existing power plants – the US’s single largest source of the pollution driving climate change. In Minnesota, more and more of our citizens have experienced firsthand the impacts of climate change.</p>
<p><u>Drones over Minnesota: Check out these spectacular videos</u> <i>Ben Grove, Aug. 1, BringMeTheNews</i> There’s a lot of debate nationwide about drone use in this country as the federal government tries to figure out how to regulate remote controlled flying devices.</p>	<p><u>Reducing construction pollution by skimming stormwater ponds</u> <i>Aug. 1, MN Transportation Research</i> Soil carried in stormwater runoff from road construction sites can pollute lakes and rivers. Stormwater settling ponds provide a place for this sediment to settle before the water is discharged into local bodies of water.</p>
<p><u>MPCA says permit process meets state guidelines for quick processing</u> <i>Elizabeth Dunbar, Aug. 1, MPR News</i> The vast majority of state environmental permits are issued within the state’s 150-day goal, according to a report from the MPCA. The auditing of permit wait times stems from a 2011 law that aimed to give businesses more regulatory certainty.</p>	<p><u>Wild pangolin: We’re eating the rare mammal into extinction</u> <i>Jon Fasman, Aug. 3, MPRNews</i> Traditional Chinese medicine holds that the scales of a pangolin, a small ant-eating mammal, are “cool” and “salty.” Eating those scales, the TCM thinking goes, may help expel wind, reduce swelling and boost lactation.</p>
<p><u>Toledo bans tap water algae toxins found</u> <i>Bill Chappell, Aug. 3, MPR News</i> The National Guard is making water deliveries in Toledo, Ohio, where officials say that tap water isn’t safe to drink even if it’s been boiled.</p>	<p><u>Federal agents at airports told to look out for passengers with Ebola’s flulike symptoms</u> <i>Anne Flaherty, Aug. 4, Star Tribune</i> Federal agents at US airports are watching travelers from Africa for flu-like symptoms that could be tied to the recent Ebola outbreak, as delegations from some 50 countries arrive in the nation’s capitol for a leadership summit this week.</p>

[Researchers to conduct first survey of Minnesota's native bees](#)

Dan Gunderson, Aug. 4, MPR News

A few miles west of Fergus Falls, dew on the prairie grass sparkles in the morning sun, as Crystal Boyd, an entomologist for the state Department of Natural Resources walks into the Otter Tail Prairie Science and Natural Area.

[Minnesota starts to think about re-using wastewater](#)

Elizabeth Dunbar, Aug. 5, Brainerd Dispatch

The purple pipe carrying water city workers use to power wash their trucks means more than just cheering on the Minnesota Vikings. It also signifies that the water spraying onto the rumbling trucks is what Mankato residents flushed down the drain.

EVENTS

Aug 4 - Aug 10

National Energy Literacy Virtual Town Hall

Tuesday, August 5, 2015 @ 3-5 p.m.

Location: Online

Brief Description: Join the Department of Energy for a dynamic virtual conversation of ongoing efforts from across the country in utilizing the energy Literacy Framework to address one of our nation's biggest national challenges, "Energy Illiteracy." Most Americans don't know where their electricity comes from (coal) and cannot name a fossil fuel. During this webinar educators and collaborators will have opportunities to share their energy literacy efforts and vision, as well as learn about resources for integrating energy. The webinar will feature speakers and virtual breakout sessions to share insights, questions, and ideas for energy literacy efforts.

For more information and to register go to the [event's website](#).

IDEAg Minnesota Farmfest

Tuesday, August 5 - Thursday, August 7, 2014

Location: Gilfillan Estate in Redwood County, MN

Brief Description: In its 33rd year, IDEAg Minnesota Farmfest continues to be the essential farm show in the heart of the best agricultural land in America. Farmfest connects 35,000+ attendees with close to 600 local and leading companies for three days of education and political forums, field demonstrations featuring the latest technological advances in the farming industry, and networking. Don't miss this year's number one trade show for farmers & ranchers.

For more information and to register go to

<http://www.ideagroup.com/farmfest>.

Make your Home River-Friendly - Workshop and Brewery Tour

Wednesday, August 6, 2014 @ 6-7:30 p.m.

Location: Flat Earth Brewery, Historic Hamm's Brewery, East Side St. Paul

Brief Description: Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth, run the dishwasher on full - there are many ways to improve the health of our local waters from home. But how do you know where to start? And what really makes the biggest difference? Join FMR's Stewardship Coordinator Adam Flett to learn about practices and small projects you can take on inside your home, be it a mansion or a studio apartment, to significantly improve your water footprint. We'll quickly cover the basics, touching on both well-known lessons and lesser-known tools to help you figure out the most effective ways and resources to make your home

river-friendly.

For more information and how to sign-up go to [FMR's event page](#).

Speak out on Enbridge Sandpipe pipeline

Thursday, August 7, 2014 @ 1 p.m.

Location: St. Paul, MN

Brief Description: Friends of the Headwaters will gather to request the support of the Hubbard County Board of Commissioners as we continue our efforts to move the Enbridge route away from the Mississippi Headwaters and lake country. We have been informed that we are on agenda at 11:15 a.m. As you know, in these situations, the number of supporters can make a difference to the commissioners. The board meets in the basement of the Hubbard County jail, southeast entry. We believe this is an important opportunity for local leadership to demonstrate their vision and stewardship. In any case, it will be a newsworthy event and we hope you will be there too.

Friends of the Headwaters is asking supporters to register to attend the PUC hearing in St. Paul at 1 p.m. on Thursday, August 7. This is one of those meetings that Enbridge sometimes tries to pack with its supporters, skewing the Public Utilities Commission's impression regarding public support for the Enbridge pipeline. If you are someone who couldn't be involved in some other FOH activities, you could really help us make a difference by attending this St. Paul meeting. If you choose to speak, speakers are normally called in order of registration was received. There will be limited time (3 minutes). To ensure that the PUC hears/sees your opinions, you can also register and email or send your comments in a letter. Please register by Monday, August 4, @ 4:30 p.m.

For more information and to register email publiccomments.puc@state.mn.us (include the docket number, 13-474, your name, telephone address, and group affiliation, if any; or call (651) 296-0406 or 1(800) 657-3782. Written copy of your comments can be submitted to 121 7th Place E, Ste 350, St. Paul, MN 55101.

Dialogue with Dean

Thursday, August 7, 2014 @ 4:30-7 p.m.

Location: Country Inn and Suites, Mankato, MN

Brief Description: Dr. Brian Buhr is a renowned expert on agricultural economics, specifically livestock and other commodities markets. In May, Dr. Buhr was installed as Dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences at the University of Minnesota. Please join us in welcoming him as he talks about how global agricultural realities are our regional policies.

For more information and to RSVP contact nnesvold@gislason.com by August 4.

Dragonfly Workshop for Educators

Friday, August 8, 2014 @ 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Location: Maplewood Nature Center, 2659 E 7th St., Maplewood, MN 55119

Brief Description: Giving roots to your STEM: Use dragonflies to teach the practices of science in your classroom! All activities jive with the Minnesota State Science Standards and the Next Generation Science Standards. The workshop includes a bit of background knowledge, a lot of hands-on outside exploration, and the beautifully illustrated full-color Dragonfly Curriculum Guide with 17

classroom activities. The fee is \$77 for 4 CEUs, the Dragonfly Curriculum Guide, and the free two-week check-out of the dragonfly classroom kit.

For more information and to register contact [Ami](#).

Geocaching 101

Friday, August 8, 2014 @ 4 p.m.

Location: Minneopa State Park

Brief Description: Join the naturalist for this high tech treasure hunt and learn the basics of this new worldwide recreational sport. GPS units are provided. There will be a chance to test out your GPS skill on a critter activity before going out to find the park geocache. Limit of 20 people (must be 8 years of age and children must be accompanied by adult). Please sign up at the park office (prior reservation required). Meet at the Group Campground on the campground side.

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

American Bison

Friday, August 8, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

Location: Minneopa State Park

Brief Description: As the largest mammal on the Great Plains, millions of bison once roamed all over North America and played an integral role in the livelihood of many Americans Indian tribes. The American bison is an animal built to live in harsh conditions and it will be shown through an activity called "Build a Bison." We will also talk about the distribution of bison prior to the arrival of Europeans and the difference between bison and buffalo. Meet at the Group Campground on the campground side.

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

Breakfast on the Farm: Le Sueur/Blue Earth County

Saturday, August 9, 2014 @ 7-11:30 a.m.

Location: Jon Guentzel Farm, 32172 490th St., Kasota, MN 56050

Brief Description: The Le Sueur and Blue Earth County Farm Bureaus, and Scott/Le Sueur Corn and Soybean Growers are sponsoring a free breakfast with pancakes, eggs, sausage, juice and coffee on Jon Guentzel's farm. There will be children's barnyard, machinery displays, ask-a-farmer, and children's play areas.

For more information contact [Jon Guentzel](#) (507) 317-1958.

Got Milkweed?

Saturday, August 9, 2014 @ 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Location: 14047 20th St, NW Watson, MN 56295

Brief Description: Laura Molenaar, educator IOLondon/Spicer and Wendy Caldwell, coordinator with Monarch Join Venture are going to present a program on Monarch butterflies, including monarch biology and migration. The program starts at 10 a.m. with hands on learning stations following at approximately 10:45 a.m. including monarch tagging (weather and monarchs cooperating). This program is sponsored by Lac qui Parle State Park. No vehicle permits are required as the education center is on WMA land. This event is a collaboration between the DNR and CURE in the effort to get more people out on the landscape enjoying all that southwestern Minnesota has to offer.

For more information call (320) 734-4450 or go to the [event's page](#).

Minnesota Garlic Festival

Saturday, August 9, 2014 @ 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Location: McLeod County Fairgrounds, Hutchinson, MN

Brief Description: Minnesota Garlic Festival is the premier event for lovers of garlic, great local foods and good times! Family friendly, fun filled and fragrant, this festival features fantastic foods, celebrity chefs, marvelous music, area artisans, goofy games...and lots of GARLIC - all in support of a healthy environment, sustainable farms and vital rural communities in Minnesota. \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids under 12, babies free; \$1 parking per vehicle.

For more information go to the [Minnesota Garlic Festival website](#).

William Lass

Saturday, August 9, 2014 @ 2 p.m.

Location: Fort Ridgely State Park

Brief Description: Author William Lass will be here to talk about his new book "Shaping the North Star State: A history of Minnesota's Boundaries." William Lass is a historian, author of many books, Professor Emeritus at Minnesota State University - Mankato and a recipient of many awards. Most recently, he was the first recipient of The Lifetime Service Award at the Northern Plains History Conference in 2012. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors, students with ID and children ages 6-17. MNHS and NCHS members are free.

For more information contact [Amber Bentler](#) (507) 508-2848.

Digital Photography

Saturday, August 9, 2014 @ 2 p.m.

Location: Flandrau State Park

Brief Description: Photography is a great way to take some memories home with you after your visit to a state park. Kids will get a chance to learn how to use a digital camera and shoot photos of what interests them. Digital cameras are provided and the kids will be able to print one photo to take with them. Limit of 20 kids (must be 8 years of age and accompanied by an adult). Please sign up at the park office (prior reservation required). Meet at the playground at the Day Use Area near the swimming pond.

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

What lives in the river: Fish

Saturday, August 9, 2014 @ 4 p.m.

Location: Flandrau State Park

Brief Description: How well is the fishery in the Minnesota River Basin doing? Join us for a look at how the river's fishery has improved from the days in the 1950's when biologists found more peas and carrots floating in the river than fish. In this presentation, visitors will discover some of the more interesting fish that live in the Minnesota River and what is behind this improvement in both numbers and species diversity. There will also be some fun activities for children of all ages. Meet at the playground at the Day Use Area near the swimming pond.

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

Wild Edibles

Saturday, August 9, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

Location: Flandrau State Park

Brief Description: People eat wild edibles for a number of reasons including as a legitimate way of economizing their food costs, as an excellent source of vitamins and minerals, and in rare situations they can be essential for survival. We will talk about some of the more recognizable plants growing in the area like the common dandelion which can be used in salads or even as a coffee-like beverage. Meet at the playground at the Day Use Area near the swimming pond.

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

Old Time Games Day

Sunday, August 10, 2014 @ 1-4 p.m.

Location: Harkin Store

Brief Description: The Harkin Store will have fun games from the old days, such as pick-up sticks, tic-tac-toe, checkers, dominoes, graces and rolling hooks. The children can enjoy some time with their family. The 1870's store will be open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. everyday except Mondays in August. The gift shop will also have some of those games and toys also books, and hand-crafted and unique items, also 10 cent candy.

For more information contact the Harkin Store (507) 354-8666 or Nicollet County Historical Society (507) 934-2160.

Aug 11 - Aug 17

Project WILD and PLT K-8 Workshop

Monday, August 11, 2014 @ 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Location: River Bend Nature Center, Faribault, MN

Brief Description: Project WILD and Project Learning Tree (PLT) are award-winning environmental education programs in Minnesota. This workshop is based on activities for K-8 students and will focus on projects, crafts and games related to Minnesota State Standards. You can only get these activity guides by attending a workshop. Register today! Workshop participants will receive Project WILD K-12 Activity Guide (112 activities), Project Learning Tree K-8 Activity Guide (96 activities), WILD and PLT State supplements from the DNR, other educational materials, 6 CEUs. The registration fee is \$65.

For more information and to register contact [Josh Sweet](#) (507) 332-7151.

Minnesota River Watershed Alliance Quarterly Meeting

Tuesday, August 12, 2014 @ 6 p.m.

Location: Ridgewater College, Hutchinson, MN

Brief Description: A report of the recent Minnesota River Congress will be a main discussion topic at the quarterly meeting of the Minnesota River Watershed Alliance. A potluck meal begins at 6 p.m., followed by the meeting at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. The MRWA is a watershed-wide network of individuals from private organizations and public agencies, and citizens who meet quarterly and work on projects that support and benefit the Minnesota River Basin. The Aug 12 agenda also includes a status report of the National Blueway designation project for the Minnesota River, and other general updates.

For more information contact [Lori Nelson](#) (952) 858-0737, [Scott Sparlin](#) (507) 276-2280 or [Patrick Moore](#) (877) 269-2873.

Soil Health and Cover Crops Field Day

Tuesday, August 12, 2014 @ 9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Location: Jim Purfeerst Farm, 7803 240th St., Faribault, MN

Brief Description: Don't miss this chance to view annual ryegrass, tillage radish, white clover cover crop seeding into standing corn on June 25. Agenda includes:

- Tour of cover crop plots and tillage comparison plots
- Helicopter on hand to aerial seed cover crop (weather permitting)
- Expert analysis on strip tillage economics
- Principles of Soil Health presentation
- Local farmer panel discussing cover crop experiences
- Crop consultant experiences with cover crops

Pork producers will provide lunch free of charge, thanks to our sponsors.

Please RSVP by August 6 by calling Rice SWCD at (507) 332-7418 x3 or email debbie.skarupa@mn.nacdnet.net.

Benchmarking Water/Wastewater Treatment Facilities in Portfolio Manager

Tuesday, August 12, 2014 @ 1-2 p.m.

Location: online

Brief Description: Learn how to track the progress of energy efficiency efforts and compare the energy use of wastewater treatment plants to other peer facilities across the country. Attendees will learn how to measure and track energy use and carbon dioxide emission reductions in water and wastewater treatment plants to establish baseline energy use, prioritize investments, set goals, and track improvements over time.

Soil Health Webinar

Wednesday, August 13, 2014 @ 10-11 a.m.

Location: Online

Brief Description: Dr. Deborah Allan, Professor of Soil Science; Department of Soil, Water and Climate, U of M, will be giving a talk on Soil Health. To join in on the conversation follow this link <https://umconnect.umn.edu/maswcd/> on the day of the presentation.

The Prairie and Big Woods Series

Thursday, August 14, 2014 @ 7 p.m. and Thursday, September 11 @ 7 p.m.

Location:

Brief Description: Please join us for our two-part trail tour presented by Scott Kudelka, Minneopa Area Naturalist. The two programs, one in August and one in September, will take place out on the Traverse des Sioux trails and will teach participants about the two very different landscapes on either side of the Minnesota River – the Prairie and the Big Woods. During the Prairie tour we will learn how prior to Euro-American settlement of southern Minnesota, the tall-grass prairie dominated the landscape through the Minnesota River basin. A hike through our restored prairie will give us a chance to learn about some of the plants and wildlife found in this ecosystem. Scott will talk about its benefits to the natural environment and how people over time have viewed and managed it as a resource. During the Big Woods program, we will examine how these forests formed in the first place, some of the rare species found in this ecosystem and its

history over time. The dense forest dominated by maple and basswood once covered a 3,000 square mile area of southern Minnesota reaching all the way to present-day Mankato. Called "Bois Grand" or "Big Woods" by early French explorers, it was recognized as a distinct area from the band of hardwood forests. Both parts of the series are free and open to the public.

For more information contact [Alyssa Auten](#) (507) 934-2160.

Minnesota Association of Professional Soil Scientists Summer Tour

Friday, August 15, 2014 @ 8 a.m.

Location: Jordan NRCS Field Office, 7151 W 190th St, Jordan, MN 55352

Brief Description: The Minnesota Association of Professional Soil Scientists Summer Tour will be held on Friday, August 15. The MAPSS summer tour will discuss Slope Instability in the Minnesota River Valley. We will be visiting many interesting sites associated with recent landslides and mudflows and will have many speakers who are distinguished in their field to discuss the mechanisms, morphology and impacts of landslides. Attendees will gain knowledge on several topics of significant importance to the area of soil science, hydrology and land use. The tour starts at 8 a.m. sharp at the Jordan NRCS Office. Lunch will be provided for all who register.

For more information and to register go to the [MN Association of Soil Scientist](#) website.

Archery in the Park

Friday, August 15, 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 Upper Picnic Area.

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

Wild about Wildlife

Friday, August 15, 2014

Location: Fort Ridgely State Park

Brief Description: What are some of the cool animals that can be found at Fort Ridgely State Park? How about one that climbs trees to escape predators and uses its ears to hunt prey? Learn how these animals have adapted to survive in their natural environment and some of the more interesting characteristics. We will look at fourteen different animals like the beaver, skunk and coyote. Meet at the Campground Picnic Shelter.

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

6th Annual Hummingbird Hurrah

Saturday, August 16, 2014 @ 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Location: Bender Park, 200 N. 3rd St, Henderson, MN

Brief Description: This free birding festival offers people of all ages a relaxing

time in or near the garden enjoying antics of the ruby-throated hummingbird. These tiny flying jewels can be seen in large numbers in August as they stop in Henderson at feeders and nectar producing plants on their southward journey to Mexico and Central America, where they spend the winter. The Hummingbird Hurrah is produced by Henderson Feathers and sponsored by the Minnesota River Valley Audubon Chapter. The festival promotes understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of these amazing little birds. A licensed hummingbird bander catches and bands birds, allowing visitors to see them up close and learn about hummingbird research. The Hummingbird Hurrah includes a garden tour, speakers, book signing sessions, children's activities and a Hummingbird Mall with food, art, craft specialty, and information vendors.

For more information go to <http://www.hendersonhummingbirdhurrah.com/> or call (612) 229-5210.

Causes of the US Dakota War and Battlefield Tour (John LaBatte/New Ulm Battery/Dan Cochran)

Saturday, August 16, 2014 @ 1 p.m.

Location: Fort Ridgely

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, The New Ulm Battery will be here to assist John in his Battlefield Tour to give visitors a feeling of what it would have been like to hear canon fire on the Parade grounds. They will demonstrate the use of black powder as well as talk about what it was like for the soldiers during the US Dakota War in 1862. Dan Cochran will be here to demonstrate and sell his homemade leather work. Join LaBatte, the New Ulm Battery, and Dan Cochran 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.

For more information contact [Amber Bentler](mailto:Amber.Bentler@mnhs.org) (507) 766-0993.

Archery in the Park

Saturday, August 16, 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](mailto:Scott.Kudelka@mnhs.org) (507) 384-8890.

Dragonflies Hike

Saturday, August 16, 2014 @ 4 p.m.

Location: Minneopa State Park

Brief Description: A normal Minnesota summer can be filled with the sounds of buzzing mosquitoes, these annoying bugs that can ruin the fun of being outdoors. The sight of dragonflies swooping through the air is a welcome one because they eat our pesky mosquitoes. We will talk about how these insects

have been around a long, long, long time and the typical dragonfly lifecycle. To find some of the dragonflies living in the park there will be a hike around the wetland to see if we can capture some with the use of nets. Meet at the Group Campground on the campground side of the Park.

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

Wild Edibles

Saturday, August 16, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

Location: Minneopa State Park

Brief Description: People eat wild edibles for a number of reasons including as a legitimate way of economizing their food costs, as an excellent source of vitamins and minerals, and in rare situations they can be essential for survival. We will talk about some of the more recognizable plants growing in the area like the common dandelion which can be used in salads or even as a coffee-like beverage. Please meet at the Group Campground on the campground side.

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

Le Sueur Tigers Tour

Sunday, August 17, 2014 @ 12-4 p.m.

Location: WW Mayo House

Brief Description: The historic WW Mayo House will be open for tours from 12 – 4 p.m. with a special interpretation about the Le Sueur Tigers. View the marker honoring the Le Sueur Tigers placed in Louise Park adjacent to the Mayo House. This marker was dedicated on August 19, 2012, which is a date of significance for the Le Sueur Tigers as 150 years to that date, on August 19, 1862, Le Sueur militia volunteers quickly organized into two companies named the Le Sueur Tigers #1 and 2 and they went to New Ulm on August 19 and 20th, 1862. Hear how the tigers had willingly left their families and the safety of their area to assist their fellow citizens in New Ulm during the US/Dakota War of 1862. Learn more about Dr. WW Mayo's involvement with the Le Sueur Tigers and what his family was doing while he was away in New Ulm with the Tigers.

For more information contact [Becky Pollack](#) (507) 665-3250.

Aug 18 - Aug 24

William Lass

Thursday, August 21, 2014 @ 7 p.m.

Location: Treaty Site History Center

Brief Description: Author William Lass will be here to talk about his new book "Shaping the North Star State: A History of Minnesota's Boundaries." William Lass is a historian, author of many books, Professor Emeritus at Minnesota State University, Mankato and recipient of many awards. Most recently, he was the first recipient of The Lifetime Service Award at the Northern Plains History Conference in 2012. Join us for this program and learn about Minnesota's bizarre Northwest Angle, the attempt to make Minnesota a long, narrow state, and many other interesting aspects about the shape of our state.

For more information contact the [Nicollet County Historical Society](#) (507) 934-2160.

Fort Ridgely and the US Dakota War / Curtis Dahlin

Saturday, August 23, 2014 @ 1:30 p.m.

Location: Fort Ridgely

Brief Description: Independent Historian Curtis Dahlin grew up on a farm near Sisseton, South Dakota, on the Sisseton-Wahpeton Indian Reservation. He graduated from South Dakota State in 1964 with a degree in history, spent two years in the army and worked for the Department of Transportation as a traffic analyst for 35 years. Since retiring in 2002 he has spent time researching and writing on US Dakota Uprising of 1862 in Minnesota. He has published two books and three shorter booklets on the US Dakota War. His talk will deal with various aspects of the Uprising. Join us at 1:30 p.m. for this fascinating program presented by Independent Historian Curtis Dahlin. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors, students with ID and children ages 6-17. MNHS and NCHS members are free.

For more information contact [Amber Bentler](#) (507) 766-0993.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS	
FISH & WILDLIFE ADMINISTRATOR/SUPERVISORY WILDLIFE BIOLOGIST	
Department	Department of the Interior
Closing Date	August 7, 2014
Location(s)	Fergus Falls, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>Serves as the Project Leader for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), Region 6, Habitat and Population Evaluation Team (HAPET) Office.</p> <p>Supervises the primary HAPET Offices in Bismarck, ND and Fergus Falls, MN in addition to projects and employees located throughout 16 states in two Service regions.</p> <p>Provides leadership to the HQ Office on the Service's National Wildlife Refuge System and Migratory Bird Programs as the recognized expert on HAPET and Strategic Habitat Conservation (SHC). This includes development of new and innovative scientific approaches that will guide the Service and other partners decision making regarding land protection and conservation.</p> <p>Advises, initiates and implements regional, national and international partnerships. Informs and influences policy decisions at national, regional and state scales.</p> <p>Provides technical support for the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) and other national and international migratory bird conservation initiatives, including serving on the NAWMP Science Support Team. Provides technical assistance to all Service programs regionally and nationally, and to joint ventures in the United States, Canada and partnerships in Mexico on the theory and practice of migratory bird conservation.</p> <p>PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT: The work seasonally requires some moderate physical exertion such as walking over uneven, muddy areas and wetlands to conduct field work, train field personnel, and oversee field exercises. Much of the work is performed in an office setting; however, travel may be required in approved</p>

small watercraft and off-road vehicles, with moderate discomfort from exposure to wind, low and high temperatures, insects, and airborne particles and dust.

For more information and how to apply go to
<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/375987300>.

COMPLIANCE COORDINATOR/ADVISOR

Department	Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
Closing Date	August 11, 2014
Location(s)	Rochester, Mankato, St. Paul, Marshall, Willmar, Brainerd, or Detroit Lakes
Who May Apply	Only current employees of the agency
Responsibilities	<p>Professional pollution control compliance work. The incumbent will coordinate and resolve technically complex enforcement cases of threatened or actual release, discharges and/or emissions of pollutants, contaminants, and/or hazardous substances into the environment in violation of state and federal environmental laws and rules.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply go to Minnesota State Jobs website, Posting # 14PCA000074.</p>

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Department	Clean Water Action & Clean Water Fund
Closing Date	August 11, 2014
Location(s)	Minnesota
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>Clean Water Fund and Clean Water Action in Minnesota will be hiring a Program Coordinator to develop and implement the organization's water campaigns in Minnesota. We are seeking an energetic and experienced candidate with a policy and advocacy background. Our current campaigns cover a broad set of issues including enforcement of existing laws, reducing agricultural pollution, protecting the Great Lakes, stopping invasive species and protecting drinking water.</p> <p>For more information and how to apply visit MEP's website.</p>

FISHERIES HABITAT SPECIALIST

Department	Fish & Wildlife/Region 4, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Closing Date	September 1, 2014
Location(s)	New Ulm, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>This position functions as the DNR Commissioners' delegate in administering aquatic habitat-related programs of the DNR, Section of Fisheries in a multi-county region that provides assistance to customers and staff to protect, preserve, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat through the effective implementation and best management practices or programs as they relate to fisheries management activities. This position primarily</p>

involves the permitting and implementation of the Aquatic Plant Management Program (APM), the Aquatic Aeration Program (AAP), interactions with lake associations, riparian owners, and planning and zoning officials from local government units that deal with shoreline development and in-lake management of natural resources. This position will also assist Area Fisheries staff with lake and stream surveys, fish stocking, special fish and habitat assessments, and other fish data research activities as time permits within the 33 counties in the DNR Southern Region (R4). The person in this position is the lead worker in planning, coordinating, and implementing the APM and AAP programs, effectively acting in an advisory role for directing and guiding customers within the region. Also, this position can provide assistance to the statewide Aquatic Habitat Program (AHP) for advancing strategies in the MN DNR Fish Habitat Plan.

For more information and how to apply go to [Minnesota State Jobs website](#), Posting # 14DNR000512.

COUNTY PROGRAM TECHNICIAN

Department	Farm Service Agency, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Closing Date	August 19, 2014
Location(s)	Litchfield, MN; Luverne, MN; Faribault, MN; or Roseau, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>This position is located in the Meeker County FSA Office in Litchfield, Minnesota; Rock County FSA Office in Luverne, Minnesota; Rice County FSA Office in Faribault, MN; or Roseau County FSA Office in Roseau, MN.</p> <p>This position is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrying out office activities and functions pertaining to one or more of the program areas administered in the county. • Interprets and explains procedures, program regulations and forms to producers and other agency personnel. • Utilizes IBM system 36 and /or PC Computer to maintain producer data and process automated program forms. • Uses a high degree of initiative and judgment in planning and carrying out assigned tasks and resolving problems encountered. <p>For more information and how to apply go to Meeker County's announcement, Rock County's announcement, Rice County's announcement, or Roseau County's announcement.</p>

HYDROLOGIST 2

Department	Pesticide & Fertilizer Management, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Closing Date	August 19, 2014
Location(s)	St. Paul, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	This position exists to provide technical expertise to evaluate human health and environmental risks, review environmental investigations and determine appropriate

soil, sediment, air and ground water cleanup goals and technologies at agricultural chemical incident sites and to provide related technical support to the Department.

For more information and how to apply go to [Minnesota State Jobs website](#), Posting # 14AGR000059.

COUNTY PROGRAM TECHNICIAN	
Department	Farm Service Agency, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
Closing Date	August 26, 2014
Location(s)	Farmington, MN
Who May Apply	All qualified job seekers
Responsibilities	<p>This position is located in the Dakota County FSA Office in Farmington, Minnesota.</p> <p>This position is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Carrying out office activities and functions pertaining to one or more of the program areas administered in the county.● Interprets and explains procedures, program regulations and forms to producers and other agency personnel.● Utilizes IBM system 36 and /or PC Computer to maintain producer data and process automated program forms.● Uses a high degree of initiative and judgment in planning and carrying out assigned tasks and resolving problems encountered. <p>For more information and how to apply go to Dakota County's announcement.</p>

"We never the worth of water till the well is dry." - Thomas Fuller, Gnomologia 1732

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.
