

For release: February 19, 2010

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Active Learners Sought for Barnesville Water Quality Event

Have you ever seen a group of high school students, pulling bottles of water out of a local creek or river? And if so, did you wonder what they were doing, and what they were finding? Would you be willing to be taught by the students themselves?

Now is your chance to be part of a group who will learn about River Watch and water quality. If the interest is there, you will also be asked to plan an event to showcase Barnesville's River Watch program. You don't need any particular background or training to participate. But, you must be willing to commit at least three hours, over two different meetings, to the project.

The first session is Thursday, March 11. River Watch students and Sheila Carlson will present on the River Watch program and water quality of streams and rivers near Barnesville. Staff from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency will share how River Watch fits into state and local monitoring programs and what the results mean. On March 25, the second session will be a brainstorming session to uncover ideas to bring the River Watch and the information it produces to the community.

Both sessions will start at 6:30 and end by 8 p.m. Meeting location is the second floor conference room of the Wells Fargo Bank, Barnesville.

What are some of the activities that the community could sponsor to bring River Watch to residents? Bruce Albright, administrator of the Buffalo Red River Watershed district, has suggested a community water quality day at the Clay County Fair. The water quality day could be an opportunity to experience and even learn various activities that protect surface water.

The project is sponsored by the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District with support from the Barnesville Economic Development Authority, the Clay County SWCD, and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

For more information, or to volunteer for the project, please call Sheila Carlson at 354-2663, or Bruce Albright at the Buffalo Red River Watershed District 354-7710. You can also visit the Buffalo-Red River Watershed District's Website at www.brrwd.org.