



## MINUTES October 11, 2000

### ATTENDEES

Alison Fong, Mpls. Environmental Mgmt.  
Alyssa Hawkins, Friends of the Miss. River  
Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works  
April Rust, MN DNR Project WET  
Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD  
Connie Fortin, Fortin Consulting  
Jay Michels, MN Erosion Control Assoc.  
Jeff Ledermann, MN OEA  
Jerry Spetzman, Dept. of Ag.  
Jim Heintzman, Science Museum of MN  
Jon Steadland, Mpls. Environmental Mgmt.  
Julie Westerlund, MN DNR  
Kevin Bigalke, Lower MN River WS District

Lisa Gilliland, Anoka Co. Parks – Wargo  
Louise Watson, RWMWD  
Mary Gullickson, Anoka Conservation Dist.  
Michele Hanson, Rice Creek WSD  
Pam Davis, St. Croix River Basin  
Pauline Langsdorf, Met Council  
Randy Thoreson, NPS – RTCA  
Sage Passi, EcoEducation  
Shelley Shreffler, SP Neighborhood Energy  
Tim Reese, Hennepin Conservation District  
Tracy Fallon, Hamline – CGEE  
Tracy Fredin, Hamline – CGEE

### PARTNER UPDATES:

Jeff

- The Minnesota Association for Environmental Education (MAEE) will hold its annual conference on Aug. 8 & 9, 2001 at Minnesota State University in Moorhead. For more information, see the MAEE web page at <http://www.naaee.org/maee> or call 952-858-0734.
- The Office of Environmental Assistance and the Minnesota Environmental Education Advisory Board have completed the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the GreenPrint: State Plan for Environmental Education. It's available from the OEA Education Clearinghouse (651-215-0232 or [clearinghouse@moea.state.mn.us](mailto:clearinghouse@moea.state.mn.us)) or from the OEA web site at <http://www.moea.state.mn.us>.

Jerry

- There are still copies of the MPCA's *Protecting Water Quality in Urban Areas* BMP manuals available for WaterShed Partners. Contact Jerry at 651-297-7269.

Lisa

- Carp Fest 2001 will be held on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. More details will be available soon!

Randy

- There has been a great deal of interest in the information boxes from the Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program. They are available to anyone interested in learning more about this program. The materials will be sent to you in a box that resembles that of a pizza box! FFI: Randy at 651-290-3004.

April

- As the new Project WET Coordinator for the DNR, April will be attending WaterShed Partner meetings to represent that program.
- The Children's Water Festival called the Make-A-Splash Festival was held at Cass Lake Elementary in Bemidji on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The festival has a sponsor now, and will become an annual event. If you know of areas around the state that would benefit from such an event, contact April at [april.rust@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:april.rust@dnr.state.mn.us) or 651-297-4951.

Tracy Fallon

- Audubon Ark 2000 is underway! The Ark, a project of the National Audubon Society's Upper Mississippi River Campaign, left Cairo, Illinois on September 30 and will arrive in the Quad Cities on October 26<sup>th</sup>. Along the way, the crew stops in various river communities to promote and celebrate the river. You can follow the adventure by going to their web site at <http://www.audubonark.org>.
- The Center for Global Environmental Education has several opportunities for teachers during fall semester. If you know of a teacher that would like training in environmental education or science education, have them contact CGEE's new coursework coordinator, Renee Wonser, at 651-523-2419 or [rwonser@gw.hamline.edu](mailto:rwonser@gw.hamline.edu).

## **UPDATE OF FAIR PLANNING FOR 2001**

Tracy Fallon

The WaterShed Partners Steering Committee did not receive a response from Adele Smith at the Department of Natural Resources regarding our status of being in the DNR building during the 2001 State Fair.

## **PLEDGE DRIVE FOR WATERSHED PARTNER SUPPORT**

Cliff

Again this year, the WaterShed Partners Steering Committee will send a letter to all WaterShed Partners asking for financial support. This pledge drive will assist the Partners by adding money to the general operating fund and by finding personnel to complete various projects. Letters and a pledge form will be sent to the people on our mailing list and those people are asked to carry the request to their supervisors for approval.

- To assist with this process, please see the next agenda item and the list of WaterShed Partner accomplishments that will be posted on the web with these minutes.

## **WHY ARE WE PARTNERS?**

Cliff

As we prepare for the Strategic Planning session, it is important for all WaterShed Partners to think about why they are involved, what benefits they receive from their involvement, and what they have to give to the Partners. For some Partners, interaction with the group is approved by supervisors, but not fully understood. This would be a good time for each individual to do the following:

- 1) Ask for commitment of your organization to the WaterShed Partners.
  - a. Is your supervisor fully aware of the benefits your organization receives from being involved with the WaterShed Partners?
  - b. If you were to change jobs, would your organization continue to send a representative to the meetings?
- 2) Participate by contributing services or money to the WaterShed Partners.
  - a. How much time and money is your organization putting into your attendance to meetings and/or your use of the WaterShed Exhibit?
  - b. During the annual pledge drives, could your organization contribute financially or with a commitment of necessary service?
  - c. If your supervisor is not interested in contributing, why not?

## **NEMO UPDATE**

Jay

- The NEMO (Non-point Education for Municipal Officials) task force has identified 4 pilot projects for the metro area.
  - 1) Rice Creek Watershed District – with a focus on the Lino-Hugo Wild/Urban Land Interface Project.
  - 2) Minnehaha Creek Watershed District – with a focus on developing areas in Shorewood, some of the lake cities, and possibly Minnetrista.
  - 3) Scott County – in conjunction with their Comprehensive Plan, Water Plan, and Transportation Plan development.
  - 4) Dakota County – in conjunction with their Lower Impact Development (LID) program.
- A Metro Environment Partnership grant proposal is being submitted, along with a future 319 grant, to fund the project (primarily to fund a coordinator position). The Minnesota Erosion Control Association will be the fiscal agent.
- The target audience of this NEMO initiative will be the city planners, city council member, and local developers in areas of the metro that are being heavily developed. The messages to them will be the impacts of non-point source pollution and how different land uses affect water quality.
- Check out the NEMO web site at <http://www.canr.uconn.edu/ces/nemo/> for more information.
- The organizations involved with the NEMO Task Force, along with the pilot projects listed above, are:
  - Minnesota Erosion Control Association
  - Department of Natural Resources
  - Board of Soil and Water Resources
  - University of Minnesota Extension Service
  - Metropolitan Council

## **VOLUNTEER STREAM MONITORING UPDATE**

Michele

58 applications were received for the 2 open positions with the Volunteer Stream Monitoring project. 11 of them have been called for interviews – 5 for the Technical Coordinator position and 6 for the Program Coordinator position. The Met Council provided funding for these positions. The new coordinators will be employees of the University of Minnesota.

## **METRO ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP GRANT UPDATE**

Tracy Fredin

The WaterShed Exhibit has been chosen to be a targeted grant from the Met Council. The Partners will receive \$70,000 for the implementation of the Exhibit, for a coordinator to take the exhibit to underserved areas during the summer months, and for several new tools. A 2<sup>nd</sup> MEP grant proposal is being submitted for \$14,000 to purchase and outfit a van for transporting the WaterShed Exhibit.

## **MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM**

Because Charlotte Shover was unable to attend the meeting, discussion on this topic was limited. It was discussed, however, that the Master Gardeners program is focusing on clean water for 2001. It was suggested that a Master Gardener attend a future WaterShed Partners meeting.

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION – NOVEMBER 8**

Connie

- The next WaterShed Partners meeting will be November 8<sup>th</sup> and will be a day-long strategic planning session at Hamline University. The session will begin promptly at 9am (registration and breakfast starts at 8:30am) and the session will end by 3pm. Lunch and a mid-morning break will be included. A mailing will be sent soon with directions to Hamline, parking information, and an agenda for the session. It is essential that everyone attend this meeting.
- A grant was submitted to the Environmental Support Center to help the WaterShed Partners cover the costs of this session. However, funding was denied because one of our members will be facilitating the session. They will save our application, and if we want to do follow-up work later with an outside facilitator, we can re-apply to have that funded.

## **NOTES:**

- **The next WaterShed Partners meeting will be the Strategy Session on Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 8:30am-3pm,** at Hamline University.
- **Meetings of the WaterShed Partners** are regularly the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9-11am, at the Dept. of Ag., St. Paul.
- **The next Steering Committee meeting is Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 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.

**2000 STEERING COMMITTEE:**

Cliff Aichinger, 651-704-2089

Jim Falvey, 612-870-3441

Connie Fortin, 763-478-3606

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:** Shelley Shreffler, 651-221-4462; [shelleys@spnec.org](mailto:shelleys@spnec.org) or Tracy Fallon, 651-523-2591; [tfallon@gw.hamline.edu](mailto:tfallon@gw.hamline.edu)