



## MINUTES July 13, 2005

### ATTENDEES

Anne Weber, City of St. Paul  
Brenda Erickson, CGEE at Hamline  
Dawn Dubats, Rice Creek WD  
Deb Anderson, Capitol Region WD  
Jen Collova, City of Farmington  
Jerry Spetzman, Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture  
John Bilotta, U of M Extension  
John Shepard, CGEE

Julie Westerlund, Minnehaha Creek WD  
Linda Henning, Metropolitan Council  
Rich Cairn, Cairn & Associates  
Roger Ramthun, MPCA  
Ron Struss, U of M Extension  
Sage Passi, RWWWD  
Teri Heyer, USDA Forest Service

### MEETING LOCATION UPDATE!!

This is the last Metro WaterShed Partners meeting at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture. The Partners presented Virgil Hanson with a Baker's Square gift certificate and letter of appreciation for the years he has welcomed and checked-in MWSP attendees. He and Jerry Spetzman were applauded for their long service.

Starting on **September 21**, meetings will be at the offices of:

**Capitol Region Watershed District  
1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4  
St. Paul, MN 55108**

Thanks CRWD. A map can be found at <http://www.capitolregionwd.org/>. You may also phone 651-644-8888 for directions.

### PARTNER UPDATES

The Chicago Botanical Gardens and EPA are **hosting the fourth annual national Nonpoint and Stormwater Pollution Education Conference** October 17 – 20 in **Chicago**. **Minnesota Water** is an agenda topic; Ron Struss is the presenter. For more information, contact Ron or visit <http://www.chicagobotanic.org/aquatics/nonpoint/>.

Linda Henning reports that **Metropolitan Council** has \$300,000 leftover for **proposals due July 15**. General Manager Bill Moore is allowing up to a half million dollars for non-point source pollution work. Met Councils technical people are supportive of the effort that may grow as a result.

Rich Cairns has completed the **Digital Watershed Atlas for the mid-Mississippi region**. Copies are available from Rich. He has also finished his Masters at the Humphrey Institute.

Ron Struss reports that the Twins Cities Fine Arts Organization will host its fourth annual **Art on the Town Celebration October 6-16**. The event is a collaborative celebration of visual arts organizations, with 10 days of art exhibitions, educational events, family

and kids programs, demonstrations, and artist receptions in over 60 visual arts venues throughout Minneapolis, St. Paul and suburbs. The organization approached Ron to help with this year's focus on water and identify water educators to participate as resources. After the event, volunteers are invited to a celebration with music and food.

**Julie Westerlund** of Minnehaha Creek WD will work with Twin Cities Public Television (TPT) on a 30-minute piece about lake development. Based on the NEMO presentation, it will air several times during winter and be distributed on DVD/VHS. TPT is partnering with the Minnesota Lakes Association. MLA will provide technical support and use the piece for workshops and other education efforts.

A broadcast about **lake monitoring** aired on **Minnesota Public Radio** on July 12, 2005. Those who heard it say it hit the key messages, including Land Use = Water Quality.

**Lakeshore TV** This program airs on cable and on channel 45 noon Saturdays. Watershed Districts have been on the show twice. The program is very interested in promoting water quality and is always looking for people to interview; pitch an idea and they'll consider. Lakeshore TV's audience is different from that usually targeted by MWSP; it focuses and recreational lake users of speedboats and jet skis.

"**Beach Sweep**", a federally funded one-day, three-hour event in Duluth is looking for a coordinator in the Twin Cities.

The July 12<sup>th</sup> **Tour of Rain Gardens** went well: about 35 attended, a mix of developers, contractors, city engineers, church members, watershed organization folks. El Colegio School opened its theater for the program. The strong response suggests offering tours a couple of times a year and in other parts of the metro. Contact Ron Struss for more.

John Shepard announced planned updates to the **Waters to the Sea – Rivers of the Upper Mississippi CD-ROM** and possible new programs for rivers of Minnesota and the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico, New England, Texas and the Gulf, southeast U.S., southern California and Washington State, as well as a national version on the health of the country's waterways. Approximately half of WTS content is generic; the rest tailored to the region. Innovations include ESR-GIS software and an engine for interactivity. John is assistant director of the Center for Global Environmental Education at Hamline. **CGEE's** media-production partners include Coca-Cola, World Wildlife Foundation and the American Waterworks Association. There are opportunities aplenty for collaboration and partnership. Reach John Shepard at [jshepard01@hamline.edu](mailto:jshepard01@hamline.edu).

**CGEE** hosted 68 teachers, naturalists and service-learning professionals at its three-day **Rivers Institute 2005**. Medtronic, 3M and other donors contributed tuition and expenses.

Jenny Winkelman of the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization reports the **Alliance for Sustainability** is resuscitating the metro wide citizens' council. The group

has served to educate on technical issues and how to be better stewards and follow on with field practices to implement and use what is learned. Members serve to boost morale and recruit volunteers.

Reminder: **Children's Water Festival is September 28.** Go to <http://www.co.carver.mn.us/Divisions/LandWaterServices/EnviroServices/CWF/> for information.

## **UPDATES ON METRO WATERSHED PARTNER PROJECTS**

The **Minnesota Water – Let's Keep it Clean** team met Monday, July 11 to plan succinct fall outreach messages and methods of delivery and to consider ways to evaluate the public education campaign. WCCO) saw our spring advertisement and approached us. WCCO-AM radio will air 72 15-second spots about raking leaves over a period of four weeks. Let's Keep It Clean will have a big presence at the state fair, including stuffing 90,000 flyers. Print ads valued at \$4,000 will be placed. Conversations about evaluating our efforts are ongoing. The group will also pursue advertisements in community newspapers and publications, including MNLN News lawn care professionals. The latter will require fresh copy. Discussions about hiring someone for these ongoing efforts continue. In the meantime, work will be detailed and divided among team members. New contributors to the Let's Keep It Clean include the cities of Eden Prairie and Minnetonka and Scott County.

Staffing the **watershed exhibit at the Minnesota State Fair** continues to be an expectation of all Partners. If you have time between August 25 and September 5, we can use you. The schedule and sign-up instructions are on the exhibit page of the MWSP website. Please visit <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed/Exhibit/05fairsignup.htm> to review the dates and shift times available, respond via the instructions found on that webpage or call the CGEE student worker office at 651-523-2895.

**PLEASE update your listings for the WaterShed Partners by emailing [cgee@hamline.edu](mailto:cgee@hamline.edu).**

## **PRESENTATIONS**

In lieu of presentations at the July monthly meeting, MWSP hosted a **Partner Product Showcase**. Partners displayed samples of materials, buttons, products and brochures and examples of collaborations to familiarize others with activities and initiatives.

## **NOTES**

- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, September 19, 2-4 p.m.** at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University, 1467 Hewitt Avenue, St. Paul. The Steering Committee meets typically on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month from 2 to 4 p.m. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, September 14, 9 a.m.** at the, 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>.

#### 2005 STEERING COMMITTEE

Sharon Doucette, 651-714-3538

Jerry Spetzman, 651-297-7269

John Bilotta, 952-361-1814

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