



MN SWCS CHAPTER SPRING NEWS LETTER

Money Available to Attend International SWCS Meeting in Rochester, NY!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Student Scholarships	2
2005 Award Winners	2
It's a Water Workshop!	2
Nominations Needed	2
By-Law Changes	3
What to do with our \$\$	3
Calendar of Events	4
Website Addresses	4

Need help financially to make the trip to this years International Annual meeting to be held in Rochester NY? At the 2005 MN SWCS Chapter meeting on April 1st, a motion was made by Linda Meschke to provide two stiffens of \$500 to send two people to Rochester, NY. The motion was seconded by Mike Appel. A motion to amend the motion was made by

Shannon Bengtson to have one stiffen of \$500 for one student to attend the National Conference. The motion was seconded by Mike Appel.

With those motions we are now looking for people who wish to attend the conference. The money can be used for whatever you desire. Whether is goes towards your hotel, your air fair, or any other expenses you may in-

cur on your trip to Rochester, NY. This is an excellent opportunity to network, meet new people and have a wonderful time! Anyone interested in taking advantage of the five hundred dollar stiffens, please contact Linda Meschke, ASAP! Linda can be contacted by phone: 507-238-5449 or by email at: meschkel@berbi.org.



Lake Superior Basin Wetlands Management



The MN SWCS Chapter is endorsing the MAPSS summer tour set to take place in Duluth, MN on July 14-15, 2005. This conference will focus on the western lake Superior watershed and on the role wetlands play in protecting Lake Superior and its watersheds.

This two day event will have discussions, presentations, and field trips in and around the shores of Lake Superior!

With the wonderful itinerary that the MAPSS organization has done, we the MN SWCS Chapter are treating this two day conference as our summer tour. Information on the Lake Superior Basin Conference can be found on the MN SWCS Chapter website: www.minnesotaswcs.org Registration information will be at www.esagrant.umn.edu/news/

Field trips have limited space, first come first serve!

Student Scholarships Available

Students

“For information on National Scholarships contact the national headquarters in Ankeny IA.” www.swcs.org

The MN SWCS Chapter has two \$500 scholarships to give out!! Anyone interested in returning or currently in college may apply. Please send a resume, academic plan, letter of recommendation, and a short essay stating why you should be selected to receive

one of the two scholarships being awarded. Scholarships applications are due by **October 1, 2005** to Janell Miersch. If you have questions, Janell can be reached at miers004@umn.edu
Mail applications to: Janell Miersch, 1833 North Park Drive, Saint Paul, MN 55119

2005 MN Chapter Award Winners

Outstanding Service Award:

Robin Martinek, NRCS

Commendation Award:

Shannon Bengtson, NRCS

Merit Award:

Kasi Reed, NRCS

Merit Award:

Barb Weisman, MnDA

News/Media:

Janet Kubat, Agri News

Education Award:

Karen Holverson, Yellow Medicine SWCD Supervisor



Congratulations to the winners for a job well done! Keep up the good work and promoting our States Soil and Water resources.

“SWCS brings together conservationists from around the world who are dedicated to the art and science of caring for the land. Working together, we can do more for our land and water resources – and our profession – than we can do as individuals.”

It's the water workshop – Hannibal, MO

The SWCS West North Central Region will host a workshop on water quality issues in the Mississippi River Basin. The objective of the workshop is to provide both public and private sector professionals working in water quality with tools they can use to be more effective in their jobs. The conference will focus on resource planning; successful technologies for planners, policy-makers, farmers, and landowners; and natural

resource conservation strategies. It will include technical presentations regarding risk reduction (methods, successes, and challenges) highlighted by a forum of experts from various backgrounds who will discuss current and future water quality and agricultural conservation issues. Continuing education units (CEUs) will be available for CPESC. **Contact:** Lyle Asell 515-281-8656 lyle.asell@dnr.state.ia.us
Workshop Date: September 13 -15, 2005

“Get involved by representing our chapter by running for President Elect and build on your leadership abilities!”

Nominations for President Elect needed

Nominations for President Elect are needed. Anyone interested in running for election should contact Shannon Bengtson by August 26, 2005. Excellent opportunity to network, build on your leadership skills, and meet new people.

You may contact Shannon by Mail:

Shannon Bengtson
900 5th St SW
Milaca, MN 56353

by Email: Shannon.bengtson@mn.usda.gov

Or by Phone: 320-983-2154 ex. 3

Proposed By-law changes

Up dating the MN Chapter Bi-Laws—Proposal

1. Change existing position descriptions so they are politically correct.
2. Dividing the state into four areas instead of two; therefore having four representatives instead of two. There would be better representation members around the state, and to get more members involved.

Area 1 = NW MN Counties include: Kitson, Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Mahanomen, Polk, Norman, Clay, Becker, Wadena, Todd, OtterTail, Wilkin, Traverse, Grant, Douglas, Stevens, and Pope.

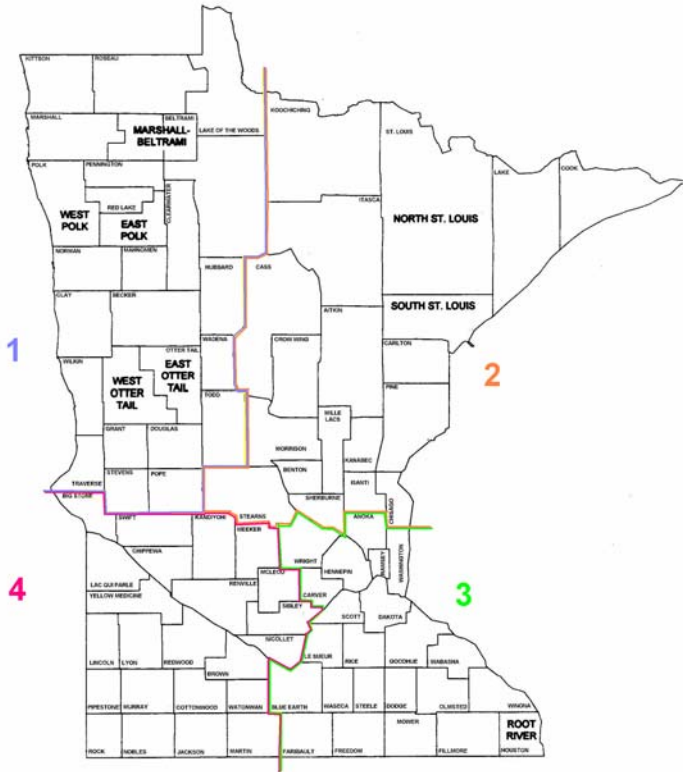
Area 2 = NE MN Counties include: Koochiching, Itasca, Cass, Crow Wing, St. Louis, Lake, Cook, Carlton, Aitkin, Pine, Kanabec, Mille Lacs, Morrison, Stearns, Benton, Sherburne, Isanti, and Chisago.

Area 3 = SE MN Counties include: Wright, Hennepin, Anoka, Ramsey, Washington, Dakota, Scott, Carver, Le Sueur, Rice, Goodhue, Wabasha, Winona, Olmsted, Dodge, Steele, Waseca, Blue Earth, Faribault, Freeborn, Mower, Fillmore, and Houston.

Area 4 = SW MN Counties include: Big Stone, Swift, Kandiyohi, Meeker, McLeod, Sibley, Nicollet, Renville, Chippewa, Lac Qui Parle, Yellow Medicine, Redwood, Brown, Lyon, Lincoln, Pipestone, Murray, Cottonwood, Watonwan, Martin, Jackson, Nobles, and Rock.

3. Add a Student representative to the executive board.

Opportunity to do more educational activities throughout the state by partnering with other non-profit groups and gaining input from all areas



around the state.

The most important part of this process is the input from our members!! We want to know what your opinion is on the proposal. What is your opinion on the above information? Please send your comments or concerns to Shannon Bengtson her contact information can be found on the bottom of page 2. Your input whether good or bad will be greatly appreciated!!

How do we spend the money earned from the 2004 Annual Meeting?

How to spend the profit from the 2004 Annual meeting? This is a question that is indeed an important one. Input from chapter members is very important. Anyone who wishes to be on the committee to help coordinate the best approach to spending these dollars wisely and in the best interest of the Society and the goals of this chapter are encouraged! If you have any ideas or input on how the money should be spent please contact one of the members below who have agreed to

be on the committee making recommendations on how the money should be spent. If you would like to be on the committee please contact Linda Meschke.

Committee members are; Steve Sellnow (steve.sellnow@mn.usda.gov) , Linda Meschke (meschkel@berbi.org) , and Merle Anderson (merleanderson@cloudnet.com. Again, membership involvement or input in this process is needed and welcomed!!!



Chapter officers and contact info.

Linda Meschke meschkel@berbi.org	President
Vacant	President Elect
Merle Anderson merleanderson@cloudnet.com	Past President
Sid Cornelius Sid.cornelius@mn.usda.gov	Treasurer
Shannon Bengtson Shannon.bengtson@mn.usda.gov	Secretary
Mary Jane Reetz Mary.reetz@mn.usda.gov	Northern Rep.
Steven Woltjer Steven.woltjer@mn.usda.gov	Southern Rep.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 12 - 15, 2005 9th North American Agroforestry Conference
July 30, 2005 - August 04, 2005 SWCS 2005 Annual Conference Location: Rochester, NY
September 13 - 15, 2005 It's the Water Workshop! Location: Hannibal, MO
November 16 - 17, 2005 CDI Annual Conference Location: Hotel at Gateway Center, Ames, Iowa

MN SWCS Chapter - Secretary
 405 8th St. NE Apt. #302
 Milaca, MN 56353