WATERSHED
PARTNERS

WaterShedPartners Meeting Minutes 5-11-11

Attendees:

Lyndon Torstenson, National Park Service
Jana Larson, Hamline University
Jen Dullum, City of Farmington
Denise Leezer, MPCA
Carrie Mack, RWMWD
Erica Sniegowski, MWMO
Anne Weber, St. Paul
Joan Nephew, Freshwater Society
Michael Keenan, Metro Blooms
Peggy Knapp, Freshwater Society
April Rust, Project WET
Angie Hong, Washington Cons. Dist.
Kat McCarthy, Capitol Region WD
Alex Gehrig, Minnesota Waters
Madeline Seveland, Carver County WMO
Dan Miller, Scott SECD
Kevin Clemens, Hamline University
Lynn Renee, independent
Janna Caywood, Como Lake Neighbor Network
Lynne Kolzee, MPCA
Katina Peterson, MN Idea Open
Emily Shivley, National Park Service
Randy Thoreson, National Park Service
Annie Levinson-Falk, Citizens League
Teri Heyer, US Forest Service
Elizabeth Beckman, CRWD

Member Updates:

- Water Ways, the new water education manual by April Rust, won a communicators award.
- Girl Scouts Council is celebrating 100th Anniversary – they are looking for partners for stormwater cleanups and related water activities. April will forward information to list serve. Girl Scouts in the river valley will be doing Community Cleanups for Water Quality. (45,000 girl scouts participating)
- St. Croix River Assoc. is celebrating their 100th from July 5 – 24. There's a paddle and other events. More info at scrapaddle.org
- Artful Raingarden Exhibition at Fips Center of the Arts in Hudson – Will include HOB puppet theater performance, musicians, artful rain gardens exhibition, and Cirque de Soil information fair.
- Farmington had their park and pond clean up day – 200 volunteers showed up and did a clean-up.
- Washington Co. master gardeners more than a plant sale June 5 at Washington Co. Fair Grounds – with workshops on non-point and diagnostic clinic.

- Saturday is Blooms Day, Kenny Community School, 57th and Emerson. Plant Sale and Metro Blooms Expo.
- Mn Idea Open, is a state-wide problem solving contest. This year it's on water. People from the community can submit ideas to solve problems pertaining to water. Winner gets 15,000 for implementation. mnideaopen.org Looking for partners to help get the word out about the contest. See more information to come on listserve.
- Feline rescue Spring plant sale is May 14. Proceeds help homeless cats.
- Native plant sale by Landscape Revival on Larpentuer two blocks west of Lexington at Rainbow Foods Pavilion. June 4, 9 – 3. One of the few opportunities to buy native plants locally.
- June 13, Freshwater Society sponsors a Gretchen Daily presentation on ecosystem valuation at St. Paul Campus. 5 pm.
- Waterfest is May 21st, at Lake Phalen Park Pavilion. There are lots of kids involved, big parade and a band.

Steering Committee Updates:

Special June meeting:

You're invited to join us on the Magnolia Blossom for our June 8 meeting. We'll be on the river from 8:15 – 11:30 am. RSVP to Jana Larson: jlarson25 at hamline.edu

STATE FAIR

The WaterShed Partners will have an exhibit at the DNR building at the State Fair again this year and we need YOU to volunteer to serve as staff at the exhibit. We just need one person per shift to be available to answer questions and perhaps conduct intercept surveys with fair attendees. It's a great opportunity to interact with the public and talk to them about the importance of clean water in Minnesota.

If you'd like to sign up for a shift, check shift availability at this link:
http://www.hamline.edu/HUContent.aspx?pageid=2147511761
and then email Jana Larson with the shift you'd like to sign up for:
jlarson25 at hamline.edu

Clean Water MN and the Minnesota Clean Water Challenge:

So far we've raised 15,000 dollars from eleven partners to support media outreach this year. We currently have radio PSAs during Twins baseball games and on Minnesota Public Radio, 91.1 KNOW, streamling and live.

We will be doing our traditional media campaign outreach as well as working on a transition to the Minnesota Clean Water Challenge, a community-based social marketing project.

Change in emphasis on cleanwatermn.org website: Survey monkey of our supporters and users of the website suggests that the audience for the website are educators and so we are going to enhance MS4 toolkit and image gallery and take away the emphasis on information for the general public.

We will also be using some of our funds to work on developing our Minnesota Clean Water Challenge -- We have started writing grants and doing additional fundraising for the challenge as well.

We have applied for additional funding from the EPA, RBC Blue Water fund, and the 319 funding to support the challenge. WE are looking to get funding to do a development and pilot phase of the Clean Water Challenge.

Upcoming WSP meetings:

June – Magnolia Blossom: Asst. Commissioner John Linkstein from PCA, Paul Labovitz from MNRRA talking about wildlife including Asian Carp, Rep. Kate Knuth and Ellen Stewart, Landscape Architect for the City of St. Paul
July – no meeting
August – Christine Baumler, artist in residence for RWMWD and Cap Region. Finding ways to artfully design stormwater outreach
September – May Davenport. working with PCA to frame citizen engagement projects. How to look at a community to determine their capacity for change.
October – Elizabeth Beckman. Stop the Rain Drain program
November – Roundtable at Hamline University
December – potluck and year-end review of accomplishments

NOTES:

- **Next Steering Committee Meeting: Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 9 – 11 am**, at the Center for Global Environmental Education (CGEE), Hamline University. The Steering Committee meets each month to determine agendas and help steer programs. Meetings are open to all WaterShed Partners.
- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, June 8, 8:15 am – 11:30 a.m,** on the Magnolia Blossom

For more information about the WaterShed Partners, contact Jana Larson at 651-523-2812 or jlarson25 at hamline.edu