



MISSISSIPPI MESSAGES

[Our work takes place on the ancestral homelands of the Dakota.](#) Haha Wakpa, Misi-ziibi, Mississippi — the river we steward in Minnesota has long been stewarded and continues to be stewarded by Dakota and Ojibwe people.

FMR Updates



What the research says about how to stop invasive carp

Where and how are invasive carp moving? Why do we need a bioacoustic fish fence (and how would it work)? What about native fish? We tagged along with Dr. Peter Sorensen to the Driftless Area to get firsthand experience of the latest research.

[Check out our recap of a day on the river.](#)



FMR tapped to help craft clean transportation recommendation

A group of more than three dozen stakeholders will spend the next five months discussing, crafting and formalizing recommendations to significantly reduce carbon pollution from transportation in Minnesota. FMR will be at the table, as one of two representatives for water quality interests.

[Find out how this work will lead to cleaner transportation in MN.](#)



Paddle to Settler's Island

In the Grey Cloud channel on a 3-acre island once thick with buckthorn, we're planting climate-adapted trees and native understory, increasing habitat resilience amidst climate change. And it's open to the public!

[Learn about the site and plan your visit via kayak or canoe.](#)



Summer staff transitions

Celebrate two promotions and the impact of two staff who are heading off to new adventures.

[Read more about Ivy, Carrie, Laura and Sam.](#)



Join our team!

FMR is looking for our next Stewardship & Education Program Director to lead our work engaging people to steward and connect with the river. [Find out more and apply by Sept. 8.](#)

We're also spreading the word about an opportunity to work with the [Collaborative Pathways consortium](#).



Is goldenrod or ragweed the culprit for seasonal allergies?

Ragweed is blooming. So is native goldenrod. Only one is responsible for your itchy, runny nose ...

[Learn more about these two often-confused plant species.](#)

Mississippi River News

'Funding shortfall casts doubt on Mississippi River lock and dam study in Twin Cities'

We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to carefully consider [the futures of two locks and dams on the Mississippi River](#). Scant funding could get in the way of clear conclusions. The Army Corps received just one-quarter of the money it needs to sufficiently study whether to keep, sell or remove Lower St. Anthony Falls Lock and Dam and Lock and Dam 1. That means we may not get answers to [key issues](#), including how these options might impact sediment, local ecosystems and nearby infrastructure.

[Read more from the Star Tribune.](#)

'"Forever chemicals" prompt new warning about eating fish from Minnesota stretch of Mississippi'

If you fish in the metro Mississippi River between the Ford dam in St. Paul to the Hastings dam, PFAS levels are now high enough that the Minnesota Department of Health warns some people not to eat the fish they catch. PFAS — chemicals from manufacturing that don't break down — are linked to human health problems, including cancers, and other environmental issues. (Check out our [State of the River Report](#) for more on pollution and fish consumption.) That's why it's good news our state Legislature passed a bill last session with [the strongest PFAS protections](#) in the country.

[Read more from MPR News.](#)

Researchers unveil size of this year's Gulf of Mexico dead zone

The hypoxic zone at the mouth of the Mississippi River is smaller than anticipated this year. But it's got little to do with efforts to curb the Midwest agricultural pollution that [creates the conditions for this humanmade disaster](#). Instead, scientists say this year's 3,058-square-mile dead zone (about the size of Yellowstone National Park) is mostly due to low water flow on the Mississippi River combined with inconsistent ocean temps.

Long-term, it's imperative we find [market-driven ways to incorporate clean-water crops into Midwest farmland](#) — which will provide the continuous living cover we need to keep many of these pollutants out of the river and the Gulf.

[Read more via MinnPost.](#)

Look for FMR at the Minnesota State Fair

Friends of the Mississippi River won't have a booth at this year's Great Minnesota Get-Together — but [our staff](#) will be making a cameo appearance alongside some valued partners.

Keep an eye out for Water Program Director Trevor Russell and Agricultural Policy Manager Peter LaFontaine at one of two booths: The Forever Green Initiative table in the [Agriculture Horticulture Building](#), and the "Dig-It" soil health exhibit at the [Eco Experience building](#). Come talk to us about clean-water crops, continuous living cover and how agriculture can help protect the Mississippi River. See you there!

Upcoming events

Volunteer with us

Join us to plant new trees near the [Mississippi River Gorge Sand Flats](#) in Minneapolis on Sept. 16. (And



read the Conservation Corner article below to learn more about the restoration process there.)

We've been listing new fall stewardship events on our events calendar and hope to see you before the stewardship season comes to a close!

[Check out our full events calendar.](#)

Conservation Corner



A new tool in our toolbox for buckthorn control: Critical period cutting

We're always looking for new and better ways to keep buckthorn from becoming dominant in our woodlands and forests. A new method we're trying in the Mississippi River Gorge shows promise and doesn't require power tools or herbicides.

[Here's how this method works.](#)

Supporting FMR



Registration for our fall gala is open!

We are thrilled to announce that registration is now open for An Evening Celebrating the Mississippi River: The River Provides at Nicollet Island Pavilion on Sept. 28. We cordially invite you to join us in honoring the awe-inspiring Mississippi and commemorating FMR's 30th anniversary. We can't wait to share this unforgettable occasion with you!

[Learn more about this fun-filled evening and register to attend.](#)

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