



Case Study – An Example from Carver County of a Successful Public Involvement Process

Paul Moline

A presentation given at
Solving the Mysteries of Public Engagement

A Board of Water and Soil Resources Workshop
On Public Involvement and Citizen Advisory Committees

June 4, 2009

Carver County
Water Management Organization

Carver County, Land and Water Services Division, Planning & Water Management Dept.

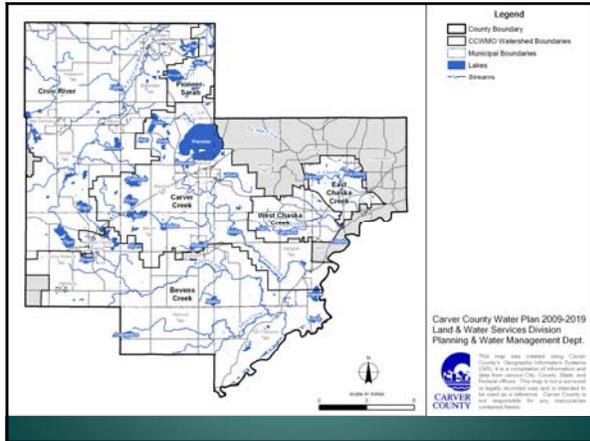


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water management organization**

citizen involvement in the watershed

- ongoing advisory committee
- project level involvement example

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citizen advisory committee

**Water, environment, natural resource
Committee (wenr)**

- formed in 1998 as a planning committee
- established as permanent watershed advisory committee in 2001
- purpose is to make recommendations to the County Board on matters relating to the CCWMO water management plan and budget; and environmental, waste and recycling issues

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Committee makeup

- 19 members: broad, diverse group
 - 1 county commissioner
 - 1 swcd board member
 - 1 u of m extension
 - 4 municipal reps
 - 2 twp reps
 - 10 citizens representing commissioner districts and sub-watersheds

farmers, urban residents, rural residents, engineers, city staff, watershed administrators

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challenges:

- size of group can make discussion more difficult
- meets bi-monthly making education of group difficult
- advisory only - members sometimes want to be doing more

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successes:

- continuity due to size and overlapping membership
- diverse opinions and backgrounds
- able to offer technical, user, and policy advice (good sounding board)
- flexibility for input platform for other planning processes (tmdl, comp plan, etc)
- tours

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Carver County

REMINDER! RSVP Requested.
Water, Environment, and Natural Resources
Annual Summer Tour
2004

July 20th, 2004
 8:05am - 9:00pm
 Meet at Carver County Parking Lot

This year's Annual Summer WENR Tour will be combined with the SWCD's Board of Supervisors' Tour. Invited to participate are: County Commissioners, WENR Office Advisory Committee Members, Carver SWCD Board of Supervisors, and representatives from other organizations that work with us on water & natural resource management. Staff from several departments will be leading and participating in the tour.

Tour Stops

- Carver Sheriff's West Infiltration Pond: Stormwater Management—Infiltration & Filtration. Managing stormwater differently? How is it working?
- County Road 40 & Carver Creek Project—building roads and crossing streams.
- TMDL—Total Maximum Daily Load—Water Quality Sampling - What are we measuring? Why? How?
- Waste water treatment facilities in Carver County—what role do they play in water quality?
- Milk House wastewater treatment Research Project Innovative methods to address water pollution from agriculture.

Tour objectives: To educate and build awareness and understanding for those who make management decisions about the water and natural resources of Carver County.

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2005 WENR Tour



Tour will begin and end at Medallion Cabinetry, Inc (190 Industrial Blvd.) in Waconia.

Tour Stops

1. Medallion Cabinetry Inc. - Waconia. Stormwater Infiltration Project
2. Watershed Development - Waconia. Regional stormwater planning & erosion and sediment control
3. (Dine-In) Unconquering Lake Impact Development Project - Waconia
- 4 & 5. City of Mayer. Stormwater management challenges and potential CIP requests
6. Goose Lake. TMDL

Carver County
 Water, Environment, and Natural Resources Tour



1. Milk House Wastewater Treatment Research Project
2. Watershed Development - Waconia
3. Waconia CIP - Stormwater Infiltration & Filtration
4. Red Creek - Waconia CIP - Stormwater Infiltration & Filtration







WENR Pontoon Tour – 2008 Evaluation

1. Generally, on a scale of 1 to 10, how informative did you find the tour?
(not informative) 1 2 3 4 5 (very informative)
2. What type of equipment is used by the Citizen Lake Monitoring Program to evaluate water quality?
a. Flow meter, b. aquatic insects, c. secchi disk
3. How will the downtown stormceptor project protect water quality in the lake?
a. reduce sediment, b. remove phosphorus, c. provide nesting habitat
4. Did this information give you enough background to identify native/restored shorelines verses disturbed shorelines?
Yes Maybe No
5. How much of the tour's information was NEW to you?
(none) 1 2 3 4 5 (all information was new)
6. Do you feel this information provided you with background to make decisions?
Yes Maybe No



follow up workshops



Reitz Lake Water Quality Program

Cully-leaf Pondweed
What is it all about?

Based upon the interest that you have expressed, we have coordinated a 13 day educational program to come back about Cully-leaf Pondweed in Reitz Lake. Recreational property owners and others are encouraged to attend this workshop. Participants will learn how to identify, control, prevent and understand why its spread. Specific steps to follow in control. Participants will also learn how to maintain a healthy aquatic plant community that can minimize the growth and spread of invasive species, and how other management options.

The Program will feature both presentation and in the water exercises.

Our Education Experts will include:

- Mark Lottmann, Extension Coordinator, 10-4049 Shoreline Research Center
- Neil Funderburk, Aquatic Plant Program Specialist, International Department of Biology Research

RSVP REQUESTED
PLEASE CALL DEAN BOLOTTS AT 852.361.3414
COME PREPARED TO GET INTO WATER WAYS DEEP.

Extension

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lessons learned

- multi-pronged approach is effective
- get away from public hearing format
- Smaller area issues generate more ownership use a local voice
- careful - expectations can run high and people will expect action and quick results

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