

Preparing Minnesota for Climate Change: A Conference on Climate Adaptation

Science Museum of Minnesota

November 7, 2013

- 9:00 – 9:20 **Welcome and opening remarks**
Level 3, Auditorium
- 9:20 – 9:45 *Mark Seeley, Current status of climate change in Minnesota*
- 9:45 – 10:10 *Peter Snyder, Potential climate changes between now and 2050*
- 10:10 – 10:25 **Break**
- 10:25 – 11:45 **Panel: What are the implications of climate change for various sectors?**
Moderator: *Faye Sleeper, UM*
James Kelly, MDH
Phillip Schaffner, MnDOT
Greg Palmer, Greater Minnesota Gas
Larry Baker, UM, Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering
Lucinda Johnson, Natural Resources Research Institute
Lee Frelich, UM, Department of Forest Resources
Robert Johansson, USDA
- 12:00 – 12:45 **Lunch**
Level 4, Discovery Hall
- 1:00 – 1:45 **Luncheon speaker:** *Bob Johnson, President, Insurance Federation of Minnesota*
Level 3, Auditorium
- 1:45 – 2:00 **Break**
- 2:00 – 3:00 **Breakout sessions, levels 6 and 3**

Session 1

Auditorium Level 3

Adapting Urban Ecosystems for Climate Change: Urban Forestry and Mosquito control

Minnesota's urban ecosystems face stresses from a changing climate, with implications for the environment as well as human health. This session discusses climate impacts and adaptation opportunities for our urban forests and control of mosquito pests.

Moderators: *Lawrence Baker, UM* and *Paul Moss, MPCA*

Speakers: *Gary Johnson, UM*

Nancy Read, Metropolitan Mosquito Control District

Session 2

Xenon Room Level 6

Community Stormwater Response to a Changing Landscape and Climate

As communities grow, land use changes can compound the effects of extreme rain events through impervious surface coverage and a reduction in open space. This session will focus on several case studies where communities have developed stormwater plans and frameworks that prepare them for extreme storm events.

Moderator: *Mollie Thompson, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District*

Speakers: *Leslie Yetka, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District*

Holly Kreft and Cara Geheren, City of Victoria

Wes Saunders-Pearce, City of St. Paul

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Session 3

Argon Room Level 6

Strategies for Addressing Climate-change Impacts on Water Quality and Aquatic

Climate change poses numerous risks for water quality and aquatic life. This session will describe emerging impacts and strategies for addressing them, focusing on water quality and cold-water fisheries case studies in Minnesota:

Moderators: *Jim Manolis, DNR and Larry Baker, UM*

Speakers: *Peter C. Jacobson, DNR*

Lucinda Johnson, NRRRI/UMN Duluth.

3:00 – 3:15 **Break**

3:15 – 4:15 **Breakout sessions, levels 6 and 4**

Session 4

Discovery Hall Level 4

Preparing for Extreme Events: Lessons from Flood Duluth event

Emergency situations like the June 2012 superstorm and subsequent flooding in Duluth and along the North Shore, provide opportunities for local communities and governments to implement climate adaptation strategies related to infrastructure and policies. Decision making in such situations can be crisis-driven (public safety, resident access, funding resources), however advance planning can help communities be prepared to take advantage of emergencies to improve their climate readiness.

Moderators: *Barbara Liukkonen, retired, UM, and Hillarie Sorenson, Minnesota Sea Grant*

Speakers: *James Fallon, USGS*

Duane Hill, MnDOT District One

Chris Kleist, City of Duluth

Session 5

Xenon Room Level 6

Public Health Preparedness and Response to Extreme Heat

The health of Minnesota residents can be impacted during extreme heat events. State and local health professionals will talk about plans to protect all residents during times of extreme heat.

Moderator: *Brenda Hoppe, MDH*

Speakers: *Kristin Raab, MDH*

John Hick, Hennepin County Medical Center

Pamela Blixt, Health Department, City of Minneapolis

Mike Matanich, Stearns County Human Services

Session 6

Argon Room Level 6

Managing Risk in Agriculture in Changing Climate

Agriculture will be impacted in numerous ways due to changes in climate. This session will look at the USDA climate strategy, issues of animal health and other issues facing agricultural producers.

Moderator: *Robert Sip, MDA*

Speakers: *Robert Johansson, USDA*

Larry Jacobson, UM

Betsy Wieland, UM Extension

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4:15 – 4:30 **Break**

4:30 – 5:30 **Breakout sessions, levels 6 and 4**

Session 7

Xenon Room Level 6

Highway Interchange 101/61 Flood Mitigation Project – Past, Present, and Future

MnDOT and Local agencies have dealt with increasingly frequent flooding along the Minnesota River. This presentation will review how floods in this area have been managed in the past; discuss the options considered in a recent flood mitigation study and go over the design of one of the selected permanent flood mitigation solutions scheduled to start construction the summer of 2014.

Moderator: *Andrea Hendrickson, MnDot*

Speakers: *Nicole Bartelt, MnDOT*

Molly Kline, MnDOT

Ron Leaf, Short Elliot Hendrickson

Lyndon Robjent, Carver County

Session 8

Discovery Hall Level 4

Facing challenges of limited community water availability

Minnesota communities face numerous challenges in accessing and supplying adequate water for residential and business use. Presenters will discuss issues of community water availability in the Metro Area and the City of Marshall in the context of a changing climate, as well as opportunities to continue meeting future demand for water.

Moderators: *Paul Moss, MPCA and Pat Foley, US Army Corps of Engineers*

Speakers: *Brian Davis, Metropolitan Council*

Brad Roos, Marshall Municipal Utilities

Session 9

Argon Room Level 6

Climate Adaptation in Minneapolis and Saint Paul

An overview of climate adaptation initiatives under development and underway in the two cities.

Moderator: *Patrick Hamilton, Science Museum of Minnesota*

Speakers: *Anne Hunt, City of Saint Paul*

Brendon Slotterback, City of Minneapolis

5:30 **Reception**
 Elements Café, Level 6