



November 2017

November monthly normals from
the Minnesota Weatherguide
Environment™ Calendar:

Temperature: Max 41.2°F Min 26.2°F

Precipitation: 1.77 in.

**Order 2018 Minnesota
Weatherguide Environment™
calendars by Dec. 20 for
Christmas delivery!**

See back page for details.



**FRESHWATER
SOCIETY**

Leaders who matter



**by Steve Woods,
executive director**

At the end of
November I'll
be part of a
team preparing
newly appointed
watershed district
managers to
tackle their

demanding roles as public officials. I
love doing this because their unique
experience and aspirations made
them compelling enough for their
appointing county boards to tap them
for the job. They will hear me talk of
the late Dave Moran.

Dave Moran served a decade on
the board of the Prior Lake Spring
lake Watershed District in the 1990s
following a distinctive and long career
as an executive with the old North
Central, then Northwest Airlines.

I'd heard former employees of
Northwest absolutely rave about
the man's authentic and energetic
leadership.



The district was a client of mine back
when I was a consulting engineer.
Dave was the best board member
I have ever encountered. That's a
bold assertion, but the man was a
force when it came to pitching in to
move people, minds, or dirt. He often
spoke of being a "board member who
mattered". Dave figures prominently
in the stories I share during training

Leaders, continued on page 3

Freshwater Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to educating and inspiring people to value, conserve, and protect water resources.

Freshwater Society Board of Directors

Lisa Whalen, Chair
Mike Hanson, Vice Chair
Jeremy Duehr, Treasurer
Valery Forbes, PhD, Secretary
Rick Bateson
Julie Blackburn
Todd Bolin
Ryan Godfrey
Ryan Hurt
Lili Tod McMillan
Joan Nephew
Corrine Ricard
David Webb

Emeritus Directors

Richard Caldecott, Ph.D.
JoEllen Hurr
Dr. Barbara Luikens

Freshwater Foundation Board of Directors

Blyth Brookman
Stuart Grubb
David Knoblauch
Kent Warden

Staff

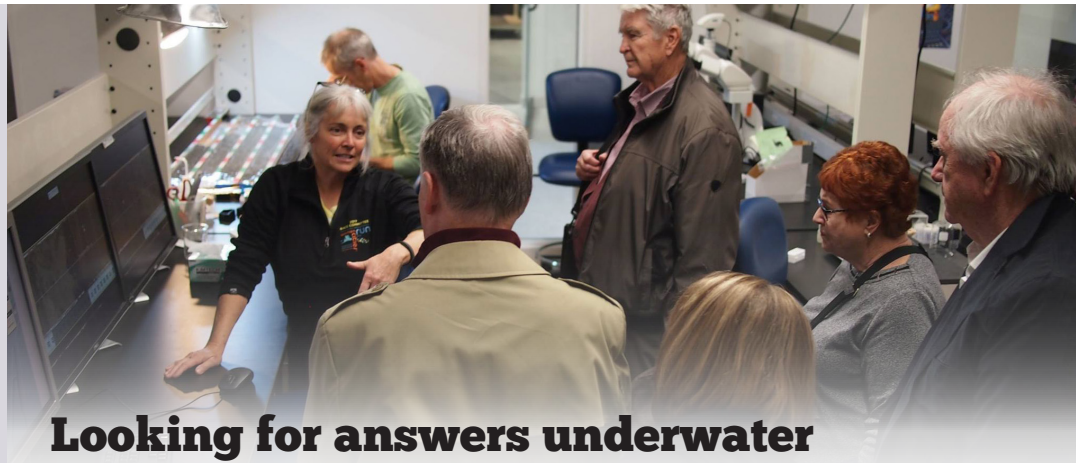
Steve Woods, PE, Executive Director
Deirdre Coleman, Program Coordinator
Julie Fliflet, Director of Finance
and Administration
Carrie Jennings, PhD, Research
and Policy Director
Jen Kader, Program Manager
Peggy Knapp, EdD, Special Projects
Connie Lanphear, Communications
and Program Manager
Mary Salisbury, Development Officer
Alex Van Loh, Program Assistant
Theresa Wondra, Administrative Assistant
Leslie Yetka, Director of Programs

Interns

Brian Bohman, Research and Policy Intern

Freshwater Society

2424 Territorial Road Suite B
St. Paul, MN 55114
651-313-5800 | freshwater.org
freshwater@freshwater.org



Looking for answers underwater

**by Carrie Jennings,
research and policy director**

As part of Freshwater's ongoing work to address the problem of nonpoint source pollution, we are collaborating with LacCore of the University of Minnesota to help the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (LMRWD) answer the question: are sedimentation rates on the Minnesota River floodplain increasing?

We think that the answer lies hidden in the sediment at the bottom of floodplain lakes between Chaska and Bloomington. To study that sediment, we spent a brisk week in early November taking core samples from two lakes in the Minnesota River National Wildlife Refuge: Big Rice and Coleman.

The process required putting an unwieldy, motorless coring platform on the water and pushing a tube into the mud at the bottom. We spent two days on each lake, taking a transect of six cores per lake.

The cores are being processed and examined by Drs. Vania Stefanova and Mark Shapley, researchers at LacCore, who will date them by distinctive layers: preserved pollen, which shows a ragweed pollen spike immediately after settlers cleared the land, and centuries of other distinctive layers including those deposited by floods. We expect to estimate rates of sediment accumulation over key periods, including the last couple of decades when agricultural drainage intensified and large rainfall events increased.

We know that flows have increased on the river, so it makes sense that the sediment load being delivered is also larger. LMRWD staff members think it has increased a lot.

The consequences of unchecked sedimentation have more than an ecological impact. Communities that lie along the river may be losing some level of the flood protection their levees provide, increasing their vulnerability to flooding.

This is a working stretch of river and dredging sand from the channel to keep the ports accessible is expensive. LMRWD is finding it increasingly difficult to keep up with dredging. They hope to better document the change in sediment accumulation so they can advocate for policies that address the cause.



Left to right, Dr. Mark Shapley, Dr. Vania Stefanova, (standing), and volunteers, Johnny Swiecichowski and Dan Scheeler coring Coleman Lake, Bloomington.



Stewards Walter Levesque, Louann Waddick, Randy Holst, and Joe Knaeble band together to Stop Over Salting!

A confluence of stewards

October 17, 2017 proclaimed Master Water Stewards Day!

by Connie Lanphear, communications manager

This year's class of Stewards celebrated their graduation at Confluence, an annual gathering of certified stewards, partners, instructors, and program supporters. Capstone projects were on display and attendees celebrated the year's projects and volunteer efforts. More than 190 certified Stewards are improving their neighborhoods and soaking in nearly 2 million gallons of rainwater each year!

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Assistant Commissioner Rebecca Flood gave the keynote speech to recognize the collective work of all of the Master Water Stewards and presented a proclamation from Gov. Dayton, making October 17, 2017 Master Water Stewards Day.

In October, 82 new Steward candidates attended the first of twelve in-person classes covering a wide variety of topics including hydrology, water policy, community engagement, and residential stormwater planning. When coursework is completed, candidates are guided through a capstone project, which includes the installation of a water management project and a public outreach campaign.



Leaders, continued from cover

— even those stories about when he surged ahead of everyone else a little too far!

I had to be careful when discussing ideas with Dave. More than once I would mention a potential project while “stabbing a bean” (his term for lunch), only to find that he had taken the idea to dinner with someone else. A couple days later I’d get a call that he had talked to the mayor, a landowner, or a county commissioner and they were on board and ready

to go. Since little was on paper yet, sometimes it wasn’t clear what had been sold or bought!

He coordinated with everyone and made things happen.

I can’t help but wonder what people would think of their local, state, and federal governments if most officials were this willing to risk working with whomever it took to achieve progress. I know several dozen individuals will hear about Dave next week and hopefully will follow his lead.

New board member

Ryan Godfrey, PhD



Dr. Godfrey is senior vice president of Operations at Tonka Water, an industry-leading designer and manufacturer of custom water treatment

systems. He also serves on the Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee, which advises the Secretary of Commerce and the Environmental Trade Working Group on the development and administration of programs and policies to expand U.S. exports of environmental technologies.

Ryan’s interest in serving on the Freshwater Society board of directors stems from a lifelong experience of valuing water. He spent much time on and in the water at his grandparent’s cabin on Little Birch Lake near Melrose. His environmental education started early there, as he fished, boated, swam, and looked under rocks.

The Chesapeake Bay is another body of water that resonates with Ryan. When he lived in the D.C. area, he rented a room from an older couple. The husband was a retired fishing boat captain and together the couple had seen directly how the Bay deteriorated and the fisheries collapsed. The rebound of the Bay is a great story of recovery. Yet he’s making sure his kids realize that the pristine Boundary Waters Wilderness we paddle needs an ounce of prevention rather than a pound of cure.

Ryan takes the place of Jim Manolis, who served on the board with distinction and will continue doing good work at The Nature Conservancy.

The best ticket in town: Free beer, food, art, fun

November 16, 2017, 5-8pm | Hook & Ladder Theater, Mpls

FreshFocus:

Celebrating Minnesota Weatherguide
Photographers



PHOTO: JOHN FOTY

Join the fun as we showcase
2018 Minnesota Weatherguide
calendar photographers!

- See their photos and hear about their creative process.
- Graze on local fare, sip some wine, tip a Fulton beer to the sounds of jazz piano
- Meet Weatherguide contributors Jeff Edmondson and Ron Schmit
- Stop by the photo booth for your own fun portraits
- Check out Weatherguides dating back to the 70s and pick up your 2018 edition.

TICKETS: \$15 advance | \$18 at the door

Admission includes food, one free drink, and a Weatherguide calendar

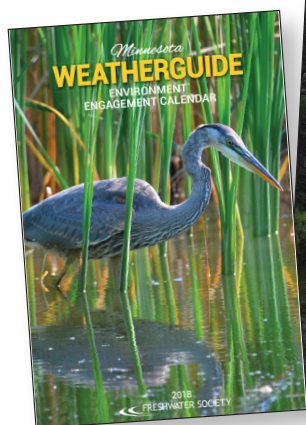
Additional calendars will be available for purchase at a discount.

Learn more and get your tickets: bit.ly/2zB87Kf

Order your 2018 Minnesota Weatherguide Environment calendars today!

Minnesota Weatherguide Environment calendars make the perfect gift for **everyone on your list!** More than a calendar, the Weatherguide is an almanac, art gallery, and daily companion to more than 20,000 people each year. It's distinctly Minnesotan, featuring regional astronomy, weather records, nature notes, gardening tips, and phenology features.

Order by December 20 to guarantee delivery by Christmas.



Order your calendar online at freshwater.org/weatherguide-calendars

To place your order by phone contact our office at 651-313-5800.

Upcoming events

FREE LECTURE The Lake Effect:
Protecting water through innovative
collaboration

November 14, 2017

U of M, St. Paul Student Center Theater

Hear **Kathy Lake** of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District discuss her innovative approach to address watershed-wide pollution issues.

Register here: bit.ly/2lhU2xP

FreshFocus: Celebrating Minnesota Weatherguide Photographers

November 16, 2017

The Hook & Ladder Theater, Minneapolis

See details at left.

Give to your Max

November 16, 2017

Are you ready to give to your max?! Give any day through November 16 and a portion of all donations will be matched. Don't wait: [pledge your gift today at bit.ly/1E8MJX1](http://pledge.yourgifttoday.at/bit.ly/1E8MJX1) and protect Minnesota waters!



2017 MAWD Annual Conference

November 30-December 2, 2017

Arrowwood Resort, Alexandria

On November 30, our Steve Woods will be facilitating a discussion about the leadership skills needed for a watershed organization to excel at what it does.

Learn more: bit.ly/2AL4UZu

17th Annual Road Salt Symposium

February 8, 2018

Plymouth Creek Center

Registration is now open for the annual symposium! Hear the latest innovations, trends, and best practices for reducing salt use while maintaining safe roads.

Learn more and register: bit.ly/2xB64Ik

The State of Water Conference

April 12-14, 2018

Breezy Point Resort

Get ready for a summer of action to protect the health of Minnesota's lakes, rivers, and wetlands! **Now accepting RPFs for conference presentations** through December 1.

Learn more: bit.ly/2s1sFvd