Farmers are interested in communicating their efforts in addressing water quality and the State wants to incentivize the voluntary use of water-friendly management practices. Enter the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program. This program works with producers to implement and maintain approved practices, and in turn assures certified farmers that they will not be subject to new water quality regulations during the period of certification. The program has “gone live” in four pilot areas across the state in the past year. Learn how the program is being received by farmers, how sign-ups are going, and what is being learned about how this program may help address Minnesota's concerns around agriculture and water.

**Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program:**
a novel approach to addressing water quality and agriculture

**Peter Gillitzer**
Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program
Minnesota Department of Agriculture

1/2-PDH

**Presentation Synopsis:**
Farmers are interested in communicating their efforts in addressing water quality and the State wants to incentivize the voluntary use of water-friendly management practices. Enter the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program. This program works with producers to implement and maintain approved practices, and in turn assures certified farmers that they will not be subject to new water quality regulations during the period of certification. The program has “gone live” in four pilot areas across the state in the past year. Learn how the program is being received by farmers, how sign-ups are going, and what is being learned about how this program may help address Minnesota's concerns around agriculture and water.

**Speaker Bio:**
Peter Gillitzer of Minnesota Department of Agriculture will be presenting. Peter is the certification and research coordinator for the program. He holds degrees in agronomy and natural resource policy from the University of Minnesota and comes to the program with a background in plant science research and project management.

**Meeting Location:**
Fort Snelling Officer’s Club at 395 Minnesota 5, St Paul, MN 55111
See map at [http://www.same-msp.org/_images/934thOfficersClub.jpg](http://www.same-msp.org/_images/934thOfficersClub.jpg)

**Agenda:**
Social time and lunch (if you so desire) will be from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM in the dining room of the Officers Club. Post Meeting and Presentation will be from 12:30 PM to about 1:30 PM in the ballroom of the Officers Club.

The Club’s cafeteria-style lunches are typically $10.00 or less; people who partake in the cafeteria-style lunch will pay the Officers Club directly. If you come only for the presentations, there is no charge.

Please RSVP with your intent to either partake in the cafeteria-style lunch or to come for the presentation only; this will help the Officers Club staff to ensure that an adequate amount of food is prepared. Either leave a voice mail message with Ann Banitt at 651-290-5541, or click the RSVP button in the left-hand column, or send an email message to ann.m.banitt@usace.army.mil.
Dan Schutte, Lake County SWCD District Manager and Water Plan Coordinator, is thanked by Post President Disa Wahlstrand for his informative presentation on the impacts of the 2012 floods and the efforts to address damaged properties along Lake Superior’s north shore. We had great attendance at this joint meeting with the Minnesota Association of Floodplain Managers (MnAFPM).

Dan began his presentation by highlighting the magnitude of the rainfall event. Combined with wet antecedent moisture conditions, areas experienced maximum hourly rainfall totals between 2 and 4 inches, and cumulative rainfall totals of 8 to 10 inches. Several streams experienced discharges that far exceeded any previous discharge record. Dan framed this extreme event by noting an even-more extreme historic rainfall that dropped 30-36 inches of rainfall over Chippewa Valley in the Pomme de Terre Watershed in July 1867.

Dan described compounding factors that exacerbated the conditions along the north shore, including the condition of previously logged acres, the clay soils, and the steep profiles of the streams flowing down to Lake Superior. Dan walked us through the process of site assessment, landowner coordination, project survey and design, and construction oversight. He provided examples of several projects which have been completed with assistance from the Board of Water and Soil Resources, Civilian Conservation Corps, Lake County Forestry Service and the Minnesota DNR. Some of the techniques used to address mass wasting and bank stability issues included, scour protection, stream vanes, floodplain bench vegetation and toe wood, up-sizing culverts, rainwater garden installations, storm water retention, structure relocation or removal, and vegetative prescriptions.

He concluded his presentation by providing some general observations about property damages. Dan commented that many mass wasting issues occurred where storm water day-lighted from gutters and drain tiles. He stressed the importance of identifying vulnerable areas and erosion hazard zones. Addressing the failures from the 2012 flood has provided an opportunity to install more robust designs that are better suited for higher flow conditions.

### Winners of the Drawing for a Free Lunch

| At the May Meeting — | Terry Zien, US Army Corps of Engineers |
| Nicholas Crovetti, MN Air National Guard |
| At the April Meeting — | Mike Noonan, Portable Barge Service |
| Bonnie Greenleaf, US Army Corps of Engineers |
| At the March Meeting — | Karen Wiemeri, Mead & Hunt |
| Darly Zuelke, EnviroScience |
| At the February Meeting— | No Drawing |
Registration is Open for the Annual Golf Tourney

Attention all golfers … sign up NOW for the 29th Annual Education and Mentoring Fund Golf Tournament. It is scheduled for Thursday July 17th at Oak Marsh Golf Course.

As was done last year, the registration for the event will be done on-line. Please use the website for signing up yourself, or your foursome, or for becoming a sponsor of the event.

Registrations must be received no later than Friday, July 11.

Individuals, twosomes, threesome, and foursomes are welcome! Groups less than foursomes will be paired up with other golfers.

Non-golfers are welcome to join us for dinner and socializing.; cost for dinner-only is $25.00. Additional donations to the Education and Mentoring Fund would be greatly appreciated.

Early Registration by June 27th will enter you in a drawing to win additional prizes.

Golfer Registration information: http://www.wpgolf.com/oakmarsh/same_fundraiser.aspx
Event Sponsorship information: http://www.wpgolf.com/oakmarsh/same_fundraiser_sponsor.aspx

If you have questions about the event, please contact Tim Thoreen at 651-365-8512 or tthoreen@ch2m.com

Mark the Date for the Annual Post Dinner and Recognition Event

The 4th Annual Minneapolis-Saint Paul Post Awards and Recognition Banquet will be held on Wednesday, August 13th at the Como Zoo and Conservatory’s Bullard Rainforest Auditorium at the Visitor Center (same location as last year).

The time frame will be 6:00 PM to about 9:00 PM. An event flyer will be sent out in July with additional details and registration information.
Thank You Note from two Scholarship Recipients

The following note was received from one of our recent scholarship recipients:

Thank you, SAME, for awarding me your Category II Scholarship. This money, in combination with other scholarships, will help me pay for college in Madison next year, where I plan to study Materials Engineering.

Thanks again,
Sincerely, Leo Mose

SAME Scholarship Committee,

I’d like to thank the committee for selecting me for the SAME scholarship. It will be a great in furthering my education next year. Thank you for supporting young adults in furthering their education.

Thanks,
Kellie Wambold