
RCRCA News

Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area

WELCOME TO RCRCA NEWS!

The creation of *RCRCA News* came about in an effort to inform all partner agencies and county officials about RCRCA events and board decisions.

RCRCA News will be sent out monthly to all partner agencies, soil and water supervisors and county commissioners. It will feature the latest decisions from the RCRCA Board of Directors, RCRCA events, cost share dollars available by watershed and calendar items.

If your organization would like to include items on our calendar, contact Roseanne Kaseforth, Watershed Educator to have your events included.



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Cottonwood River Restoration Project

- *The Cottonwood River Restoration Project has a new brochure explaining its mission and goals—if you or your organization would like a copy/copies please contact RCRCA.*

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: Indeed it’s the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

EPA NEWS-NOTES

Be sure to check out the June 2001 issue of the EPA News-Notes!

RCRCA is featured in the article “Trading Coffee for Water Quality Improvements.” The article explains the history of the Redwood River Clean Water Project and describes “Coffee on the Project” and its successes.

To read the article, visit the EPA web site at www.epa.gov/owow/info/NewsNotes, click on “current issue” then “Trading Coffee of Water Quality Improvements.”

RCRCA also has a link to the article on our web site, www.rcrca.com OR give us a call and we’ll be happy to send you a copy!

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GREEN EXPO & RIVERBLAST

GREEN Expo is Saturday, September 15th, 10-5 pm at Vogel Arena in New Ulm. This special event is designed to give Southern Minnesota businesses, industries, agencies and organizations an opportunity to display their environmental initiatives, programs, products and service that can benefit both our environment and our economy.

As an additional attraction, GREEN Expo is being held in cooperation with the Coalition for a Clean Minnesota River (CCMR) and RiverBlast, celebration of the Minnesota River on Sept. 14

& 15. RiverBlast will feature music, food, fun and FREE camping with shuttle service available between RiverBlast and GREEN Expo 2001. The GREEN Expo is sponsored by Putting GREEN, Kraft Foods Inc. of New Ulm, New Ulm Energy Awareness Commission and Brown County Recycling Office. For more information about the GREEN Expo contact: Putting GREEN at: putt@newulmtel.net or call 507-354-9090.

For more information about RiverBlast, contact Scott Sparlin at 507-359-2346.

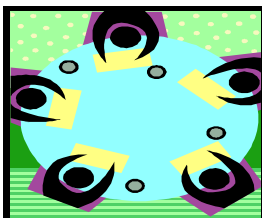
RCRCA will be displaying a booth at the GREEN Expo 2001 and giving a presentation using the Enviroscape and the River Model Table.

RCRCA BOARD MINUTES

The RCRCA Board of Directors held their monthly meeting on Monday, August 20th at the Redwood County Courthouse.

The following is the unofficial version of the minutes:

- Board accepted the resignation of Jason Neuman, Watershed Planner, effective Aug. 17, 2002. He has taken a position as coordinator of the Snake River Watershed Management Board located in Mora, MN starting Aug. 20, 2002.
- RCRCA will advertise for a Watershed Technician for the Cottonwood Watershed that would possess knowledge of Excel, Access & GIS experience, with water quality as an added asset. Advertising will begin in the next week with possible start date of late Oct. or first part of Nov.



- Board reviewed and passed the RCRCA budget for 2002.
- Cost share from the "Cottonwood MPCA 319 Funds" have received six (6) contracts utilizing these funds for surface tile inlets for a total of \$7,331.25 cost shareable, with approximately \$69,800 left to be encumbered for stream bank restorations, sediment control basins and alternative tile intakes.
- Board reviewed meetings from Currant Lake, Don Ja Lei Beach and the MN River Basin Jt. Powers Bd. Conference held in Montevideo as well as reviewing Beaver Grant distribution to counties and the MN River Special Project cost share fund report from the Redwood Co. SWCD.

SEPTIC LOAN PROGRAM

The following are the Cottonwood River Restoration Project septic system loan program dollars by county.

Brown, Cottonwood, Redwood and Murray Counties have all been authorized to begin spending their allotted monies.

Lyon County has not been authorized pending board approval.

County	Percent in Watershed	Dollar Appropriations for First Three Years
Brown	21%	\$ 77,700
Cottonwood	19%	70,300
Lyon	17%	62,900
Murray	8%	29,600
Redwood	35%	129,500
TOTAL	100%	\$370,000

RIVER MODEL TABLE

RCRCA recently built a River Model Table. The model consists of a box filled with plastic granular pellets and is supported by four adjustable jackstands. A small reservoir at the lower end of the box contains a battery-powered pump that sends water from the reservoir through a hose and back to the upper end of the box. The river model is useful to convey information that is otherwise difficult to comprehend to a variety of age groups.

The model is an excellent tool for showing the effects of

channelization, headcutting and debris in rivers.

If you are interested in RCRCA demonstrating the River Model at an event, or borrowing it on your own, let us know!

Keep in mind that it is large and the plastic pellets weigh about 200 lbs! Because of the set-up involved, we suggest using the model when a large number of contacts will be reached.

BEAVER GRANT



RCRCA recently received a \$15,974.00 grant for nuisance beavers in both the Redwood and Cottonwood River Watersheds.

Grant dollars can be used to offset the cost of trapping nuisance beavers and to remove dams.

The distribution of grant dollars to the counties that have signed the joint powers organization will be based on the percentage of the county that lies in the Redwood and Cottonwood River Watersheds.

Counties have until March 1, 2002 to spend their grant dollars, after that a report will go out of what is left over and then the money will be disbursed on a first come first served basis.

More details about the beaver grant will be sent to each county drainage authority.

County	Percent in Watershed(s)	Dollar Appropriations
Brown	13.4%	\$2,140.51
Cottonwood	12.4%	1,980.77
Lincoln	6.9%	1,102.20
Lyon	26.4%	4,217.13
Murray	5.4%	862.59
Pipestone	1.3%	207.66
Redwood	33.1%	5,287.39
Yellow Medicine	1.1%	175.75
TOTAL	100%	\$15,974.00

COST SHARE AVAILABLE



As of August 1, 2001
the approximate cost share dollars available are:

Cottonwood River Watershed: \$56,950.00
Redwood River Watershed: \$20,000.00



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

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CALENDAR 2001

September

- 3 Labor Day-RCRCA Office Closed
- 12-14 Working at a Watershed Level Workshop, St. Cloud
- 14 & 15 RiverBlast, New Ulm
- 15 The GREEN Expo, 10-5 pm, Vogel Arena, New Ulm
- 17 RCRCA Board of Directors Meeting, 7:30 pm, Redwood Co. Courthouse
- 18 & 19 Environmental Fair, Lyon County Fairgrounds

October

- 9 Wildlife Habitat Development Conference, 8:30-3 pm, Jackpot Junction, sponsored by SWMACDE
- 15 RCRCA Board of Directors Meeting, 7:30 pm, Redwood Co. Courthouse (tentative)

November

- 6 Election Day
 - 12 Veteran's Day—RCRCA Office Closed
 - 19 RCRCA Board of Directors Meeting, 1:30 pm, Redwood Co. Courthouse (tentative)
 - 22 & 23 Thanksgiving Holiday—RCRCA Office Closed
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