



NOTES June 14, 2006

ATTENDEES

Anne Gelbmann, MPCA
Carrie Geraths, RWMWD
Dan McLean, MPCA
Dawn Dubats, Rice Creek Watershed District
Deb Anderson, Capitol Region WD
Jeff Ledermann, MPCA
Jen Collova, Farmington
Johanna Schussler, City of Burnsville
John Bilotta, U of M Ext.

John Bower CMWD
Kate Knuth, CGEE
Louise Watson, RWMWD
Ralph Pribble, MPCA
Randy Thoreson, NPS/RTCA
Ron Struss, UM Ext.
Tammy Joho, MCWD
Tracy Fredin, CGEE
Trevor Russell, Friends of the Mississippi
Wendy Griffin, Washington Conservation District

MEETING LOCATION

The MWSP June meeting was at a special location:

Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District
2665 Noel Drive
Little Canada, MN 55117.

PARTNER UPDATES

Carver County extension is offering a shoreland workshop on **curly-leaf and shoreline management** on Friday, June 16. There are a few spots left.

The Minnesota Park and Rec Association and the Minnesota DNR, as well as other local, state and federal resource agencies, have a new initiative on **best practices in parks and outdoor recreation**. There are workshops and a website (www.bestpracticesmn.org) devoted to innovative and timely planning, design, and implementation of local parks and outdoor recreation opportunities. Contact Randy Thoreson for information and updates about the initiative.

The **St. Croix Riverway open house** will be happening on July 15, 2006 in St. Croix Falls, WI.

Capitol Region Watershed District hosts the **Como Lake Water Festival** on Saturday, June 17.

The Washington Conservation District hired a new educator, Angie Hong, who will be joining the Metro WaterShed Partners.

UPDATES ON METRO WATERSHED PARTNER ACTIVITIES

The **Statewide stormwater education committee** met in June. In the meeting, the committee identified stormwater education needs in the state as well as the potential benefits and drawbacks of a statewide education campaign. Some of the possible needs identified are minimum control measures, public involvement, stormwater education for students coming out of engineering or landscape design school, illicit discharge education, specific business education materials, and municipal housekeeping and pollution prevention.

The **Metro Media Campaign** is moving along, and cities and watershed districts continue to support the efforts, with over \$70,000 raised. The WCCO ads have been completed. Post Labor Day, cable television ads will likely come into play. Getting some sort of stuffer or coupon in WCCO Minnesota State Fair bags is being discussed, and coupons could be used to help track the impact of the printing. Finally, there is discussion about combining the WaterShed Partners and Clean Water MN website.

There was extensive discussion about the WaterShed Partners exhibit at the **Minnesota State Fair**. Ralph Pribble, Dan McLean, and Leff Ledermann from the MPCA joined the meeting to talk about the exhibit in the DNR building as well as the stormwater education in the Eco Experience building. The WaterShed Partners exhibit will remain at the DNR building, although some elements of it (Table 3 and a kiosk) will likely be incorporated into the Eco Experience stormwater exhibit. WaterShed Partners brainstormed and offered many suggestions for how to create the exhibit. The steering committee will continue to move forward on the exhibit at the next steering committee meeting.

We are still waiting for word about the **McKnight Grant**.

This summer, three **kiosks** will be distributed in the Minneapolis Park System, and the Science Museum of Minnesota has agreed to purchase a kiosk and help out in the kiosk evaluation process.

PRESENTATION

Tour of the Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District's New, Green Building – Louise Watson and Carrie Geraths

Louise Watson and Carrie Geraths led the Partners on a tour of the new Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District's new building. The building demonstrates many technologies that can be used to lessen the environmental footprint of the building as well as the stormwater runoff. Specific features include abundant natural lighting, a series of interconnected rain gardens, a green roof, a porous asphalt parking lot, and recyclable and recycled materials. There are monitoring stations built in to measure the amount of runoff coming from different sources using different technologies. Highlights of the tour included seeing a bucket of water quickly permeate the porous asphalt pavement, a cross-section model of the green roof, and a walking tour of the many rain gardens.

NOTES

- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, July 12, 9 to 11 a.m.** at Capitol Region Watershed District, 1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4, St. Paul, MN 55108. Contact any Steering Committee member with an agenda item to include. WaterShed Partners meet regularly on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9 to 11 a.m.
- **Next Steering Committee meeting: Monday, July 17, 2-4 p.m.** at Hamline University, St. Paul. Steering Committee meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **E-mail Metro WaterShed Partners at watershedpartners@listproc.hamline.edu.** Senders must be subscribed to the listserv.
- **Find contacts** referred to in the text in the partner directory at <http://cgee.hamline.edu/watershed>.
- PLEASE **update your listings** for Metro WaterShed Partners by emailing kknuth01@hamline.edu.

2006 STEERING COMMITTEE

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John Bilotta, 952-361-1814

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Sharon Doucette, 651-714-3538

Tracy Fredin, 651-523-3105

FFI: Contact a Steering Committee member or Kate Knuth at 651-523-2812.