

Waterways month coming to library in June

CRWD, Vision 2020 to offer weekly presentations, informational displays

AUSTIN, Minn. – Thursday, May 30, 2013 – Cedar River Watershed District and Vision 2020 Waterways will offer weekly presentations in June at Austin Public Library as part of a first-time Waterways Awareness & Appreciation Month.

Informational displays and handouts related to flooding, water quality, recreational opportunities, Cedar River State Water Trail, Vision 2020 Waterways projects and more will be offered throughout the month at the library. A special display area will be set up near the back of the library, where a reading area overlooks the Cedar River’s Downtown Mill Pond.

Eight poster-size prints of current and historic photos of local waterways also will be on display throughout June.

“CRWD and Vision 2020 want to offer interesting and fun presentations to engage more with the public and educate them on the Cedar River and other local waterways,” CRWD Administrator Bev Nordby said. “We’re very grateful to the library for helping us make this month-long effort a reality.”

CRWD is partnering with Vision 2020 Waterways, Austin Public Library, Mower County Historical Society and the City of Austin for the awareness and appreciation month.

Five one-hour presentations free to the public are set for June in Austin Public Library’s large meeting room. They are:

- **Tuesday, June 4 (6:30-7:30 PM) at Austin Public Library**
“Water Quality – Reviving Our River”
 - *Presenters:* James Fett, CRWD Watershed Technician; and Tim Ruzek, CRWD Public Outreach Coordinator.
 - *Topics:* Water quality; CRWD’s “Adopt-A-River” program; Cedar River State Water Trail.
- **Thursday, June 13 (6:30-7:30 PM) at Austin Public Library**
“Flooding in Austin & the Cedar River Watershed”
 - *Presenters:* Steven Lang, City Engineer for Austin; and Justin Hanson, CRWD Resource Specialist.
 - *Topics:* Flooding history, past and future flood projects in Austin, CRWD’s role with flood reduction.
- **LUNCH-HOUR PROGRAM: Tuesday, June 18 (12:00-1:00 PM) at Austin Public Library (NOTE: bring your own lunch)**
“Cedar River Watershed: Photo History” – sponsored by Mower County Historical Society
 - *Presenters:* Tim Ruzek, CRWD Public Outreach Coordinator; and CRWD staff.
 - *Topics:* Photo presentation of dozens of old waterways-related photos, dating back to late 1800s.
- **Thursday, June 20 (6:30-7:30 PM) at Austin Public Library**
“Vision 2020 Waterways”
 - *Presenters:* Members of the Austin Vision 2020 Waterways Committee.
 - *Topics:* Past, current and future projects to improve the Austin area’s waterways.
- **Wednesday, June 26 (6:30-7:30 PM) at Austin Public Library**
“East Side Lake: Past & Future”
 - *Presenters:* Laura Helle, Vision 2020 Director of Creative Vision; and CRWD staff.
 - *Topics:* History of East Side Lake, including its development; and the future of the lake.

Waterways Awareness & Appreciation Month

Who: Cedar River Watershed District along with partners Vision 2020 Waterways Committee, Austin Public Library, Mower County Historical Society, and the City of Austin.

What: Offering weekly presentations on waterways topics as well as handouts and informational and picture displays all month.

Where: Austin Public Library, 323 4th Ave. N.E.

When: Throughout month of June. Evening presentations will run from 6:30-7:30 PM on **June 4, June 13, June 20 and June 26**. A lunch-hour presentation will be **June 18** (12-1 PM).

Why: Project aims to educate and engage the public on local waterways issues and initiatives.

Contact: Bev Nordby, CRWD Administrator, 507-434-2603; bev.nordby@mowerswcd.org

For more information, follow the CRWD on Facebook and “Like” its page at www.facebook.com/CedarRiverWD or go online to the CRWD website at www.cedarriverwd.org.

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