

RCRCA News

Redwood-Cottonwood Rivers Control Area

RCRCA Summer Activities

Once again, RCRCA will be hosting a variety of activities this summer for you to enjoy and participate in. Preliminary dates for the Cottonwood and Redwood River canoe trips are Tuesday, June 20th for the Cottonwood River trip and Thursday, June 22nd for the Redwood River trip. We will have canoes for those interested, but call and reserve yours early as we have a limited number available.

The 4th annual Tee-Up for the Cottonwood River golf event will be held in September 14th at the Farmers Health & Golf Club in Sanborn. Look for more information in the next (July) newsletter. Call the RCRCA office or e-mail if you would like to reserve a spot for your team in this best-ball tournament.

The Coffee on the Projects events will not be held this year. We would like to organize a watershed exploration/nature tour to take the place of this event. We are still working out the logistics of a tour, but the general idea is to provide a bus to transport local residents around to some of the Wildlife Management Areas (WMA), Scenic & Nature Areas (SNA), state and county parks where riparian features are present. We hope to showcase publicly accessible lands available to watershed residents. This will provide an opportunity for bird watchers to scout new locations for their hobby. Best of all, interested parties can bring a camera with and take pictures to enter into the RCRCA 2nd annual photo contest for a chance to win some very nice prizes. We hope to have final dates and tour information updates in the next newsletter.

Speaking of the photo contest, the 2nd photo contest started May 1st and runs until February 1, 2007. We have inserted a copy of the Photo Contest Registration Form into this newsletter. Please make copies available for anyone interested in entering, this form can also be downloaded from the RCRCA website. More information about all these events is available on the RCRCA website (www.rcrca.com) as well as the results of the 1st RCRCA Photo Contest and copies of the winning photos. We are ordering calendars comprised of contest entries during the first week of May and hope to have them available for purchase by early June. For those of you who participated and won a prize, we will be mailing the calendars out as soon as we receive them.

Any questions regarding any RCRCA event or activity can be directed to Shawn Wohnoutka (shawn.wohnoutka@mn.nacdnet.net) at 507-637-2142 Ext. 4.

RCRCA Engineering Technicians Available to Assist You!

Kelly Oliver and William Moldestad, Engineering Technicians for the Cottonwood River watershed are available to assist local landowners, NRCS staff, and SWCD staff. Our current projects are waiting for Army Corps of Engineers approval giving us 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.

May 2006

RCRCA News



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Web Site updates!



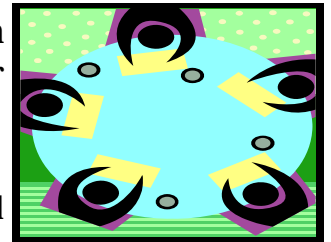
Photo contest winners from the first event are available for viewing on the RCRCA website! Information on the next photo contest is also available!

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.nacdn.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 **March 20, 2006** at the Springfield Community Center following the RCRCA annual meeting.



The following is the unofficial version of the minutes:

- One contract was presented for cost share approval in the Redwood Watershed for Redwood County in the amount of \$7,614.
- One contract in the Cottonwood Watershed was cancelled due to Army Corps of Engineers requiring wetland mitigation or redesign of the project. The owner did not want to go through these new dealings.
- Board approved resolution and letter of support for Lake Redwood Geo Coring done by University of Minnesota. Supporting U of M coring will help with the Lake Redwood Bonding Bill.
- Board approved the new mission statement for RCRCA.

The RCRCA Board of Directors held their monthly meeting on Monday **April 17, 2006** at the Redwood County Courthouse.

The following is the unofficial version of the minutes:

- One contract presented for payment in the Redwood Watershed for \$915.00.
- Four contracts were presented for approval of cost share. Two in the Redwood Watershed and two in the Cottonwood Watershed for a total of \$25,681.13.
- Resolution was passed to accept the new Cottonwood Phosphorus TMDL grant agreement.
- With new grant resolution completed, new contracts for this grant were presented for approval of cost share. There were 7 new contracts totaling \$94,017.
- Doering informed Board on MN River Turbidity TMDL meeting and Redwood Falls Design Team meetings he attended and presented at.
- Board reviewed the bonding bill for Lake Redwood Reclamation.
- Board discussed feedlot cost share application concerning Code 784 wastewater and feedlot runoff control. A motion was approved to cost share up to 75% or up to 5,000 on feedlots with Level 2 thru Level 5.
- Board approved bulk purchase of calendars of photo contest entrants.
- The completed Year End Financial for 2005 was presented to Board.

From the Director

Grant Deadlines For Low Interest Septic Loans Are Approaching:

Cottonwood River low interest loan contracts have been extended through March 2007. This confines all installations to 2006. The septic systems have to be in by the end of the 2006 construction season which ends approximately around October 10th. Of the loan dollars remaining for all counties listed below (as of March 1st, 2006), there are roughly 65 systems left to install at an average of \$7,500.00 each. Contact your County Environmental/Zoning Office for current availability. The money has to be spent (meaning the system is installed and bills paid) by the deadline. Any money encumbered/earmarked for systems that are not installed in 2006 will be sent back to MPCA.

Funds for Cottonwood River Watershed Septic Loans

	Distribution Breakdown: Beginning Balance	Remaining Balance
• Brown County -	\$294,000	\$50,800
• Cottonwood County -	\$387,000	\$121,000
• Murray County -	\$112,000	\$300
• Lyon County -	\$238,000	\$94,900
• Redwood County -	\$369,000	\$220,700

The Redwood River low interest loans will be extended until approximately June of 2007. Each participating County will soon be receiving contract amendments similar to the ones recently approved for the Cottonwood River. Systems will be able to be installed through the construction season of 2006 and spring of 2007. As of March 1st there were funds available through the participating Counties for approximately 48 systems at a \$7,500 average cost. Grant terms are the same as the Cottonwood.

Funds for Redwood River Watershed Septic Loans

	Distribution Breakdown: Beginning Balance	Remaining Balance
• Lincoln County -	\$130,000	\$80,800
• Lyon County -	\$180,000	\$121,900
• Murray County -	\$30,000	\$30,000
• Pipestone County -	\$70,000	\$36,400
• Redwood County -	\$130,000	\$46,200
• Yellow Medicine Co.-	\$60,000	\$47,900

Additional loan grant applications will be made for both watersheds for 2007. The Redwood River Loan is eligible for a continuation whereas the Cottonwood River will be a new grant. These are generally due in October and grant award notifications come out in December. A survey of participating counties will be done to review distribution breakdowns and to determine future needs prior to the submission of new grant requests. A meeting will be scheduled with Commissioner Board Representatives, Auditors and Environmental/Planning and Zoning Officers to discuss the survey, successes and obstacles of the loan program and to decide distribution of the new grants. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Jim Doering, RCRCA Executive Director at 507.637.2142 ext. 124.



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Photo By
 Kevin Kotz

Photo by Kevin Kotz.
 3rd place photo in the 20-50 age division.
 Complete list of winners at:
www.rcrca.com/photocontest05.htm

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



Recycled paper

RCRCA, in cooperation with partner groups and landowners, works to improve water quality, reduce erosion and enhance recreational opportunities by providing education, outreach, monitoring and technical assistance within the watershed boundaries

RCRCA Mission Statement

~Revised during Strategic Planning Meetings

May 2006

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

May 2006

- 1st Start of 2006 RCRCA Photo Contest.
- 13th MN Statewide Fishing Opener for sauger, walleye, northern pike & lake trout
- 14th Mother's Day
- 15th RCRCA Monthly Board Meeting
- 27th Bass Fishing Opener
- 29th Memorial Day

RCRCA Executive Board of Directors

- Clark Lingbeek, Chairman
- Donald Wellner, 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

- Donald Wellner, 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
- Kelly Oliver, Engineering Technician
- Sharon Voeks, Administrative Officer
- Shawn Wohnoutka, GIS/Outreach Technician