



NEWS RELEASE

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts
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Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts Appoints Emily Javens as Executive Director

SAINT PAUL, Minn. – The Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) announced today that Emily Javens would take over as Executive Director for MAWD, replacing Ray Bohn, who is resigning from that position on Dec 31, 2017. Bohn will stay on board with MAWD as their primary lobbyist. In her new role, Javens will draw on her experience in watershed management, organizational leadership, and background in water resources engineering and education.

Javens will play an integral part in carrying out MAWD’s mission of providing educational opportunities, information and training for watershed district managers and staff through yearly training events and tours, a robust legislative advocacy program, organizing stakeholder meetings, and regularly communicating on best practices and relevant watershed management topics.

Javens holds Bachelor of Science degrees in Civil Engineering and Earth Science & Mathematics Education from Minnesota State University, Mankato. She has experience working in the private sector as a consulting engineer, in education as a construction site erosion control certification instructor, and has held various roles in local government. She has served as Board Chair of the Blue Earth Soil and Water Conservation District and on the Board of Directors of the National Association of Conservation Districts. In her new role, she will be able to pull from her experiences working as a licensed engineer for the City of Mankato, the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Prior Lake – Spring Lake Watershed District, and as the Administrator of the Yellow Medicine River Watershed District. She also served as a leader in the facilitation and development of one of the pilot One Watershed One Plans, a statewide effort that aligns local water planning on major watershed boundaries using statewide strategies to develop prioritized, targeted, and measurable implementation plans.

“Emily is a recognized leader who has the experience and skills to successfully continue advancing the important work of Minnesota’s watershed districts,” said MAWD President Ruth Schaefer. “She will provide tremendous leadership to our local officials and staff.”



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About MAWD

Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts (MAWD) provides educational opportunities, legislative advocacy, and trainings for Minnesota's 45 watershed districts. Watershed districts are local, special-purpose units of government that work to solve and prevent water-related problems. The boundaries of each district follow those of a natural watershed and consist of land in which all water flows to one outlet.