

# Earthfest Expo 2018 Speaker Series

- 11:00-11:30    **Streams of SE Minnesota**    Jeff Broberg  
Southeast Minnesota is home to world class trout fishing because of its unique geology and the spring-fed streams it supports. But, environmental impacts present real threats to this amazing resource. Come hear from one of the foremost experts in the area about the water, the landscape and his life as a fisherman.
- 11:45-12:15    **From toilet to sink**    David Lane  
We take for granted that when we turn on our faucets, clean water comes out. But, do you know what it takes to make Olmsted County's water some of the best tasting in the state? Hear from our own Waste Water Treatment Center staff about the ins and outs of water purification.
- 12:30-1:30    Keynote- **Water, Simple, Almost Free**    MPR's Amy Skoczlas Cole  
Water. Simple. Almost free. Comes out of the tap when we turn it on. We think we know it, but really – it's hard to fathom all the ways in which it touches every aspect of our lives. Join Amy Skoczlas Cole, who leads MPR's new initiative focused on water, *The Water Main*. Amy will share perspective on why MPR is choosing to focus on water, how they are tackling this complex topic, and what they've learned in their first year about Minnesotans and water from their research and reporting. Plus, she'll share her tips for engaging a broad base of people on environmental issues, gleaned from over twenty years of experience in leadership roles in organizations around the world including Conservation International, Pentair, and eBay.
- 1:45-2:30    **Smart Lawn and Garden Management**    Stephanie Hatzenbihler  
We all want a beautiful lawn, but some of the ways we achieve this can hurt our water and even our soil. From raingardens to simple alternatives to chemical treatment, Rochester's Environmental Education specialists will share better, more sustainable practices you can use to make a difference.
- 2:45-3:30    **Understanding Ag: Local Farming and Water Conservation**    Martin Larsen  
Agriculture gets a lot of attention when it comes to discussions of water pollution. But, are farming and clean water naturally incompatible? Hear from a local Olmsted County farmer about what he is doing on his land to promote clean water and carry on a family tradition of farming.
- 3:45-4:30    **Dredging Lake Zumbro**    Nate Anderson  
After a long process of approval involving multiple counties and stakeholders and millions of dollars dedicated to the project, the dredging of Lake Zumbro is set to begin this year. But, what caused the sedimentation? How can future buildup be prevented? Learn more about preserving one of our local recreation hotspots!