



MINUTES

October 9, 2002

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
Barb Huberty, Rochester Public Works
Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD
Don Berger, MPCA
Jay Michels, MN Erosion Control Association
Jim Heintzman, Science Museum of MN
Jim Vaughn, City of St. Louis Park
Joan Ellis, Minnehaha Creek WSD
Jon Steadland, Mpls. WaterShed Mgmt. Organizat.

Kevin Proescholdt, VSMP
Linda Henning, Metropolitan Council ES
Louise Watson, RWMWD
Margie Vigoren, City of Plymouth
Michele Hanson, MN DNR – Watershed Protection
Pamela Jessup, Hamline -- CGEE
Ron Struss, MN Extension Service/BWSR
Sage Passi, RWMWD
Sarah Riddle, Eco Education
Tracy Fredin, Hamline – CGEE

PARTNER UPDATES:

APRIL RUST

The St. Cloud Children's Water Festival had 500 kids in attendance. It was a success.

Project Wet is promoting the book *A Guide to Common Freshwater Invertebrates of North America* at a reduced cost of \$21.00 plus shipping. Anyone interested should contact April at (651) 297-4951 or april.rust@dnr.state.mn.us

ALYSSA HAWKINS

Wetland Planting in Inver Grove Heights is currently looking for volunteers and supervisors to help out with an event being held on October 12. Anyone interested should contact Katie at FMR (222-2193, ext 5) to register. Also, on October 19 the "Wading into our Watersheds" program will be held on the Vermillion River from 10 AM to 12 noon. The program is family friendly and focuses on bugs, water quality monitoring, and restoration.

JAY MICHELS

The Minnesota Erosion Control Training & Certification Program MASWCD conference will be held on the tenth of December from 8:00 – Noon and 1:00 – 5:00. This is the kickoff of Minnesota's Erosion Control Program that will train inspectors and contractors in regulations, tools, and design implementation of erosion control plans. Attendees will be tested and certified at completion. Also, a Certified Professional in Erosion & Sediment Control tutorial will be held on Wednesday, December 11. This is an excellent course for erosion control practitioners. The course covers regulations, planning, tools, hydrology, and project administration. Please contact Jay Michels for qualification requirements, or check <http://www.cpesc.net/> Also, another workshop will be held on porous pavements in a cold weather environment will be held on Friday, Nov. 22 from 8:30 – 3:30 at the Shoreview Community Center. Speakers will include Bruce Foreson, a national expert in all types of porous pavements from the University of Georgia, and Bill James, an expert on cold weather applications from the Toronto.

DON BERGER

If anyone knows personally of any contacts for TV/radio reporters please contact Don and let him know. He would like media attention for the National Youth WaterShed Council that took place in Washington D.C. 651-297-8494 or Donald.berger@pca.state.mn.us
Channel 45 is doing a video of middle school water monitoring. It will be airing on 10/12.

TRACY FREDIN

John Bilotta and Tracy Fredin will be meeting with the Chaska High School Environmental Club on Monday October 14th at 4:00 to discuss doing a service-learning project using the WaterShed Kiosk of Alex the Frog. Hopefully the club will take over and be responsible for 10 kiosks being distributed in the Chaska area, including installation, trouble shooting, and regular upkeep.

METRO WATERSHED PARTNERS UPDATE

RE-CAP OF CHILDREN'S WATER FESTIVAL – Ron Struss

Despite the rain, the Festival was still a big success. Five people from Iowa came up to see the CWF in order to copy it down in Des Moines. There was T.V. coverage of the festival on cable. Thanks to all the volunteers that helped make it happen.

METRO THINK CLEAN WATER CAMPAIGN – Ron Struss

The Metropolitan Council Grant proposal is due on this Friday. The grant proposal to OEA is due next week.

TV WEATHER / WATERSHED WEBSITE – Ron Struss

Bill Franz from Region 5 EPA in Chicago is highly interested in starting a weathershed T.V. segment on local news stations. Tracy Fredin met with him in Chicago two weeks ago to talk about this and share the *Water Down the Drain with Alex the Frog* CD Rom with him. He would like to make a trip to the Twin Cities to meet with local weather people about getting this going.

PROJECT NEMO – Jay Michels

Jay is busy wrapping up obligations for the Metropolitan Council grant. He is next expanding out to the next ring to fulfill the McKnight Grant goals. This includes Crow River Watershed, Cannon River, Rockford, Mayor, St. Michael, Big Lake, Zimmerman, Elk River. Ready to roll is Sauk River, Northfield. The kick-off for Chisago is October 28.

National NEMO has received funding from the EPA to work on the Smart Growth Initiatives. Scott County is the perfect city to begin this. January 8, 2003 Jim Gibbons and John Rosum are coming to the WaterShed Partners Meeting for the second kick off of NEMO and to present to the partners. The meeting will be held at Hamline University. They will talk about Open spaces and how NEMO is going to be involved. In the afternoon of January 8th, they will go to Scott County to give presentations and to talk to council members.

VOLUNTEER STREAM MONITORING PARTNERSHIP – Kevin Proesholdt

There are four important dates coming up. Oct. 18th is the National Water Quality Monitoring Day. VSMP distributed 21 water-monitoring kits free in the metro area. They will compile the data from all of these. There are two workshops scheduled: Oct. 24th from 4-7 is the macroinvertebrates training held at North Mississippi Regional Park Interpretive Center. And Oct. 30th is the advanced macroinvertebrates training held at the University of Minnesota St. Paul Campus, 274 McNeal Hall – Fireside Room, 1985 Buford Avenue. Both are free. To register, contact Mary Gullickson at 612-625-6781.

Thursday November 14th is the second Annual River Summit at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Mayor Rybak will be the keynote speaker, Belinda Jensen from KARE 11 will be the MC, and Cassie Champion from Metropolitan Council will present at the conclusion.

STEERING COMMITTEE ADDITIONS FOR 2003 – Tracy Fredin

The WSP are always looking for new folks to join the steering committee. If you are interested in serving on the steering committee for 2003, please contact one of the existing steering committee members. The time commitment is approximately three to 15 hours per month. Every fourth Monday of each month is a steering committee meeting from 2-4 p.m. at Hamline University's Center for Global Environmental Education.

ECO EDUCATION PROGRAM PRESENTATION – Sarah Riddle, Program Coordinator

Ecoeducation encourages students to regard their neighborhood a part of the environment. They also have programs from K to Adult. Programs are designed to help younger students better understand and appreciate the world around them; older students will begin to see the links between their values, everyday choices, and local and global ecosystems. The programs are very student centered and student driver. Teachers mainly just serve as facilitators for the projects the students choose. EcoEd has classroom curriculums, teacher trainings, community projects, and speaker networks. FFI contact: Sarah Riddle, Christopher Feider, or Cathy Kinzig at 210 East Tenth Street, Suite 375, St. Paul, MN 55101, 651-222-7691; email: sriddle@ecoeducation.org web: www.ecoeducation.org .

DISCUSSION ABOUT FUNDING THE MWSP AFTER 2003. WHAT'S NEXT? - Tracy Fredin

There is one year of funding left. Approximately fall of 2003 we will have exhausted the Metropolitan Council Funds. The Metropolitan Council has told us they will not fund the Metro WaterShed Partners as a stand alone entity. We need to begin to plan for beyond 2003. Do we still want to exist? Do we charge membership dues? We need to figure out a business plan for financially supporting the watershed exhibit. Also, we need to define what exactly is a WaterShed Partners project? NEMO? VSMP? The steering committee will be working on these questions/issues. Any ideas or comments can be directed towards the steering committee.

NOTES:

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, October 28, 2 p.m.**, at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets regularly on the fourth Monday of each month, 2-4 p.m., at CGEE. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, November 13, 9 a.m.**, at the Dept. of Agriculture, St. Paul. Let a Steering Committee member know if you have an agenda item for the meeting. The WaterShed Partners meet regularly on the second Wednesday of each month, 9-11 a.m.

2002 STEERING COMMITTEE:

Cliff Aichinger, 651-704-2089
Jay Michels, 651-351-0630
Jerry Spetzman, 651-297-7269
Margie Vigoren 763-509-5506

Michele Hanson, 651-766-4192
Ron Struss, 651-215-1950
Tracy Fredin, 651-523-3105

FFI: Contact a Steering Committee member or Pamela Jessup, 651-523-2591 / pajessup@gw.hamline.edu