



MINUTES August 9, 2000

ATTENDEES:

Alison Fong, Mpls. Environmental Mgmt.
Alyssa Hawkins, Friends of the Miss. River
Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works
Barb Liukkonen, UofM Water Resources
Carolyn Dindorf, Hennepin Conserv. Dist.
Charlotte Shover, Dakota Co. EE Program
Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD
Connie Fortin, Fortin Consulting
Irene Jones, Friends of the Miss. River
Jay Michels, MPCA
Jeff Ledermann, MN OEA
Jerome Wagner, Capitol Region WD

Jerry Spetzman, Dept. of Agriculture
JoAnne Peters, SP Neighborhood Energy
Julie Westerlund, MN DNR
Lou Flynn, MPCA
Lyndon Torstenson, NPS – MNRRA
Pam Davis, UofM
Randy Thoreson, NPS – RTCA
Ron Struss, MN BWSR
Shannon Lotthammer, MPCA
Tracy Fallon, Hamline – CGEE
Tracy Fredin, Hamline – CGEE

PARTNER UPDATES:

Randy

- The National Park Service has just opened a regional office of the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program and he is now their Outdoor Recreation Planner. Pam Davis will be filling Randy's former position of Basin Coordinator for the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway office in Stillwater beginning September 5th. Congratulations to both!!

Shannon

- The application period for Clean Water Partnership grants and the Federal 319 grants will open this month. Application workshops will also be held throughout the state this month. FFI: Cathy Jensen at 651-296-6300.
- The "Minnesota Environment 2000: report is now available from the PCA. The report is available on paper and through the web site (<http://blue.pca.state.mn.us/about/pubs/mnereport/index.html>)

Charlotte

- The new poster for Minnesota watersheds created by the DNR is ready for use. FFI: April Rust at 651-297-4951.
- The Dakota County Geologic Atlas program will hold a workshop on October 12th from 8am-4pm in Apple Valley. FFI: Charlotte at 651-480-7734.
- Dakota County received an EPA grant to do Lake Monitoring Workshop for Schools on October 5th (8am-3:30pm). Assistance is needed in the form of a volunteer to coordinate the biological aspect of the workshop. FFI: Charlotte at 651-480-7734.

- The Metro Children's Water Festival is September 27 (8am-3pm) and volunteers and presenters are still needed. This year, the festival at the State Fairgrounds has been expanded. FFI: Charlotte at 651-480-7734 or Ron Struss at 651-215-1950.
- And finally, Charlotte announced that she will retire in early November. The job opening will be posted through the Minnesota Extension Service in October. Charlotte has been a devoted advocate of the WaterShed Partners for many years.

Jeff

- The Annual Minnesota Association of Environmental Educators Meeting and Social will be held on September 14th, 4-10pm at the Como Park Pavilion. This event is for present and potential MAEE members. FFI: Nikki Schneider at Tamarack Nature Center.

Cliff

- Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District is hiring a part-time watershed education assistant. The position will begin January 1st. If you know anyone who would be appropriate for this position or if you'd like more information, please contact Louise Watson at 651-704-2089.

Lyndon

- The National Park Service is in the process of accepting applications for a Manager of the Mississippi River National Center to open in 2001 in the Science Museum of Minnesota. The Center will provide information and educational products about the Mississippi River and all units of the National Park system. Requests for applications must be made by August 11, and must be received by August 21. FFI: Shannon Collins at 651-290-4160.

Ron

- The Twin Cities Lawn Care Calendar is available for customization by other organizations. This useful publication was developed by the St. Paul Neighborhood Energy Consortium and is available in PageMaker format. FFI: Ron at 651-215-1950.
- The Minnesota Turf and Grounds Convention will be December 8th at the Minneapolis Convention Center. A special ½ day session will highlight "Phosphorus in the Urban Environment" and everyone is welcome to attend (even if you are not attending the convention itself). FFI: Ron at 651-215-1950.

Julie

- Project NEMO is coming! A metro work group meeting of Project NEMO (Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials) will be held on August 15th, 1:30pm, at the DNR Metro office (1200 Warner Rd., St. Paul). This meeting is for anyone interested in nonpoint pollution and municipal or regional level land use planning. Check out NEMO's web site at <http://www.canr.uconn.edu/ces/nemo/>. FFI: Julie at 651-772-7938.

Jerry

- The Department of Agriculture is developing a high school curriculum to teach students about watersheds and water quality. They are looking for organizations to lend teachers

the EnviroScapes or the ground water model for use in their classrooms. FFI: Jerry at 651-297-7269.

USE OF THE WATERHSED EXHIBIT

Tracy Fallon

There has been a slight decline in the use of the WaterShed Exhibit this summer, so the Steering Committee put together a survey that was sent to active Partners to collect information. The results of this survey indicated that Partners find the size of the exhibit and the time commitment for transporting to be too large. The WaterShed Exhibit Task Force and the Steering Committee will use this information in future discussions and again at the WaterShed Partners Strategic Planning Meeting on November 8th.

VOLUNTEER STREAM MONITORING UPDATE

Barb

- There will be 2 positions posted soon for this effort – one will be a technical position and the other is for outreach and communications.
- The group is working on the work plan for the Metropolitan Council.
- The proposal submitted to the LCMR was not chosen for funding this year.
- A matrix of activities has been created and must be tested. If you know of teachers interested in testing the matrix, please have them contact Julie Westerlund at 651-772-7938.
- The Steering Committee needs more representatives. If you are interested in monitoring and would like to get involved, please contact Barb at 612-625-9256.

WATERSHED EXHIBIT TASK FORCE UPDATE

Tracy Fredin

- John Shepard has finished filming for the water quality interactive that will be the highlight of Table 4. A prototype will be ready for the State Fair, so please interact with it and give your feedback to John at 651-523-2588 or jshepard@gw.hamline.edu.
- A second Table 3 has been ordered from the Science Museum. Because this table is the most used portion of the WaterShed Exhibit, this second table will be available to Partners even when someone is using the entire exhibit at another event. It should be ready for use by mid-September.

NEXT ROUND OF MET COUNCIL GRANTS

Tracy Fredin

Proposals for the next round of Metro Environment Partnership grants from the Metropolitan Council are due in early October. The WaterShed Partners will submit proposals for the WaterShed Exhibit and the Metro WaterShed Education Network.

WATERSHED PARTNERS STRATEGIC PLANNING EVENT

Cliff

The regular WaterShed Partners meeting scheduled for November 8th will be expanded to a day-long strategic planning session. This session will take place at Hamline University from 9am-3pm and will include lunch and a moderator to keep the discussion on track. This strategic planning session will expand upon the strategic planning done at the May meeting (see <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/meetings/strategic00.pdf> for the minutes of that portion of the meeting). It will be very important that everyone is at this planning session, as the next few years will be discussed and mapped out for funding purposes.

PHOSPHORUS LEGISLATION UPDATE

Jerry

As you may recall, the Department of Agriculture introduced a bill to the State legislature regarding the use of phosphorus in fertilizers. The legislature requested that some of the issue be resolved and then the bill could be resubmitted for the 2001 legislative session. The Department of Agriculture will hold two facilitated meetings to bring the key stakeholders together to resolve the various issues. Cliff Aichinger has offered to represent the WaterShed Partners Steering Committee. If you would like to attend one of these meetings, please contact Jerry at 651-297-7269.

STATE FAIR PLANNING

Tracy Fallon

- There are still several open shifts for staffing the WaterShed Exhibit during the Minnesota State Fair. To take a look at the Fair Sign-up sheet, please see <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/Exhibit/00fairsignup.htm>. The exhibit will once again be displayed inside the DNR building on the Fairgrounds. This may be our last year in the building due to restructuring of exhibits by the DNR, so Partners are asked to make recommendations as to locations for the displaying the exhibit next year.
- Again this year, the WaterShed Partners are hosting Exhibit Training Sessions for volunteers new to the exhibit. The trainings will take place Tuesday, August 22nd at 3pm and Wednesday, the 23rd at 1pm at the DNR building on the State Fairgrounds (Como Ave. entrance). Both sessions will contain the exact same information, so you can attend the one that best fits your schedule. There's no need to RSVP.

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FOR THE WATERSHED PARTNERS

Tracy Fredin

The WaterShed Partners Steering Committee approved and the WaterShed Partners authorized the transfer of \$5,760 to the Center for Global Environmental Education to off-set the basic services being provided by Tracy Fallon. These services are identified as communication services, web site development and management, various administrative duties, and meeting minutes.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION – PCA’s BMP MANUAL FOR WATER QUALITY

Lou Flynn

Lou, along with Jay Michels, presented each Partner present at the meeting a copy of the revised BMP manual for water quality. Lou pointed out changes in the manual and indicated sections that stayed the same. If you would like a copy of the manual, please contact the PCA.

NOTES:

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Mon, August 28, 2pm**, at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets regularly on the 4th Monday of each month, 2-4pm, at Hamline. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wed, September 13, 9am**, at the Dept. of Ag., St. Paul. Let a Steering Committee member know if you have an agenda item for the meeting. Meetings of the WaterShed Partners are regularly the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9-11am.

2000 STEERING COMMITTEE:

Cliff Aichinger, 651-777-6037

Jim Falvey, 612-870-3441

Connie Fortin, 612-553-2926

Tracy Fredin, 651-523-3105

Michele Hanson, 651-766-4192

Shelley Shreffler, 651-221-4462

Jerry Spetzman, 651-297-7269

Ron Struss, 651-215-1950

FFI: Tracy Fallon, 651-523-2591; tfallon@gw.hamline.edu or any of the Steering Committee members.