### **BCWMC 2-19-15** Item 8C. Video Interviews of Participants at: http://www.northlandnemo.org/resources.html

# The NEMO Program

Making a difference with local leaders



University of Minnesota | extension



# A summary of NEMO in the west metro region in 2014

# **Highlights**

- Four workshops reached more than 200 elected and appointed officials and community leaders
- Participants represented nearly every city and watershed in the west metro region
- Five watershed organizations partnered with Extension and MN Sea Grant

# Local leaders increased their knowledge in:

- Practices, plans and policies related to stormwater management and shorelines and streambanks
- Targeting practices, the current health of water resources and pollution prevention

# Local leaders plan to take action by:

- Reviewing and revising ordinances and policies
- Getting to know their community's water quality and water management plans
- Maintaining existing practices
- Investing in municipal pollution prevention



Workshop-on-the-Water included "The Guided View: lake and stream health and the impact of shorelines and streambanks"

### **PROGRAMS OFFERED**



LINKING LAND USE TO **CLEAN WATER WORKSHOP** 



#### WORKSHOP ON THE WATER

Plans, practices and policies for clean water



**LESSONS** ACROSS THE LANDSCAPE — STREAMBANKS AND **STORMWATER** 

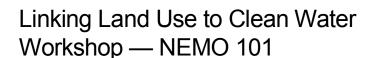
A workshop and bus tour

## Videos & resources

See and hear what local leaders said about participating.

Review materials from the workshops.

www.northlandnemo.org Under the Resources tab





## May 8 in Edina and May 14 in Excelsion

# This workshop covered:

- The 3 Ps: planning, practices and policies to minimize or prevent impacts to water resources
- The connections between land use decisions and the management of stormwater runoff, impervious surfaces and nonpoint source pollutants
- Technical and financial resources available to improve and protect water resources
- Planning for groundwater sustainability in 21st century for Minnesota
- 74 local elected and appointed leaders participated



Workshops included opportunities for participants to visit with staff from the five watershed districts and organizations

# Participating cities in 2014 workshops

Bloomington Chanhassen

Dayton

Eden Prairie

Edina

Golden Valley

Greenfield

Hopkins

Independence

Laketown Township

Long Lake

Loretto

Maple Plain

Medicine Lake

Medina

Minneapolis

Minnetonka Beach

Minnetrista

Mound

New Hope

Norwood Young America

Orono

Plymouth

Shorewood

**Spring Park** 

St. Louis Park

Tonka Bay

Victoria

Waconia

Watertown

Wayzata

Woodland

# Participating Watershed boards/advisory members

Carver WMO
Minnehaha Creek WSD
Nine Mile Creek WSD
Pioneer Sarah Creek WMO
Bassett Creek JPO
Riley Purgatory Bluff Creek WSD
Elm Creek WMO
Shingle Creek WMO

"When it's reinforced for you what the problems are and what you can do I think you feel like you have some power and some incentive to do something."

Jodi Peterson, Board Manager, Nine Mile Creek Watershed District. NEMO Program participant

### **ABOUT NEMO**

Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials offers educational programming, provides resources and creates effective tools to assist and enable communities to make informed decisions regarding land use and natural resources. The mission is to help Minnesota and Wisconsin communities protect and improve natural resources while accommodating growth and redevelopment.

# Workshop on the Water Plans, practices and policies for clean water

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## July 23 on Lake Minnetonka

Viewing shorelines from the water helped illuminate the workshop lessons for leaders of cities and watersheds. They now see their familiar lakes, rivers and streams in a whole new light.

This workshop included:

- The Guided View: lake and stream health and the impact of shorelines and streambanks
- The Watershed Game: selecting practices to meet a clean water goal
- 100 local leaders participated

# NEMO prompts leaders to take action

Actions participants said they'd take after the program:

- Get to know their ordinances and ask if they should be revised
- Find and know the health and pollution reduction goals of community's lakes and streams by reviewing individual water quality reports
- Invest in municipal good housekeeping to prevent or minimize pollution
- Collaborate with local watershed when revising policies

# NEMO increases knowledge

The Watershed Game resulted in increased knowledge on targeting practices, collaborating, and working across land uses in a watershed

The Guided View increased knowledge on the quality or health of the community's lakes and streams as well as practices and policies for shorelines and streambanks

**The NEMO format** has high educational value for participants; being on the water greatly enhanced their learning experience



The Watershed Game. Leaders select plans, practices policies to meet a clean water goal.

# Key participant learning occurred in

- Methods (BMPs) for shoreline stabilization and restoration
- The impacts of altered, manicured and unstable shorelines
- Pollutants and impairments: phosphorus, sediment, volume and chloride
- Stormwater BMPs such as iron enhanced filters
- Role of stormwater ponds and their required maintenance





# Lessons across the Landscape — Streambanks and Stormwater

Bus tour and workshop showing plans, practices and policies for stormwater and streambanks

## September 25

### 27 Participants

This interactive workshop focused on stormwater management practices and streambank protection and restoration.

# Increases in knowledge

- 94% increased their knowledge about "municipal good housekeeping practices" such as stormwater pond maintenance and street sweeping
- 94% increased their knowledge about streambank restoration practices
- The NEMO bus workshop format enhanced the learning experience for ALL participants

## Leaders who participated indicated they would pursue actions

The most frequent actions included:

- Establish or inquire about maintenance plan for existing stormwater ponds and all parts of stormwater management system
- Perform cost-benefit analysis and use it to inform decisions
- Ask critical questions before approving a project or proposal
- Inquire about city's street sweeping plan and invest in a targeted street sweeping program; use the new, pilot UMN research and tool "Street Sweeping Planning Calculator"

These NEMO program efforts were made possible through the support of the following organizations and programs:



# Tour stops

The tour showed the 3 Ps in action

### **TOUR STOP 1: POLICIES**

City of Eden Prairie Water Treatment Plant & Learning Center

Stormwater ponds and pollution prevention

### **TOUR STOP 2: PRACTICES**

Valley Park, City of Hopkins

Streambank restoration and protection

### **TOUR STOP 3: PLANNING**

St. Luke Presbyterian, City of Minnetonka

Site planning for stormwater management















