



# MINUTES

## March 9, 2005

### ATTENDEES

April Rust, MN Project WET/MDNR  
Barb Liukkonen, U of M Water Resource Center  
Bill Bartodziej, Ramsey-Washington MWD  
Brenda Erickson, CGEE at Hamline  
Dana Wilson, MCWD  
Daryl Jacobson, City of Burnsville  
Dawn Dubats, Rice Creek WD  
Deb Anderson, Capitol Region WD  
Jen Collova, City of Farmington  
Jim Heintzman, Science Museum of MN  
Haley Elvecrog, Ramsey-Washington MWD  
Kelsie McDonald, Geographer

Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA – Nat. Park Sv.  
Michele Hanson, MDNR  
Paul Nordell, MDNR Adopt-a-River  
Ron Struss, U of M Extension  
Sage Passi, Ramsey-Washington MWD  
Sarah Riddle, Eco Education  
Sharon Doucette, City of Woodbury  
Shawn Lettau, MCC-DNR Adopt-a-River  
Steve Klein, Barr Engineering  
Teri Heyer, USDA FS  
Teri Peterson, AquaEssence ReSource  
Tracy Fredin, CGEE – Hamline U.

### PARTNER UPDATES

Reminder of the University of Minnesota Extension Service's **Shoreland Education Series**. For the full schedule, go to <http://www.extension.umn.edu/water/shore/workshops.htm>.

The 2004 Report of the **Volunteer Stream Monitoring Project** is out and distributed to those attending. While Metropolitan Council funding is ending, the Water Resources Center will continue some services including the River Summit (tentatively scheduled for November 17 at the Science Museum), shoreline workshops around the state and the electronic newsletter. To receive the newsletter, email your request to Bark Liukkonen, [liukk001@umn.edu](mailto:liukk001@umn.edu).

Teri Heyer has a new assignment within the USDA Forest Service as **Watershed Forester**. She will continue to be involved with Metro WaterShed Partners in her new capacity, [theyer@fs.fed.us](mailto:theyer@fs.fed.us).

National Park Service's Carrie Andreason is moving to Manzanar War Relocation Center in California. Jen Cuff is leaving the National Park Service to go back in the classroom. **NPS will be posting new jobs** including a 60-day temporary position to complete the River Education backpack project.

The **City of Farmington Arbor Day event** on April 30 will include pond and stream cleanup, workshops, demonstrations and entertainment.

**KARE-11's Ed Gross of StormCenter** has provided a template for stories. Watch for it through the listserv. The Forest Service funded a similar project in Michigan that will work with the American Meteorological Society on training and education and with StormCenter to provide affiliates with maps, data and stories. Teri Heyer, Forest Service, is the contact, [theyer@fs.fed.us](mailto:theyer@fs.fed.us).

**Adopt-A-River, DNR**, assists in approximately 140 cleanups per year. Its showcase event is Thursday, June 16th on the Riverboat. Cleanups can be posted on the DNR website. Adopt's Cleanup Review twice-yearly newsletter is available online at <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/adoptriver>, by email or hard copy. Contact Paul Nordell, [paul.nordell@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:paul.nordell@dnr.state.mn.us), or Shawn Lettau to get on the list.

Rice Creek Watershed District's **natural landscaping one-stop shopping program** works with area garden centers. Visit the website for a PowerPoint on rain gardens and shore restorations. Dawn Dubats, [ddubats@ricecreekwd.com](mailto:ddubats@ricecreekwd.com), is looking for people to review materials.

**Ducks, Wetlands & Clean Water Rally: Saturday, April 2** on the Capitol Mall in St. Paul. For more information: [www.wetlandsrally.org](http://www.wetlandsrally.org).

## UPDATES ON METRO WATERSHED PARTNER PROJECTS

The **Minnesota Water – Let's Keep it Clean** work team has met twice, discussing other ways to use the up to \$40,000 granted by cities and watershed districts. Among the options: run the crayon ad in newspapers; do radio spots, particularly on public radio; and place seasonal "media packets" on the [www.cleanwatermn.org](http://www.cleanwatermn.org) website that include press releases, PSAs, clip art and other tools for public use.

**Exhibits and the van:** John Bilotta's brother has taken on the rehab of Table 1 for permanent installation at the State Fair. The van is being decommissioned but any other exhibit components are available for partner use. Kiosks have all WaterShed Partners stories on computer stations. A kiosk with sound dome has been installed and is seeing a lot of activity in the Chaska Library. With a business plan to follow, kiosks can do broader public education and generate revenue. Tracy Fredin will bring a kiosk to the next WSP meeting.

**Target Corporation** is hosting an environmental fair from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, April 15. John Bilotta, Ron Struss, Dawn Dubats and Dana Wilson are volunteering at the event.

WSP Steering is preparing a **survey of WaterShed Partners** to be delivered via Survey Monkey, a website based survey tool, to "take the pulse of the organization" so we can continue to best meet Partner's needs. Hamline U is providing us access to their Survey Monkey subscription.

A **new location for WaterShed Partners monthly meetings** is needed by October when the Department of Agriculture moves to a new building with less parking. Options were discussed, including the meeting room at Capitol Watershed District offices in the Midway area.

## PRESENTATIONS

### **AquaEssence ReSource “Bridging the Water Gap”** <http://www.aquaessenceresource.org>

Terri Peterson, a founding member of AquaEssence ReSource, introduced this new Twin Cities organization that connects scientific, educational and spiritual communities through the essential resource of water. Terri provided information on the April 15-17 “Bridging the Water Gap” conference in Hopkins. AquaEssence continues to seek exhibits and exhibitors for the big event.

### **Phalen Lake Restoration Walking Tour and Plant Guide**

Haley Elvecrog, Masters Degree Candidate, University of Minnesota, and Bill Bartodziej, Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District – (651) 704-2092

Haley and Bill collaborated on this guide for visitors to the Phalen Lake restored shoreland and is adaptable for use by others. The guide features native plants, introduced restorative plants and weeds common to restored shoreland. It is unique in providing three photos for flowering plants in early spring, late spring and full bloom.

## NOTES

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, April 18, p p.m.** at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets regularly on the 3<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month from 2 to 4 p.m. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, April 13, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month, 9 to 11 a.m.
- **E-mail the WaterShed Partners at [watershedpartners@listproc.hamline.edu](mailto: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

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

FFI: Contact a Steering Committee member or John Bilotta, 952-361-1814.