



MINUTES

January 12, 2005

ATTENDEES

Anne Weber, St. Paul Public Works
April Rust, MN Project WET/MDNR
Brenda Erickson, CGEE at Hamline
Dana Wilson, MCWD
Dawn Dubats, Rice Creek WD
Don Asleson, City of Chanhassen
Jim Heintzman, SMM
Johanna Schussler, UM Water Resources Center
Julie Westerlund, MCWD
Kathy Ahlers, Kunde Co.
Larry Baker, Water Resources Center UM

Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA
Michele Hanson, MDNR, Meeting Convener
Paul Nordell, MDNR Adopt-a-River
Rich Cairn, Cairn & Associates
Roger Rampton, MPCA
Sage Passi, RWMWD
Sarah Riddle, Eco Education
Sharon Lotthammer, Prior Lake-Spring
Lake Watershed District
Steve Klein, Barr Engineering
Tracy Fredin, CGEE

UP-DATES ON METRO WATERSHED PARTNER PROJECTS

Steering Committee

Hear ye, hear ye: WaterShed Partners invites interested parties to join its Steering Committee which meets once a month at the Center for Global Environmental Education at Hamline on the fourth Monday of the months. Contact any member of the current committee to make it happen: John Bilotta, Tracy Fredin, Michelle Hanson, Ron Struss or Louis Watson.

2005 Areas of Focus in Brief

- WaterShed Exhibit: Fix and retire Table One to State Fair Grounds.
- Duplicate Table Three and package with compute kiosk as the new "WaterShed Exhibit" package. Get the van back on the road.
- Minnesota Water - Let's Keep it Clean: Continue and strengthen coordination of storm water education in metro and state-wide.
- Promotion: Develop materials to raise awareness and support of the organization.
- KARE 11 - Water is Life: Continue to support this effort with story ideas and appreciation. Story ideas for the KARE-11 program can be forwarded through Ron Struss rstruss@umn.edu.
- Storm water education for municipal staff: Develop this product with target of winter 2006 launch.

John Bilotta will convene WaterShed Partners meetings starting in April.

As of the meeting, about 40,000 "Green Up Your Lawn" brochures have been ordered and two boxes of 65 posters. [Final order number on January 21, 2005: 55,600 brochures and 23 boxes of posters.]

PARTNER UPDATES

Project WET: The grants procedure is still open for the Make a Splash Water Festival. Project WET and NEMO are holding a workshop for lake associations, property owners and other parties on February 3 in Brainerd. Contact April Rust for info on both.

Eco Education is recruiting for year long service-learning program for grades 5-8 and 9-12 in Minneapolis/St. Paul. Program helps students and teachers explore issues. Application deadline is April 1 for a workshop in August. Contact Sarah Riddle.

Rich Cairn is producing a digital atlas for the Minnehaha District and finishing one for the mid-Mississippi River Watershed. Send him an email to get a set. The Watershed Action Web site will be refurbished and a habitat-restoration piece included.

UMRRA: A Thursday and Saturday, February 10 and 12 workshop is open to teachers 4-6. Take home activities to use in the classroom. Contact Lyndon Christenson.

CGEE: Its Rivers Institute will be held July 25-27. Grants from Medtronic, 3M and others will fund the participation of up to 50 teachers and stipends for student field trips. Contact Brenda Erickson or Peggy Knapp. The Center's Waters to the Sea project will expand to ten regions including the Rio Grande, Texas/Gulf Coast, the Southeast and New England. Additions include ecological collapse, channelization and feeder rivers. \$2.5 million is the target funding goal. Tracy recently met with EPA officials in Washington, DC. They are familiar with Alex the Frog. EPA is working on a tool kit CD with PSAs and other tools.

Dakota County: "Earth Friendly Landscaping" brochure is out. For info: 952-891-7020 or www.co.dakota.mn.us/environ.

St. Paul money: Grants for rain gardens, field trips, other projects with impact are available. Contact Sage Passi.

Rice Creek Watershed District: Preparing a one-stop shopping too. for lake shore restorations has been set up. Local businesses are donating hardy, showy plants to support the partnership. Contact Dawn Dubats.

PRESENTATION

Johanna Schussler, Graduate Student, UM Water Resources Center: Phosphorus Balances for Eleven Minnesota Watersheds

The fate of phosphorus produced in watersheds of eleven Minnesota lakes in Crow Wing, Douglas and Hubbard Counties is tracked with MinLEAP (Minnesota Lake Eutrophication Analysis Procedure). The amount of phosphorus needed for each lake's level of water clarity is calculated and compared to the estimated phosphorus entering its watershed. The difference suggests the degree to which a watershed can assimilate phosphorus before it reaches the lake.

Understanding sensitivity of lake/watershed pairs to increased phosphorus loading may help protect particularly sensitive lakes from development.

NOTES:

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, February 21, 1 p.m.**, at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets regularly on the 4th Monday of each month, 1 to 3 p.m. at CGEE. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, February 9, 9 a.m.**, at the Department of Agriculture, St. Paul. Contact any Steering Committee member with an agenda item to include. The WaterShed Partners meet regularly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9 to 11 a.m.
- **E-mail the WaterShed Partners at watershedpartners@listproc.hamline.edu.**
- **Contacts referred to in the text may be found in the partner directory at <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed>.**

2004 STEERING COMMITTEE

Cliff Aichinger, 651-704-2089	Louise Watson, 651-704-2089
Sharon Doucette, 651-714-3538	Margie Vigoren 763-509-5506
Jay Michels, 651-351-0630	Michele Hanson, 651-766-4192
Jerry Spetzman, 651-297-7269	Ron Struss, 651-480-7708
John Bilotta, 952-361-1814	Tracy Fredin, 651-523-3105

FFI: Contact a Steering Committee member or Ron Struss at (651) 480-7708.