



# CRWD giving away canoe this weekend

*Prize drawing at Austin Home & Vacation Show promotes recreation on Cedar River*

**AUSTIN, Minn. – Thursday, March 20, 2014** – In promotion of water recreation and appreciation, the Cedar River Watershed District is offering a drawing for a new canoe at this weekend's Austin Home & Vacation Show.

CRWD is participating for the first time in the 40<sup>th</sup> annual Home Show at Packer Arena in Austin as part of an effort to better connect with the public to provide information about the Cedar River and other local waterways. The CRWD staff also seeks to connect with agricultural landowners in the watershed who might be interested in partnering on projects to reduce flooding and improve water quality.

"We are looking forward to talking with people not only about the many ways the CRWD is working hard to improve the local waterways but also the natural beauty and fun available by paddling down the Cedar River," said Bev Nordby, CRWD Administrator.



Those who stop by the CRWD's booth can register their name in the drawing for a Pelican Explorer Deluxe canoe (nearly \$500 value) with features that include two folding seats, two vertical rod holders and convenient carrying handles. It weighs 86 pounds and is 14.5 feet long.

CRWD's Board of Managers came up with the idea for the canoe drawing at the Home Show as a great way to promote recreation on the Cedar River and other local waterways.

CRWD's booth at the event also will feature numerous poster-size pictures of historic and present-day images of scenes along the Cedar River in Mower County and an array of informational handouts, including the CRWD's recently published 2013 Annual Report.

## About the Cedar River Watershed District

In April 2007, state and local officials formed the CRWD in response to the Cedar River Watershed's top, worst-known floods occurring in 2000 and 2004. The CRWD's top priorities are aimed at reducing flooding and improving water quality within the Cedar River Watershed. Promoting water recreation is another priority, with the CRWD leading an effort that in 2012 led to the State of Minnesota officially designating the Cedar River as a State Water Trail under the Department of Natural Resources program.

**Who:** Cedar River Watershed District.  
**What:** Offering a drawing for a new canoe.  
**Where:** 40<sup>th</sup> annual Austin Home & Vacation Show at Packer Arena.  
**When:** 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friday; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday; and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.  
**Why:** Promote water recreation along the Cedar River and other local waterways.  
**CONTACTS**  
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