

Keynotes for Conservation October 2009



Issue #99

October 1, 2009

Workshops & Conferences

Lake Associations in East Central Minnesota Gather for Roundtable

Thursday, October 1, 2009

5:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Pokegama Lake Association, near Pine City (call number below for directions)

- 5:00 – 5:30 Registration
- 5:30 – 5:35 Welcome *Dana Raines*
- 5:35 – 5:45 Introduction - *Molly Zins with Minnesota Waters will provide an overview and facilitate the Roundtable.*
- 5:45 – 6:15 Association Introductions - *Introduction of association representatives, organization mission and one major accomplishment of the association in the past 2 years.*
- 6:15 – 7:00 Dinner *Catered by Kurt Beckstrom*
- 6:50 – 7:05 DNR Shoreland Rules Update - *Mike Mueller with Minnesota DNR will provide an update of Shoreland Rules and a discussion of how they are expected to affect you and your lake.*
- 7:05 – 8:45 Group Presentations - *This will include small group activities in which lake/river associations will have the opportunity to share results of their Healthy Lakes and Rivers Partnership management plans, share successes, what works and what doesn't work. In addition we hope to identify needs and concerns of each lake association and identify ways we can work together to find solutions.*
- 8:45 – 9:00 Wrap up and Next Steps - *Summarize results of the Roundtable that will include ideas of how associations might work together to address common concerns. Closing comments from Water Quality Committee and Minnesota Waters.*

To Register: Please call, email, or send in registrations to Onanegozie RC&D to register for this event at: Dana Raines, Onanegozie RC&D, 2008 Mahogany Street #3, Mora MN 55051, Phone: 320 679-4604 E-mail: dana.raines@mn.usda.gov

Cost for the program and dinner is \$10.00 per person. Limit 4 people per lake association or group. A \$200 gift certificate from Prairie Restorations Inc will be given as Door prize & informational material will be given out during the meeting - Please bring plans, scrapbooks, factsheets or anything else to share what your group or association has been working on!

Women's Wellness & Adventure Weekend

October 2-4, 2009

All-inclusive, complete holistic retreat - comfy lodging, wonderful food, and a variety of classes and activities to choose from, such as:

- Adventure & Challenge (examples include high ropes course, low ropes course, canoeing, climbing wall)
- Wellness & Nature (examples include yoga, massage, reiki, meditation, guided hikes, bird banding, Nordic walking), and
- Creative Expressions (examples include art classes, crafts classes, gardening courses, nature journaling, etc.).

Lodging, meals, all programming and 10 minutes of massage or reiki are included in the cost of the weekend (additional massage or reiki are available for a reasonable fee).

For more info, contact Laurie Fenner, Marketing & Groups/Conference Coordinator, Audubon Center of the North Woods, PO Box 530, Sandstone, MN 55072, 320-245-2648, website: www.audubon-center.org or email: fenner@audubon-center.org

Brainerd Lakes Area Audubon Society presents...

"Photo Safari" by Kim and Cindy Risen, Birders and Tour Leaders

Thursday, October 8, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Hallett Library, Crosby

Kim and Cindy Risen are well-known birders from Aitkin County who also lead birding tours around the world. They will present a program of their beautiful photography that features birds, wildlife and landscapes. This will be the first meeting of the Bee Nay She Council Bird Club for the fall and winter season. This presentation is free and open to the public. Anyone with an interest in birds is welcome. Refreshments will be served. This program is sponsored by the Bee Nay She Council Bird Club. For more information about the bird club or the program, contact Jo Blanich, Program Chair, at blanich@embarqmail.com or Ken Perry, President, at pkperry@brainerd.net

BAELN Event: Green Business is Good Business Tour

Thursday, October 8th, 2009

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Tour begins and ends at MN Pollution Control Agency, 7678 College Road, Suite 105, Brainerd.

Cost: Free (donations appreciated); Register by October 5, 2009

The BAELN 2009-2010 Season Greening the Economy is pleased to present - Green Business is Good Business Tour, utilizing green business practices for conserving and improving your resources and your bottom line.

You are invited to join us on the afternoon of October 8th to learn about green business practices in the Baxter/Brainerd area. From 2:00-5:00 p.m. we'll tour local businesses and engage in lively conversation. (Transportation provided.) We'll visit the Fairview Office Park, Madden's Resort and the Pollution Control Agency to see what they're doing to be more sustainable and resource friendly in their work. Examples include: low impact development cost savings, water conservation, green building design, stormwater management, energy efficiency, waste management and more. Come join us for a fun fall afternoon filled with ideas you can put to good use.

This event is free but registration is required by October 5th. Space is limited. To register, please send an e-mail to Jackie B. at ee-events@pca.state.mn.us (preferred) or call 651-757-2070. (If you do not receive a confirmation notice, please notify us.) If you have specific questions about the tour, contact Denise Stromme at denise.stromme@pca.state.mn.us or 218-316-3888.

The Brainerd Area Environmental Learning Network (BAELN), now in its seventh season, offers people in the environmental field and the community timely information on environmental and sustainability issues, along with the chance to network with others. This season's theme Greening the Economy gives us insight into the jobs, skills and opportunities that the green jobs direction offers. BAELN events are held most third Thursdays of the month from 3:00-5:00 p.m. and include an hour-long presentation with time for questions, networking and refreshments. The events are free and all are invited to participate.

BAELN is a collaborative effort of the following organizations: 1000 Friends of Minnesota, Central Lakes College, Crow Wing County Soil and Water Conservation District, Initiative Foundation, MN Department of Natural Resources, MN Department of Transportation, MN Pollution Control Agency, Minnesota Waters, The Nature Conservancy, community member and University of Minnesota Extension. If you would like to be on the BAELN email list or for general information on BAELN, please contact Stephen Mikkelsen at (218) 316-3887, or toll free at 1-800-657-3864.

Upcoming events: 2009-2010 Schedule (subject to change)
Location: MN Pollution Control Agency, 7678 College Rd, Suite 105, Baxter
Times: 3:00-5:00 p.m.

- October 8: Green Business is Good Business Tour
- November 19: Legislative Panel on Green Jobs
- December 17: Green Jobs in Minnesota: What does it mean for my community?
- January 21: Attacking Poverty through Green Jobs (podcast)
- February 18: The Impacts of a Green Workforce on the Economy
- March 25 (fourth Thursday): Deconstruction Reuse = Green Opportunities
- April 15: Putting Green Practices into Action: MN GreenCorps and MN Conservation Corps
- May 20: Greening Transportation - Northstar Rail
- June 17: Training the next generation of green workers (and a few old dogs too)

Save the Date - Cultural Heritage Tourism Workshops

October 1 – November 9, 2009

Various Locations

Research shows that cultural heritage travelers make up a significant number of the travelers to Minnesota, and historically, this segment of the travel market has been on the rise. We also know that throughout Minnesota, there is a great deal to offer these travelers. Workshops are being planned this fall to bring together the many types of organizations that make up "Cultural Heritage Tourism" and help capitalize on this growing market. Included in the workshops will be presentations of partnership success stories already working in other communities.

- North Shore - Thursday, October 1, 2009, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Metro - Monday, October 5, 2009, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- New Ulm - Wednesday, October 14, 2009, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Central - Monday, November 9, 2009, 9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

For details visit <http://industry.exploreminnesota.com>.

"2009 Lake Friendly Awards" and "Sensitive Shorelands Assessment Project in Cass County"
Wednesday, October 28, 2009

7:00 p.m.

Northland Arboretum, Brainerd

The "Lake Friendly Awards" are sponsored by several local organizations and agencies that are working to protect our beautiful lakes. Awards are given in several categories that recognize lakeshore owners, builders and local units of government that have chosen to take actions that protect the water quality and wildlife of area lakes for future generations.

There will also be a presentation by Wildlife Biologist Kristin Thompson, MnDNR Nongame Wildlife Lake Specialist, on the Cass County Sensitive Shoreline Project. For the past 3 years, field biologists have collected data on larger lakes that are experiencing increasing development and recreational pressure. The goal of the project is to scientifically identify those parts of the lake that contain the most biological diversity. Each lake in the study is summarized in a comprehensive lake report with data from the bird, fish, frog and plant surveys. Other lake information is also included in the report which is useful for lakeshore residents and lake associations.

This program is sponsored by the Brainerd Lakes Area Audubon Society. Refreshments will be available. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Pam Perry, BLAAS Program Chair at pkperry@brainerd.net or 828-4718.

Funding Opportunities

Grants Fund Energy Efficiency and/or Renewable Energy Projects (Deadline: 11/2/09)

The Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs) seek to provide limited financial assistance for energy efficiency and/or renewable energy projects requiring technical assistance. Project funding can support technical assistance services (labor costs only—such as for a consultant, design professional, installer or student labor), for projects in all seven Minnesota CERT regions. All applications are due no later than 4:30pm, November 2nd, 2009. We welcome all applications, and thank you in advance for helping us spread the word! For more information: <http://www.cleanenergyresourceteams.org/community-projects/request-for-proposals>

Grants for Environmentally Friendly Projects

[Nickelodeon's Big Green Grants Program](#)

Nickelodeon's Big Green Grants Program provides support to schools and community-based organizations throughout the U.S. for environmentally friendly projects. Green Grants of \$2,500 and \$5,000 encourage projects that inspire kids to take care of the environment, be active and live healthier, and engage in community service. Applicants must participate in [Worldwide Day of Play](#) (September 26, 2009) or host a [Big Green Help](#) environmental project. Public and private elementary and middle schools as well as nonprofit community-based after-school organizations are eligible to apply. Applications from urban and rural/suburban areas as well as small and large community-based organizations serving all ethnicities are encouraged to apply. Requests must be submitted by December 31, 2009. Visit the program's website for application guidelines and forms.

Student Research Assistance (Deadline: 10/30/09)

The Community Assistantship Program is pleased to announce a spring 2010 grant program. The grant will allow rural communities to hire a student to work on a project defined by those communities. The deadline for project proposals is October 30th, 2009. Approved projects will run from January 14th, 2010 to May 30th, 2010.

Winning communities will review job applications and select the student who best meets their needs. For details on how to apply see the attachment or apply on line:
<http://www.cura.umn.edu/Programs/ApplicationProcess.php>

Eligible organizations include community groups, organizations, and local governments outside the seven county metro.

What is CAP?

The Community Assistantship Program (CAP) provides applied research assistance to community-based groups outside the Twin Cities Metro Area. The research and technical needs of community organizations are matched with the support of talented students. The idea is simple: get the resources of a great University working with communities to address the significant issues facing the people of Minnesota. CAP projects typically place students in a community defined and directed part time research assistantship for one semester or over the summer. Students are selected by and report to the community organization. Throughout the project students are supported by a community supervisor, faculty and community mentors.

Things to Know

Conservation Minnesota seeks area leaf color reporters

We're putting out a mailing next week on the fall color season in Minnesota and would like quotes and info (and photos if you've got them) from anyone who loves watching and chasing our changing leaves. The quotes could be as short as a sentence, but tell me how you'd like to be identified. Thanks.

Dave Dempsey, Communications Director, Conservation Minnesota, 1101 West River Parkway, Suite 250, Minneapolis, MN 55415, 612-767-2444

Share your Minnesota outdoors story with thousands of readers in our new, interactive on-line magazine! We welcome reader submissions. The latest issue of the magazine is available at <http://www.conservationminnesota.org/magazine/>

Starting a Charitable Fund for Your Lake or River Association

Is your lake or river association interested in having its own charitable fund ...a place where local people can make tax-friendly investments or leave gifts from their estate to "do good" right at home? The Initiative Foundation can help! You create a fund with us and we'll handle the administration and paperwork while helping you make grants that keep local dollars working where you need them most. You can learn more [here](#), or [contact Curt Hanson](#), Initiative Foundation's VP for Donor Services to talk about the possibilities. Remember—the best time to plant an oak tree was twenty years ago. The second best time is to plant it is today.

Happy Dancing Turtle Class Offerings

*Preserve Your Bounty: Food
Preservation for Today's Families*
Thurs. 10/1 - Longville

Papermaking

Tues. 10/6 - Pine River

Wed. 10/7 - Pequot Lakes

Thurs. 11/5 - Longville

Rain Barrel DIY

Tues. 10/13 - Pine River

Worm Wrassling 101

Thurs. 10/15 - Longville

For more information visit <http://www.happydancingturtle.org> or contact Barb Hines at 218-587-2303, barbhines@happydancingturtle.org.

Happy Dancing Turtle's mission is to promote awareness and understanding of sustainable living by fostering ecological stewardship and related economic development. Projects to further these purposes include, but are not limited to the support of education, demonstrations, literary works, training, workshops, research, and business incubation.

Apply Now for Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention

The State of Minnesota is seeking nominations/applications for the 2009-2010 Governor's Awards Program. Application are being accepted for projects that reduce waste and pollution at the source, conserve natural resources, protect groundwater, save energy, and practice sustainability.

The Governor's Awards for Pollution Prevention has three categories that hone businesses/nonprofits, government, and partnerships for superior environmental achievement.

For more information including online applications, examples of past winners and assistance, go to www.pca.state.mn.us/oea/p2/govaward.cfm or call (800) 657-3864 or e-mail govwards.pca.state.mn.us.

Working on Sustainable Agriculture or Community Gardens? Here are some interesting grant opportunities that you list might want to check out. <http://www.pasafarming.org/resources/grants>

This newsletter is designed to share funding opportunities, resources, and conferences or training events of common interest for program participants and supporters of the Initiative Foundation. For more information about these and other training opportunities, contact Don Hickman, dhickman@ifound.org.

If you wish to be removed from this mailing list or if you have other names/e-mails to add please contact Jolene Howard, jhoward@ifound.org.