



## Regional Stormwater Protection Team (RSPT) Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, 05/17/23, 1:00 – 2:30 PM

In-Person St. Louis County Government Services Center - Duluth

- **Welcome, Introduction/new attendees -**
  - Jeff Olson is the new RSPT representative from MNDOT
- **Host presentation - Carol Andrews, St. Louis County**
  - Reinvigorated staff training including Sheriff Dept
  - New Salt and Sand Training
  - Snow Plow WOW!

### Sand and Salt Training

- Past
  - Road Salt Symposium, Freshwater Society
  - MPCA Smart Salting (road, property)
  - MnDOT/LRRB **Clear Roads**

### 2023 PLAN

- 10/4/23: hosting workshop led by Allison (WI Salt Wise)
- Day before = similar all staff internal event

SLC PW staff reported discovery of a **layer of oil in storm sewer manhole** in center of Morris Thomas Road 40' north of culvert discharging to creek. Evaluation of pathways to storm sewer found oily staining on concrete curbing along the north side of Morris Thomas Rd. Staining led to the front of a nearby automotive service shop.



Example of SLC staff using their illicit discharge detection knowledge to help protect our waterways



MPCA was notified of the release on June 17, 2019



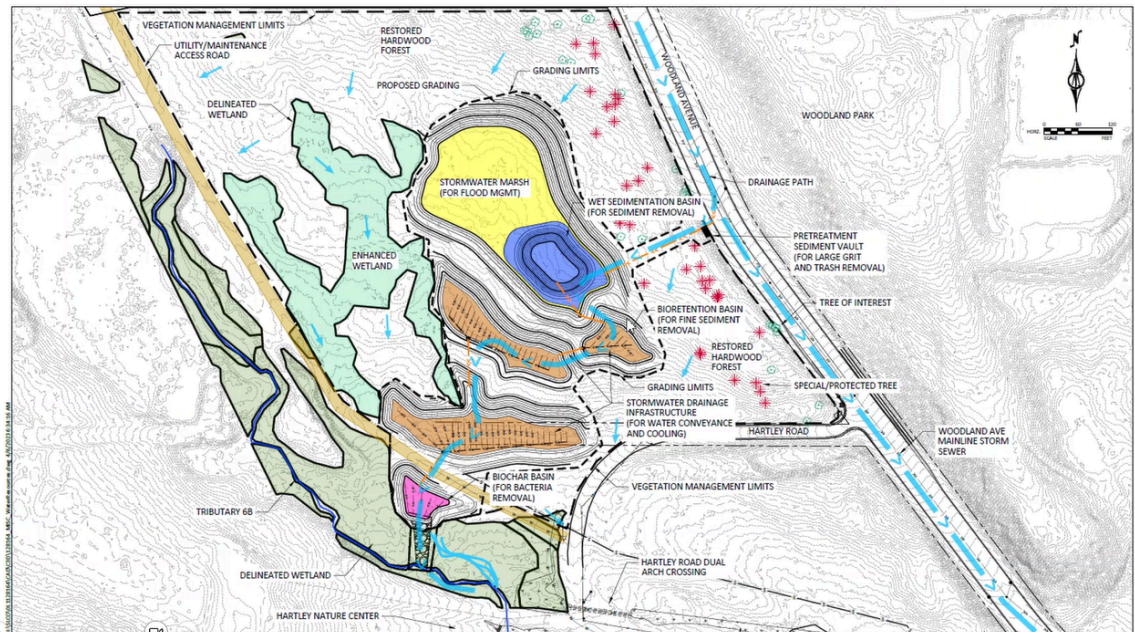
**"Our mission is to coordinate stormwater management, prevent water pollution prevention, and provide technical assistance to solve stormwater problems."**

- **GI Project**

- 117 acres drainage area for up to 2" rainfall event which covers about 90% of rainfall events

Hartley Park Green Infrastructure  
St. Louis County, MN

Preferred Green Infrastructure Concept  
March 2023



- **Budget update - Tammy**
  - remaining budget of over \$9,000. Checks have been sent out for PSA. Will need more website maintenance and monthly advertisements.
- **Review & Approve April [meeting minutes](#) - All**
  - Ryan provided narrative of Meeting minutes from April
    - Motion to approve from Lisa, 2nd from John. None oppose. **Motion passed**
- **Media Team update - Megan shared ideas to create a cutout version of the No Poop Fairy. Cost would range \$100-\$200. Options include:**
  - NPF Cutout
    - [4imprint Frame Worx Banner Stand](#)
    - [Vispronet Custom Photo Stand Ins](#)
  - NPF Cutout Image
    - [Cartoon style](#)
    - [Photo image](#)
  - Tammy mentioned \$3400 left in outreach
  - Can we use Jody's likeness? Not sure. Karina suggests a cartoon would be safer. Ryan will ask Tiff if that was established.
  - Boost FB posts- Interest in boosting post
    - Motion by Ryan, 2nd Jonna for \$300 to be spent by Media Team for No poop fairy cutout. None oppose. **Motion passed.**
    - Motion for \$100 FB boost to be spent by Joe and reimbursed Motion by Ryan, 2nd Lisa. None oppose. **Motion passed.**
  - Other ideas- Youtube? Other media streaming

***"Our mission is to coordinate the region's public education and outreach programs about stormwater pollution prevention, and provide technical assistance to solve stormwater problems."***

- John asked to see analytics on using money on FB
- RSPT Activity sheet is not live- why not? Ryan will check into it.
- **Review public input from MS4 end of year public input.**
  - How do we want to move forward with incorporating these ideas?
  - Carol and Lisa met to put together a summary document with Key takeaways
    - NEAC Stormdrain Art interest- Carol willing to reach out to.
    - Bring back butts are litter too
    - Create a way to recognize people for doing the right thing!
    - UMD is doing a drain cover study based on this survey over the summer!
    - And more (add link!)
- **Outreach supplies update**
  - Who's got what? [Outreach supply inventory](#)
  - Who has current use for outreach items? Make this an agenda item each meeting? Who needs what? Sign out sheet?
  - REX WAS FOUND!
- **Monsanto PCB settlement money -**
  - Carol forwarded to see if municipalities are familiar
  - Superior and Hermantown have received funds
  - Carol will ask around in Duluth
  - John said they were court ordered to pay the amount
  - Does RSPT want to make recommendations on how it's used? Some cities will keep in the general fund.
  - <https://www.lmc.org/news-publications/news/all/cities-receive-checks-from-monsanto-settlement/#:~:text=The%20checks%20are%20legitimate%20and%20intended%20as%20compensation,approximately%20%2417%2C000%2C%20%2427%2C000%2C%20or%20%2432%2C000%20%E2%80%94%20are%20legitimate.>
- **Recycling Association of Minnesota [Rain Barrel Sale](#) discussion**
  - Lake SWCD did one recently in conjunction with Cook County- probably a different company
  - Carol remembers doing this activity in the past and it went well
  - Ryan will ask Chris Kleist more about how RSPT ran this in the past and then talk with Becca and Tammy Wilman. Tammy left this meeting before this topic came up but Carol's recollection was that she previously expressed interest in hosting again at LSC.
- **RSPT Tabling Opportunities**
  - Grandma's Marathon Expo June 15-16 - Tip from Tiff. Sustainable sports event certification assistance; looking for either someone to person RSPT table OR supplies they can share (flyers, stickers... Lisa will look into more. Have Jody show up? cut out?
  - Lake Superior Day - Superior is registering/would like an RSPT partner - Sunday, 7/16 @ Barkers Island 11am-3pm
- [2023/2024 Annual Plan](#)

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- **Roundtable Member Updates - All**

RSPT May 2023 meeting		
Name	Representing	Update notes
Becca Reiss	North St Louis Co SWCD	
Carol Andrews	St. Louis County Public Works	
Jim Aird	Midway Township	
John Anderson	Cloquet (City of)	
Jonna Korpi	UMD	Asked if SLC is working w/ any others re planning the biochar aspects of the Woodland-Hartley BMP project because she's aware that a group has formed of interested entities in MN. It includes USDA, MN Farmers Union, U of MN toward the goal of increasing biochar production and use in MN (not just for stormwater). Ryan said Duluth's new BMP at Irving Park is also planned to include biochar (design by Barr). Ryan knows someone who owns forested land who is thinking of opening a local biochar manufacturing plant. Currently wood waste goes to Hibbing as biofuel but Minn Power only accepts occasionally. Carlton SWCD has a small mobile biochar maker.
Karina Heim	National Estuarium Reserve	
Lisa DeGuire	Superior (City of)	
Megan Högfeldt	Superior (City of)	Happy to have RSPT members help staff table for Lake superior days

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Ryan Granlund	Duluth (City of)	
Tammy Wilman	LSC	Updates from LSC: We hosted an Earth Day Fair on April 19. It was a big success. I had a 60" TV playing all the PSAs from the poopfair university site. People loved it! I had a decent number of students and staff interacting with the stormdrain in a suitcase! Great work everyone!
Jeffrey Olson	MN DOT	
Derrick Passe	Lake County SWCD	
Sam Cook	St. Louis County Public Works	
Eric Johnson	Hermantown (City of)	

Meeting adjourned at 2:33

**Reminder to update the online 2023 RSPT [Activity Sheet](#)!**

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