

UPCOMING EVENTS 2000

Mar 27	Oral history workshop in Aitkin County Library Army Corps of Engineers meeting on Reconnaissance Study at Walker, 1PM	April 21	MHB meeting
Mar 28	Youth Congress Facilitators workshop	May 3-5	Millard Fillmore Conference in St. Paul
Mar 29-30	Association of Minnesota Counties Conference (AMC) in St. Paul. (Legislative session)	May 6	Canoe Trip in Little Falls
Mar 31	ReMap meeting in Cass Lake 10 AM at Ranger Station	May 6	Morrison County Canoe trip
April 4	Youth Congress in Walker 3:30 PM	May 10	Upland model meeting in Cass County
April 8	Giziibii Forest Products Workshop	May 19	MHB meeting
April 13	MHB Advisory Committee meeting	June 3-10	National River Clean-up Week
April 14-15	State Science Fair in Duluth	June 4	Crow Wing Family Canoe Day
April 19	Earth Day celebration in Walker	June 17	Aitkin County Rivers and Lakes Fair
		June 19-21	Minnesota Water Planners Conference in Beltrami County
		July 20	Tri-County Leech Lake Annual Meeting

The Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) is a joint powers board of Clearwater, Hubbard, Beltrami, Cass, Itasca, Aitkin, Crow Wing and Morrison counties, organized in 1980 to protect and preserve the natural, cultural, historical, scientific and recreational values of the Mississippi's first 400 miles. The Board protects the river by regulating land use on its shorelands; by monitoring water quality and taking actions to protect the health of the river, and by educating the river's users and neighbors on how to balance human uses with the river's ecology.

R. Otterstad, Chairman, Beltrami • V. Foster, Vice Chairman, Cass • K. Solberg, Secretary-Treasurer, Clearwater • J. E. Van Hunnik, Director
PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER • MINIMUM 10% POST-CONSUMER WASTE

TIDINGS

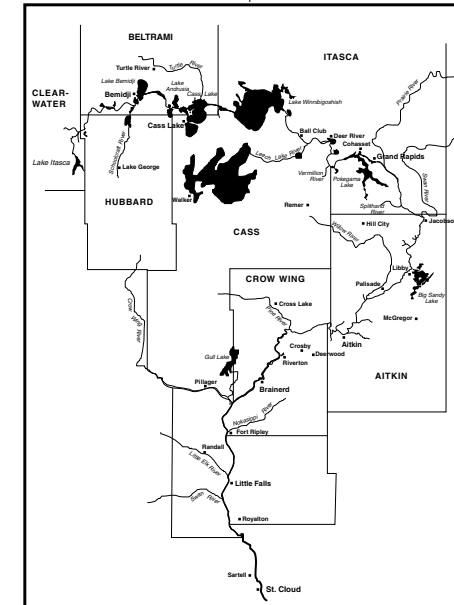
Phone: (218) 547-7263 • Fax: (218) 547-7376 • E-mail: <cass.mhb@co.cass.mn.us>

From the Director: Spring has sprung?



Spring seems to come and go. According to a certain farmer I know, whose predictions are often accurate, we should expect a dry spring until middle to late May followed by dry weather until mid-July. His predictions are based on the number of bulls being calved and the 12 Days of Christmas. He is probably as close as some of the meteorologists in their predictions. One cannot argue with success. I do know the Headwaters dams have been closed down to save water, if that is any indication of accuracy. We shall see, time will tell.

Spring brings the culmination of a year's worth of work for students and teachers in many disciplines. Sports and speech hold tournaments. Math and Science students participate in fairs. Musicians and artists hold festivals. If you ever wonder about the future of America's youth, I invite you take part in these events. One of the most impressive, to me is the Regional Science fair held annually at BSU in Bemidji. Here the Mississippi Headwaters Board (MHB) awarded a team of students from Nevis High School the annual regional MHB Student Science award. It was a very difficult decision to make based on the excellent projects in water quality monitoring conducted by students from grades 6-12. On April 4, 2000, the MHB Youth Congress, consisting of students from the Mississippi River Basin and some from the Red River Basin will be held at the Walker-Akeley-Hackensack High School. There will be an open house for the public to observe the student booths and displays. A pizza supper (\$5.00) will be served as a fundraiser for students going to Russia on the student water quality exchange program. A river impact game will be played, information sessions for teachers will be conducted, and awards given for the science projects. The time is from 3:45 to 8:15 PM. Please come, encourage these young people, feel encouraged yourself.



When you come away, you will be inspired about America's future and our youth! The River Defense Network (RDN) a locally organized spill response adhoc group that works to address spills along the Mississippi River from the Headwaters to the Twin Cities conducted the third of 3 training workshops for emergency responders and industry. Workshops were held in Minneapolis, St. Cloud, and in Walker on February 16,2000. Many industrial personnel were in attendance and given copies of the computer flow model

which predicts the time frame in which possible chemical or petroleum spills could impact downstream drinking water sources. They are taking a team approach, planning ahead, and communicating with each other at the local level. Emergency responders, water planners and local industries, are able to respond more quickly to spills, when they work together in order to prevent accidents and preserve public health and safety if accidents do occur along transportation routes. Preventive measures, such as these promote cooperation and teamwork between industry and government within our small communities. By implementing prevention, millions of tax and industry dollars are saved. Prevention is that much less expensive than clean up. We hope the computer model is at least as accurate as the weather prediction of our friend, the farmer! We shall see, time will tell.

This is the year for planning. If "an ounce of planning is worth a pound of cure" holds true, Minnesota should be in fine shape. The MHB Management Plan is also being updated. Public hearings will be held in each of our eight counties on the published dates.

Enjoy the blessings of spring, come rain, or come shine!

In Public Service,

Jane E. Van Hunnik, MS,
MHB Director

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
WALKER, MN
PERMIT NO. 63

Mississippi Headwaters Board
Cass County Courthouse
P.O. Box 3000
Walker, MN 56484
Address Service Requested