



WaterFront Bulletin

Water Restoration and Protection: Headlines and Deadlines

WaterFront is a web-based bulletin featuring updates on impaired waters, watershed project funding and water restoration and protection activities underway throughout the state. *WaterFront* is published to share information with internal MPCA staff and external watershed partners.

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FUNDING UPDATE

Clean Water Legacy: Competitive Funding for Restoration

The 2009 Clean Water Legacy (CWL) competitive funding application period opens on October 1, 2008. Applications are due by 4:30 p.m. on November 7, 2008. Total funding available for restoration-only projects is just over three million dollars. This includes Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) funds and MPCA 319 implementation funds. New this year is a \$30,000 minimum and no maximum per application.

Eligible applicants must address components of a TMDL Implementation Plan approved by the MPCA on or before October 1.

Application materials are available online
<http://www.bwsr.state.mn.us/CWL/index.html>.

For more information, contact Marcey Westrick, BWSR, at (651) 284-4153 or Kimberly Nuckles, MPCA, at (651) 297-2810.

EVALUATING SUCCESS

Survey Results: Evaluation of Social Impacts and Outcomes

The University of MN Water Resources Center recently conducted an internet survey of nearly 200 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) and other groups who receive public funds for non-point source (NPS) projects in Minnesota. The survey was conducted as part of the MN Social Indicators pilot effort, and the purpose was to acquire baseline data regarding how Minnesota's NPS projects evaluate social impacts and outcomes such as adoption and maintenance of best management practices (BMPs).

Results indicate that the vast majority of projects (86%) do not develop or use any indicators to measure social outcomes. Only 25% of projects evaluate adoption rates of BMPs and 25% assess constraints to BMP adoption. Additionally, a large number of Minnesota's NPS projects address relatively-small target audiences. Twenty-five percent of projects have target audiences of less than 200 people, and another 14% target fewer than 500 people. Given the considerable investment of public funds in NPS projects throughout the state, the study has helped

identify a clear need for a broad range of practical social assessment tools that will help projects better account for their social impacts.

The full survey findings will be presented at an education/planning workshop during the MN Water Resources Conference being held October 27-28, 2008 at St. Paul's RiverCentre. For more information, contact Karlyn Eckman, (612) 625-6781, or Rachel Walker, (612) 625-8627, at the University of MN Water Resources Center.

EVENTS

Minnesota Invasive Species Conference 2008: October 26-29

The Minnesota Sea Grant College Program will host the Minnesota Invasive Species Conference 2008: *Acting Locally to Protect Our Legendary Lands and Waters* at the Duluth Entertainment Convention Center October 26-29. For more information, visit the Invasive Species page on the Soil and Water Conservation Society Website at www.minnesotaswcs.org/Invasives.htm.

Minnesota Water Resources Conference 2008: October 27-28

The University of Minnesota's Water Resources Center and College of Continuing Education will host the Minnesota Water Resources Conference at a new location, the St. Paul RiverCentre, October 27-28, 2008. For more information, visit the U of M Water Resources Center Website at <http://wrc.umn.edu/waterconf/>.