



Another Enjoyable Workshop on the Water

On June 29, nearly 100 local council members, commissioners and watershed board representatives boarded the Grand Duchess in Hudson for the third annual workshop on the St. Croix River. The weather was perfect and everyone aboard appeared to enjoy their time, even if we tricked them into learning along the way!

Amy Carolan, MSCWMO, and Jennifer Shillcox, MDNR, talked about Lakeland's new vegetation ordinance.

Learn more at the Clean Water Summit - Sept. 8 at the MN Arboretum

Green Infrastructure for Clean Water:

Trees, Roots, And Their Role in Stormwater Management

Featured presentations will address the technical aspects as well as policy and planning issues related to using trees in stormwater management, including current treatment practices, operations and maintenance concerns, assessment tools and methodologies, and the multiple community benefits trees provide.

Information and Registration: www.arboretum.umn.edu/symposiaandconferences.aspx

Teachers Soak up Watershed Education

Twenty teachers, most from schools in Southern Washington County, attended our Project WET teacher training in June. The full-day workshop was hosted by Belwin's Valley Ridge ELC. During the day, teachers learned different lesson plans that they could use with their K-8th grade students, covering topics such as watersheds, pollution prevention, cultural significance of water, and water availability.



April Rust, MDNR, led the Project WET workshop at Valley Ridge ELC.

Have you found a fish coaster yet?

As of last week, we have liquidated our stock of 100,000 “Save the Fish and then Eat ‘Em” coasters. Lift Bridge Brewery is distributing a few thousand to establishments in Minnesota and Wisconsin, and JJ Taylor Distributing got out 95,000 to bars and restaurants between Hastings and Taylors Falls. Our goal is to catch the attention of people living, working and playing in the St. Croix Valley. By requiring them to sign up for an e-newsletter to enter the prize contest, we can track how many people “take the bait” and keep in touch with people long after the summer weather disappears.

Here is a run-down of our current prizes:

-  \$350 worth of fishing gear from Bearz Sport in White Bear Lake
-  A guided fishing trip on the St. Croix with Croixsippi Fishing
-  Two kayak paddles from Bending Branches in Osceola
-  A private brewery tour for ten at Lift Bridge Brewery in Stillwater
-  Lift Bridge apparel

Spread the word about the website and encourage people to sign up. Keep your eye out for coasters in establishments near you. Finding the fish is half the fun!



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St. Croix 360

Community news and river stewardship serving the St. Croix River area

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SAVE THE FISH... THEN EAT 'EM!

The St. Croix River on Facebook
Like Angie Hong, Jenny Shillcox and 18,720 others like this.

Register to Win
Sign up for the St. Croix 360 e-mail newsletter below and you could win one of

www.StCroix360.com is up and running now. Head there to register for the Save the Fish contest and learn about other events and activities happening on the St. Croix River.

FAIR TIME IS COMING!

In no time at all August will be here, which means it is time to sign up to help staff our booths at the Washington County Fair and Minnesota State Fair. Here is the scoop:

Washington County Fair: East Metro Water Resource Education Program partners will be sharing a booth with the Washington Conservation District. At the booth we'll have information about our programs, native and invasive plants on display, a giant map of the county and St. Croix River and other fun things. These shifts still need an EMWREP partner:

Wed. Aug. 3, 6-10pm

Sat. Aug. 6, 10am-1pm (2)

1-4pm (1)

4-7pm (2)

7-10pm (1)

Sun. Aug. 7, 10am-1pm (1)

1-4pm (1)

E-mail angie.hong@mnwcd.org to pick up one of the shifts.

Minnesota State Fair: Blue Thumb partners will have space in the Eco Experience building. Join us to spread the word about planting for clean water.

Go to this link to sign up for a shift:
<http://doodle.com/yzkp3hc8heyw5ni4>



Visitors at the Minnesota State Fair will again be posing for pictures with these flowers on a stick. We'll be using the flowers at the county fair too.

Upcoming Blue Thumb Events - July and Aug 2011

Artful Raingardens Exhibit: Through July 24

www.artfulraingarden.net

See paintings of the St. Croix River, decorated rain barrels, sculptures of native plant roots, and more at the Phipps Center for the Arts in Hudson.

Native Plant Sale: Sept. 17, 10am-2pm

<http://www.for-wild.org/chapters/scos/>

Fall is a wonderful time to add native plants to your gardens and landscapes. Stop by the Washington County fairgrounds and select native plants from a variety of area native nurseries.



EMWREP Upcoming Events

- July 5-22 **100yr Anniversary St. Croix River Paddle**
From Solon Springs to Prescott, WI
www.scrapaddle.org
* The paddle will be passing through Washington County on July 17 – 22, with a closing celebration on July 22 in Freedom Park in Prescott.
- July 16-17
10am-4pm **19th Annual St. Croix Valley Garden Tour**
www.familymeans.org
* Featuring eight gardens including a BCWD raingarden in Stillwater and a VBWD raingarden and native prairie in Lake Elmo.
- July 18 **St. Croix River Paddle Service Day in Stillwater**
* Join us for a storm drain steciling and curb side clean-up in the downtown area from 12-3pm. Meet at Lowell Park.
- Aug. 3-7
10am-10pm **Washington County Fair**
www.washingtoncountyfair.org
* Sign up to help staff our booth - angie.hong@mnwcd.org
- Aug. 9 **MECA Field Seminar**
* For builders, contractors and inspectors. Learn about erosion control techniques on-site at a construction site in southern Washington County. More info coming soon.
- Aug. 25-Sept. 5
9am-9pm **Minnesota State Fair**
* Sign up to help staff the Blue Thumb booth in the Eco Experience building. <http://doodle.com/yzkp3hc8heyw5ni4>
- Sept. 8
8:30am-4:30pm **Clean Water Summit**
www.arboretum.umn.edu/symposiaandconferences.aspx
Trees, Roots, And Their Role in Stormwater Management
* Learn the technical aspects, policy and planning needed to use trees for stormwater management.
- Sept. 14 **Washington County Public Works Training**
- Sept. 15, 3-7pm **Cottage Grove Public Works Open House**
- Sept. 28, 8am-3pm **Children's Water Festival**

Coming Up Soon!

St. Croix Valley Garden Tour

**July 16 and 17, 10am-4pm - Stillwater, Lake Elmo and Oakdale
Featuring Brown's Creek Watershed District and Valley Branch Watershed
District cost-share projects**

Coordinated by FamilyMeans, the 19th Annual Garden Tour will showcase eight beautiful gardens in Stillwater, Lake Elmo and Oakdale including a BCWD cost-share grant project in Stillwater and a VBWD cost-share grant project in Lake Elmo.

The tour typically attracts around 700 people from all over the area. We will have information and displays set up at the Stillwater and Lake Elmo raingardens to educate people about Blue Thumb and EMWREP partner organizations.

Tickets at www.familymeans.org

Stillwater Service Day

July 18, 12-3pm - Lowell Park in Stillwater

On Monday, July 18, participants in the St. Croix River Association's 100-year anniversary paddle will be taking a day off the river in Stillwater. We are organizing a volunteer service project for them to do while in town.

Join us if you would like to help stencil storm drains and pick up litter and organic debris along the curb side of downtown area streets. We'll meet at noon at Lowell Park and work from there. MCC crews will be on hand to help that day and we will supply stencils and pick-up materials for the volunteers.

Erosion Control Workshop

Aug. 9 - MECA Erosion Control Field Session

We are planning to offer two erosion control field sessions on August 9 in partnership with the Minnesota Erosion Control Association. These will be hands-on seminars for builders, contractors, inspectors and field crews that deal with development and redevelopment.

The seminars will take place on-site at an active construction site in Woodbury. Watch for more information and registration soon.

Members of the East Metro Water Resource Education Program:

Brown's Creek Watershed • Carnelian Marine - St. Croix Watershed
Comfort Lake - Forest Lake Watershed • Cottage Grove • Dellwood
Forest Lake • Lake Elmo • Middle St. Croix Watershed
Ramsey - Washington Metro Watershed • Rice Creek Watershed • Stillwater
South Washington Watershed • Valley Branch Watershed • Willernie
West Lakeland • Washington Conservation District • Washington County

