

RCRCA News

Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area

Busy Spring!

RCRCA staff has had a very busy spring this year! Executive director, Jim Doering and outreach technician, Shawn Wohnoutka, set up the stream table, answered conservation questions, signed up canoe trip participants and handed out freebies to the local community during the Earth Day open house, at the Redwood Falls Armory on April 27th. Shawn gave presentations on water quality to youngsters, using our stream table at the Yellow Medicine Conservation Days, held at the Upper Sioux Agency State Park and Stone Hill Regional Park—Del Clarke Lake in early May. RCRCA staffers, Doug Goodrich and Shawn Wohnoutka developed questions for the aquatics portion of the state-level envirothon exams, administered the test and judged the oral presentations. The Minnesota State Envirothon was held in mid-May at Lake Shetek, in Southwestern Minnesota.

Thanks to many signups at the Earth Day open house and a large contingent of returning canoeists, we filled the canoe trips down the Cottonwood and Redwood Rivers early this year. Jim and Shawn led over 40 canoeists down the Cottonwood River on Tuesday, June 19th. The Redwood Alternative School went down the Redwood River on Wednesday, June 20th and 20 people made the Redwood River trip on Thursday, June 21st. We had some late cancellations for the Redwood River, but that allowed us to have a local 4-H chapter bring a group of kids along. The 4-H group had a great time and will be looking at having us take them on their own trip down the river next year, like the Alternative School.

Now, the results of the 2nd annual photo contest! The grand prize winner this year is Wally Stadick of New Ulm. We received over 40 excellent photos and the judges had a challenge to pick the top 3 in each age division. Winning photos in the 17 & Under division were Carl & Brian Swedzinski along with Leah Eckstein. The winners in the 18-50 group were Joel & Joleen Irlbeck and Dan Braam. The top 3 from the 51 & over were Jan Meidl, Dave DeJong and David Swedzinski. Congratulations to everyone who participated, we encourage others to enter in next years' contest. We only had 5 entrants in the 17 & Under division, so encourage young people you know to enter, they often come up with the most unique images we have seen. You can view all the winning images at our website; we will post information about a possible 3rd annual contest once a decision is made regarding funding for the event.

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.

August 2007

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Web Site updates!



Information about our 5th annual golf tournament is available online. We also have the winning photos from our 2nd annual photo contest!

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

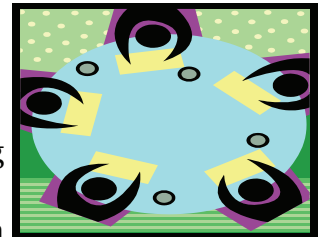
Remember, you can also view the current *RCRCA News* on the web at: www.rcrca.com and click on "Latest Newsletter" under Events/Activities:

RCRCA Board Minutes

The RCRCA Board of Directors held their monthly meeting on **Monday June 18, 2007** at the Redwood County Courthouse.

The following is the unofficial version of the minutes:

- Board approved donation of \$300 for SWMACDE Environmental Fair.
- Board reviewed and approved May income and balance sheets along with June payments.
- Doering reviewed funds spent in each member county along with grant and septic loan funding remaining for the Redwood & Cottonwood Watersheds.
- Doering reviewed budget negotiations with Houston Engineering to bring project back under budget. Houston has started work on the project with DNR permits and information from Lake Redwood core samples. Project start date - September of this year is the goal.
- Doering informed board the grant agreement for Lake Redwood reclamation project has been received. Board reviewed and approved the \$1.6 million grant agreement.
- Doering presented board with document from Governor Pawlenty, proclaiming the week of June 18th to be Redwood - Cottonwood Rivers Projects Week in the State of Minnesota.



5th Annual "Tee Up" for the Cottonwood River Golf Tournament

RCRCA's annual best ball golf tournament is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, September 13 at the Farmer's Golf and Health Club in Sanborn. The event is limited to the first 14 teams to sign up. We filled up last year, so make your reservations with the RCRCA office as soon as you assemble your team. There is a limited number of golf carts available for rental, please let us know if you would like us to hold a cart for you when you make reservations for your team. If you have a golf cart or have access to one, please bring it, as there are not enough rental carts for each team to have two.

Teams can be 3 or 4 person. Individuals are also welcome to sign up, you will be teamed with other individuals or a 3 person team. Teams and individuals may choose to walk the course, provide their own cart or the cover the cost of cart rental. RCRCA will be covering all green fees, as well as providing lunch during the tourney and dinner after the tourney. Beverages are the responsibility of each individual.

RCRCA Board Member Spotlights

Lake Redwood Reclamation and Enhancement Project

Just to give a quick up-date, currently Houston Engineering Inc. is working develop the EAW for the project that we hope to have out for public comment on August 13, 2007. Houston has completed surveying the lake and a few possible disposal sites. With the survey providing one half foot contours, we will be able to develop a more accurate estimate of the sediment quantity we hope to remove from the lake. The current timeline given by Houston is to finish with the EAW comments by fall and develop bid specs for early winter. This will allow for an early spring start on the disposal site and dredging should commence by May 1, 2008.

Submitted by *James Doering, RCRCA, Executive Director*

Spotlight on Burton Kuehn

Burton Kuehn serves on the RCRCA Board of Directors, as a representative from the Yellow Medicine County Soil and Water Conservation District. Burton serves the townships of Echo, Posen, Wood Lake and Sioux Agency. He has been elected as a SWCD supervisor and served on the RCRCA Board for the past fourteen years. An interest in conservation led Burton to become a SWCD supervisor.

Burton & Carroll Kuehn have a Belview address, but actually live at the east end of Yellow Medicine County. They have two adult children, Michael of Echo and Michelle Hyatt of Waseca.

Spotlight on Glen Sorensen

Glen Sorensen serves on the RCRCA Board of Directors as a representative from the Lincoln County Soil and Water Conservation District. Glen considers all voters in the county to be his constituents, but his district consists of Ash Lake, Limestone and Lake Stay Townships. He became a SWCD supervisor in 1985 and came to the RCRCA Board ten years later in 1995. A desire to be involved in the decisions on the wise use of soils, waters and other valuable resources in our area is what led Glen to become a SWCD supervisor.

Glen and Ilene have been married for over 37 years and have raised 3 wonderful daughters, Lisa, Penny and Kimberly. Dan and Tim are son-in-laws who helped bless Glen and Ilene with grandson, Nicholas and granddaughter Lillian. A favorite family activity is getting together to go camping.

Glen also serves on the Winds Of The Prairie church council, Lincoln County Thrivent board and the Lyon/Lincoln REA coop board. He enjoys the opportunity of listening to and exchanging ideas with others who have economic, environmental and conservation issues at heart while encouraging accountability.



Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area

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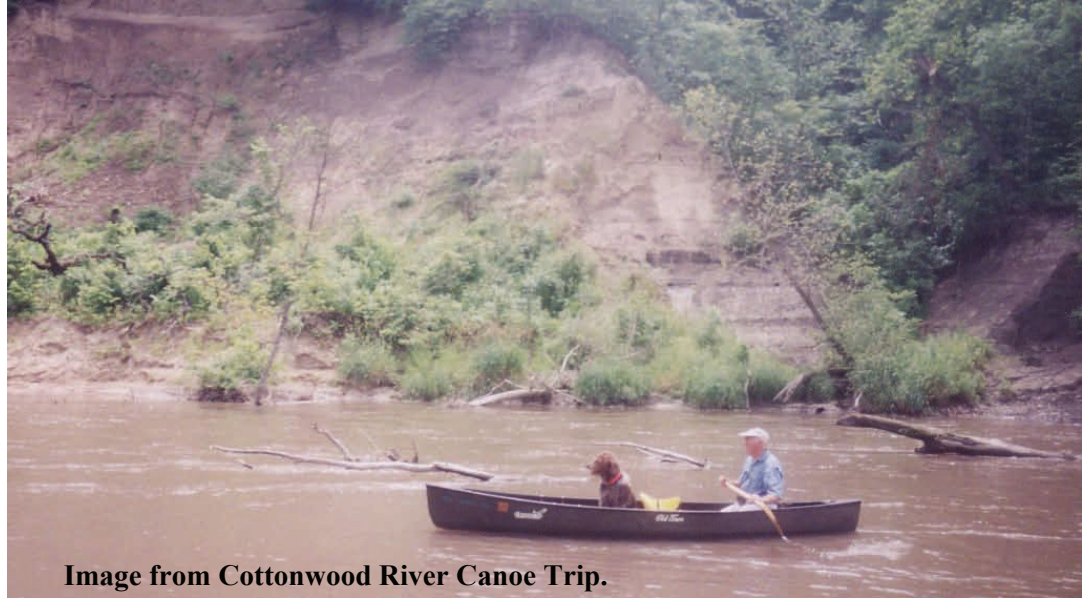


Image from Cottonwood River Canoe Trip.

We're on the web!
www.rcrca.com

There is no rushing a river. When you go there, you go at the pace of the water and that pace ties you into a flow that is older than life on this planet. Acceptance of that pace, even for a day, changes us, reminds us of other rhythms beyond the sound of our own heartbeats.

~ **Jeff Rennieke,**

River Days; Travels on Western Rivers



Recycled paper

August 2007

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	31	

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 2007

20th RCRCA Board Meeting

September 2007

3rd Labor Day

13th RCRCA's 5th Annual "Tee-Up" for the Cottonwood River Golf Tournament

17th RCRCA Board Meeting

23rd Autumnal Equinox - 1st day of Fall

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

- James Doering, Executive Director
- Douglas A. Goodrich, Water Quality Technician
- William Moldestad, Engineering Technician
- Sharon Voeks, Administrative Officer
- Shawn Wahnoutka, GIS/Outreach Technician