



MINNESOTA EROSION CONTROL ASSOCIATION

EROSION MATTERS

ADVANCING EFFECTIVE STORMWATER MANAGEMENT & EROSION CONTROL PRACTICES

SPRING 2020



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32ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE

CROWNE PLAZA MINNEAPOLIS WEST - 3131 CAMPUS DRIVE - PLYMOUTH, MINNESOTA 55441

MECA 2020 ANNUAL CONFERENCE RECAP

The Minnesota Erosion Control Association's 2020 Conference was held in Plymouth, Minnesota on January 22nd and 23rd, 2020. We were honored to bring people together from across the state to share ideas, solutions and success stories!

The MECA Annual Conference gave everyone the unique opportunity to learn from industry professionals, network with colleagues and grow both personally and professionally.

The overall feedback from those in attendance was very positive and we look forward to using the evaluation form data to help create an amazing 2021 conference!

Thank you so much to our sponsors, exhibitors, presenters and attendees for contributing to the success of our 32nd Annual Conference—we are grateful for your support!

We look forward to seeing you in Waite Park, Minnesota on February 3rd and 4th, 2021!

CONTACT US

ROBERTA RINGSTAD
ADMINISTRATOR



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RICE, MN 56367

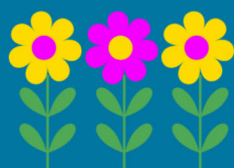


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EROSION MATTERS

MESSAGE FROM MECA BOARD MEMBER RILEY STENZEL



First off, I would like to thank everyone who attended our Annual Convention that was held in Plymouth this January. We had a great line up of speakers including Chris Heeter, Scott Struck, Todd Peterson and PJ Fleck. I hope you were able to take something away to help make your job easier.

The evening social events provided a great forum to connect or reconnect with colleagues old and new. A big thank you to the MN Seeders Association for hosting the Tuesday night social. We encourage you all to attend next

year as it is a great time to socialize with a lot of different great people throughout the industry.

Throughout 2020 MECA will be hosting many new educational workshops including some exciting events coming up this spring. Our next event, **WHAT'S BREWING | Microplastics: A Brewing Stormwater Issue**. This is scheduled for Thursday, April 23rd at Urban Growler in St. Paul. Check out our website for more information.

Spring is fast approaching which means the start of snow melt, runoff, and erosion. So, I wish everyone a safe and successful season and we hope to see you in April for our event at Urban Growler.

Riley Stenzel, MECA Board Member

A photograph of a backyard patio featuring a large red umbrella with the text "Visualize the possibilities" in cursive. Below the umbrella is a dining table with chairs. To the right is a stone fireplace with a built-in pizza oven. The advertisement includes contact information for Alex Brick & Stone and Lake Country Fireplace, along with their logos and a tagline "YOUR MASONRY, LANDSCAPING & FIREPLACE CENTERS".

Visualize the possibilities

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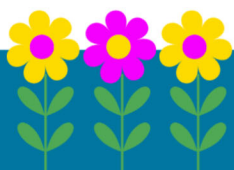
WHERE ARE THEY NOW? CATCHING UP WITH OUR 2019 MECA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Jack Distel was the 2019 MECA Scholarship winner. In the past year, Jack has continued to make strides in his education and career in the erosion and stormwater management field.

Jack is now employed as a Water Resources Specialist at the City of Bloomington where he oversees aquatic monitoring and evaluation, inspection of construction stormwater management, and communication and outreach. His favorite part of his job is learning how to program in Arduino in order to build in-house environmental monitoring equipment.

Jack has completed his Master's degree in Water Resources Science from the University of Minnesota. His thesis looked at the impact and efficacy of water management practices on water quality changes over time within the Minnehaha Creek Watershed.

Thank you for catching up with us Jack, and best wishes for your future!



NEW MECA BOARD MEMBERS



Graham McFall has worked as an internal corporate environmental resource for large general contractors and as a private consultant serving several industries across the United States. He has designed and reviewed Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPPs) and Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plans in 23 states. Graham works closely with federal, state, and local regulators to help meet various permit obligations in an ever-changing construction

environment. In addition, he has experience with wetland permitting, threatened & endangered species, hazardous waste and cultural/historical resources. Graham currently sits on the Association of General Contractors (AGC) Environmental Steering Committee and is excited to now join the MECA Board of Directors to help advance compliance efforts and innovation in his home State of Minnesota.

In his spare time, Graham loves spending time with his three beautiful kids and wife. He also enjoys hiking, fishing and playing golf. Graham graduated from the University of Minnesota, with a Environmental Science degree with a focus on agronomy and sustainability. He is an avid Gopher, Twins, Vikings and Wild fan and brings his kids along to a game whenever the opportunity presents itself.



Riley Stenzel is employed by American Excelsior Company – Earth Science Division – Arlington TX, as a Territory Manager. Riley has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Winona State University. He worked in agronomy sales before joining the American Excelsior team. He is a life-long resident of Minnesota where he works out of his home and manages the territory of Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana, Wisconsin

and Western Canada. Riley is a member of the International Erosion Control Association (IECA) and is active with the North American Stormwater and Erosion Control Association (NASECA) Wisconsin Chapter.

In his spare time, Riley loves spending time with his son Lincoln doing things outside like acting out superhero movies with him and playing golf. Riley is an avid Gopher, Twins, Timberwolves, Wild and Vikings fan and likes to attend games with his friends and family.



MECA BOARD MEMBERS

President Greg Berg

Vice President Meghan Litsey

Secretary Brad Vierkant

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Board Member Jeff Forsberg

Board Member Graham McFall

Board Member Riley Stenzel



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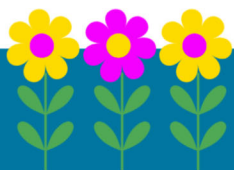
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PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR'S CONFERENCE!

You are invited to join us at the 2021 MECA Annual Conference Planning Meeting. **We are looking for information on speakers, topics and projects. We value your input and would appreciate your attendance.**

April 1, 2020

WSB University
701 Xenia Avenue S, Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55416

Agenda

8:30am-11:30am Planning Meeting
11:30am-12:15pm Lunch

The dates for the 2021 conference at the Park Event Center in Waite Park, MN are:

Pre-Conference Tuesday 2/2/21
Conference Wednesday 2/3/21
Conference Thursday 2/4/21

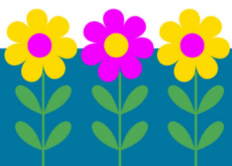
Please let me know if you can attend (as we need a lunch count). If you cannot attend we would still like to hear your ideas. [You can add your ideas to this shared document](#), or please feel free to contact us at meca@mnerosion.org or (320) 685-5444.

**Thank you in advance for
helping us plan the 2021
MECA Annual Conference!**

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WITH MECA!**



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MECA 2020 AWARD RECIPIENTS

EACH YEAR MECA RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUALS AND PROJECTS.
WE ARE HONORED TO PRESENT THIS YEAR'S AWARDS
TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE/COMPANIES!



Industry Leadership Award

The Industry Leadership award is awarded to an individual, company, government agency, or organization that has demonstrated leadership in the erosion and sediment control or stormwater management field.

This year's recipient is **Landwehr Construction**, who were nominated by Noah Czech, the Stormwater Compliance Specialist for the City of St. Cloud. Landwehr Construction is a fifth-generation contractor that, over the past two construction seasons, has been the prime contractor on three challenging City of St. Cloud projects as well as numerous private projects. Landwehr were proactive, communicative, and creative on the projects, and were true industry leaders.



Environmental Leadership Award

The Environment Leadership Award is awarded to an individual, company, or government agency or organization that has shown leadership in advancing effective erosion and sediment control and stormwater management or other water resources related field that have advanced water resource quality in Minnesota.

This year's recipients are **Maggie Karschnia and Jeff Anderson, both of the Prior Lake/Spring Lake Watershed District** who were nominated by Dwayne Stenlund of MnDOT. Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District spans rural to urban landscapes and has drainage issues that are actively changing. 2019, as you recall, was an extraordinarily wet year, and both MnDOT and Scott County had projects along TH13 within the PLSLWD. Maggie and Jeff focused on communication and working together to solve sediment control problem without first resorting to penalties. Ultimately, all parties succeeded in protecting Prior Lake and Spring Lake.



Environmental Excellence Award

The Environmental Excellence Award is awarded to an individual, company, government agency, or organization for a project that is deemed excellent based on many factors including, but not limited to innovation, partnership, water quality and quantity protection, and project success.

This year's recipients are **Andy Dammer and Shane Bergman with Veit**, and they were nominated by Melanie Bomier with Carlton County SWCD. During 2019, the team at Veit completed a dam removal, stream bank protection and stream restoration project in Carlton County. The project improved safety on a county road, restored connectivity to about 7 miles of designated trout stream, restored 1873 linear feet of stream and reduced an estimated 226 tons of sediment annually into Skunk Creek, a sediment impaired trout stream.



Innovation Award

The Innovation Award is awarded to an individual, company, government agency, or organization that developed new products or ideas that advanced the field of erosion and sediment control or stormwater management.

This year's recipients are **Melanie Bomier and Will Bomier**, a wife-and-husband team that happen to both work for **Carlton County** in different, complementary capacities that have redefined how stream crossing management is conducted in Carlton County. Melanie and Will were nominated by Brad Matlack of the Carlton SWCD. In Carlton County, the Nemadji River watershed has over 857 miles of trout streams and over 278 miles of county and township road within a watershed that consists of steep, sensitive clay slopes directly adjacent to streams. They worked together to create a real time, ArcGIS culvert inventory of over 2,000 road crossings in the Nemadji Watershed. The culvert data has proved invaluable when communicating with local entities as well as with state and federal disaster agencies.

Continued on page 7

MECA 2020 AWARD RECIPIENTS



CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT WINNERS!



1st Place
Ben & Graham
Winners of a Corn Hole Game!



2nd Place
Chad & Ryan



3rd Place
Trent & Joel

The MECA Recognition Award

The MECA recognition award is awarded to an individual who has been actively involved with MECA and contributed significant time and effort to MECA's work.



Keri Aufdencamp is a recipient of the 2020 MECA recognition award. Keri was elected to the MECA board in 2017. In the time she has been on the board, she organized an educational boat tour of the Saint Croix River bridge crossing as well as a tour of the St. Anthony Falls Laboratory. She has also been instrumental in helping find new and diverse educational sessions at our annual conference.

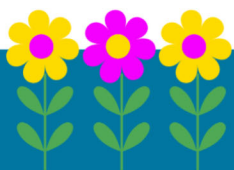


April Ryan is a recipient of the 2020 MECA recognition award. April was elected to the board in 2014 and during that time she has been a board member, treasurer, and Vice President. She's been a driving force behind the MS4 training that MECA has done, she has been the emcee for several conference planning events, and it's thanks to her that we have the bean bag tournaments at our social.



Ruth Kraemer is a recipient of the 2020 MECA recognition award. Ruth has been the MECA Administrator for the past 6 years and she has been instrumental in finding quality speakers for our conference. She has helped coordinate countless field and field events – WITH A SMILE! She has been a tireless advocate for our organization and we will miss her greatly.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF
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RECIPIENTS!**



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PROJECT HIGHLIGHT!

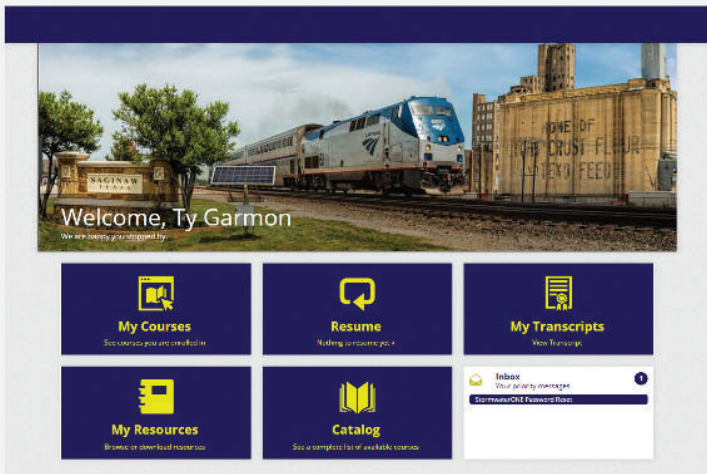
LITTLE GEORGE POND DREDGING PROJECT

SUBMITTED BY: NOAH CZECH, CITY OF ST. CLOUD

Landwehr Construction is a fifth-generation contractor that, over the past two construction seasons, has been the prime contractor on three challenging City of St. Cloud projects as well as numerous private projects. Landwehr were proactive, communicative, and creative on the projects, and were true industry leaders. Landwehr used speed & timing as primary BMPs. The City only allowed Landwehr 14 calendar days to complete the project, including dewatering of the pond. The City only allowed a very small area of the Park to be closed off for equipment, construction activity and the dewatering set-up. No stockpiling of the PAH contaminated pond sediment was allowed outside of the pond slope and no sediment/pond dredging material was allowed to drip or leak from the trucks...this required precise loading of sediment into the trucks and Landwehr's BMP to use sawdust. The sawdust dried the sediment quickly so it could be loaded and hauled to the landfill, meet City requirements of no stockpiling and landfill paint filter test requirements, reduce the risk of dropping wet sludge on the street and allow the project to stay on schedule. Landwehr scheduled the project for mid-November to minimize the risk of rain and have frozen ground conditions to minimize restoration. The project was completed in 10 days.



WHERE APPLICATION AND EDUCATION MEET



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Savings are based on LMS Setup and 10 users.

WHAT'S BREWING

MICROPLASTICS: A BREWING STORMWATER ISSUE



URBAN GROWLER, ST PAUL | APRIL 23, 2020 | 4:30-7:30PM

Join **MECA** at Urban Growler for an **inside look** at microplastics and our industry.

Microplastics pollution is a growing issue in Minnesota. Minnesota researchers have found microplastics in beers brewed with water from the Great Lakes. Microplastics have also been found in the metro Mississippi River and the river provides drinking water to 1.2 million Minnesotans.

Plastics are a common material in products we use every day, including our industry (e.g., erosion prevention and sediment control practices, such as silt fence, erosion control blanket, hydraulic mulch, etc.). Join us to understand the linkages to our industry and how we can be part of the solution.

Speakers:

Peter Leete | MnDNR

Microplastics and the linkages to the erosion control industry; how we can help

Mary Kosuth, MSPH | University of Minnesota Microplastics Researcher

Research findings and how microplastics have been found in beer brewed with water from the Great Lakes

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