



WATERSHED UPDATE

Formed in 1981, the Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District oversees a variety of projects to assess and improve the health of our 81-square mile watershed – which includes 31 lakes, three designated trout streams, hundreds of acres of wetlands and over 17 miles of St. Croix River shoreline. The watershed district is managed by the following volunteer board of residents appointed by Washington County:

- President**.....Steve Kronmiller, 651.433.4042
- Secretary/Treasurer**Victoria Dupre, 651.439.8266
- Manager**Richard Caldecott, 651.439.7385
- Manager**John Bower, 651.430.2793
- Manager**Jason Husveth, 651.433.4410
- Manager**John Lennes Jr., 651.433.3063
- Manager**Thomas Polasik, 651.430.0263

CARNELIAN-MARINE-ST. CROIX WATERSHED DISTRICT MEETINGS are open to the public and take place the first Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Heritage Room of the Scandia Community Center, 14727 209th St. N. in Scandia.

**Join Us Tuesday, December 9
7 p.m. Scandia Community Center**

Learn about the District's upcoming efforts to cleanup our "impaired" lakes and discuss issues for inclusion in our new Watershed Management Comprehensive Plan. For more information, contact 651.433.2150 or jimshaver@cmscwd.org

CHECK OUT OUR ANNUAL REPORT!

The District's 2007 Annual Report is available at three area libraries: Stillwater, the Hardwood Creek Branch in Forest Lake and the Marine Branch. You can download the report from the District website www.cmscwd.org or request a CD by contacting 651.433-2150 or jimshaver@cmscwd.org.



THANK YOU JOHN BOWER!



John Bower was recognized at the Annual Meeting in September for his 11 years of service as the Watershed District President. Newly elected President Steve Kronmiller, speaking on behalf of the Board, presented a resolution recognizing Bower for his

"diligent volunteer service to the watershed, its residents and resources and for his continued concern for improving the watershed's unique resources." Kronmiller noted that "Bower successfully oversaw the merger of the District to dramatically change in size and responsibility and is considered by his peers and colleagues to have expert knowledge of the water features and water quality issues facing the Watershed District." Bower was appointed to the board in 1992 and is currently serving his sixth term. After 11 years as President he felt it was time to pass the baton. New President Kronmiller, appointed to the board in 2003, has served as the District Treasurer for the past five years.

Letter from the Administrator



We are all lucky to live in such a special part of a beautiful state. Less than an hour from a major metropolitan area, we may not live on water but we're not very far from it; numerous parks, lakes, streams, and of course, the St. Croix River are there for us to enjoy. My five-mile "commute" has open vistas that most people only have on vacations. And I am doubly lucky since my job entails protecting and improving these great resources. But neither I nor our seven-person Board of Managers can do it alone.

We need your input both to plan for our next ten years and to deal with the twelve impaired lakes in our District. I will be contacting those who have participated on our Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) in the past as well as others who have expressed their concerns about our water resources. The Board will host well-publicized, quarterly informational meetings that deal directly with the issues they face. We will post updates on our website and ask for your comments to help guide our progress with these plans. If you want to be directly involved as a member of the CAC, get e-mail notices of new pertinent information on our website, or just voice a concern, please contact me at jimshaver@cmscwd.org or 651-433-2150.

The winter ahead will be pretty well consumed by this work. But as the snow melts next spring and the buds start to appear on the trees, I may even have a chance to start fishing on the River again. Oh, but I forgot — spring is our busy season!



Photo: Marine resident Mary Whitaker

Deepest sympathies to the family of former Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix Watershed District manager Doug Pratt. Doug was a colleague, friend, supporter and mentor to many. He will be missed.

Improving Water Quality in Our Shallow Lakes

Twelve of the District's 30 lakes — all of them shallow — have been classified as "impaired" by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The federal Clean Water Act requires the MPCA to develop and implement a cleanup plan for each lake and the District is working with Washington Conservation District on this effort. As a first step, the District is developing a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for each lake, which will define how much of a pollutant can be in the water and still allow it to meet designated uses, such as fishing and swimming.

The District has received a grant from the MPCA to begin monitoring the impaired lakes for three physical factors — total phosphorus (which causes algal blooms), chlorophyll-a (high levels of this green plant pigment indicate poor water quality) and secchi transparency (which indicates water clarity) and three biological factors — macrophytes (curly-leaf pondweed), phytoplankton (plant life) and zooplankton (animal life). Once data is collected, we will develop and implement a management plan to improve water quality as soon possible. Both in-lake and watershed-wide Best Management Practices will be used — and continued monitoring will be key to ensuring management strategies are working.

IMPAIRED LAKES

- East Boot
- Fish
- Goose
- Hay
- Jellum's
- Long (May Township)
- Long (Scandia)
- Loon
- Louise
- Sand
- Silver
- South Twin



Goose Lake is among the "impaired waters" the District is working to improve.

HELP PLAN THE FUTURE OF THE DISTRICT – JOIN US DECEMBER 9!

Every ten years, Watershed Districts are required to revise their Watershed Management Comprehensive Plan. Our District's plan — the third since our founding — must be completed by 2010. The plan will identify the top concerns for our water resources, and establish goals, objectives and programs. There will be many opportunities to make your voice heard, including a meeting on Tuesday, December 9 (see inside for details). For more information on options for providing input, contact Jim Shaver at 651.433.2150 or at jimshaver@cmscwd.org.



INSIDE
 Protecting shallow lakes,
 our 2009 budget and more!

2009 Budget Set

The District Board of Managers finalized and certified its 2009 budget on Monday, November 3, 2008. The levy (the portion of the District's budget paid by residents) is 6% lower than in 2008. Funds will be used for a range of important programs, including water quality monitoring, public education and our Best Management Practices (BMP) program, which provides technical assistance and cost share benefits for landowners and local units of government implementing projects that improve local water quality. Details are included in the chart at right. The District established its maximum budget at its annual meeting on September 8, 2008. In response to comments from citizens, the Board decided to take more time to reach lower budget and levy amounts.

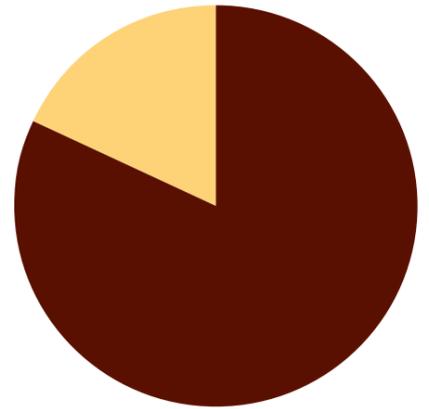
DISTRICT PROJECTS AND EXPENSES

	Plans and planning projects	\$107,000
	BMP Programs	\$59,500
	Water monitoring and TMDL	\$82,000
	Engineering and research	\$50,000
	Professional fees and contingency	\$31,100
	Administration and operations	\$143,700
	Education and outreach	\$48,000
	Other projects	\$74,150



SOURCES OF REVENUE

	Levy	\$488,700
	Grants and fees	\$106,750



Healthy Waters and Heritage Fair

Citizens from around the watershed joined us for the Million Shades of Autumn - Healthy Waters and Heritage Fair, held on September 27 and 28 at William O'Brien State Park. The event celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the St. Croix's designation as a "Wild and Scenic" river and highlighted local conservation projects in the St. Croix Valley. Visitors participated in a Voyageurs Encampment, tried their hand at fly-fishing and participated in workshops on raingardens and native plants. The District co-sponsored the event along with William O'Brien State Park, MN Department of Natural Resources, Millstream Association, Washington Conservation District, Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District and Great River Greening. Funding was provided in part by the Bush Foundation, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the Buck Family Foundation.



A Minnesota-Wisconsin "border battle" canoe race was among the fun, educational activities at the Healthy Waters and Heritage Fair.



Tommy White helps her mom pull buckthorn.

Did you know.....

We have Weed Wrenches for buckthorn removal available for loan in our office. A deposit is required.