

RCRCA News

Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area

TMDL, what is a TMDL?

Timid Men Don't Lie, Too Many Ducks Leaving, Timmy Must Disown Lassie, Tom May Die Laughing? Just what the heck does TMDL stand for? TMDL stands for **T**otal **M**aximum **D**aily **L**oad. OK... What does that mean?

A TMDL establishes the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards for the designated use. A TMDL also includes the process of allocating pollutant loadings among point and non-point sources.

The federal Clean Water Act requires the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to list a water body as impaired during a formal listing process and conduct a TMDL study for each pollutant that causes a water body to fail to meet its designated use and associated state water quality standards. The TMDL study identifies both point and non-point sources of each pollutant that fails to meet water quality standards. Rivers and streams may have several TMDLs, one for each pollutant.

"Impaired waters" are those streams, rivers and lakes that currently do not meet their designated use and associated water quality standards. During the 1970's, each river, stream and lake in Minnesota was assigned a designated use. For each water body, the standards define the maximum amounts of specific pollutants that may be present in a water body and not adversely affect a particular designated use. There are seven classes of designated uses, such as aquatic life, recreation, drinking water, agriculture, wildlife and other uses. The Clean Water Act requires states to assess their waters and develop lists of impaired waters and then develop TMDLs for these waters.

The TMDL process involves four phases: 1) assessment and listing, 2) TMDL study, 3) implementation plan development and implementation, and 4) effectiveness monitoring.

RCRCA is in step 3 of the TMDL process for fecal coliform pollution. We are beginning step 2 of the TMDL process for turbidity (sediment pollution). The affected uses are primarily aquatic life and aquatic recreation with these pollutants. Keep up to date on our status by checking the RCRCA website for information on meeting dates and progress on TMDL development.

Information regarding TMDLs and the development process we taken from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture website:
<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/protecting/waterprotection/impwaterdefault.htm>

RCRCA Engineering Technician Available to Assist You!

William Moldestad, Engineering Technician for the Cottonwood & Redwood River watersheds is available to assist local landowners, NRCS staff, and SWCD staff. Our technician has sign-off authority for BMP designs, so we have the ability to help with surveying, design, and construction of conservation practices. If you need help and have a waiting list, contact RCRCA at 507-637-2142, ext 4 for assistance.

April 2008

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Web Site updates!



If you have any ideas about what you'd like to see on the web site, call 507-637-2142, Ext. 4. Suggestions can also be e-mailed to: shawn.wohnoutka@mn.nacdnet.net

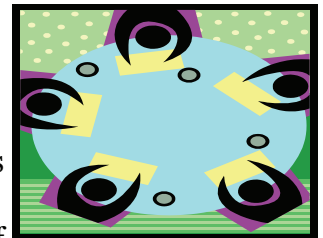
Remember, you can also view the current *RCRCA News* on the web at: www.rcrca.com and click on "Latest Newsletter" under Events/Activities:

RCRCA Board Minutes

The RCRCA Board of Directors held their monthly meeting on **Monday February 25, 2007** at the Redwood County Courthouse.

The following is the unofficial version of the minutes:

- Board reviewed & approved minutes from January Board of Directors and Executive Board Meetings.
- Board reviewed January income & balance sheets and decided to hold off on approval until 2007 books were closed.
- Board reviewed and approved February payments.
- Board approved 1 contract for \$5,938.13 in Lincoln County, Redwood Watershed.
- Board approved 1 contract in the Cottonwood Watershed for \$2,386.65.
- Board reviewed & approved contract for services with Redwood SWCD for .5 FTE to cover part of the position held by Sharon Voeks. Six month probationary period with annual reviews thereafter and a 2-week notice prior to termination provision.
- Board moved to suspend the vacant full time position of Administrative Officer.
- Doering updated board on status of Lake Redwood Dredging Project. Project design was sent out for bids, with 14 plan holders to date. MPCA dredge spoil permit and DNR waters permit were both submitted. Lease agreement with local landowner for spoil deposition is still being worked out, with the assistance of the Redwood County Assistant Attorney Patrick Rohland.
- Doering updated board about first Fecal TMDL Technical Committee meeting. Meeting went very well and the next meeting is scheduled for April 7th at the RACC.
- Schueller reported back to board about Minnesota River Basin testimony to legislature on the Lanning bill. Discussion centered on possibility of Senate companion bill, how the money would be disbursed and the implication of permitting authority.
- Doering informed board about Bill Moldestad's annual review. Mr. Moldestad is on a bi-annual rate increase and was recommended for a \$2.00 increase in his hourly rate. His next rate review will be in 2010. This is a part time position, up to 25 hours a week with no benefits.



The RCRCA organization & staff said goodbye to Sharon Voeks when she lost her battle with cancer on December 26, 2007. Many of you may have last seen her at the RCRCA/Area II Legislative breakfast in early December. Sharon was a fighter and contributed greatly to the RCRCA organization right up until her last days. We will greatly miss her intelligence, wit and ability to be "one of the guys", she fit right in in an all-male office. Sharon, you will be missed!

View from the Director & RCRCA Board Member Spotlights

Lake Redwood Reclamation Project Update

With the original May 1 start date looming, we have multiple irons in the fire. The dredge spoil permit is currently under review by MPCA. The DNR dam safety personnel have asked for a permit due to plan designed heights of the dikes at the disposal site. RCRCA is currently applying for the DNR water appropriations permit that is also needed. The United States Army Corps of Engineers have granted RCRCA a general permit for the project. Houston Engineering Inc. has published the plan designs for bids. Currently there are 24 plan holders. Bid opening will be April 21, 2008 at RCRCA's regularly scheduled Board of Directors Meeting. Bids are contingent on securing all permits for the project.

- James Doering, RCRCA, Executive Director

Spotlight on Tom Daub

Tom serves on the RCRCA Board of Directors as a representative from the Redwood County Soil and Water Conservation District. Daub serves the townships of Vail, Vesta, Underwood, Westline and Granite Rock. He has served as a SWCD supervisor for nineteen years and has represented the Redwood Co. SWCD on the RCRCA Board for the past nine years. Becoming a SWCD supervisor may not have been childhood dream of his, but a fellow board member convinced him to run. He has enjoyed his time as a supervisor and we are happy to have him on the RCRCA board. Tom & his wife live on a farm 4 miles north of Wabasso. They have 3 sons and 2 grandchildren.

Spotlight on Phil Nelson

Phil Nelson serves on the RCRCA Board of Directors as a representative from the Lyon County. He is one of 5 elected County Commissioners for Lyon County and represents the people of Amiret, Monroe, Rock Lake, Lyons, Custer, Clifton and Shelburne townships. Phil was sworn in as County Commissioner in January of 2000 and came to the RCRCA Board in 2001. Phil decided to become a county commissioner after he had turned over the day to day operations of the family farm to two of his sons and was urged by friends to run for office.

Congratulations to Phil and his wife, Pat, who will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary on June 27th of this year. They live on the farm that has been in his family since 1895, located just over 3 miles north of Tracy on Co. Road 11. They have five children (3 boys and 2 girls) and eight grandchildren.

There are two quotes Phil wanted to share with us. The first one is from Peter Hutchinson's book 'The Price of Government', "People are willing to pay taxes if they perceive they are getting value!" and the second is from a book about 4 Civil War Generals and is as follows: "You can delegate authority, but you cannot delegate responsibility!"



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This is a photo that shows a Peruvian Glacier in 1980 and the same glacier in 2002

Source: The Northern Rivers Echo. Issue #159 Newspaper in Lismore, Australia



Recycled paper

"All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident."

~ Arthur Schopenhauer (1788-1860)

April 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 2008

- 21st RCRCA Board Meeting 1:30 pm
- 22nd Earth Day
- 30th Area V Envirothon - Camden State Park

May 2008

- 10th Fishing Opener
- 11th Mothers Day
- 19th RCRCA Board Meeting 7:30 pm (summer hours)
- 26th Memorial Day

RCRCA Executive Board of Directors

- Clark Lingbeek, Chairman
- Norman Holmen, Vice Chairman
- Tom Daub, Secretary
- John Schueller, Treasurer
- Glen Sorensen, Public Relations & Information
- Phil Nelson, Member at Large

RCRCA Full Board of Directors

County Commissioners

- Dennis Potter, Brown Co .
- Norman Holmen, Cottonwood Co .
- James Johansen, Lincoln Co .
- Phil Nelson, Lyon Co .
- Kevin Vickerman, Murray Co.
- Luke Johnson, Pipestone Co.
- John Schueller, Redwood Co.
- Jane Remiger, Yellow Medicine Co

SWCD Board Members

- Jack Vogel, Brown
- Clark Lingbeek, Cottonwood
- Glen Sorensen, Lincoln
- Mark Muelebroeck, Lyon
- Paul Posthuma, Murray
- LeRoy Stensgaard, Pipestone
- Tom Daub, Redwood
- Burton Kuehn, Yellow Medicine

RCRCA Staff

- Kari Clouse, Office Specialist
- James Doering, Executive Director
- Douglas A. Goodrich, Water Quality Technician
- William Moldestad, Engineering Technician
- Shawn Wohnoutka, GIS/Outreach Technician