



WATERSHED
PARTNERS

WaterShedPartners Meeting Minutes 3-9-11

Attendees:

Lyndon Torstenson, National Park Service
Chandi McCracken, MCWD
Jana Larson, Hamline University
Tracy Fredin, Hamline University
John Bilotta, Project Nemo
Randy Thoreson, NPS
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
Janna Caywood, Como Lake Neighbor Network
Peggy Knapp, Freshwater Society
April Rust, Project WET
Bill Allen
Becky Rice, Metro Blooms
Karen Solas, FMR
Angie Hong, Washington Cons. Dist. Cat, Capitol Region WD
Alex Gehrig, Minnesota Waters
Emily Shively, NPS

Member Updates:

New/exciting projects:

Washington County - "Save the Fish and then Eat 'Em" coasters

MNRRA - Climate Change teacher workshop with Will Stegar Fdn.

Farmington—updating the Lawn and Garden section on their website

RWMWD - Carp research project. Netted 1800 carp. Selling them for human consumption.

Freshwater Society -- Finalized survey for KAP study with Como Lake Neighbor Network; along with Isaac Walton League, hosting 2011 Wetlands Summit at Arboretum; also first of three forums for policy makers

MCWD -- new communications manager and Telly Mimiack, and new Education Manager

Cap Region --Working with City of St. Paul to put in Boulevard rain gardens

MPCA -- Statewide reduction strategy to reduce Dead Zone

St. Paul - working on new stormwater management program for new permit

MN Waters - citizen outreach with MCWD

Metro Blooms - Workshop season is kicking off on Saturday. Starting to work with schools to do in-classroom workshop. Integrate education in classroom with raingarden on school property.

Rivers, Trails and Conservation - Great rivers confluence project. Fundraiser on Saturday.

Nature Conservancy - overhaul on their website

Hamline University - Contract to tell story of Endangered Whooping Crane with Texas.

Project NEMO - Northland NEMO annual report is available online: over 30 programs in 107 cities last year; followed up with workshop participants and 42% identified that they had changed their decision making based on workshop; lots of upcoming workshops, including watershed game advanced training Minnesota Watershed Resource and Green Infrastructure is coming up (theme, roots), are on website

Project WET - Metro Blooms and Minneapolis School district collaboration

FMR - Watershed friendly landscaping tools and information at: fmr.org/landscapefortheriver; draft of the Lake Pepin TMDL is available for public review and input. FMR and MPCA will be there for public input at Merriam Park Library on May 4, 3:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Steering Committee Updates:

Clean Water MN and the Minnesota Clean Water Challenge: So far raised 12,225 dollars from ten partners to support media outreach this year. Planning to do our traditional media campaign outreach as well as working on a transition to the Minnesota Clean Water Challenge, a community-based social marketing project.

We are doing a Survey Monkey with our supporting members to find out what they have valued in our campaign efforts in order to determine how to move forward.

A sub-group of the steering committee is meeting tomorrow to decide who will take what roles and what activities the media campaign will do this year.

We have started writing grants and doing additional fundraising for the Minnesota Clean Water Challenge.

Results of survey about top water actions: Control of organic matter, Reduction of chemical fertilizers, Infiltration, Water Conservation

NOTES:

- **Next Steering Committee Meeting: Wednesday, March 16, 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, April 13, 9:00 am - 11:00 a.m.**, at Capitol Region Watershed District. Presentation by Dick Brooks from Action Media. Look for a description of his presentation and an agenda to follow. Meetings of the WaterShed Partners are regularly the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 9-11 a.m.

For more information about the WaterShed Partners, contact Jana Larson at 651-523-2812 or jl Larson25@hamline.edu