



NOTES
April 9, 2008

ATTENDEES

Angie Hong, Wash. Cons. Dist.
Anne Weber, St. Paul
Denise Leezer, MPCA
Don Begalle, REI
Elizabeth Storey, CRWD
Faith Krogstad, Eco-Education
Foung Heu, Digital Motion LLC
Jana Larson, Hamline U. - CGEE
Jen Collova, City of Farmington
Jenny Winkelman, MWMO

Jim Anderson, REI
John Bilotta, U of M Extension
Linda Henning, Met Council
Maggie Jungbluth, Project WET at DNR
Melissa Reimer, MCWD
Mikaela Kramer, REI
Lane Christianson, City of Minneapolis
Lyndon Torstenson, MNRRA/NPS
Randy Thoreson, NPS/RTCA
Trevor Russell, Friends of the Mississippi

MEETING LOCATION

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

UPDATES ON METRO WATERSHED PARTNER ACTIVITIES

1. Angie Hong from Washington Conservation District held two totally packed Rain Garden workshops and one pond maintenance workshop for public works staff. There will be a follow-up in June.
2. Randy Thoreson announced that a statewide bicycle summit will be held on April 26th. He sent an email to the listserve and I've attached the registration to this email.
3. John Bilotta announced that K12 environmental field day projects has completed the final tool for how to observe field days – a tool to use to provide organizers with information on how to make their field days more successful. They'll be trying out their tool and are looking for 30 paid volunteers to observe an upcoming event. (see attached doc and or contact John for more information)
4. Lane Christianson from the City of Mpls Dept of Public Works has teamed up with the Minnesota Twins to hold an environmental day. Literature from various organizations can be passed out and events will be held. Contact him for more information.
5. Melissa Reimer from MCWD announced that
 - 150 people attended their climate change conference at the Arboretum.
 - They will be partnering with Blue Thumb to do billboards in the west metro
 - They held a summit for Lake Associations in their district for 25 citizen groups. They've also formed a new citizen group on the Minnehaha Creek
6. Metropolitan Council Environmental Services recently purchased a new Enviroscape exhibit that demonstrates the wastewater treatment process. It is available for use by other Watershed partners, local governments and educators. Contact Linda Henning at (651) 602-1279 or linda.henning@metc.state.mn.us
7. See the attached Shoreland Rules Update Newsletter, which is also available on the DNR website.

8. Faith Krogstad of Eco-Education announces that they are funding a student project at Grand Old Days where students will be giving away steel water bottles when people trade in their plastic ones. Contact Faith with ideas of how to make this program more effective/reach more people. She also announces that they have a position open for an AmeriCorps volunteer to work on a project integrating technology into environmental education.

STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATES:

1. Metro Media Campaign update:

- Budget is set: \$97,000
- List of projects is set: Comcast PSA, Twins and MPR radio ads, billboards going up this month over the next few weeks, MPR on-line ads up now.
- Fundraising goal is \$100,000 – a significant increase from previous years so please remember to include us in your budgets!!!
- Workgroup invitations are sent out, duties will include
 - A. Making sure projects are correct
 - B. Being involved with the website design
 - C. Playing a role in steering the campaign.

2. John Bilotta gave a presentation reviewing the strategic planning process the WaterShed Partners went through from January to June of 2006. You can find the notes from that process on-line here: http://www.hamline.edu/gse/cgee_site/WaterShedPartners/whoarewe.html

He concludes that, for the most part, we have achieved the vision set out through the strategic planning and makes the following recommendations:

- We need to figure out how to keep the funding going for the WaterShed Partners. Current McKnight funding runs out in July.
- We should continue having unique tours and outings to engage members in our conversation and activities.
- We should maintain the Metro Media Campaign
- We might want to review the mission statement and see if there's anything we want to add.

3. John Bilotta also gave an update on Project NEMO and Stormwater U. see attached document (attached to email) for this summary.

4. The Steering Committee is renewing use of the original WaterShed Partners Mission Statement: "The Metro WaterShed Partners promote a public understanding that inspires people to act to protect water quality in their watershed." In conjunction with the Mission Statement we will continue to use the description that is regularly used, identifying MWSP's two areas of activity - collaborative educational outreach and networking.

5. Lyndon Torstenson brings up the issue of exhibit creation; reminds us that the first collaborative activity of the WaterShed Partners was to create exhibits to use in outreach education. He wants to initiate a conversation about what we should be doing/creating in this area? What, if anything, do partners want to be available for their use? Plan to bring your ideas to the May WSP meeting for discussion, or contact Lyndon (at email or phone below)."

NOTES

- **Next WaterShed Partners meeting: Wednesday, May 14, 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: Tuesday, May 20, 2 to 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://www.hamline.edu/gse/cgee_site/WaterShedPartners/Partners/directory.html
- PLEASE **update your listings** for Metro WaterShed Partners by emailing jl Larson25@hamline.edu.

2008 STEERING COMMITTEE

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FFI: Contact a Steering Committee member or Jana Larson at 651-523-2812.