

Memo

To: MCWD Board of Managers
From: Darren Lochner, MCWD Education Program Manager
Date: February 27, 2015
Re: Informational Update: 2014 NEMO program in the west metro region

A summary of the 2014 programming provided by the University of Minnesota's Northland NEMO education program in the west metro region is included in the packet for the March 12, 2015 Board of Managers Workshop. NEMO (Non-Point Source Pollution Education for Municipal Officials) provides educational resources and training for increasing awareness and understanding of the effects of non-point source pollution, low impact development principles and effective stormwater treatment practices among elected officials.

The Northland NEMO program is a collaborative of organizations in Minnesota and Wisconsin, and is part of a larger National NEMO program operating in 32+ states.

As part of the District's overall goal to strength local government and stakeholder relationships the 2014 Education Workplan included the continued involvement in the Northland NEMO Program. It's hoped that increased awareness of the impact of polluted stormwater runoff will lead to an enhanced understanding of the connection between land use and management decisions and providing and protecting clean water. As a result, more informed community leaders will be more likely to take action, which can include applying natural resource based planning principles, adopting clean water policies, or supporting and/or implementing specific low impact development practices.

The NEMO programs that were offered in the west metro region in 2014 were:

- Linking land use to clean water workshops (Edina and Excelsior) – 74 local elected and appointed leaders
- Workshop on the water: Plans, practices and policies for clean water (Lake Minnetonka) – 100 local leaders
- Lessons across the landscape tour: streambanks and shorelands (west metro tour stops) – 27 participants

More information on the outcomes, videos and resources can be found at: www.northlandnemo.org (under resources tab). See and hear what local leaders said about participating in the programs and review materials from the workshops.

If you have any questions prior to the workshop, please contact me at dlochner@minnehahacreek.org or 952-641-4524.

The NEMO Program

Making a difference with local leaders



A summary of NEMO in the west metro region in 2014

Highlights

- Four workshops reached more than 200 elected and appointed officials and community leaders
- Participants represented nearly every city and watershed in the west metro region
- Five watershed organizations partnered with Extension and MN Sea Grant

Local leaders increased their knowledge in:

- Practices, plans and policies related to stormwater management and shorelines and streambanks
- Targeting practices, the current health of water resources and pollution prevention

Local leaders plan to take action by:

- Reviewing and revising ordinances and policies
- Getting to know their community's water quality and water management plans
- Maintaining existing practices
- Investing in municipal pollution prevention



Workshop-on-the-Water included “The Guided View: lake and stream health and the impact of shorelines and streambanks”

PROGRAMS OFFERED



LINKING LAND USE TO CLEAN WATER WORKSHOP



WORKSHOP ON THE WATER Plans, practices and policies for clean water



LESSONS ACROSS THE LANDSCAPE — STREAMBANKS AND STORMWATER

A workshop and bus tour

Videos & resources

See and hear what local leaders said about participating.

Review materials from the workshops.

www.northlandnemo.org
Under the Resources tab



Linking Land Use to Clean Water Workshop — NEMO 101



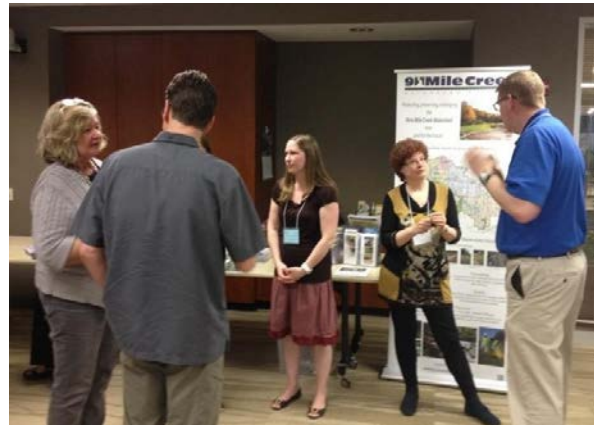
May 8 in Edina and May 14 in Excelsior

Participating cities in 2014 workshops

Bloomington
 Chanhassen
 Dayton
 Eden Prairie
 Edina
 Golden Valley
 Greenfield
 Hopkins
 Independence
 Laketown Township
 Long Lake
 Loretto
 Maple Plain
 Medicine Lake
 Medina
 Minneapolis
 Minnetonka Beach
 Minnetrista
 Mound
 New Hope
 Norwood Young America
 Orono
 Plymouth
 Shorewood
 Spring Park
 St. Louis Park
 Tonka Bay
 Victoria
 Waconia
 Watertown
 Wayzata
 Woodland

This workshop covered:

- The 3 Ps: planning, practices and policies to minimize or prevent impacts to water resources
- The connections between land use decisions and the management of stormwater runoff, impervious surfaces and nonpoint source pollutants
- Technical and financial resources available to improve and protect water resources
- Planning for groundwater sustainability in 21st century for Minnesota
- **74 local elected and appointed leaders participated**



Workshops included opportunities for participants to visit with staff from the five watershed districts and organizations

Participating Watershed boards/advisory members

Carver WMO
 Minnehaha Creek WSD
 Nine Mile Creek WSD
 Pioneer Sarah Creek WMO
 Bassett Creek JPO
 Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek WSD
 Elm Creek WMO
 Shingle Creek WMO

“When it’s reinforced for you what the problems are and what you can do I think you feel like you have some power and some incentive to do something.”

Jodi Peterson, Board Manager, Nine Mile Creek Watershed District. NEMO Program participant

ABOUT NEMO

Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials offers educational programming, provides resources and creates effective tools to assist and enable communities to make informed decisions regarding land use and natural resources. The mission is to help Minnesota and Wisconsin communities protect and improve natural resources while accommodating growth and redevelopment.



Workshop on the Water

Plans, practices and policies for clean water



July 23 on Lake Minnetonka

Viewing shorelines from the water helped illuminate the workshop lessons for leaders of cities and watersheds. They now see their familiar lakes, rivers and streams in a whole new light.

This workshop included:

- The Guided View: lake and stream health and the impact of shorelines and streambanks
- The Watershed Game: selecting practices to meet a clean water goal
- 100 local leaders participated

NEMO prompts leaders to take action

Actions participants said they'd take after the program:

- Get to know their ordinances and ask if they should be revised
- Find and know the health and pollution reduction goals of community's lakes and streams by reviewing individual water quality reports
- Invest in municipal good housekeeping to prevent or minimize pollution
- Collaborate with local watershed when revising policies

NEMO increases knowledge

The Watershed Game resulted in increased knowledge on targeting practices, collaborating, and working across land uses in a watershed

The Guided View increased knowledge on the quality or health of the community's lakes and streams as well as practices and policies for shorelines and streambanks

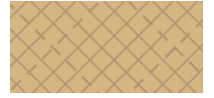
The NEMO format has high educational value for participants; being on the water greatly enhanced their learning experience



The Watershed Game. Leaders select plans, practices policies to meet a clean water goal.

Key participant learning occurred in

- Methods (BMPs) for shoreline stabilization and restoration
- The impacts of altered, manicured and unstable shorelines
- Pollutants and impairments: phosphorus, sediment, volume and chloride
- Stormwater BMPs such as iron enhanced filters
- Role of stormwater ponds and their required maintenance



Lessons across the Landscape — Streambanks and Stormwater

Bus tour and workshop showing plans, practices and policies for stormwater and streambanks

September 25

27 Participants

This interactive workshop focused on stormwater management practices and streambank protection and restoration.

Increases in knowledge

- 94% increased their knowledge about “municipal good housekeeping practices” such as stormwater pond maintenance and street sweeping
- 94% increased their knowledge about streambank restoration practices
- The NEMO bus workshop format enhanced the learning experience for ALL participants

Leaders who participated indicated they would pursue actions

The most frequent actions included:

- Establish or inquire about maintenance plan for existing stormwater ponds and all parts of stormwater management system
- Perform cost-benefit analysis and use it to inform decisions
- Ask critical questions before approving a project or proposal
- Inquire about city’s street sweeping plan and invest in a targeted street sweeping program; use the new, pilot UMN research and tool “Street Sweeping Planning Calculator”

These NEMO program efforts were made possible through the support of the following organizations and programs:



Tour stops

The tour showed the 3 Ps in action

TOUR STOP 1: POLICIES

City of Eden Prairie Water Treatment Plant & Learning Center

Stormwater ponds and pollution prevention

TOUR STOP 2: PRACTICES

Valley Park, City of Hopkins

Streambank restoration and protection

TOUR STOP 3: PLANNING

St. Luke Presbyterian, City of Minnetonka

Site planning for stormwater management