



MINUTES

May 12, 2004

ATTENDEES

Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works
April Rust, MN DNR – Project WET
Louise Watson, RWMWD
Jeff Ledermann, MN Office of Environmental Astnc
Jenny Schaust, Hennepin Conservation District
Jerry Spetzman, Dept. of Agriculture
Jim Heintzman, Science Museum of MN
Scott Vreeland, Seward Neighborhood Group
Jim Eggers, Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed
Tammy Becker, Living Lands & Waters
Barb Huberty, City of Rochester
Jen Collova, City of Farmington

John Bilotta, Extension Service – Carver Co.
Rich Cairn, Cairn and Associates
Ron Struss, MN Extension Service/BWSR
Sharon Doucette, City of Woodbury
Tracy Fredin, Hamline – CGEE
John Bower, Carnelian –Marine Watershed
Carolyn Dindorf, Fortin Consulting
Kevin Biehn, EOR (Guest speaker)
Camilla Correll, EOR (Guest speaker)
Joel Schilling, Environmental Consultant (Guest speaker)

PARTNER UPDATES:

METRO WATERSHED PARTNERS UPDATE

Tammy Becker, Living Lands & Water (i.e. Chad's clean-up group)

Mississippi River Cleanup scheduled for June 26th. However, with lack of garbage and to try another initiative, they are also sponsoring a number of teacher workshops on Big River Systems located on their floating classroom. The dates for St. Paul are June 23, June 24-25, and June 27th. Visit www.livinglandsandwaters.org for more information. Tammy's phone is 309-236-0725. email is tammy@livinglandsandwater.org.

Jim Heintzman, Science Museum of Minnesota

The Freshwater Alliance (Freshwater Society, Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center, U of MN CBS, and the SMM) will conduct its first Freshwater Institute for Teachers at Wolf Ridge this summer, July 26-30. The goal is to establish a statewide network of teachers who study freshwater and develop their own regional workshops and support networks. 651-221-9413. jheintzman@smm.org

Jerry Spetzman, MDA

Provided an update on the zero based phosphorus law which includes a existing stock provision.

Scott Vreeland, Seward Neighborhood Group

Scott gave three updates (no announcement sheet submitted, therefore I am going from my brief notes). MNRA – Ashland funds? Legislative policy on ? MNDOT & Minneapolis are looking at handling increased stormwater flow & flood control. Discussions around pipe verses infiltration designs.

Louise Watson, RWSD

Discussion has resurfaced about public works staff development in watershed protection. Workshop / education / training in areas that PW Staff are involved in and how those activities impact water quality and quantity. Discussion about surveying interest in this type of training through the city engineers association and the county engineers association.

Rich Cairn, Cairn & Associates

Environmental Science Education and Schools

Rich Cairn gave an update on work with the Minneapolis Public Schools, sponsored by the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) and Minnehaha Creek Watershed District.

The Minneapolis Public Schools (MPS) is incorporating water quality education into its K-12 Core Science Curriculum. This is the primary means to integrate environmental science programs with Minneapolis schools.

On June 22, MWMO and MPS will co-host a workshop for community partners on how to work with the schools. The workshop will address how to align your program to help schools meet new state science graduation standards, how to integrate your programs with Minneapolis science units (used widely in Minnesota), and basics of how school science is structured. We will also show-case new digital documentary histories for the Minnehaha and Mississippi watersheds.

On August 30, MPS will hold an in-service for all of its 150+ secondary science teachers. From 11:30 to 1:00, environmental agencies are invited to talk to teachers at an exposition. (Site in Minneapolis to be announced.) On that day, we ask agencies to bring lunch foods (pizza, sandwiches, salads, etc.) so that teachers can eat while they talk to agency representatives. (MPS cannot itself provide ANY food to teachers. So typically, they have to let teachers go 90 minutes for lunch.) Details will follow later in summer.

Carolyn Dindorf, Fortin Consulting

Fortin Consulting worked with the Minnesota Lakes Association and the Freshwater Society to complete the Minnesota Lake Ecology Curriculum. Target 5-8th grade teachers. The Curriculum covers many topics from lake formation to lake protection. Contact the MLA for more information. www.mnlakes.org
Carolyn 763-478-3606

Ron Struss

- Doug McKenzie is conducting another workshop on social marketing in Duluth.
- Upcoming Shoreline and Wetland Plant Identification Workshops. Brochure and information available at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/water/shore/workshops.htm>
- Green Church Workshop – August 3rd. Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, St. Paul.
- Best Educational Practices for Watershed Educators Conference, June 2-4, Madison

Update on Metro Media Campaign “Minnesota Water – Let’s Keep It Clean” program:

Ron reported that during late April / early May, three activities took place:

1. Paid radio ads and PSAs on KQRS, FM105, and FM107. “Algae World” was the ads’ theme.

2. Paid sponsorship spots on Minnesota Public Radio.
3. Paid print ads in weekly papers run by Sun Papers across the metro. The ads featured a green crayon with the question “What color crayon will a child need to color a lake in twenty years?”

All three media placements encourage visits to the cleanwatermn.org website. The website has been expanded to provide stormwater pollution prevention information to the general public. Later in May it will be further expanded to include stormwater education resources for cities.

Guest Speaker: Joel Schilling, Environmental Consultant, “A Public Works Perspective on Stormwater Infiltration” (*Handout available by request*)

Guest Speakers, Camilla Correll & Kevin Beihn, EOR “Rain Gardens as Infiltration Sites, Case Studies” (PowerPoint similar to what they presented can be downloaded from the Carver County Water Management Plan Website at www.co.carver.mn.us/water and looking under education.

NOTES:

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, May 24, 2004 , 2 p.m.**, at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets regularly on the 4th Monday of each month, 2-4 p.m., at CGEE. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, June 9, 2004 , 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 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9-11 a.m.

2004 STEERING COMMITTEE:

Cliff Aichinger, 651-704-2089	Margie Vigoren 763-509-5506
Sharon Doucette, 651-714-3538	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
John Bilotta, 952-361-1814	

FFI: Contact a Steering Committee member or Ron Struss at 651-215-1950