



Minnesota Erosion Control Association

EROSION MATTERS

Advancing Effective Stormwater Management and Erosion Control

VOLUME 30, ISSUE 2

FALL 2016

2017 MECA Annual Conference Celebrate Stormwater & Erosion Control



Wednesday February 1, 2017
Thursday February 2, 2017
Pre-Conference Tuesday January 31, 2017
Verizon Wireless Center, Mankato Minnesota

18 Educational Session Opportunities Over Two Conference Days
4 Educational Workshop Opportunities on Pre-Conference Day
Unlimited Networking Opportunities

2017 MECA Conference Speaker Highlights!



Jay Fuhrer ~ Wednesday February 1, 2017

Jay Fuhrer is a Conservationist employed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service, in Bismarck, ND. Growing up on a small grain and livestock farm, Jay's interests have always centered on agriculture. Jay emphasizes Soil Health as a foundation for cropping systems, grazing systems, cover crops, soil biology, pollinators, insects, wildlife, and quality of life. In addition, Jay uses cover crops and livestock integration to connect the cropping and grazing systems together, raising the soil health bar even higher.



Richard Kyte ~ Wednesday February 1, 2017

Richard Kyte is the director of the D.B. Reinhart Institute for Ethics in Leadership and professor of philosophy at Viterbo University in LaCrosse Wisconsin. *Doing What's Right in Difficult Circumstances.* Ethical decision making is one of the chief responsibilities of leaders in any profession. This presentation will describe the Four Way Method for Ethical Decision Making, a simple and intuitive model for working through and communicating difficult and controversial decisions with coworkers, clients and the public.



Mark J. Lindquist ~ Thursday February 2, 2017

Passion! 8 Steps to Reignite Yours!
This presentation is a breath of fresh air from a world touring entertainer and actor who has been seen on ABC's LOST and CBS' Hawaii Five-O. Mark J. Lindquist, who grew up in Ortonville, Minnesota as the son of Soil and Water Conservation District board member Gordon Lindquist, will keep you laughing and provide a jolt that will leave you ready to re-dedicate yourself to the work you do.



Natalie Warren ~ Thursday February 2, 2017

Natalie Warren was one of the first two women to paddle the 2,000 miles from Minneapolis to Hudson Bay in 2011, following Eric Sevareid's route from Canoeing with the Cree. She was nominated for Canoe & Kayak's 2012 Expedition of the Year. The skills she acquired from planning and executing this trip prepared Natalie to start Wild River Academy. "Natalie tells and inspiring story with humor and honesty—not just the physical challenge of such an undertaking but the personal and inter-personal challenges and rewards as well."

Watch your email in-box for details and registration information!

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Message from MECA Board Member John Chapman



It looks like winter has finally arrived and we can put our vegetation establishment efforts to bed for a few months.

In efforts to provide a bit more space between all of the winter conference events, we moved the MECA annual conference to the end of January, and many of us are still getting used to the new date. It always rushed up so fast before, and now it is even here sooner. I am looking forward to catching up with many of you in Mankato this year.

It should be a really great conference with some awesome speakers. See you in Mankato!

John Chapman

MECA Board Members

President Greg Berg, Vice President Rick Baird, Treasurer John Paulson, Secretary Brad Vierkant, Board Member Jeff Forsberg, Board Member John Chapman, Board Member April Ryan,

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Rate: 1/4 Page \$50 / issue
1/2 Page \$75 / issue
Full Page \$100 / issue

If you would like to place an ad, just contact the MECA office. Contact info: meca@mnerosion.org or (320) 685-5444

Check out conference schedules and information on the next pages!

2017 Registration and Conference Fees

Conference (1 Day) February 1st or February 2nd, 2017
\$170 MECA Member/\$200 Non MECA Member

Full Conference (2 Days) February 1st & 2nd, 2017
\$330 MECA Member/\$390 Non MECA Member

Exhibitors:

One booth with 1 Staff \$420 MECA Member/\$470 Non-Member
One booth with 2 Staff \$630 MECA Member/\$680 Non MECA Member

The registration fee for the MECA 2017 Conference includes access to all educational session, access to the trade show, lunch and breaks for each registered day, and the Tuesday and Wednesday evening reception. Participants may register on-line, by fax, email or mail for either both days or one day only.

MECA's Annual Photo Contest

We are excited to have a Photo Contest again this year at the annual MECA conference. This is a great opportunity to gain visibility and share your accomplishments with the erosion and stormwater management industry.

Photos will be displayed at the 2017 MECA Conference on February 1-2, 2017 at the Verizon Center in Mankato Minnesota. Attendees will vote on their favorite photo, a cash prize of \$50 will be awarded in each category!

The contest is free, so send in your photos! The photos will also be featured in the MECA Newsletters throughout the year!

Rules and Guidelines

- Entries are due on or before January 1, 2017
- Photos will be accepted only in .jpg, .tif, or .gif electronic formats.
- Electronic photos to the MECA office at meca@mnerosion.org
- MECA has the right of refusal for any or no cause.
- Please only one submission per category.
- Photo resolution must be 300 dpi or higher.
- Include a brief description for each photo submitted.
- Entries will be screened for eligibility.

Categories:

- Before and After Construction (submit 2 photos taken from the same location)
- Technology in Action
- Impacts of Erosion & Sediment
- Bloopers

2017 MECA

Sponsorship Opportunity

MECA is supported financially by its memberships, conference fees, workshop fees and generous donations by companies and organizations like yours. We appreciate all of our supporters that have contributed over the years to help MECA provide educational opportunities to the erosion control and stormwater management community!

Professional Development Hours (PDH)

MECA is pleased to offer Professional Development Hours to those who attend this year's conference. PDH Certificates will be available at the registration desk. February 1st = 5.5 Hours ~ February 2nd = 5 Hours

How do you register for this conference?

To register on line: Go to www.mnerosion.org and click on the conference registration link.

To register via mail (hard copy): Contact the MECA office at meca@mnerosion.org or 320-685-5444 to request a conference registration packet, or download the packet at www.mnerosion.org.

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HELPING BUILD YOUR SUCCESS

Pre-Conference Schedule ~ Tuesday January 31, 2017 Additional Educational Opportunities Prior to the Conference!

9:00 AM ~ 4:30 PM MN Seeders Association Annual Meeting

9:00 AM ~ 4:00 PM Construction Installer Certification/Recertification offered by the Univ. of Minnesota

9:00 AM ~ 4:00 PM Soil Health, Jay Fuhrer, NRCS

9:30 AM ~ 4:00 PM MS4 Workshop offered by MECA (Similar course offered at the 2016 conference.)

10:30 AM ~ 4:00 PM Industrial Stormwater Certification offered by the Univ. of Minnesota

ALL Pre-Conference Workshops include lunch & trade show access for the pre-conference day, and are invited to a reception hosted by the Minnesota Seeders Association (4:30 PM—6:30PM)

#1 ~ Seeders Association Annual Meeting 9:00 AM—4:30 PM

Offered by the MN Seeders Association

Registration Fee: \$ 80 Seeders Association Member/\$100 Non-Member

The meeting is open to members and non-members. We will focus on the Power of the SEED. Seed mixes, proper soil prep, and proper seeding techniques. Seed mixes are changing and learn why. We will discuss new specifications with MNDOT. This meeting is very informal, focused on assisting the turf establishment and erosion control industry. MNDOT Environmental Services is present to share concerns. For questions call Vicky at MN Seeders at 320-760-9112.

#2 ~ Construction Installer Certification/Recertification (EI1001) 9:00 AM—4:00 PM (5.5 PDHs)

Offered by the University of Minnesota Erosion and Stormwater Management Program

Registration Fee: \$ 150 MECA Member/\$185 Non-Member

This one-day course is designed for those who install erosion and sediment control devices and establish vegetation on construction sites. The emphasis is on permit regulations pertaining to laborer activities and proper installation and quality control of various erosion and sediment control devices and turf establishment items. Other topics include an overview of pertinent inspection procedures. This class is also appropriate for those inspecting construction sites for assurance of installation quality. **The course fee includes lunch and trade show access for the day.**

#3 ~ Soil Health 9:00 AM—4:00 PM

Offered by MECA

Registration Fee: \$ 80 Seeders Association Member/\$100 Non-Member

Jay Fuhrer, NRCS

Soil Health Matters – A Lot. Find out why it matters to agricultural operations – and learn what can be done to improve the health of soil from one of the nation's leading experts on soil health management systems. NRCS District Conservationist Jay Fuhrer says the path to soil health is different on each farm. Cover crop and cash crop selections and sequences should be chosen to fit the farmer's resource concerns and priorities, and the means available at that farm.

#4 ~ MS4 Program Workshop—Inspections 9:30 AM—4:00 PM (5.5 PDHs)

Offered by MECA

Registration Fee: \$ 60 MECA Member/\$ 85 Non-Member (Similar course offered at the 2016 conference.)

MECA has partnered with the MPCA to bring you this MS4 training opportunity. The training will focus on the inspection aspects of meeting your MS4 permit requirements. Highlights include prioritizing construction sites, pre-inspection activities, completing inspections, post-construction activities, non-compliance, MS4 system inspections, and incorporating IDDE inspections into everyday activities.

#5 ~ IS3201 Industrial Stormwater Response to Benchmark Exceedance 10:30 AM ~ 4:00 PM (4 PDHs)

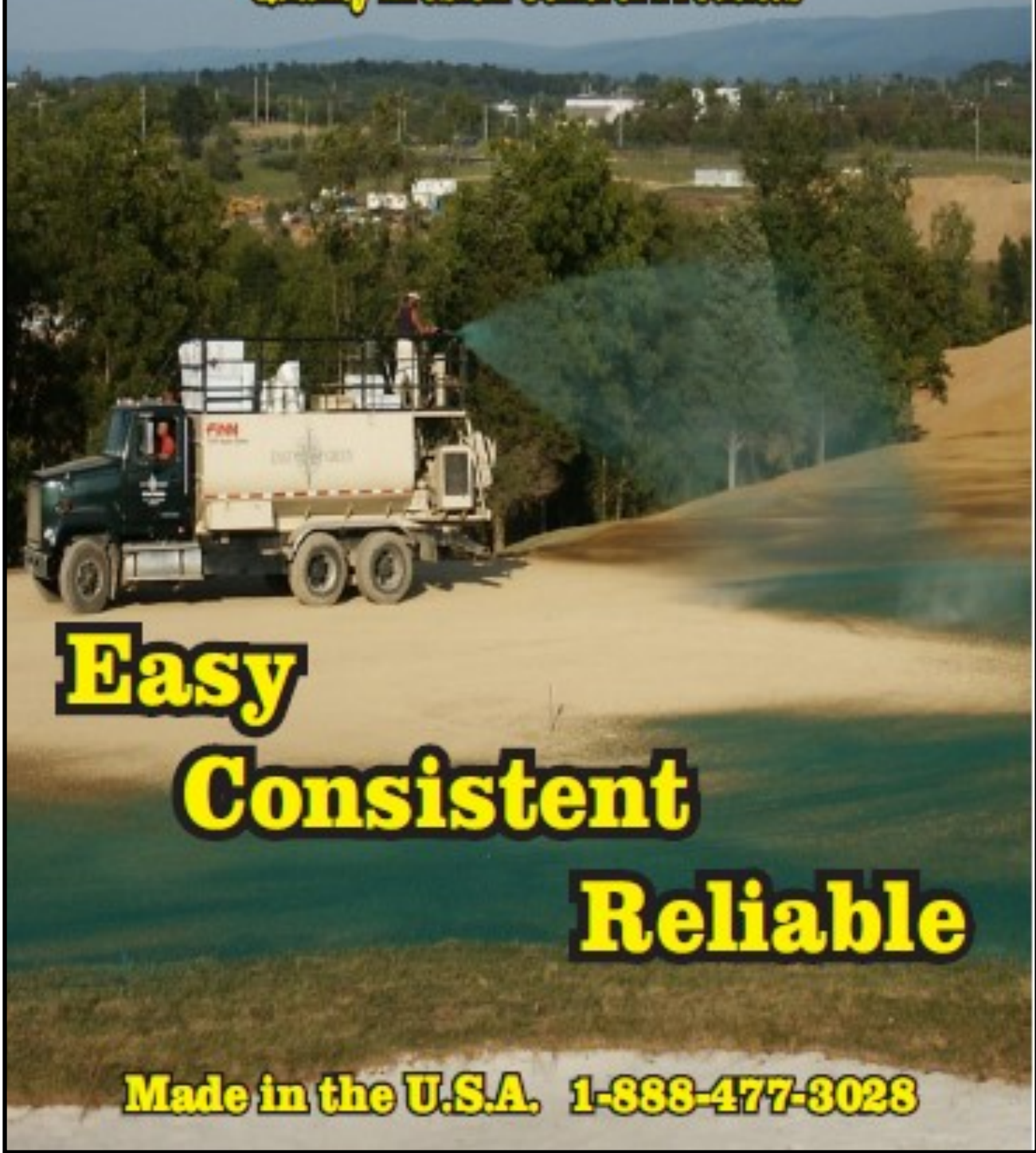
University of Minnesota Erosion and Stormwater Management Program

Registration Fee: \$ 125 MECA Member/\$ 150 Non-Member

Industrial facilities in Minnesota are required to comply with stormwater regulations, which require sampling and monitoring of stormwater runoff from facilities. This event will focus on response and selecting practices for stormwater pollution prevention plan modification needed because of benchmark monitoring test result exceedances. This event will not provide detailed design guidance for structural practice



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Restoration Tips...

Submitted by Brad Vierant, Prairie Restorations, Inc.

Native seed and plant materials are the basic building blocks of any restoration project. 30 years ago these materials were quite scarce. Today, depending on which region of the country you reside, quality native seed and plants are much more plentiful. This is true for many different types of plant communities including prairies, wetlands and woodlands.

When planning your own project, it is very important to order your materials from a reputable company in your region whose focus is growing local ecotype native species. This will help ensure that the materials you are getting are truly native, weed free and of a local origin. Some seed companies buy native seed from vendors who, in turn, have bought it from other vendors. This buying and selling of seed makes it confusing and problematic when it comes to determining where the seed is really from. Seed bought in Minnesota may have ultimately been grown in Nebraska using Nebraska ecotype seed. Occasionally, you might find seed that was grown and harvested in one state, but the production plot was started using seed native to another state.

So what is considered local origin and why is it so important?

Traditionally, local origin materials are defined as those that have a true genetic origin of no more than 200 miles from where they are being planted. This is still a good a rule of thumb to follow for most projects. Certain projects, especially those affiliated with grant programs, require more stringent origin requirements.

Among other reasons, true local origin native materials:

- Ensure authenticity and historical accuracy
 - Are more adapted to the local climate and conditions
 - Have not been selected to enhance certain characteristics (varietals)
 - Will help ensure long term success of the project
- Are more beneficial to local pollinators and other insects

When embarking on your restoration project, please pay close attention to the source of your native materials. It can make all the difference in terms of being able to create a healthy, authentic and successful native landscape.

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Conference Schedule

Wednesday February 1st & Thursday February 2nd, 2017

Conference Schedule ~ Wednesday February 1, 2017

Wednesday Morning:

- 7:30 **Registration** ~ Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors
 8:30 **Welcome** ~ Greg Berg, MECA President
 8:45 **Keynote Speaker** ~ Jay Fuhrer, NRCS
 9:45 **Four Way Method for Ethical Decision Making** ~ Richard Kyte
 10:45 **Break time!** Visit with Exhibitors
 11:15 **St. Anthony Falls Current Testing: Stormwater Research for the Next Ten Years** ~ Jeff Marr, UMN

Wednesday Afternoon:

- 12:00 **New Products/Product Forum**
 12:30 **Lunch** ~ Dessert & Coffee in Trade Show
 1:30 **Concurrent Sessions** #1 **Storm Ponds, How Effective Are They?** ~ Steve Klein, Barr Engineering
 #2 **Campus Conservation & Sustainability Projects** ~ Gary Jorgenson, St. John's University
 2:15 **Concurrent Sessions** #1 **Soil Compaction, Soil Restoration Requirements** ~ Gregg Thompson, City of Eagan
 #2 **Ag Buffers, Soil Loss** ~ Tom Gile, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources
 3:00 **Break!** Visit with exhibitors.
 3:30 **Concurrent Sessions** #1 **Mankato Reuse & Conservation** ~ Josh Gad and Kyle Hinrichs, City of Mankato
 #2 **White Bear Lake Pond Maintenance** ~ Mark Birch, White Bear Lake Public Works Director
 4:00 **Concurrent Sessions** #1 **Ravine & Slopes; Stabilization Projects** ~ Walter Eshenaur, SRF & Wayne Wambold, S.E.H.
 #2 **WTP Modification for Nitrogen & Ag Runoff** ~ Chris Voeltz, City of St. Peter
 and Kris Swanson, Bolton & Menk Inc.
 4:45 **MECA Annual Meeting**
 5:00 **Social** ~ Network & Visit with Exhibitors. Enjoy Hors d'oeuvres & beverages!

Conference Schedule ~ Thursday February 2, 2017

Thursday Morning:

- 7:30 **Registration** ~ Continental Breakfast with Exhibitors
 8:30 **MECA Year In Review** ~ MECA Board Member Rick Baird
 8:45 **"Passion! 8 Steps to Reignite Yours"** ~ Mark Lundquist
 9:45 **Fields To Streams—Talking About Hydrology** ~ Ann Lewandowski, U of M Extension Service
 10:25 **Break!** Visit with Exhibitors
 10:55 **2017 MECA Awards & Scholarship Award**
 11:15 **What is Going on With the Clean Water Fund?** ~ Julie Westerlund, Minnesota DNR

Thursday Afternoon:

- Noon **Lunch** ~ Dessert & Coffee in Trade Show
 12:55 **MECA Board Election Results**
 1:00 **New Products/Product Forum**
 1:15 **River Erosion History** ~ John Nieber, UMN and Christian Lenhart, UMN
 2:15 **Capstone Speaker: River Steward** ~ Natalie Warren
 3:15 **Door Prizes and Closing Remarks**