



## Shared Education Programming

Lead: Barbara Heitkamp

*You cannot protect the environment unless you empower people, you inform them, and you help them understand that these resources are their own - that they must protect them.*

*- Professor Wangari Maathai*



## Local Decision Makers



## ST. CROIX RIVER WORKSHOP ON THE WATER 2022

A workshop for local decision-makers

**JULY 20, 2022 | 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM**  
**ABOARD THE GRAND DUCHESS**  
**HUDSON, WI**

Hosted by Wild Rivers Conservancy of the St. Croix and Namekagon,  
National Park Service, Minnesota DNR, Wisconsin DNR,  
East Metro Water Resource Education Program,  
Washington County, Polk County, St. Croix County

## Workshop at the Winery

A workshop for local decision makers

**AUGUST 24, 2022 | 5:30 PM - 9:00 PM**  
**WINEHAVEN WINERY, CHISAGO CITY, MN**

### TOPICS AND PRESENTATIONS

Imagining future community development

Living on the shoreline & protecting  
your waterfront investment

Connecting land use to  
water quality

Watershed initiatives to  
protect our water resources

To register:  
[tinyurl.com/WineryWorkshop](https://tinyurl.com/WineryWorkshop)

LOWER ST. CROIX WATERSHED  
PARTNERSHIP

## Local Leaders Workshops are happening - be sure you join us!

- Workshop on the Water (July 20th) - to register: [tinyurl.com/stcroixwow2022](https://tinyurl.com/stcroixwow2022)
- Workshop at the Winery (August 24th) - to register: [tinyurl.com/WineryWorkshop](https://tinyurl.com/WineryWorkshop)
  - Brainstorming and preparing for the FY23 push to increase engagement to help communities review ordinances and adopt MIDS



## Urban and Rural Landowners

### Shoreline Owners

- Spoke at five lake association spring membership meetings promoting lakeshore practices including Adopt a Drain (where applicable), native plants and Lawns 2 Legumes opportunities, and Lake Steward Program
- Participated in recent Lake Appreciation Night in Lindstrom, MN (July 6)
- Jeff Forester and team have created a statewide lakeshore guide - currently in the process of being printed
- Working with partners and the St. Paul Area Association of Realtors to organize a lakeshore realtor workshop out of North Branch or Center City in early winter
- Relevant Blog posts:
  - Blog post: [It takes a village, the journey of getting Martin Lake de-listed.](#)

### Urban and Rural Landowners:

- Adopt a Drain Updates:
  - Chisago County (official membership established in May 2022)
    - Promoted media blitz to introduce program to applicable communities
      - Sent newsletter blurbs to all cities for inclusion in newsletters
      - Featured blog (also published in Chisago City Press): [Saving our water one storm drain at a time.](#)
      - Working with community member (Dan Lydon - president of Chisago-Lindstrom lake Association) to promote program at planning commission meetings
      - Working with regional library director to put together small displays in all regional libraries
      - 39 drains adopted thus far - 80 lbs of debris collected.
    - Washington County:
      - 851 drains adopted in Washington County (94 new in 2022)
        - 464 in the Lower St. Croix portion
          - 115 Brown's Creek WD
          - 11 Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix WD
          - 20 Comfort Lake - Forest Lake WD
          - 160 Middle St. Croix WMO
          - 158 Valley Branch WD
        - 462lb of debris collected since Jan. 2022 (Lower St. Croix portion of the county only)
      - Anoka County: 1039 adopted storm drains
        - 1091 drains in Anoka (112 new in 2022)
        - 2,400 lbs debris collected in 2022

## Urban and Rural Landowners:

- Blog posts:
  - Taking on native plant projects:
    - Timid Gardener series, [Part 3](#)
    - [A window into the work of your local soil and water conservation districts](#)
  - Workshops/Webinars (in partnership with EMWREP and LSC partners)
    - July 27th - Water Education at Wildwood Library, Mahtomedi
    - July 31st Isanti County Nature Photo Contest (Open until July 31st)
    - August 2nd Forest Lake Arts in the Park (CLFLWD)
    - August 3rd - 7th Washington County Fair
    - August 13th Stormwater Tour in Stillwater hosted by the Brown's Creek Watershed District
    - August 14th Newport Pioneer Day (
    - August 18th-19th Well Water Testing Clinic, Scandia Community Center hosted by CMSCWD.
    - August 20th Starry Trek
    - August 25 - September 5 - Minnesota State Fair (Aug. 25 – Sept. 5)
    - September 10th - River Rally, Stillwater – (Sat. Sept. 10, 9am-noon)
    - September 10th Brown's Creek Watershed District Community Event, Stillwater
    - September 10th - CMSCWD will have a booth at Scandia Taco Days
    - September 21-22nd - Chisago Children's Water Festival
    - Sept 24th Buckthorn Brigade at Long Lake, Stillwater
  - Held last quarter (and first part of July):
    - Earth Day Weekend - hitting community events in WA county
    - April 30th Grant Community Clean up
    - April 26 and May 24 - Glacial Valley Park webinar and walk
    - May 3rd Buckthorn and Goats Workshop at Big Marine Park
    - May 21st Pollinator Planting Party at Lake Elmo Park Reserve
    - June 15th Habitat Restoration Tour in Stillwater at Brown's Creek Park in Stillwater. Led by Brown's Creek Watershed District.
    - June 18th - Turf Talks hosted by CLFLWD at Hardwood Creek Library in Forest Lake.
    - July 6th Chisago Lakes Appreciation Night
    - July 16th Washington County Master Gardener "Learn and Grow Garden Tour" in Oakdale and Woodbury
    - July 20th Sally Manzara Nature Center: Water Play Summer Day Camp, Lake Elmo
    - July 20th After buckthorn – what next? in Stillwater hosted by the Browns Creek Watershed District
    - July 25th Water Explorations at Ojibway Park in Woodbury



## Agricultural Education Outreach

Lead: Jennifer Hahn

### Network Building

- Holding monthly ag team meetings to provide updates, collaborate, and plan
- Offering weekly “office hours” for ag staff across the LSC basin to drop in and ask questions
- Obtained and organizing resources of LSC farmers already implementing conservation practices, including reaching out to ag cooperatives, ag equipment dealers, seed dealers, agronomists, and partners previously worked with successfully
- Working with partners to create a contact and tracking spreadsheet (Angie and Barbara)
- Met with the St. Croix Valley Forage Council to discuss programs and develop a working relationship
- Attended and facilitated the MOSH Collaboration Forum
- Met with the City Administrator of Afton, Jay, and two Preservation Committee members to discuss collaboration on mapping tools to identify and develop their agricultural preservation program

### Education/Outreach

- **Monthly Radio Spot:** Jennifer provides information about agricultural conservation planning services available, ag program updates, what’s happening out in the field, and upcoming events on WCMP 100.9 FM radio the 1st Wednesday of the month. To listen, find it on [WCMP's website](#), [Apple Podcast](#), [Google Podcast](#), or [Spotify](#).
- **Out Again with Jenn Video Series:** Jenn and Barbara Heitkamp head to the field to capture planting into different tillage management systems. With the short planting window we focused efforts on capturing the different planter set ups and field conditions and will be adding more including discussions with the farmers and growing updates throughout the year. [Check it out!](#)
  - [Related Blog post: The lure and reality of conservation tillage](#)
- **Field Days:** Successfully completed one of three planned production ag field days
  - June 24th - Rooting into Resilient Soils: No-Till and Cover Crops - Approximately 30 attendees came to Tim Behrand's farm for networking and discussion
    - Read Barbara's blog post from the event: [It's a day for a field day!](#)
  - August 18th - Rooting into Resilient Soils: Strip Till - excited to partner with Lance Petersen to bring folks to his farm near Rush City, MN
  - September TBD: Working with Jeff Mallery of Mallerys Jerseys
- **Workshop:** Working with Barbara to host small acreage workshop on August 1st in Lindstrom: You’ve got Land: Exploring farming and land management options for 10-40 acres



## Agricultural Education Outreach

Lead: Jennifer Hahn

- Developed, submitted, and secured a scholarship and mini-grant proposals for field days and secured funding for the field days through a sponsorship with the MAWQCP totaling \$4,500 for outreach and education

### Promoting Existing LSC Partner Programs and Priorities

- Worked with partners to develop the non-structural BMP policy (see included flyer!)
- Working with Barbara to create outreach materials for partners to promote the WBIF non-structural ag BMP policy
- Provided existing program information to cooperatives and Barbara for promotion
- Completed 4 site visits in Washington County, and 3 in Chisago County
- Provided OJT to staff for conservation planning

### Development of New Programs

- Worked with partners to develop and submit the Clean Water Fund Soil Health grant proposal
- Working with Angie, Barbara, Peterson's Mill, Big River Farms, and the University to develop a program to work with the Hmong community providing agronomic information and resources
- Participated in the Washington Local Work Group meeting to set resource concern priorities for 2023
- Worked with partners to develop and submit a LCCMR proposal for demonstration plots and equipment for utilizing soil health practices
- Working with partners to develop agricultural cost share policies
- Participated in the Conservation Educator focus group to provide insight and feedback for utilizing financial data in conservation planning