

# Minnesota BMP CHALLENGE<sup>SM</sup> & Water Quality Credit Trading (WQT) Workshop

Monday, November 26, 2007

*Cabela's Retail Store, Owatonna, Minnesota*

## Summary Agenda and Logistics

Revised: November 2, 2007

- 10:00 AM     **Introduction**  
*Tom Green, CCA and President, IPM Institute of North America and Agflex*
- 10:05 AM     **Minnesota River Watershed: Opportunities for Progress**  
*Shannon Fisher, Executive Director, MN River Board/MSU Water Resources Center*  
Shannon will present an introduction to the Minnesota River watershed project, including current environmental issues, a progress report, and opportunities for improvement.
- 10:15 AM     **BMP Challenge and Water Quality Trading: Opportunities for Farmers, Advisors and Educators**  
*Tom Green, CCA and President, IPM Institute of North America and Agflex*  
Tom will introduce the BMP CHALLENGE, a project funded by USDA- NRCS has opened innovative opportunities for farmers to try Best Management Practices (BMPs) without risk to income, and earn incentives from water quality credit trading.
- 10:25 AM     **Water Quality Trading 101**  
*Jim Klang, PE, Senior Project Scientist, Kieser & Associates, LLC*  
Water quality credit trading can be confusing and is often misunderstood. Jim will clarify how trading can provide cash to farmers, including upcoming opportunities for Minnesota Farmers.
- 11:35AM     **Water Quality Trading Rule Development in Minnesota**  
*Marco Graziani, Pollution Control Specialist, MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)*  
Building on an introduction of WQT, Marco will present on the rationale and goals for the development of Minnesota's water quality trading rules, providing an overview of the process of developing water quality trading rules in Minnesota, a quick review of the state's experience with water quality trading to date, and discussion of current water quality trading drivers.
- 12:05 PM     **MN Nutrient Management Initiative**  
*Brian Williams, Water Planning Coordinator, MN Dept. of Agriculture*  
Brian will provide information on this program as another tool for available to producers in Southern Minnesota to reduce risk and increase stewardship.

- 12:30 PM      **Break for lunch**
- 1:00 PM      **Looking under the Hood at the BMP CHALLENGE: Understanding the Mechanics**  
*Brian Brandt, Director, Agricultural Conservation Innovation Center*  
Brian will provide a roadmap to how educators and advisors can take advantage of the BMP CHALLENGE as an educational tool for use with corn farmers concerned about income risk.
- 1:30 PM      **Experience with the BMP CHALLENGE in Minnesota**  
*Dave Legvold, Executive Director, Cannon River Watershed Partnership*  
Dave will introduce the Partnership, and draw on his experience with the BMP CHALLENGE in the Cannon River Watershed to explain the pros and cons of this new approach.
- 1:50 PM      **Closing Remarks**
- 2:00 PM      **Adjourn**