

Master Water Stewards

Community Leadership for Clean Water

Master Water Stewards October 2016 Newsletter



Wishing you a happy and beautiful fall! Read on to learn about Master Water Stewards news, volunteer opportunities, and upcoming events.

Steward News

2017 Master Water Stewards Classes Are Under Way!

First Class at St. Thomas

A new class of Stewards attended their first class on October 11th at St. Thomas. In all, we have 68 new Stewards starting this fall from the Twin Cities and South Metro areas. Stewards began by learning about the program, the capstone project, and by getting to know each other.



A Collection of Cohorts

The new Stewards are being grouped into five distinct cohorts for the program. These cohorts include MWMO, South (City of Eagan, VRWJPO), East (CRWD, RWMWD), West (RPBCWD, MCWD, NMCWD) and CRWP. Stewards took time at the first meeting to talk in their cohorts and meet each other.

Partner Organization Tour

On October 15th, Stewards attended a tour with their partner organization to learn about stormwater projects in their region. It was the first of many cohort classes to come for these new Stewards! The new Stewards will come together for their first content class on November 1st to learn about Hydrology.

We're excited to welcome these new Stewards to the MWS program!



*****There are still a few spots left in the 2017 MWS class of Stewards. See [below](#) for more information. Please direct any interested volunteers to masterwaterstewards.org or to Deirdre (dcoleman@freshwater.org).*****

New Master Water Stewards Promotional Video



Minnehaha Creek WD has created an exciting new promotional video for Master Water Stewards profiling four Stewards and projects they've been working on. It is designed to provide insights into the program for potential new Stewards and is meant to be a general recruiting tool. Feel free to use it, share it, and show it to your friends and family! The video can be viewed either here or on [YouTube](#).

Meet Our New (and Repurposed!) Master Water Stewards Staff at Freshwater

Alex Van Loh Program Assistant

Alex served as our Minnesota GreenCorps member from 2015-2016 working on the Master Water Stewards program. When his year of service ended, we couldn't let him go! We have hired him as a program assistant and his new work will be to support all of our programs at Freshwater Society.



Shanti Penprase 2016-2017 Minnesota GreenCorps Member



Shanti is our 2016-2017 Minnesota GreenCorps Member, focused on the Master Water Stewards program. Shanti is a 2016 graduate of Carleton College and holds a degree in geology. She will be completing Alex's former duties as he transitions into new projects at Freshwater Society.

Volunteer Opportunities

New MWS App- We Need Your Help!

Master Water Stewards has partnered with a class at St. Thomas to create a new web-based app for Stewards. The app is intended to replace current reporting methods by providing a new, streamlined way to enter volunteer hours, along with profiles for Stewards and a searchable database that can be used to find projects and other Stewards.

Now, we need Stewards to test the app and help us improve it even more!

Testing will be held from **3:25- 5:00 pm at St. Thomas on October 31st.** **RSVP to Deirdre (dcoleman@freshwater.org)** if you're interested in providing input on this exciting project.

*****This event counts as volunteer hours*****

MWS 2017 Recruiting

Even though classes are underway for our new class of 2017 Stewards, **there are still a couple of spots available.** If you know anyone who might be interested, please tell them about your experience as a Master Water Steward and encourage them to apply at masterwaterstewards.org or by contacting Deirdre at dcoleman@freshwater.org. Thank you!

Upcoming Events and Continuing Education

Raingarden Insect Photo Survey

Tuesday, October 25, 6-8 pm
[Urban Growler](#)

This presentation will highlight photos of pollinators and other beneficial insects that were taken in raingardens in the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District. Attendees will learn more about the insects captured in the photo

survey and what beneficial roles they can play in our ecosystems.

Funded by a Cynthia Krieg grant & the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District. Please feel free to come early and have something to eat and drink.

Learn more, see a list of presenters, and register [here](#).

[Click to enlarge](#)



MOOS Speaker Series: Designing for Our Future- Sustainable Infrastructure and the Triple Bottom Line

November 15, 5:30 pm reception, 7:00pm lecture
[St. Paul Student Center Theater](#)

The talk will feature Janet L. Attarian, Deputy Director of the Department of Planning and Development in Detroit. Learn more at [freshwater.org](#).

2016 Master Water Stewards Graduation Party

Tuesday, December 6, 6-9 pm
[Kay Fredericks Room, Klas Center at Hamline University](#)

Stewards will be sharing their project information, pictures, and plans with us, followed by a celebration of their accomplishments! Finger food and a bar will be available. Please invite friends and colleagues who might be interested in attending. **RSVP to Shanti at spenprase@freshwater.org**



Water-friendly Job Listings

Communications Director, Environmental Initiative

The Communications Director is responsible for planning, development, and implementation of all branding, communications, and public relations activities in support of Environmental Initiative's mission and organizational priorities. The Communications Director works closely with staff, board members, and other external partners to create and execute strategic communications activities that effectively reach a broad range of audiences - including businesses, nonprofits, government agencies, donors, and the media. The Communications Director is responsible for maintaining and raising the organization's profile and influence as well as positioning the organization as a trusted leader and effective collaborator that does important work and accomplishes meaningful goals.

The position is currently full-time and reports to the Executive Director.

Learn more about this position [here](#).

Professional Development & Training Specialist, MWMO

The Professional Development & Training Specialist is responsible for the development and implementation of professional trainings about urban water resource management and for the interpretive programming of the building and grounds for the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization. The individual works in partnership with staff, agency and city counterparts, community members and private contractors to develop and implement trainings for professionals and the public whose work or activities impact water resources. The individual works with staff and partner organizations to develop and implement the MWMO's interpretive plan for its facility and grounds; providing opportunities for professional staff, youth and the public to learn about urban resource management.

In addition to these core competencies, the Professional Development & Training Specialist will participate as a member of the MWMO team, cooperating across activity areas and working to ensure effective internal and external communications and collaboration.

For a complete position description, please visit the MWMO website at: <http://mwmo.org/about/employment/>

More Job Listings

Check out these other sites for additional water-friendly jobs!

[Board of Water and Soil Resources](#)
[Minnesota Association of Conservation District Employees](#)
[Water Resources Coordinator Group of Minnesota](#)
[Society of Wetland Scientists](#)

Fundraising Opportunity for your Organization

The Minnesota Weatherguide Environment™ Calendars have been Minnesota's favorite for 40 years. This year, Freshwater Society is excited to offer "The Easiest Fundraiser EVER!" **By simply sending an email**, your group can raise significant funds selling a

local product that benefits the environment. Freshwater Society tracks purchases and ships calendars directly to buyers. **You do nothing more and you earn \$5 for each calendar sold!**

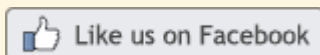
[Learn more here!](#)

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

Questions? Contact Shanti at spenprase@freshwater.org



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