



## Shared Education Programming

Lead: Barbara Heitkamp

*This quarter was marked by events, events, events! as the partnership works to build visibility of our new WBIF programming and the resources offered by LSC partners.*



## Local Decision Makers

### Held two Local Leaders Workshops to initiate discussion of policy and practices related to stormwater management and nonpoint source pollution

- Workshop on the Water (July 20th) - 100 people attended
- Workshop at the Winery (August 24th) - 40 people attended
- Working with LSC partners and Jay Michels (EOR) to develop strategy of follow up and approach for individual community engagement



### Started gauging interest in enhanced street sweeping incentives program for cities and townships

- **Review a flyer about the program.**
- Reached out to administrators and public works officials in Chisago and Washington counties (Rush City, Harris, North Branch, Stacy, Wyoming, Taylors Falls, Shafer, Center City, Lindstrom, and Chisago City)
- Held Tree Canopy Assessment Protocol training for LSC partners with EOR - **recording here.**



*Jay Michels, Mike Isensee, and Jay Riggs - the MIDS superteam*

### Beginning promotion of MPCA Salt Smart Training Workshops for across the basin, for both city staff and local leaders (when appropriate)



## Urban and Rural Landowners



### Shoreline Owners

- Continuing to promote Lawns to Legumes program throughout basin via community events and site visits
- Working with partners and the St. Paul Area Association of Realtors to organize a lakeshore realtor workshop out of Center City this winter
- Provided outreach materials to assist with Oxford Township Fall Festival
- Missed carp netting action in Anoka County on Martin Lake (darn it!), but next year!
- Continuing to develop plan of action with Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates regarding Lake Steward adoption
- Relevant Blog posts:
  - **Landowners are abuzz with helping pollinators.**
- New video: **Planting for Pollinators: Common Shoreline Native Plants**

### Urban and Rural Landowners:

- Adopt a Drain Updates:
  - Chisago County (official membership established in May 2022)
    - Working to get additional communities storm maps added to official Adopt a Drain site
      - Harris added beginning of September, working currently with Wyoming
    - Spoke at senior living development about importance of drain adoption (they adopted almost 15 drains!)
    - Working with member of Chisago City parks commission to build awareness of program at various events and local leader meetings
    - Working with regional library director to put together small displays in all regional libraries

## Urban and Rural Landowners:

- Washington County:
  - 902 drains adopted in Washington County (150 new in 2022)
    - 114 Brown's Creek WD
    - 12 Carnelian-Marine-St. Croix WD
    - 20 Comfort Lake – Forest Lake WD
    - 167 Middle St. Croix WMO
    - 162 Valley Branch WD
- Anoka County: 1118 adopted storm drains (140 new adoptions this year, with 7 of them in the Sunrise River WMO area)
- Blog posts:
  - [They say the grass is greener, but should it be?](#)
  - [Conservation Potpourri: August Edition](#)
  - [This summer, find your water zen](#)
- Workshops/Webinars (in partnership with EMWREP and LSC partners) held since last PC meeting:
  - July 20th - Workshop on the Water
  - 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 24th - Workshop at the Winery
  - 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 22nd - Chisago Children's Water Festival
  - Sept 24th Buckthorn Brigade at Long Lake, Stillwater
  - Sept 28th - Metro Children's Water Festival
  - Sept 28th - Marine on St. Croix Lawns to Legumes Workshop
  - Sept 30th - Lily Lake Clean Water Celebration



## Agricultural Education Outreach

Lead: Jennifer Hahn

### Network Building

- Holding monthly ag team meetings to provide updates, collaborate, and plan with the partners
- Offering weekly “office hours” for ag staff across the LSC basin to drop in and ask questions
- Working with partners to create a contact and tracking spreadsheet (Angie and Barbara)
- Attended and presented at the Minnesota Farm Bureau’s Board of Directors meeting on July 27th, discussing the programs and services provided to the watershed farmers
- Attended the Workshop at the Winery to connect with local decision makers about water quality and watershed scale planning
- Developed a contact list for small acreage farmers in the watershed and developing programming to support this clientele
- Working with South Washington Watershed District to develop connections with agricultural producers in their watershed
- Talking one on one with producers to build connections between farmers and partners and begin the development of local farmer groups and farmer mentors

### 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](#).
- **New videos:**
  - [Out Again with Jenn: What does healthy soil look like?](#)
  - [Conversations with a Farmer: Talking Strip Till with Lance Petersen](#)
- **Field Days:**
  - August 30th - Rooting into Resilient Soils: Strip Till, No-till, Conservation Tillage - over 40 farmers attended the field day at Lance Petersen's farm
    - Video from the event: **Farmers get together to share their experience with no-till, strip till, and vertical till.**
  - September 20th tour of Clover Bee Farm - a small acreage organic vegetable farm works to feed people and their soil
- **Workshops:** Hosted You’ve got Land: Exploring farming and land management options for 10-40 acres workshop for 15 attendees at the beginning of August



## 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

- Working with Barbara to create outreach materials for partners to promote the WBIF non-structural ag BMP policy
- Working with Barbara to create agricultural services and program offerings provided by the partners
- Created and distributed a mailing to promote Chisago SWCD & NRCS's programs and technical services available
- Created information for a news release of the WBIF non-structural ag program
- Completed 6 site visits in Washington County, 1 in Pine County, and 1 in Chisago County
- Providing watershed farmers with conservation planning and support for local and federal programs
- Providing partners with conservation planning support and education
- Completed conservation planning on 4 WBIF non-structural ag BMP program applications and encumbered 3 contracts

### Development of New Programs

- Developed the WBIF non-structural ag BMP policies and worked with partners to integrate into their local program policies
- Secured a Clean Water Fund Soil Health grant for \$200,000 for implementing soil health practices, outreach, and education
- Working with partners to develop agricultural cost share policies
- Invited to participate in the Minnesota Soil Health Action Framework Stakeholder Cohort to assist in the development of the Minnesota Soil Health Action Framework
- Working with Angie, Barbara, Peterson's Mill, Big River Farms, and the University of Minnesota to develop a program to work with the Hmong community providing agronomic information and resources