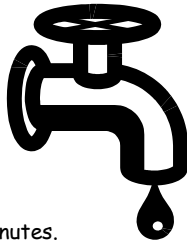


## Free Water Testing for Nitrates (\$10 Value)

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  
Room 138

### How to take a sample:

1. Run water for 5-10 minutes.
2. Print your name on any type of plastic baggie or clean glass jar.
3. Collect  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup water in the baggie or jar within 24 hours of arriving at the fair. Keep it refrigerated; It should be cool on arrival.
4. If you have water treatment equipment (other than a softener), it is recommended that a sample be taken "before" the treatment and again "after" to determine if your system is working properly.



## SLICE - Sustaining Lakes In A Changing Environment

Ray Valley, Minnesota DNR  
1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.  
Room 140

Minnesota's environment is changing, and its lakes will feel the effects. The DNR Section of Fisheries is leading a collaborative effort to develop a system to monitor and record biological changes in "sentinel" lakes. Find out how the biology of change has been hard at work in our lakes!



## Invasive Species Exhibit

11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Exhibit Hall

Get up close and personal with exotic aquatic animals and plants! See zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil, sea lamprey, and purple loosestrife - all invaders that are here and may be coming to a lake or wetland near you.



## Fun Carnival Games and Activities

9:00 am - 2:00 pm

- ❖ Minnow Races
- ❖ Casting Challenge
- ❖ Fun Craft Project
- ❖ Face Painting



## Snakes Alive!

Long Lake Conservation Center  
10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.  
12:00 noon - 12:45 p.m.  
Room 154



Few critters carry the negative image that snakes do, yet few animals are so expert at controlling pests. Join us to learn about Minnesota's native snakes, their adaptations and how they are beneficial to our environment. Participants will become fascinated by snakes as they get to see and touch snakes! Garter, bull, gopher, and fox snakes will all be present.



## Bluebird House Building

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
FREE Room 132

Help your child assemble a Bluebird house kit, with on-site assistance. The lumber has been pre-cut, and is ready for you to put together and take home!



## Controlling Aquatic Invasive Species

Rich Rezanka, Minnesota DNR  
10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.  
Room 140



Controlling the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species is crucial to protecting fish, wildlife, and plant habitat. Where are invasives like purple loosestrife, zebra mussels, and spiny water flea found in Aitkin County and how do they spread? Examples of local control options will be highlighted.

## Birding By Ear

Jerry Niemi, Natural Resources  
Research Institute, UMD  
1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.  
Room 144



Have you ever wondered why birds sing? What type of bird sings that familiar backyard song? Jerry Niemi's passion is for the birds - all types and sizes! He'll help us explore the Minnesota birders essential skill of "Birding by Ear". We'll also learn tips for identifying birds, common and uncommon, just by their songs. Come and hear what you are missing!



= Kid Friendly Program

## Lake Stewardship: It's Up To Us

Paula West  
11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.  
Room 144



Lakes and Rivers are great - but caring for them is a responsibility we all share. Each water body is part of a larger watershed, and what happens on the land does have an impact on the water. What is a BMP? How can you be involved in setting the local land use agenda? Join Water Quality Advocate Paula West to explore simple ways to protect these valuable resources while still enjoying them!

## Fly Tying

Sessions will begin at 9:00, 9:45,  
10:30, 11:15, and 12:15  
Room 139



Try your hand at fly tying! Equipment and expert help will be available to help you tie your own fly. Stop in and check it out!



## Septic System Alternatives

Shelley Larson, Brian Koski, Septic Check Inc.  
12:00 noon - 12:45 p.m.  
Room 141



Can good landscaping choices extend the life of your system? Native plants and no-mow alternatives can protect from freezing and erosion while providing wildlife habitat. We'll share examples of challenging sites we have worked with and options that may work for small or wooded sites.