



C.R.O.W. JOINT POWERS

306C Brighton Avenue • Buffalo, MN 55313 • Phone (763) 682-1933 ext. 3 • Fax: (763) 682-2903

Press Release

For Immediate Release

September 20, 2006

Contact: Diane Sander, Crow River Organization of Water

Citizen Volunteers Clean Up Crow River

Muddy feet, a sore back and pride in a job well done are the rewards of the volunteers that took part in the third annual Crow River Clean Up Day on Saturday September 16. The event is coordinated by the Crow River Organization of Water (CROW), a 10 County Joint Powers Organization aimed at preserving and protecting the Crow River and its tributaries. Over 250 citizens from 14 communities across the Crow River Watershed donated their time to remove garbage and debris from the banks of the Crow River and its tributaries.

In addition to the many citizens that donated their time, 46 local businesses, organizations and communities also contributed to the event. Hanover River Inn, Lake Lillian's Horseshoe Bar and Subway located in Hutchinson, Spicer, Buffalo, Rockford, St. Michael, Albertville, Rogers, and Glencoe donated sandwiches for the volunteers. Culligan, Cub Foods, Coborn's, Wright County Water Task Force, Joel's Family Foods, and James Street Coffee Company took care of refreshments and other snacks. Cities, Townships, Three Rivers Park District, Randy's Sanitation, Waste Management, Spruce Ridge Landfill and Hennepin West Paving helped out with dumpsters and trash removal. CROW, Mid-MN Mississippi RC&D, 3M, Hutchinson Technology, Stearns County Pheasants Forever Chapter, Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District and Crow River Sports provided t-shirts for the volunteers. DNR Adopt-a-River Program donated trash bags and gloves for the event. Diane Sander, Coordinator for the CROW stated that, "This truly is a community event! We have citizens, businesses, cities and townships giving their time and resources to improve the Crow River."

Communities that participated in the event included Buffalo, Dayton, Delano, Glencoe, Hanover, Hassan Township, Hutchinson, Lake Lillian, New London, Paynesville, Rockford Township, Spicer, St. Michael, and Sumter Township. In total, the clean up resulted in the removal of approximately 5.1 tons of trash from 29 miles of shoreline.

Noteworthy items removed from the water include: glass and plastic bottles, aluminum cans, plastic bags, fast food wrappers, metal siding, shingles, 190 tires (car, truck, semi and tractor), plywood, 2 electric motors, various car parts ranging from mufflers to transmissions, toilet, fence posts, oil filters, florescent light bulbs, newspaper stand, highway cones, snowmobile with engine, stove top, construction barricade with attached

light, two plastic "Big Wheel" tricycles, metal wagon wheel, car floor mats, 3 boat anchors, hammer, fencing, stove, refrigerator, chair, computer monitor, speakers, air conditioner, 2 TV's, headboard for waterbed, bicycles, five-gallon buckets, minnow buckets, metal pipes, ammo box, old rusty shotgun, tent, bricks, inner tubes, tire rims, water heater, boiler tank, oil dispenser, electrical transformer, lead sinkers, chicken houses, beer bong, rubber raft, refrigerator door, coolers, styrofoam, bushel baskets, plastic swimming pool, 6 rolls of barbed wire, wooden spool, 64 five-gallon buckets of broken glass, shoes, 55 gallon drums, sweater, jacket, washer machine, horse drawn wagon, 4 five-gallon gas cans, milk can, lazy-boy recliner, pop machine, railroad tie, rug, 4 desk chairs, tractor transmission, 3 large blue tarps, herbicide containers, purse, Hanover's plastic racing ducks (#11 & #36), fish net, lawn mower parts, and MANY pieces of wet and very heavy carpet. Items identified that could not be pulled out during the event, but will be removed at a later time: vehicle frame, V8 engine block, snowmobile and Jet Ski.

Planning is already underway for the 2007 Crow River Clean Up Day. If you would like to participate, please contact Diane Sander at 763-682-1933 Ext. 3.