

# Minnesota River Weekly Update

Sep 5, 2017



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Video: Discover the River of Stories! Discover the Minnesota River Valley National Scenic Byway!

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— Archive —

Announcements

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## **BWSR Expands Resources Available for Landowners Pursuing Alternative Practices to Buffers**

*August 30, 2017, BSWR*

St. Paul, Minn. – At the August 24 board meeting the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) approved two additional resources for landowners pursuing alternative practices to buffers. Each resource is designed to expand the options for water quality solutions in common situations where practices other than buffers may make sense. Read the press release [here](#).

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## **Roadside wildlife counts to be released Sept. 5**

*August 31, 2017, MDNR*

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources will release its annual roadside wildlife survey on Tuesday, Sept. 5. The report summarizes roadside counts of pheasants, gray (Hungarian) partridge, cottontail rabbits, white-tailed jackrabbits and other wildlife observed in the early morning hours during the first two weeks of August. The observations take place throughout the farmland region of Minnesota. Observers typically survey 172 25-mile routes, 151 of which are located in the ring-necked pheasant range. [\(link\)](#)

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## **Deadline approaching to apply for \$8.6 million in Legacy grants**

*August 31, 2017, DNR*

Groups that want to restore, protect or enhance public land have until 4 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 12, to apply for Conservation Partners Legacy grants that help pay for work on Minnesota prairies, forests, wetlands or other habitat for fish and wildlife. Nonprofit organizations and government entities are eligible to submit applications for traditional and metro grant cycles for projects on public land or land permanently protected by conservation easements. Funding comes from the Outdoor Heritage Fund, which was created after voters approved the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment in 2008. [\(read more\)](#)

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## **Reminder: Mandatory testing for deer taken in SE Minnesota chronic wasting disease management zone**

*August 31, 2017, DNR*

When archery deer season opens Saturday, Sept. 16, mandatory testing for chronic wasting disease and restrictions on moving deer carcasses begin again in southeastern Minnesota's CWD management zone, deer permit area 603. Archery hunters in deer permit area (DPA) 603 will be required to submit the head from all adult deer 1 year old or older so lymph nodes can be tested for CWD. Hunters cannot remove the carcass or carcass remains from the CWD zone until a negative test result is reported. Carcass movement restrictions do allow hunters to immediately transport out of the zone quarters or other deer pieces without spinal column parts; boned-out meat; and antlers with a skull plate that is free of brain matter. [\(read more\)](#)

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## **New Invasive Insect to Minnesota Causing Damage to Vegetable Crops**

*August 31, 2017, MDA*

A new invasive insect has made its way to Minnesota and is now causing damage to certain vegetables and crops. Swede midge is a small fly that infests cruciferous crops such as broccoli, cabbage, or canola. The insect was first discovered in Minnesota in 2016 by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) in community gardens in Ramsey and Hennepin counties. This year, the MDA has spotted damage to vegetables in these two counties. Swede midge, which is native to Europe and southwestern Asia, is widespread in areas of eastern Canada and the northeastern U.S. It has also been confirmed in Manitoba near the Minnesota border. ([read more](#))

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## News

### **Air quality alert issued due to wildfire smoke for Friday, Sept. 1 through Saturday, Sept. 2**

*[Daniel Dix](#), September 1, 2017*

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) issued an air quality alert for southwest, western and central Minnesota, effective Friday, Sept. 1 beginning at 9 a.m. through 6 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 2. The affected area included residents of Alexandria, Brainerd, Marshall, Ortonville, St. Cloud and Worthington. Also impacted are the Tribal Nations of Mille Lacs and Upper Sioux. Canadian wildfire smoke continued across much of southern, western and central Minnesota. Air pollution monitors showed an increase in fine particles as thicker smoke moves north from northwest Iowa into the southwestern portion of Minnesota. ([read more](#))

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### **Martin County Residents Invited to Open House Concerning Emerald Ash Borer**

*Aug 30, 2017, MDA*

### **Secretary Cathy Stepp leaving DNR to join Donald Trump's EPA**

*[STEVEN VERBURG](#), Aug 30, 2017*

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Secretary Cathy Stepp is leaving the agency to become deputy administrator in a regional office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. During Stepp's six-year tenure at DNR, [fines for environmental violations dwindled](#), and the EPA twice stepped in to spur department action after residents complained of problems like manure-contaminated drinking water. Gov. Scott Walker, a Republican who appointed Stepp six years ago to instill a "[chamber of commerce mentality](#)" in the agency, said she used common sense while protecting the environment. ([read more](#))

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### **Over 500 SSM students and staff help beautify Faribault's parks and trails**

*GUNNAR OLSON, Aug 28, 2017*

Shattuck-St. Mary's students hail from across the country and around the globe, but before they hit the books for the first

Residents of Martin County are invited to a public meeting on Wednesday, September 20, 2017 regarding the discovery of emerald ash borer (EAB) in the county. On August 22, 2017, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) confirmed several EAB were found in a trap northeast of the city of Welcome. Those attending the upcoming open house will have an opportunity to gather more information on EAB and local options to deal with the insect, and learn how residents can limit the spread of the bug. Experts from the MDA, University of Minnesota, and other state and federal partner agencies will be available to answer questions. ([read more](#))

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### **DNR: Avoid shooting radio-collared bears**

DNR Report, August 31, 2017

DNR asks hunters to avoid shooting radio-collared research bears. With the bear hunting season opening this weekend, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources asks hunters to avoid shooting research bears that are marked with large, colorful ear tags and have radio-collars. "We're asking hunters to watch out for these valuable research bears, and avoid shooting them. These collared bears are providing a lot of data being used in bear management," said Dave Garshelis, DNR bear research biologist. Many of the collars have global positioning units. The GPS coordinates are either uploaded to a satellite, or stored in the collar and downloaded by DNR researchers when they visit the bears in their dens during the winter months. ([read more](#))

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### **Lake Minneswaska looking for a knock out in algae fight**

[Eric Morken](#) on Aug 30, 2017

day of classes Monday, they donated their time to Faribault, their new home for the year. For the seventh year, Hands Across Faribault brought Shattuck-St. Mary's students, faculty and staff together to give back to the Faribault community. Wearing bright pink T-shirts, Shattuck students could be seen Sunday at the city's parks and on their own campus beautifying the city. Students split up to pick up debris and trash from Hwy. 21, spread mulch at the Shattuck ropes course and White Sands Park, pull buckthorn at River Bend Nature Center, and collect and plant acorns and walnuts to start a tree farm at the St. James campus. ([read more](#))

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### **Hog Roast fundraiser to support environmental education in Austin**

*Austin Herald, August 31, 2017*

The Izaak Walton League's Hog Roast Fundraiser begins at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 6, at the Izaak Walton Cabin in Todd Park, Austin. The menu includes sandwiches with pulled pork cooked by Piggy Blue, all-you-can-eat sweet corn from Honey Tree Farms, coleslaw from SuperFresh Produce, and fresh baked apple crisp from SuperFresh Bakery. Tickets are \$12 and are available at the door or SuperFresh Produce before the event. Proceeds from the hog roast will benefit the "Wetbugs Program," an environmental program that takes place at Ellis Middle School and the Hormel Nature Center. Dr. Dean Hanson, an aquatic entomologist from Stillwater, Minn., brings his live wetbugs to the classroom. ([read more](#))

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### **Emeral ash borer invades Martin County**

[Deanna B. Narveson](#), Aug 30, 2017

WELCOME — Emerald ash borer, the tree killing Asian beetle, has been found

When announcing the discovery of starry stonewort in Lake Minnewaska last week, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources said the invasive algae has never been eradicated from any U.S. lake where it has been found. Minnewaska Lake Association President Mike Stai believes the case on Minnewaska might be able to change that. So far, the infected area on Minnewaska has been limited to the 1.5-acre area within the marina in Starbuck. Stai wrote in a press release that the DNR's survey of the lake outside the marina and on both the north and south shores did not show any of the algae present. ([read more](#))

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### **Yard debris is a water quality concern in Willmar**

*[Shelby Lindrud](#) on Aug 31, 2017*

WILLMAR — As residents in Willmar mow their lawns or rake fallen leaves, the city's Public Works Department is asking them to keep lawn waste out of the streets, curbs, gutters and catch basins. "It is a big deal to us as a city, because it is all under the umbrella of illicit stormwater discharge," said Public Works Director Sean Christensen. Water, and anything that gets washed along with it, that flows into the city's stormwater drains eventually ends up in the lakes, creeks and rivers. This water is not treated before it ends up in the waterways, Christensen said, and any chemicals on or in the grass clippings end up in the water. One concern is phosphorus. Grass clippings are full of it, both naturally and artificially from the application of fertilizers. Phosphorus feeds algae, and algae blooms in lakes can be harmful to the health of human and animals, as well as cause dirty and smelly lakes. ([read more](#))

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### **DOT releases new statewide bicycle map**

northeast of Welcome, about 60 miles away from Mankato. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture put Martin County under emergency quarantine, meaning no hardwoods can cross county lines, to prevent the invasive species from spreading farther. The borer was found Aug. 22. "EAB doesn't move very quickly, and the closest counties to Martin it's been found in the area is a ways away in Iowa and in Minnesota," said Kimberly Thielen Cremers, supervisor of the department's Pest Mitigation and Biocontrol Unit. "So, this was brought in by people." About 18 percent of the trees in Mankato's public spaces are ash trees, said Ashley Steevens, superintendent of parks and open spaces. Mankato's public works staff check trees for the beetle fastidiously, she said. ([read more](#))

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### **CREP signups open in Mower County, state; Mower SWCD seeks landowners to discuss permanent conservation**

*Daily Herald, August 31, 2017*

Gathered just uphill from the meandering Cedar River, local and state officials in May celebrated the first signup day for the new round of a state-federal program that permanently enrolls farmland into conservation. Mower Soil and Water Conservation District and agency partners joined together in northwest Mower County on Udolpho Township land owned by farmer Roger Peterson, who enrolled the parcel in a previous round of the Minnesota Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (MN CREP). Peterson, who has participated in numerous conservation programs, joined Mower SWCD district manager Justin Hanson in talking about the importance of CREP and encouraging landowners to consider it. ([read more](#))

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[Britt Johnsen](#), Aug 30, 2017

Minnesota is among the friendliest states for bicyclists, [according to the League of American Bicyclists](#). And now it just got a little friendlier. The Minnesota Department of Transportation released the 2017 statewide bicycle map and it's now available a ton of places. You can find a copy of the new map at the Minnesota State Fair at the Kick Gas exhibit, which is at the Eco Experience Building on Randall Avenue, MnDOT says. You can also get it at MnDOT's booth, which is in the Education Building on Cosgrove Street. You can also get one [online](#) and you will also be able to find maps at campgrounds, rest areas and visitor centers throughout Minnesota cities. ([read more](#))

## Minnesota River recedes

*FRITZ BUSCH*, Sep 2, 2017

The Minnesota River receded enough this week so the lower level of Minnecon Park is now open again. Picnic tables are once again on dry land. New Ulm Park and Recreation Department Director Tom Schmitz reported the Minnecon Park water access site and boat ramp reopened. He added that Minnesota River water levels and flow rates are still very high, and he advised river users to exercise caution when on or near the water, obey all laws and wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device (PFD). [link](#)

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## Events

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↓ Sep 6 - Sep 12 ↓

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### Monarch Tagging

September 09, 9:00 am to 11:00 am

**Location:** Ney Nature Center

28238 Nature Center Lane  
Henderson, MN 56044

**Brief Description:**

Saturday, September 9th 9-11am Learn about and participate in the monarch tagging process. Carefully collect and tag monarch butterflies found in the prairie. All Ages. Youth under age 10 must attend with a registered adult. Cost: \$3/member or \$5/non-member \$9/member family of 3+ or \$15/non-member family of 3+ Register online by September 7th! Reservations required.

For more information click [here](#).



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**Art Exhibit at the 4 Pillars Gallery (2nd floor of The Grand): Brian Frink – “Odd Shapes and Other Delights”**

*Opening Reception from 5:30-7:30 September 8th*

**Location:** The Grand Center for Arts & Culture (GCAC), New Ulm

**Brief Description:** Brian Frink is currently the Chair of the Department of Art at Minnesota State University, Mankato. For the past twenty-nine years Brian has taught painting and drawing at MSU. Brian’s work has been characterized by diverse yet interrelating styles and each series he has produced has unique qualities and sources of reference, including water, landscapes and the natural world.



Brian Frink has received numerous grants, awards and fellowships. These include, a National Endowment of the Arts Fellowship, McKnight Individual Artist fellowships, Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative Grants and Minnesota State Arts Board Individual Artist Fellowships. Brian was also designated “Artist of the Year” in the Twin Cities Arts and Culture Weekly City Pages.

Gallery show continues through Friday, September 29th. Normal Gallery hours: Tuesday-Friday, 10am-4pm; Saturday 11am-3pm

Gallery admission is free and open to the public.

*Image Credit: GCAC*

For more information click [here](#).

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**Digital Nature Photography**

September 7, 2017 | 7:00pm | Traverse des Sioux Historic Site | FREE

**Location:** Traverse des Sioux Historic Site prairie

**Brief Description:**

Join Minneopa Area Naturalist Scott Kudelka for a hands-on digital nature photography class on the beautiful Traverse des Sioux Historic Site prairie.

Photography is a great way to take some memories home with you after a visit. You will get a chance to learn how to use a digital camera

and receive ten tips on how to shoot better photos. To practice these new skills, you will have a chance to shoot images of what you find interesting. Digital cameras will be provided and each person will be able to print one photo to take home!



Registration is required and is limited to 20 people for this event. To register call the Nicollet County Historical Society at (507) 934-2160 or email [museum@nchsmn.org](mailto:museum@nchsmn.org) by

September 4, 2017.

Image Source: [Nicollet County](#)

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### **Documentary Film Series: Before the Flood**

September 7, 2017 | 7:00pm | Traverse des Sioux Historic Site | FREE

**Location:** The Treaty Site History Center, 1851 N. Minnesota Avenue

#### **Brief Description:**

Please join us for the start of the Ninth Season of Films on First Thursdays documentary film series, a partnership between St. Peter Community and Family Education and the Nicollet County Historical Society. If you could know the truth about the threat of climate change — would you want to know? Before the Flood, presented by National Geographic, features Leonardo DiCaprio on a journey as a United Nations Messenger of Peace, traveling to five continents and the Arctic to witness climate change firsthand. From Academy Award®-winning filmmaker Fisher Stevens and Academy Award®-winning actor, environmental activist and U.N. Messenger of Peace Leonardo DiCaprio, Before the Flood presents a riveting account of the dramatic changes now occurring around the world due to climate change, as well as the actions we as individuals and as a society can take to prevent the disruption of life on our planet. The film and a short discussion afterwards will highlight actions you can take whether you are near, far, or wherever you are to save our planet. Sponsored by Minnesota Interfaith Power & Light.

Film runtime is 96 minutes.

The Treaty Site History Center is located at 1851 N. Minnesota Avenue, one mile north of downtown Saint Peter at Highways 169 and 22, across from the Daniels Health Center.



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### **GRANDPARENTS DAY**

*SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2017 1-4 PM*

**Location:** Harkin store, 66250 County Road 21, New Ulm, MN 56073.

#### **Brief Description:**

Come and play games with your grandparents or parents, the games are old fashioned and lots of fun. Our program is from 1 to 4 pm on Sunday, September 10th. Admission to the program is included with admission to the store. We will have many games out for you to choose from dominoes, tic-tac-toe, pick up sticks, graces, checkers, rolling hoops and other crafty types of projects which when finished you can take home. The 1870's Harkin Store is all that is left of the village of West





Newton. Come learn about that time in history and the store. The store has 40% original merchandise on the shelves, enjoy a game of checkers on the original board.

The gift shop is open the same hours as the store and has a discount sale. The gift shop does carry many of those old time games, also there are books, unique and hand crafted items, also 10 cent candy.

The store is located nine miles northwest of New Ulm on Nicollet County Road 21, or the bottom road, or nine miles east of Fort Ridgely. For more information, contact the store when open at [1-507-354-8666](tel:1-507-354-8666), or Nicollet County Historical Society which operates the store at [1-507-934-2160](tel:1-507-934-2160).

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↓ Sep 13 - Sep 19 ↓

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### **Soil Health Field Day**

September 19, 2017, 9-12 pm

**Location:** 47605 180th St, Easton.

**Brief Description:** Join the Faribault County Soil Health Team Tuesday, September 19, 2017 from 9-noon at a Field Day near Easton.

This free event is hosted by the Faribault County Soil Health Team. Team members will speak about their experience utilizing cover crops, different tillage practices, and equipment. The host, Andy Linder, will lead a tour of four different fields on Linder Farms that have experienced different crops and cover crop rotations within the last year. Andy will talk about the history of each field and what he has learned in his transition into using cover crops and other soil health practices.

The field day will also include a soil pit, Question & Answer session with Soil Health Team members, and a FREE networking lunch. BYOS: Bring your own soil for a slake test!

This event will run from 9-noon at 47605 180th St, Easton. [Click here for additional information and to register](#). Please register by September 15, 2017 to get an accurate count for lunch orders.

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### **SNAKES OF THE MINNESOTA RIVER**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2017 1-4 PM

**Location:** The Harkin Store

**Brief Description:** The Harkin Store is located on the Minnesota River and the valley is great to get a look at the fall colors. While driving on Nicollet County Road 21, stop and see the kinds of



snakes that Tom Jessen has brought to the store for our program. His collection of snakes is diverse, so come and see them and ask questions. Kids, you will love to handle the snakes, so bring your parents to see them. The program is from 1 to 4 pm on Sunday, September 17th. Admission to the program is included with admission to the store.

The store is open in September on Saturdays and Sundays with programs on Sunday afternoons from 1 to 4 pm. The gift shop is open the same hours as the store and has a discount sale on most items.

The store is located nine miles northwest of New Ulm on Nicollet County Road 21, or the bottom road, or nine miles east of Fort Ridgely. For more information, contact the store when open at [1-507-354-8666](tel:1-507-354-8666), or Nicollet County Historical Society which operates the store at [1-507-934-2160](tel:1-507-934-2160).

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↓ Sep 20 - Sep 26 ↓

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### **NEY SENIOR LEARNING SERIES: Chimney Swifts**

Thursday, September 21st 12-2pm

**Location:** Ney Nature Center  
28238 Nature Center Lane  
Henderson, MN 56044

#### **Brief Description:**

Learn why chimney swifts are one of the most interesting birds in the state with local naturalists, Art and Barb Straub. Lunch included. Conducted on the third Thursday of each month. Ages 50+

Cost: \$10/member or \$12/non-member

[Register online](#) by September 14th! Reservations required.

For more information click [here](#).



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### **HOME-SCHOOL SERIES: Geocaching Challenge**

Wednesday, September 27th 1- 2:30 pm

**Location:** Ney Nature Center  
28238 Nature Center Lane  
Henderson, MN 56044

#### **Brief Description:**

Programs designed just for home-school classes.  
Challenge yourself on a technology-based scavenger hunt in the park. Learn how to use a GPS and search for hidden containers. All equipment provided. Ages 5-17. Supervisory adults may attend for free.

Cost: \$5/student

[Register online](#) by September 25th! Reservations required.



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## Job Announcements

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### **—DNR Deer Check Station Opportunity—**

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**Employer:** The Department of Natural Resources

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**Closing Date:** November 4-5, 2017, 7:30 am- 9: 00 pm

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**Location(s):** Deer permit areas near campus

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**Who May Apply:** All qualified job seekers

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**Description:**

The Minnesota DNR is seeking students to assist with Chronic Wasting Disease surveillance throughout Minnesota in early November, 2017. Students will be required to attend a 2-hour training and work the opening weekend of the firearms deer season, November 4 – 5, 2017. Students will be paid \$11.50/hour and will be reimbursed for mileage, hotels, and meals. This is a great opportunity to gain some field experience, interact with DNR professionals, and learn about important wildlife management issues. Slots are limited, so students should not delay getting on the list. If you are interested in helping, please contact Kyle Arola at [kyle.arola@state.mn.us](mailto:kyle.arola@state.mn.us) and he will get you on the list.



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### **—Director of the Minnesota Institute for Natural Resources, Agriculture and Land Stewardship (MINERALS)—**

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**Employer:** Minnesota State University, Mankato

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**Closing Date:** Review of applications will begin on September 15, 2017 and continue until the position is filled.

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**Location(s):** Minnesota State University, Mankato, MN

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**Who May Apply:** All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

Reporting directly to the Dean, College of Science, Engineering, & Technology, but with University-wide scope, the Director of the Minnesota Institute for Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Land Stewardship (MINRALS) will direct applied research and curricular endeavors across all divisions, colleges, and multiple departments and disciplines. The Director will oversee the Water Resource Center (WRC), led by an Associate Director, to achieve strategic outreach and external funding priorities. The Director will lead a team of MINRALS affiliated faculty and staff to advance the University's distinctiveness in academic, research, and industry initiatives in Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources, and related areas in service to the region, state, nation, and global society. As an academic leader, the Director of MINRALS may participate on the University's Council of Deans and President's Expanded Cabinet, as guided by strategic priorities.



[\(more information\)](#)

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**—Conservation Director—**

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**Employer:** Friends of the Mississippi River

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**Closing Date:** October 6th, 2017

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**Location(s):** St. Paul

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**Who May Apply:** All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

- Serve as a key member of FMR's senior management team.
- Provide leadership, direction, management and evaluation of all of FMR's land conservation efforts and processes, including the development of the annual program budget and work plans.
- Inspire, lead, support and supervise FMR's conservation team.
- Define and clearly articulate the goals of the land conservation program.
- Lead the implementation of the program's multi-year strategic plan.
- Lead FMR's landowner outreach efforts and foster good working relationships with landowners in FMR's focus area to promote land protection and restoration.
- Serve as FMR's lead staff on land protection projects.

- Work with the development director in proposal development and reporting for fundraising activities associated with the land conservation program.
- Take the lead in developing and providing program-specific details required for this fundraising.
- Manage the process for government grant writing, reporting and invoicing.
- Assist the stewardship director in the development and implementation of educational and stewardship activities related to the conservation program.
- Identify and combine all the elements essential to fostering new protection and restoration projects (identification, outreach, funding and partnership building).
- Identify and foster positive working relationships with other environmental organizations, agencies and community leaders to help attain program goals.
- Provide leadership and support to the land conservation committee of the board of directors.
- Make recommendations to the executive director and the land conservation committee regarding the use of the land protection fund.
- Collaborate with the communications manager to promote the activities of the conservation program.

[\(more information\)](#)

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### **—Professional Engineer (Water Resource)—**

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**Employer:** Scott County (MN)

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**Closing Date:** Continuous

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**Location(s):** Jordan, MN

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**Who May Apply:** All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

- Performs concept level, preliminary, and final drainage design for highway construction projects and reviews and approves consultant drainage designs.
- Provides input related to the design of transportation projects for stormwater management, including land development effects on roadway drainage systems, hydraulic analysis and impacts associated with transportation projects, providing typical drawings and language for requests for proposals, and coordination with cities regarding their drainage systems and joint transportation systems.
- Provides oversight of the stormwater permits held by the County, such as the NPDES MS4 permit; coordinates activities between divisions for permit elements.
- Manages, conducts, and/or coordinates water engineering analysis of various projects, developments, processes, technical studies, reviews, and plans affecting the



- County's water systems and natural resources; makes recommendations for appropriate actions.
- Develops hydrologic and hydraulic engineering plans, policies, and guidelines, including updating the County Stormwater Plan and Ordinance (Local Water Plan) coordinated with the County Comprehensive Plan and Scott Watershed Management Organization (WMO) Comprehensive Water Resource Management Plan.
  - Oversees the inspection of work done by developers and County Highway engineers and outside agencies under permit in the County's unincorporated areas of the County.
  - Manages the engineering review process and is responsible for the approval/denial of stormwater and grading permits within the unincorporated areas of the County.
  - Provides engineering guidance and direction to others in implementing the county erosion control inspection program; provides coordination in enforcement actions required for permitted and unpermitted grading activities; coordinates with staff and officials in other agencies in responding to wetland permitting issues.
  - Handles citizen, developer, and engineer phone calls on development issues, and flooding, stormwater management and drainage issues; helps others resolve issues.
  - Must work the days and hours necessary to perform all assigned responsibilities and tasks. Must be available (especially during regular business hours or shifts) to communicate with subordinates, supervisors, customers, vendors, and any other person or organization with whom interaction is required to accomplish work and employer goals.
  - Performs other related duties as required or assigned.

[\(more information\)](#)

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### **—AIS Watercraft Inspectors- Seasonal Positions Available—**

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**Employer:** Chaska Government Center, MN

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**Closing Date:** Continuous

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**Location(s):** Chaska, Minnesota, 55318.

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**Who May Apply:** All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

- Educate the public on invasive species program and issues
- Distribute written information to watercraft users
- Inspect watercraft for invasive species
- Conduct a verbal survey & inspection inventory
- Document and record research activities

- Provide excellent customer service skills and the ability to work with the public and in an office and field setting.
- Work independently with minimal supervision
- Communicate effectively.

[\(more information\)](#)

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### **—Director of Public Affairs—**

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**Employer:** Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness

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**Closing Date:** -

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**Location(s):** Ely

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**Who May Apply:** All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

- Managing relationships with key stakeholders, elected officials, and land management agencies.
- Coordinating the Campaign's political and communications efforts to maximize our current messaging and establish the political will in MN and DC for the permanent protection of the Boundary Waters from sulfide-ore copper mining.
- Making written and oral presentations to collaborators, community groups, policy makers, and other parties as part of the program's outreach and advocacy functions.
- Representing NMW in mining related working groups and conferences.
- In collaboration with the policy department, creating and publishing reports, white papers, web content, e-newsletters, and other program information.
- Supporting the creation and management of the annual budget for the program.
- Actively participating, and sometimes leading, in the planning, execution, and reporting on program work, including objectives, strategies, and tactics.

[\(more information\)](#)

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### **—Minnesota Organizer—**

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**Employer:** Pesticide Action Network

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**Closing Date:** Continuous

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**Location(s):** Minneapolis

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**Who May Apply:** All qualified job seekers

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**Responsibilities:**

Organizing

- Build relationships to build power and advance shared policy goals with family farm organizations, rural communities, Native and tribal organizations and beekeepers, among others.
- Connect with and support leaders from organizations that are interested in changing policies on pesticides and agriculture.
- Identify Minnesota issue campaigns that build engagement and power on food and pesticide issues, and work with PAN's communications team on online organizing strategies.
- Build relationships with decision-makers and influencers, including legislators, state agency staff, researchers and health professionals.
- Lead a team of PAN staff and coordinate with partner organizations to win policy change.

#### Advocacy

- Get up to speed on issues and bodies of research as needed, including scientific and policy context.
- Act as a spokesperson for Midwest media outlets and generate earned media on our issues.
- Write for traditional media and social media in regular blog posts, press releases, OpEds etc. to reframe public conversation.
- Represent PAN in decision making forums like legislative hearings, public meetings, etc.

#### Fundraising

- Work with PAN fundraising staff on grant reports and proposals.
- Relationship-building with major donors and business supporters in Minnesota and the Midwest.

[\(more information\)](#)

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### **—Public Engagement Fellow—**

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**Employer:** Sierra Club - North Star Chapter

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**Closing Date:** September 13th

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**Location(s):** Minneapolis

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**Who May Apply:** All qualified job seekers

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#### **Responsibilities:**

#### **Responsibilities**

- Coordinate and participate in volunteer phone banks, tabling events and other public events to engage members of the public around mining and oil pipeline issues

- Mobilize Sierra Club members and supporters in response to time-sensitive administrative decision-making opportunities
- Act as a point of contact for Sierra Club members, supporters and interested members of the public regarding mining and oil pipeline work and events
- Act as liaison with partner organizations doing similar work, as appropriate
- Ensure timely and accurate data entry related to public engagement events; provides regular ongoing updates to Chapter staff and volunteer leaders
- Other projects, as assigned

[\(more information\)](#)

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## Quote for the week



“The shift to a cleaner energy economy won’t happen overnight, and it will require tough choices along the way. But the debate is settled. Climate change is a fact. And when our children’s children look us in the eye and ask if we did all we could to leave them a safer, more stable world, with new sources of energy, I want us to be able to say yes, we did.”

— Former U.S. President Barack Obama, State of the Union, January 28, 2014

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