



# MINUTES

## June 11, 2003

### ATTENDEES

Alyssa Hawkins, Earth Force GREEN

Anne Weber, City of St. Paul

April Rust, MN DNR – Project WET

Cliff Aichinger, RWMWD

Diane Spector, Shingle Creek, West Mississippi

Jenny Schaust, Hennepin Conservation District

Jerry Spetzman, Dept. of Agriculture

John Bilotta, Extension Service – Carver Co.

Jon Steadland, Mpls. Watershed Mgmt  
Organizat.

Kevin Proescholdt, VSMP

Louise Watson, RWMWD

Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA

Michele Hanson, MN DNR – Watershed  
Protection

Pamela Jessup, Hamline – CGEE

Ron Struss, MN Extension Service/BWSR

Sarah Riddle, Eco Education

Sharon Doucette, City of Woodbury

Teri Heyer, USDA Forest Service

### **PARTNER UPDATES:**

#### **JENNY SCHAUST**

I have started a new position within the Department of Environmental Services in Hennepin County. As part of this position, I will continue to coordinate the River Watch and Wetland Health Evaluation Programs for the county. Please note my new contact information. I'm really excited to continue working with you all.

Contact Info: Hennepin County, Dept. of Environmental Services, 417 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St., Minneapolis, MN 55401-1397 [jenny.schaust@co.hennepin.mn.us](mailto:jenny.schaust@co.hennepin.mn.us) 612-596-9129 fax: 612-348-8532

#### **JOHN BILOTTA**

- Workshop Announcement: Best Management Practices for Environmental Field Days Metro, July 16, 2003- Brochure Available from John (see phone and email below).
- The Children's Water Festival for 2003 is on September 24. A planning meeting for the festival will be held on Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup> from 2-4pm at the North Mississippi Park Visitor Center. Call or Contact John for more information: 952-361-1814 or [bilot002@umn.edu](mailto:bilot002@umn.edu)

### **METRO WATERSHED PARTNERS PROJECTS UPDATE**

#### **VSMP – KEVIN PROESCHOLDT**

Kevin just returned from Ohio from the COW (Connecting Ohio Waters) Conference where he presented on Volunteer Stream Monitoring Project. He also shared a brochure distributed at the conference on the Phase II Storm Water Program.

## **COMMUNICATIONS CAMPAIGN – RON STRUSS**

The Communications Campaign group did interviews of three marketing firms who submitted RFP's for the campaign. Periscope was hired to work on it. \$10,000 is being added from the USDA Forest Service to support this.

## **MN STATE FAIR 2003 – PAMELA JESSUP**

Volunteers are needed for the 2003 MN STATE FAIR August 21 – September 1, 2003. The WaterShed Exhibit has been in the Department of Natural Resources Building at the State Fair for the past five years. Each year approximately 75,000 state fair visitors see the exhibit. Volunteers are needed to staff the WaterShed Exhibit in 4-hour shift increments (only four hours!!) every day from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. throughout the fair. All volunteers will receive a FREE state fair admission ticket and new Volunteers will receive a FREE WaterShed Partners T-Shirt. Check the shift schedule online at: <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/meetings/> To sign up for a shift: Please contact Pamela Jessup at [pajessup@hamline.edu](mailto:pajessup@hamline.edu) or 651-523-2591. All Volunteers will receive a packet of information/tickets/t-shirts 1 week prior to the start of the State Fair. If you have never volunteered to staff the WaterShed Exhibit, or would just like to learn more, two trainings are offered prior to the start of the fair on Tuesday Aug. 19 from 2-4, and Wednesday August 20, 10-noon. Come to one or the other whenever you like - you do not need to stay the entire two hours! This is just a chance for you to get oriented to the exhibit and meet the staff.

## **Presentation 1: WaterFest 2003 - Louise Watson, RWMWD**

Louise gave a presentation about the planning, logistics, budget and other details that go into making the Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District WaterFest happen each year. Over the last three years of WaterFest expenditures have decreased, the amount of schools involved has increased, and participation from kids has grown. This year the WaterFest was held at Lake Phalen in Minneapolis. 1500 visitors showed up.

## **Presentation 2: EarthForce, GREEN - Alyssa Hawkins**

Global Rivers Environmental Education Network (GREEN) is a program offered by Earthforce. GREEN started with funding from Pew Charitable Trust. They have eight field offices, one national office, and three different programs based on a six-step process. All their work is focused on youth driven civic action. The three programs offered by Earthforce are: Community Action and Problem Solving (CAPS), GREEN, Earth Force After School. A Youth Advisory Board is made up of 15 student members, and is responsible for many of the decisions and planning that happens with all the programs. General Motors (GM) is the sustained significant funder for GREEN. The GM-GREEN partnership between EarthForce and General Motors engages GM plant employees, partners, and educators. Alyssa visits the plants around the U.S. and introduces the plant managers to volunteer stream monitoring for local area rivers/streams. They are connected also with kids and schools in their area. FFI: [www.earthforce.org](http://www.earthforce.org) and [www.green.org](http://www.green.org). Or Contact Alyssa Hawkins at [ahawkins@earthforce.org](mailto:ahawkins@earthforce.org).

## **NOTES:**

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, June 23, 2 p.m.**, at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets regularly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month, 2-4 p.m., at CGEE. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.

- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, August 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month, 9-11 a.m.

**2003 STEERING COMMITTEE:**

Cliff Aichinger, 651-704-2089

Michele Hanson, 651-766-4192

Jay Michels, 651-351-0630

Ron Struss, 651-215-1950

Jerry Spetzman, 651-297-7269

Tracy Fredin, 651-523-3105

Margie Vigoren 763-509-5506

**FFI:** Contact a Steering Committee member or Pamela Jessup, 651-523-2591 / [pajessup@hamline.edu](mailto:pajessup@hamline.edu)