

April MWS Newsletter



Master Water Stewards,

It is officially spring, and with the warm weather comes the busy season for water events and project installations. There are loads of opportunities to get involved in the upcoming months, and this newsletter will keep you up to date on all things Master Water Steward. Enjoy!

Speaking of, there are already several events happening **this Saturday**. Two of our 2014 Stewards, **Amy and Kelsey**, will be doing a presentation on their capstone project for the newly-formed Garden Guild of Mound-Westonka. Come to the Mound-Westonka Library at 10am on Saturday to hear all about their project! You will also be able to see Master Water Stewards at the Tangletown neighborhood's first annual **Green Day**, held at Fuller Park from 11-3. Come hear from different environmental groups and celebrate sustainability on a (hopefully) beautiful day! The current class of Stewards will spend Saturday morning on their much-anticipated **Watershed Tour** of MCWD as well.

Master Water Steward Trish is in need of some helping hands, and experience using heavy machinery, to help finish up her capstone project. If you or anyone you know has had experience using a Dingo excavator, and are willing to **volunteer** some time this spring, contact [Trish Hannah](#). You will get to count this toward your MWS volunteer hours!

You are all invited to attend the Freshwater Society's annual spring celebration and fundraiser, **Ice out/Loon In**, on April 23 from 5:30-9pm. This year, we will hold it at the new Saint Paul Saints ballpark. Our guests will be treated to a tour of the ballpark, featuring its stormwater reuse and infiltration projects!

If you are planning to install a raingarden on your property this spring, let us know. The current MWS class needs a location to practice site assessments during our class on Tuesday, May 19. Give us a place to practice, and we can do some of your planning work for you!

Finally, April is **Earth Month**! Don't forget to celebrate Earth Day and Arbor Day by getting involved in your community and getting your neighbors talking about water. Find out what Earth Day events are going on in your community and see how you can get involved!

Important Reminders

2015 Stewards:

- Take a few minutes to complete [THIS SURVEY](#) by 2pm on Thursday, April 9 so we can pair you all up into your capstone groups on the Watershed Tour Saturday.
- Send your bio and photo for the website to [Lindsey](#) by the end of the day on Sunday, April 12. She will publish what she has on Monday morning.

Everyone:

- If you have a **project installation or outreach event** you need volunteers for, use the [Google Group](#) to get the message out. We now have 82 Stewards who would love to help you out! Remember, work on each others' capstone project counts toward MWS volunteer hours!
- Don't forget to sign up for the [Minnehaha Creek Clean Up](#) on July 26th! You will get volunteer hours, a free T-shirt, and a free lunch (including beer)! Email [Peggy](#) with your preferred volunteer shift, email, and T-shirt size.

- Keep us up-to-date with your volunteer projects and continuing education hours by entering your hours in on our [website reporting page](#).
- Let us know if you need more **MWS business cards**, or if your information has changed; we will be printing more soon!

Upcoming Events

2015 Training:

- **Watershed tour:** Saturday, April 11th. Meet at MCWD at **8:30am** and we will be back by 3:00pm. Dress for the weather, and don't forget your water bottles! Breakfast and lunch will be provided. See the [agenda](#) for where we'll be going.
- **Rainscaping 1:** Saturday, May 2nd. Meet at Lyndale Farmstead Park (3900 Bryant Ave S) at **9:00am** and we will be back by 3:00pm. Bring your own lunch and dress for the weather.
- **Rainscaping 2:** Tuesday, May 5th. Meet at Lynhurst Community Center (1345 W Minnehaha Pkwy) at **6:00pm** and we will be back by 9:00pm. Dress for the weather.

If you are unable to attend a class, let us know right away so we can arrange a way for you to make it up.

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Master Water Steward Trish is in need of a **volunteer** with experience operating heavy machinery! If you or anyone you know has done this kind of work before, contact [Trish Hannah](#) for details.
- **Water & Energy Workshop for Congregations:** Monday, April 13 from 6-9pm at St. Luke Presbyterian Church in Minnetonka. Contact [Sean Gosiewski](#) if you'd like to help out.
- **Metro Blooms Raingarden Workshops:** Volunteer to help homeowners plan their summer raingarden projects and practice your teaching skills! Find the workshop dates and locations [here](#). Contact [Becky Rice](#) for more information.

Continuing Education:

- **Freshwater Society Moos Lecture:** "The Outsized Role of Earth's Largest Lakes" Thursday, April 30 from 7-8:30pm at the St. Paul Student Center on the U of M campus. Register [here](#).
- **Tour of Minneapolis Water Works:** Thursday, April 30 from 7-8:30. Contact [Greg Silverman](#) for more information.

Other Water Events:

- **Kelsey & Amy's Project Presentation:** Saturday, April 11 from 10-10:30am at the Mound-Westonka Library. Come hear about Kelsey & Amy's Master Water Steward project along with the Mound-Westonka Garden Guild!
- **Tangletown Green Day:** Saturday, April 11 from 11-3 at Fuller Park in Minneapolis.
- **St. Louis Park Organic Living Fair:** Saturday, April 18 from 9am-2pm at the St. Louis Park Recreation Center (3700 Monterey Dr).
- **Wild Ones Table Topics & Plant Sale:** Tuesday, April 21 from 7-9pm at Wood Lake Nature Center in Richfield.

- [Building Sustainable Lawns for a Better Earth](#): Wednesday, April 22 from 1-5pm at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.
- [Ice Out/Loon In](#): Thursday, April 23 from 5:30-9pm at the new St. Paul Saints stadium (360 N Broadway St). Come check out the stadium's unique **stormwater reuse projects**. And yes, there will be **tours!**
- [Talk Garden-Harvesting Rain Water](#): Saturday, April 25 from 10am-12pm at Roxanne's house (4055 25th Ave S) in Minneapolis. Come tour Roxanne's Master Water Steward cistern project!
- [2015 Shallow Lakes Forum](#): Saturday, April 25 from 8:30am-12:30pm at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.
- [Minneapolis Parks & Recreation Earth Day Clean Up](#): Saturday, April 25 from 9:30am-12pm, various locations in Minneapolis. Help pick up trash in your local park to celebrate Earth Week!
- [Prior Lake Clean Water Clean Up](#): Sunday, April 26 from 9am-12pm at Memorial Park in Prior Lake. Bring your own rake and enjoy a free lunch and party afterwards!
- [Mississippi River Forum Workshop](#): Friday, May 8 from 8:30am-12:30pm at the Science Museum of Minnesota in St. Paul.

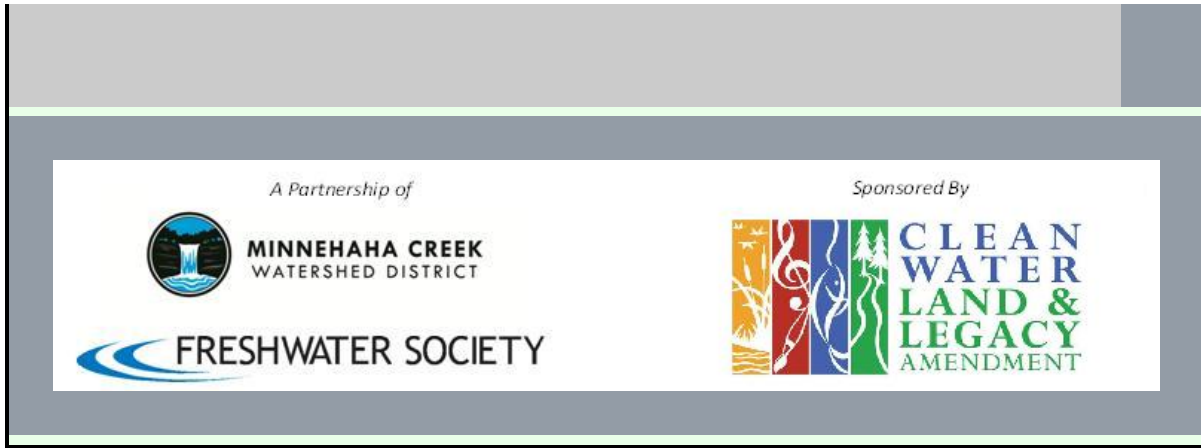
Check out our [calendar](#) to stay up to date with Master Water Steward events!

For Your Information

- The Mississippi Watershed Management Organization is taking part in [Crochet Coral Reef](#), an international art project to raise awareness of the importance of coral reefs, and the challenges we face in protecting them from disappearing. Go [here](#) to see how you can get involved!
- Antioch University and the EPA are partnering on a webinar series about climate change. Their most recent webinar, "**Getting the Message Out**," focused on framing environmental messages to encourage communities to take action, a useful topic for Stewards. You can watch the webinar [here](#).
- **Job opportunity**: National Park Service Education Technician (applications due April 15; information [here](#))
- **Job opportunity**: Nine Mile Creek Education & Outreach Specialist (information [here](#))
- **Job opportunity**: Women's Environmental Institute Program Manager (information [here](#))

Questions?

Contact Lindsey Wyckoff at lwyckoff@freshwater.org



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