



WATERSHED  
PARTNERS

2-10-2010

WaterShed Partners Meeting Minutes:

Attendees:

Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA  
Lane Christianson, City of Minneapolis  
Chandi McCracken, Minnehaha Creek  
Jana Larson, CGEE  
Louise Watson, RWMWD  
Teri Heyer, US Forest  
Corie Zoll, Metro Blooms  
Elizabeth Beckman, Cap. Region WD  
Tracy Fredin, CGEE  
Claire Bleser, Nine-mile Creek WD

Anne Weber, St. Paul  
Connie Fortin, Fortin Consulting  
Madeline Banschbach, Carver County  
Cherie Wagner, Freshwater Society  
Carrie Mack, RWMWD  
April Rust, Project WET, DNR  
Dan Miller, Scott Soil and Water  
Conservation District (SWCD)  
Sage Passi, RWMWD  
Eli Condon, Minnesota Waters

Member Announcements:

1. Smart salt management flyer developed by city of Minneapolis targeting buildings in downtown mpls.
2. City of Minneapolis new door hanger about catch-basin stenciling program.
3. Freshwater Society (now in its year of water) is developing the Community Clean-ups for water quality as a state-wide program. Hamline March 4 training session in the Kay Fredericks Ballroom 9 – 11 am. It's about local people in community cleaning streets in spring and fall. Point is really about getting people to realize their streets are connected to the streams.
4. Freshwater Society doing Water Forums with the League of Women Voters, Held March, April and May on three water topics
5. Freshwater Society Robert Glennon talk: Unquenchable: America's Water Crisis and What to Do About it. Feb. 22, 2010. 7 – 9 pm. U of M St. Paul, Student Center Theater. Event is Free.
6. Louise is preparing for Water Fest – developing new activities: discovery hunt using geo-caches; rain-drop mystery tour following where the rain-drop

- goes; new song for Water Fest (it's the best) will be on the website soon.  
Want to develop Kid certification program on the web-site.
7. Starting Friends of Water Fest booth recognizing volunteers and partners of water fest during the last decade. Also aims to generate more volunteers and sponsors for the event.
  8. Water Dance Event at the University of Minnesota on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Students will be performing poetry about water and going through the gallery. Will be filmed and a short video developed. Womanandwater.net
  9. Supporting City of Maplewood extreme green make-over program. 15,000 for one home-owner.
  10. Salt Education Push, 2010. Nine-mile creek is impaired by two chlorides. Nine-mile Creek Watershed District is working along with other partners to develop educational resources for citizens and will distribute information this fall. Other watershed districts near nine-mile creek were interested in partnering in developing and sharing those informational pieces. Please let Claire know if you would like to partner on this program:  
cbleser@ninemilecreek.org
  11. National Park Service sites have found Narrow-leaf Bittercress, a new invasive species that is as aggressive as garlic mustard. We're in early detection phases.

#### Steering Committee Updates:

1. Conversation on need for videos and video-sharing discussion:

Target audiences: general public AND cities, counties, maintenance, schools...

Want to figure out how to develop and distribute "how-to" information to those departments. Ie. Salt management, making sure the equipment is calibrated correctly.

Maybe cities and counties could submit video clips they have as part of a contest?

Q: what audiences and needs do you have currently and what video resources do you have or need?

- Angie Hong developed park maintenance and raingardens available to be checked out at Hamline or DVD can be ordered through CleanWater MN.
- Tracy lecture that's rain-gardens whys and wheres. Available on you-tube and can get a DVD copy.
- Salt application video on \_\_\_\_\_Creek website.
- Erosion control videos that are pretty technical.
- Raingardens, green roofs and pervious parking lots video will be available by RWMWD "Stopping water where it drops" 30 minutes. Will be on cable and available to order from RWMWD.
- Dakota County developed a how-to develop a raingarden.

Q: What subject would be most valuable to be developed?

Q: Hamline developed an interactive pedagogical tool for Texas cities for public officials dealing with managing non-point source pollutants: pesticides, herbicides, mowing. Could show that to WSP to see if we want to develop something similars.

All given task to look for video resources that we can review for possible use or sharing.

Ad hoc group could be formed to pull together the ideas and information to develop a way we might collaborate. Sage Passi willing to collect information about existing videos: sage@rwmwd.org Then group can work together? Louise Watson will investigate a putting together a video contest for "her cities" and see what kind of interest there is. Hamline's River Education Network is available to be used to host videos.

2. Thanks to Elizabeth Beckman for bringing treats and Caribou for providing coffee. There are still opportunities to sign up to bring treats in 2010

3. Media Campaign is wrapped up.

Final budget:

65,725.00 (2009 income) + 9,150.26 (2008 carryover) = 74,875.26

2009 expeditures = 63,193.29

means we're in the black and have 11,681.97 carryover to 2010.

We made 12,300,000 impressions in our outreach with St. Paul Saints, Comcast Cable TV, MPR, Channel 45, local billboards.

Achieved four main goals:

- new MS4 toolkit on website
- start a quarterly enewsletter including a packet of season specific materials
- document upload tool on website facilitates resource sharing among members
- Clean Water MN image gallery. Including hiring a photographer to take high-quality season-specific images. Three seasons are complete. Spring will be added in the coming year. Images will be available to download in February or March. Members will also be able to upload images to share.

First 2010 media campaign meeting will be held in March – all WSP members and media campaign stakeholders are encouraged to attend. An invitation will be sent out to the listserv.

4. Exhibits committee formed around reviewing our use of exhibits. We met in December at Hamline to discuss how we might renovate our presence there. We want to include a greater geographical presentation so exhibit isn't just metro-

centric but includes the entire state and some of WI. If you're interested in helping out with that, please contact Lyndon Torstenson.

5. Next month Angie Hong will facilitate discussion on Louis Smith Presentation and the Clean Water legacy and its funding to support education but its sense that education doesn't do anything. We think it will be useful for us to discuss the case for education as part of the Clean Water Legacy?

### **Presentation by Connie Fortin: Winter snow and ice management – reducing environmental impacts**

This talk covered:

1. Environmental impacts of winter maintenance
2. Training programs
3. Examples of winter maintenance BMPS (excerpts from training)
4. Examples of changes we have seen as a result of training
5. Discussion – how can you get involved?

Connie Fortin is the president of Fortin Consulting, an environmental consulting firm. In the area of road salt Connie enjoys bringing together the transportation and environmental professionals. Fortin Consulting and a technical advisory team wrote "Winter Parking Lot and Sidewalk Maintenance Manual, Reducing Environmental Impacts of Chlorides" <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/programs/roadsalt> and "Minnesota Snow and Ice Control Handbook for Snowplow Operators".

Fortin Consulting designed and implemented Minnesota's first winter maintenance training and certification program under the supervision of the MPCA and with the help of many project partners. It was Connie's vision that led to the start of the "Road Salt Symposium" which is now in its 9<sup>th</sup> year. Connie spends as much time as she can training and speaking about the great potential of improved winter maintenance.

Upcoming meetings:

March - Glenn Scouda from the MPCA

April – Christine Manning Psychology of Behaviour Change

Jenny Winkleman from MWMO on DVD project in Hmong language.