

WATERSHED WEEKLY

JANUARY 16, 2026

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BOARD MEETING

The Shell Rock River Watershed District Board of Managers hosted their monthly board meeting on January 13, 2026, at 8:30 AM. The meeting was recorded and uploaded to the District's website.

TAKE A KID ICE FISHING WEEKEND

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Ice Fish for Free Weekend

Saturday, January 17 - Monday, January 19, 2026

Take a Kid Ice Fishing Weekend

Enjoy a fun winter tradition with the whole family! During Take a Kid Ice Fishing Weekend, Minnesota residents may fish or spearfish without a license when accompanied by a child age 15 or younger. Make it a memorable weekend on the ice and catch some quality family time together.

New to ice fishing?

- Learn the basics of ice fishing and tips for catching different fish species
- Explore helpful resources on our fishing page, including fishing basics, where to fish, and current regulations

Bundle up, stay safe, and enjoy a free weekend of fishing with kids!



FOUNTAIN LAKE CHANNEL RESTORATION

One of Albert Lea's popular fishing spots, the Fountain Lake Channel, is slated for improvements in the next few years thanks to funding from the Lessard Sams Outdoor Heritage Council (LSOHC) and Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR). Barr Engineering met with the Advisory Committee this week to discuss design concepts for the project including options for what a dam replacement would look like, streambank restoration ideas, and possible locations for pedestrian bridges and fishing piers.



WINTER SALT WEEK

Winter Salt Week (January 26-30) is a collaboration of governmental and non-governmental organizations across the United States and Canada.

Register for free featured 30-minute livestreams where experts will be diving into chloride, effects, success stories, monitoring, leading change and solutions to using less chloride. Participate in hour-long conversation tables on January 30. [Register online](#) to receive livestream links and session and updates.

HOLD THE DATE → March 6-7

ISG

THE FUTURE OF SOUTHERN MINNESOTA LAKES

2026 CONFERENCE

HOLD THE DATE

Join ISG for the fourth annual Future of Southern Minnesota Lakes Conference! This dynamic event will highlight inspiring project successes, expert-led lake restoration and water quality sessions, and case studies from Southern Minnesota and throughout the Midwest. New this year is a Lake Management Planning Workshop, designed to provide attendees with actionable tools and strategies for effective planning. Connect with water resource professionals, deepen your understanding of lake dynamics, and gain practical knowledge to support healthy, thriving lakes in your community.

Space is limited. Register by February 27, 2026, to secure your spot.

Freeborn Area Soil Health Team

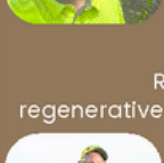
HWY-14 TOUR STOP

SOIL HEALTH WINTER WORKSHOP

OWATONNA, MN
FEBRUARY 17TH, 2026
8:30 AM - 2:00 PM

TOREY'S RESTAURANT
208 N CEDAR AVE.
OWATONNA, MN 55060

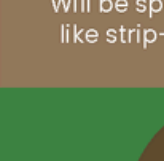
STRIP TILL MAKES DOLLARS AND SENSE



PAT DUNCANSON
Pat will present on soil health as a whole and debunking myths that are often associated with strip-till, cover crops, etc.



RANDY DEPUYDT
Randy will be focusing on strip-till as a key component in a regenerative ag system with observations from multiple points of view.



GREG ENTINGER
Greg will be talking about the economics of strip-till and how he saved time and money by utilizing the practice.



KRISTEN DIETERMAN
Will be speaking about the Rice Creek Project and how practices like strip-till and cover crops can directly affect the community.

Free Event with Lunch Provided
CEUs Available

AGENDA

- 8:30 - 8:50 Registration
- 8:50 - 9:00 Welcome/Ice Breaker
- 9:00 - 10:00 Pat Duncanson
 - Soil Health and Debunking Common Myths
- 10:00 - 10:15 Break
- 10:15 - 11:15 Randy Depuydt
 - Strip-till in Regenerative Ag Systems
- 11:15 - 11:45 Q&A with Randy and Pat
- 11:45 - 12:30 Lunch
- 12:30 - 1:15 Greg Entinger
 - Strip-till Economics
- 1:15 - 2:00 Kristen Dieterman
 - Rice Creek Project



SCAN QR CODE TO RSVP AND LEARN MORE

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRESENTERS

You may also RSVP by calling 507-320-3728 or emailing Lindsey.Cornell@mn.nacdn.net

*RSVP's due by Feb. 10th, 2026



We Will Be

CLOSED

On

MLK

MARTIN LUTHER KING

DAY

