

SOLAR SITE WORKSHOP

EXPLORING SOLAR PROJECTS FROM PERMITTING,
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT, EROSION CONTROL
& NATIVE VEGETATION DESIGN, ESTABLISHMENT & MAINTENANCE

PRESENTED BY:



Thursday, September 14, 2023 | 8AM-4PM
Connexus Energy | 14601 Ramsey Blvd NW, Ramsey, MN 55303

Join the Minnesota Erosion Control Association (MECA) and the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) for a one-day workshop that will cover what you should know about solar site projects. Lessons learned during the evolution of solar projects throughout the years with an emphasis on planning, site preparation, installation, and a management.

Hear from industry experts during the classroom portion of the day followed by a solar site visit and networking opportunity!

TOPICS & PRESENTERS:

- Increasing Local Benefits from Solar Development** | Rob Davis, Connexus Energy
- Steps for Meeting Minnesota's Habitat Friendly Solar Standard** | Dan Shaw, BWSR
- Solar Farm Construction and the NPDES Stormwater** | Todd Smith, MPCA
- Photovoltaic Stormwater Management Research and Testing (PV-SMaRT)** | Jake Galzki, UMN
- Solar Development: Planning, Permitting and Sequencing for Success** | Aaron Mlynek, Westwood
- Successful Vegetation Design for Solar Arrays** | Jacob Anderson, Natural Resource Service
- Vegetation Establishment in Solar Arrays** | Josh Richardson, Prairie Restoration
- Managing Habitat Friendly Solar Facilities: The Benefits and Challenges Facing Producers, Contractors, Operators, and Owners** | Jake Janski, MNL

There are opportunities to help support this event by exhibiting and/or sponsorship as well!

- Exhibitor fee \$150 (includes one paid attendee)
- Food/Beverage Sponsor \$500 (includes exhibit fee and one paid attendee)

REGISTER NOW!



MESSAGE FROM MECA BOARD MEMBER JAMIE DAYTON

Greetings!

Back in January, MECA completed our 35th Annual Conference and Trade Show. We had a great turn out for our first solo (2022 partnership with IECA) conference

post pandemic. Thank you to all of you who attended and a bigger thanks to those that completed the post-conference survey. We all know surveys are not the most fun thing in the world, but as a newly appointed board member, survey results are worth their weight in gold. Comments on the conference's pros and cons help drive the planning for next year's conference. Speaking of, we are already planning for the 36th Annual Conference and Trade Show and have received a lot of great topic ideas! Thank you to those who participated in our 2024 Annual Conference Planning back on April 12th and to those who have submitted abstracts. We appreciate your engagement!

One more thing about the conference in January; MECA had a record turnout of enrolled student attendees. Eleven students attended the conference in some capacity! Student engagement is crucial to MECA's continued memberships growth and the industry. I for one will be trying to continue this year's great student attendance numbers and be on the lookout for potential ways MECA members can help in membership or conference registration sponsorships.

The MECA board members and I are excited for the upcoming events this year including the Rice Lake Field Event, a Solar workshop and more! Watch for more details coming soon!

Thank you for your time and see you at one of the events this Summer. Take care!!!

Jamie Dayton

MECA BOARD MEMBERS



PRESIDENT
Greg Berg



VICE PRESIDENT
Riley Stenzel



TREASURER
Keri Aufdencamp



SECRETARY
Rebecca Forman



BOARD MEMBER
Jamie Dayton



BOARD MEMBER
Meghan Litsey



BOARD MEMBER
Jeff Forsberg

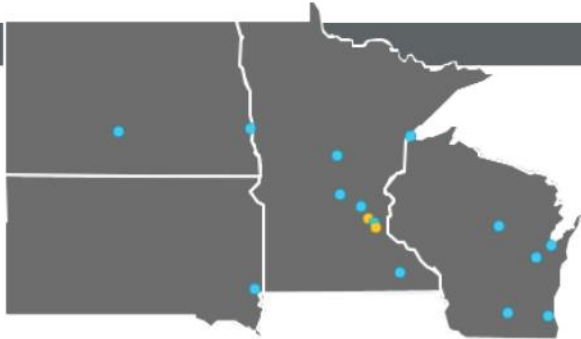


WHITE CAP®

**YOUR SOURCE FOR
GEOSYNTHETICS**

With over 30 years of knowledge and experience, White Cap is your source for geosynthetic products and services. We are proud to represent the top geosynthetic manufacturers in the market today and are here to offer you the technical and product support you need to get the job done.

Geogrids • Geotextiles • Erosion Control • Silt & Sediment Control • Porous Paving • Paving Fabrics & Grids
Geomembranes/GCLs • Drainage Management • Stormwater Management • Technical Support



● Formerly Brock White ● White Cap

COMBINING TO BETTER SERVE YOU

BROCKWHITE
CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS



WHITE CAP

Brock White is now White Cap! We are incredibly excited for our future as White Cap and are committed to Building Trust on Every Job offering even more value:

- ▶ A larger support team, with the same knowledgeable, capable, and dependable associates
- ▶ Expanded product offerings
- ▶ Improved delivery services and more!

WhiteCap.com | 800.944.8322

BUILDING TRUST ON EVERY JOB™



SHOOTING STAR
NATIVE SEEDS

NATIVE PRAIRIE GRASS AND WILDFLOWER SEEDS

Offering over 250 native species originating throughout the Midwest and the widest selection of source-identified native seed in the industry

Native seed mixes for CRP, CREP, DOT, BWSR, reclamation, residential, commercial, and public projects

www.shootingstarnativeseed.com

20740 County Road 33 • Spring Grove, MN 55974
phone: 507.498.3944 • info@ssns.co



**Plaisted
Companies**
INCORPORATED

PREMIUM ENGINEERED SOIL MIXES

Specifically Formulated for Storm Water Management

- Rain Garden & Rooftop Mixes
- Iron Enhanced Sand
- MN DOT 3877 Mixes
- MPCA Water Manual Mixes
- Accublender Creates Precise Blending



Stone
A Division of Plaisted Companies, Inc.

**BOULDERS FOR
SHORELINE
RESTORATION**



WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED.™

PREMIUM GRASS SEED

COMPLETE EROSION CONTROL PRODUCT LINEUP

TEAM OF SPECIALISTS TO ENSURE YOUR SUCCESS

AS FAST AS YOU NEED IT GUARANTEE

MN DOT APPROVED SEED VENDOR



MillbornSeeds

888.498.7333 • MILLBORNSEEDS.COM

MEMBER OF MECA AND MINNESOTA SEEDERS ASSOCIATION
HELPING YOU IMPACT ACRES SINCE 1987!

PROUD TO OFFER PRODUCTS FROM:

American
Excelsior
Company®



Quality Erosion Control Products



RICE LAKE FIELD EVENT

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND PRODUCT DEMONSTRATIONS
FOR EROSION CONTROL AND STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



MECA has teamed up with the North American Stormwater and Erosion Control Association of Wisconsin (NASECA) again for the 2023 Rice Lake Field Event on Thursday, September 21!

This popular annual event has been hosted by NASECA since 2005 in partnership with the American Excelsior Company ErosionLab, one of only a few erosion control testing laboratories in the United States.

In addition to hearing from experienced professionals, attendees will view product testing under a variety of control measures set up as stations around the grounds. There is ample time for Q&A as well as quality networking!

Demonstrations Include:

- Installation of erosion matting on slopes with various products and techniques
- Installation of perimeter/channel protection
- ASTM Standards
- Mat netting degradation
- Trackout devices/methods
- Concrete washout
- Underground infiltration systems
- Use of straw with hydromulch

Join Us for a Pre-Event Reception!

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

5:00-8:00PM

Holiday Inn Express and Suites, Rice Lake, WI

Attendee fee: \$20

Field Event

Thursday, September 21, 2023

8:00AM-4:00PM

American Excelsior Company ErosionLab

1695 19 1/2 Street

Rice Lake, WI 54868

Attendee fee:

- \$199 MECA member (Contact us at meca@mnerosion.org to confirm your membership and to receive a coupon code for \$20 off!)
- \$219 non-member of MECA or NASECA

REGISTER NOW!

SPONSOR EVENT

This event qualifies for Professional Development Hours.





Erosion Control PRODUCTS

Brands you can trust:



STRAW BLANKETS • HYDROMULCHES
SILT FENCES • EROSION CONTROL BLANKETS



EarthGuard[®] Pellets
 Maximum application flexibility



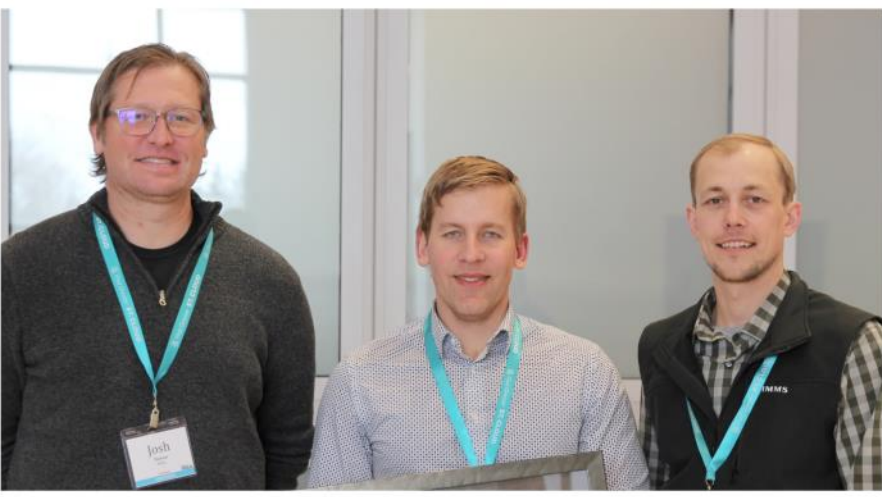
EarthGuard[®] Fiber
 Maximum durability





2023 INNOVATION AWARD
Presented to Gabriel Dretsch
Minnesota Department of
Transportation,
MnDOT Northeast Minnesota
District 4

2023 ENVIRONMENTAL
EXCELLENCE AWARD
Presented to
Forest Lake Contracting, Inc.



2023 ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE AWARD
Presented to Otter Tail Power Company



2023 ENVIRONMENTAL
LEADERSHIP AWARD
Presented to Chuck and Deb Uphoff

Not Pictured:
2023 INDUSTRY
LEADERSHIP AWARD
Presented to Jeff Stalberger



2023 MECA AWARD RECIPIENTS

Each year MECA recognizes outstanding individuals and projects in the following categories:

Innovation Award

Awarded to an individual, company, government agency or organization that developed new products/ideas that advanced the field of erosion & sediment control/stormwater management.

Industry Leadership

Awarded to an individual, company, government agency or organization that has demonstrated leadership in the erosion and sediment control, or stormwater management field.

Environmental Excellence

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.

Environmental Leadership

Awarded to an individual, company, government agency or organization who has shown leadership in advancing effective erosion and sediment control and stormwater management or other water resource related fields that have advanced water resource quality in Minnesota.

MECA Recognition Award

Awarded to an individual who has been actively involved with MECA and contributed significant time and effort to MECA's work.



Wellens Agronomics
Carver, MN
952-448-5167
www.wellensag.com



2024 ANNUAL CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

We look forward to seeing you at our 36th Annual Conference on January 30-February 1st at the Crowne Plaza Minneapolis West in Plymouth. Pre-conference workshops will be held on Tuesday, January 30th and the Conference will take place on Wednesday, January 30th and Thursday, February 1st.

Seeding and Erosion Control Contractor

The area's most reliable partner, focused on quality and service second to none.

We have been working on finalizing topics/presenters and are excited to release the Annual Conference Schedule soon.

Registration coming soon— we hope to see you there!



Top Guard™
Drain Inlet Protection



Distributed by:
Lawn and Driveway Service
320-760-9112
lawnanddriveway@runestone.net



Combo Guard™
CG 26x26x46"



Combo Guard™
CG 26x23x46"



Combo Guard™
CG 36x18.5" or 48x18.5"



GR8 Guard™
GG 28x28" or 36x36"



GR8 Guard™ LD
GGLD 24x24"



Drop Guard™
7' x 15" Panel

2023 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



LIMEIMEI XU IS THE RECIPIENT OF THIS YEAR'S MECA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Limeimei is a Ph.D student majoring in Water Resources at the University of MN-Twin Cities. She has a Master's degree in Water Resources and a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering and she is studying erosion and soil health.

CONGRATULATIONS LIMEIMEI AND BEST WISHES FOR YOUR FUTURE!



SCAN ME
Learn More About
LSC Environmental Products

Solutions for the Greener Good



Mat, Inc., Now Part of LSC Environmental Products



www.LSCenv.com

Real challenges require real solutions.

WE DELIVER.

From shoreline restoration to streambank stabilization, Bolton & Menk turns complex water resources projects into innovative and customized engineering solutions.

River Park Drive Erosion Control, Mankato Township



Real People. Real Solutions.

Bolton-Menk.com



• THE PROS OF BEING A PRO •

GROUND CONTROL

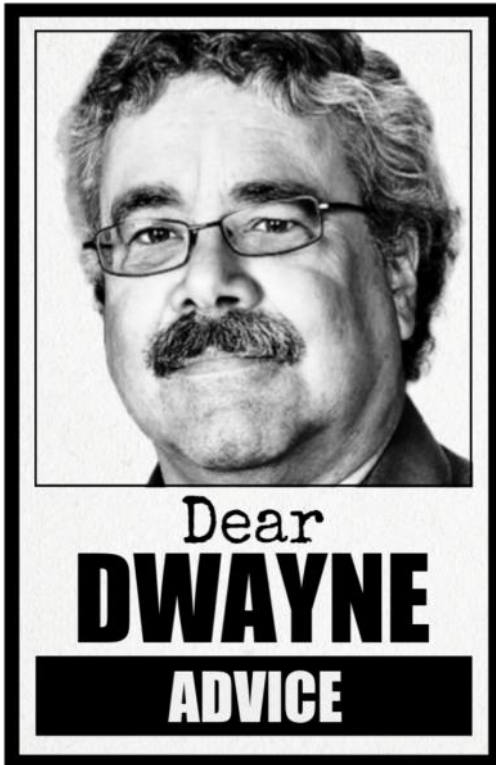


SiteOne® is home to an unmatched selection of erosion control solutions, and our green industry experts are your resource to help put them to good use.



To find a branch near you, visit [SiteOne.com/Locations](https://www.siteone.com/locations)

In this column, Dwayne Stenlund, MSc, CPESC, an Erosion Control Specialist with the Office of Environmental Stewardship at the Minnesota Department of Transportation, will answer readers' construction-related questions.



DEAR DWAYNE:

I just finished attending a preconstruction meeting. I was so looking forward to the start of the project after a long and water packed winter, hearing machines roar and the sight and smell of soil being moved. But I heard crazy talk at the meeting that deflated my joy of starting. The project supervisor representing the owner mentioned the requirement of a competent individual to implement and oversee something of a storm plan. I remember seeing in the contact words, details and storm water, but I made sure to focus instead concerning the real work listed in the project documents. I have no intent in listening to the project supervisor anyway (this is my project that I won the bid fair and square). What are the consequences if I ignore the waste of time and money stormwater management stuff?

Signed, Iam Buttamys, Crushem Contracting, Inc.

DEAR MR. MUDSKI:

It is Mr. Buttamys, my recommendation is to leave the country. But it would be unfair of me to suggest which country. First of all, it is not your project. Follow the money. While it might be true that you can deploy your creativity for specific means and methods, the end product does not belong to you. The process and direction of payment from the owner to you means you technically work for someone besides yourself. You were selected to provide a service to

the owner that includes building something to the satisfaction of person that controls the money. That something includes meeting all the contract terms and conditions. If one of the conditions means providing a competent person to ensure that the stormwater that falls or drains into the project leaves properly treated, then quickly become competent. But I can assure that if you cannot prove competency through training documentation, you in fact, do not have a valid contract, and nothing to look forward to in starting the joy of the sweet sound, sight, and smell of earth disturbance.

Enroll in Construction Site Management training certification program. Training is now available on-line. Pass the exam, no matter how many times it takes. In your case with attitude, I am predicting more than once. Then make a copy of training proof and add (your first SWPPP Amendment!) to the project file. Now go back and reexamine the contract. Look for words like staging, avoidance of impacts, areas of environmental sensitivity, erosion prevention, sediment control, dewatering, pollutant prevention, SWPPP, details, and layouts. Read for understanding how the above items will be properly incorporated and implemented during all stages and phase of your proposed means and methods. As part of your quality control submittal, demonstrate additional competency in how storm water will be managed over the life of the contract and inspected for accuracy and completeness. Submit your proposed inspection form for owner acceptance and verify how it meets NPDES permit sections 11.11 and 16.9. The job duties of the competent person is long and complicated. It is even more complicated when you have employees with the same attitude of darkness. I submit there is nothing wrong with visibly clean water leaving the project in your direct control. For additional information on performing competent person job duties and expectations, example forms for routine, corrective action, and basins, see

<https://dot.state.mn.us/environment/erosion/construction-site-management.html>

If every person within your Crushem Contracting company does a decent implementation delivery within every location of control deploying common sense (water leaves clean, waste routine removed, spills controlled, streets clean), your job is easily manageable. Find a clean attitude for success.



Get The **RIGHT MIX**

- MN DOT, ND DOT, SD DOT, WI DOT, IA DOT & NE DOT SEED MIXES
- HYDRO MULCH
- SILT FENCE
- EROSION CONTROL BLANKET & TURF REINFORCEMENT MAT
- FERTILIZER (CONVENTIONAL AND ORGANIC)
- INLET PROTECTION
- DEWATERING BAGS & FLOCCULANTS
- T-POSTS, STAPLES & ZIP TIES



agassizseed.com

WEST FARGO, ND

445 7th St NW
Phone: (701) 282-8118

MANDAN, ND

2813 Twin City Drive
Phone: (701) 354-5551

EAGAN, MN

3660 Kennebec Drive
Phone: (651) 287-3400

BRANDON, SD

1800 N. Walnut Avenue
Phone: (605) 789-4775



Complete ecological solutions

- > Native plants and seed mixes
- > Construction and installation
- > Stream and shoreline restoration
- > Vegetation management
- > Conservation grazing
- > Prescribed burning



info@mnlcorp.com ☎ mnlcorp.com



CONTACT US

ROBERTA RINGSTAD
ADMINISTRATOR
7113 COUNTY ROAD 5
RICE, MN 56367
(320) 685-5444 - PHONE
MECA@MNEROSION.ORG
MNEROSION.ORG



SARTELL CO RD 1 STORMWATER IMPROVEMENT

Submitted by: Stearns County SWCD



The Stearns County SWCD, in partnership with the City of Sartell and the Stearns County Highway Department, was awarded \$294,950 to design and install permanent stormwater treatment practices as part of the 2022 Sartell County Road 1 reconstruction project. The stormwater treatment practices will include the installation of a StormTech underground stormwater filtration system along with a dozen sump manholes with baffles.

The project goal was to direct dirty stormwater that runs off from yards and city streets into this underground stormwater filtration system instead of letting it continue to go untreated into the Mississippi River as it has in the past.

Installing these types of stormwater treatment practices as part of a larger reconstruction project is more cost-effective than tearing up existing infrastructure as a standalone project.

The practice is located on public property where the City of Sartell will maintain it as part of its on-going public facilities maintenance program. When driving by the site, it is not noticeable as it is deeply buried, and the surface above is mowed grass.

This project was funded through the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment because it will help protect the City of St. Cloud's drinking water supply. The City of St. Cloud pulls their drinking water from the Mississippi River not too far downstream from this project.

PROJECT DETAILS

Practice:

- Stormwater Treatment

Target Waters:

- Mississippi River

Project Implementation:

- 2022

Components:

- StormTech underground stormwater filtration system

Benefits:

- Redirect dirty stormwater from yards and city streets
- Protecting water supply
- Reduce sediment from streets from 610 acres (44%)

Pollution Reduction Estimates:

- Phosphorus: 204 lbs./yr.
- Total Suspended Solids: 180 ton/yr.

Partners:

- Stearns County SWCD
- City of Sartell
- Stearns County Highway Department
- Clean Water Fund

Watershed:

- Mississippi River - Sartell



The stormwater treatment practices will include the installation of a StormTech underground stormwater filtration system along with a dozen sump manholes with baffles.



The project goal was to direct dirty stormwater that runs off from yards and city streets into this underground stormwater filtration system instead of letting it continue to go untreated into the Mississippi River as it has in the past.



This project was funded through the Clean Water Land and Legacy Amendment because it will help protect the City of St. Cloud's drinking water supply.