

# 2025 BWSR Spring Training

March 31, 2025

## Track One: 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM

## Concurrent Session Descriptions (may be modified)

### Understanding the Fiscal Landscape of BWSR Grants

Are you new to financial reporting on BWSR Grants or need a refresher? This session will provide a high-level overview of the Grants Administration Manual, how to determine BWSR billable rates, the requirements of time tracking, and what to expect during a financial reconciliation. Participants will leave the session with a better understanding of grantee fiscal responsibilities. This is a repeat presentation from the 2024 BWSR Academy.

*Trainers: Becca Reiss & Gabrielle Holman – BWSR*

### Using Futurology to Achieve your Water Quality Future

The future is often seen as a strange and unpredictable world over which we have no control. While the future is indeed unpredictable, that does not mean that it is not something that cannot be anticipated or directed. The science of futurology provides tools for seeing into the future and developing strategies to influence that future. To achieve significant water quality improvement outcomes, we not only need to see the future we want, but to make the strategic investments and decisions to achieve that future. Attendees will learn how to craft a desired future vision, use trend analysis to anticipate the future, develop desired future accomplishment metrics, and identify and remove barriers to achieve your vision. After completing this session, attendees will not only be able to anticipate the future, but to direct it.

*Trainer: Jason Weinerman - BWSR*

### Field Photography

Make your project, practice, event, people, and landscape photos more compelling with techniques that apply no matter if you're shooting with a smartphone or a DSLR. We'll cover what to keep in mind when you're shooting, what sorts of shots most effectively communicates the story of your work, and a bit about caption writing. Darren Newville, East Otter Tail SWCD Manager pursues wildlife and landscape photography as a hobby; he draws upon those skills when he shoots photos that tell the story of SWCDs' conservation work. Ann Wessel, BWSR Conservation Marketing Coordinator's background includes photojournalism; she photographs people, projects, landscapes, and the occasional barn cat, for BWSR's Conservation Stories.

*Trainers: Ann Wessel – BWSR & Darren Newville – East Otter Tail SWCH*

### Minnesota Climate Change: Local Impacts and Community Solutions

Our home is changing. Minnesotans are experiencing the impacts of a rapidly changing climate, and these shifts are affecting our economy, our cities and town, our unique and cherished ecosystems, and our health and well-being. Learn how Minnesota is embracing new opportunities to strengthen climate action through local climate planning and implementation projects, funding opportunities, and climate tools.

*Trainers: Amanda Wold, Aimee Duchene, & Liz Wiese – Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA)*

## 2025 BWSR Spring Training

March 31, 2025

**Track Two: 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Concurrent Session Descriptions (may be modified)**

### Flipping the Paradigm: From Deficit to Strength

Many of our conservation challenges are viewed from the lens of resource concerns and resource deficits. Approaching landowners from the deficit framework seldom works and often engenders resistance. This session will look at flipping the paradigm from a resource deficit problem to a landowner strength approach to foster better engagement with citizens.

*Trainer: Jason Weinerman – BWSR*

### Put a Little Pep in Your CREP

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency (USDA-FSA) are expanding the Minnesota Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (MN CREP) to provide additional water quality, habitat, and economic benefits to Minnesota communities. Whether you're one of the 12 brand new MN CREP counties or one of the original 54, come learn about the extended and expanded MN CREP.

*Trainer: Dusty Van Thuyne - BWSR*

### 1W1P Midpoint and Watershed-based PRAP – Assess, Amend, Adapt

Participants will learn about assessing implementation of comprehensive watershed management plans with BWSR's watershed-based PRAP (Performance Review and Assistance Program) and One Watershed, One Plan Midpoint Grants. As a result of this session, you will understand the steps and expectations for plan assessment and for the watershed-based PRAP process, as well as options for amending a comprehensive watershed management plan.

*Trainers: Julie Westerlund & Don Bajumpaa – BWSR*

### Climate Adaptation; Planning for Farm Resilience

Farmers are on the front lines of changing weather and climate patterns. Understanding and planning for these extremes will be important for sustaining Minnesota's thriving agricultural economy and communities. Join us for a session focused on what a changing climate means for agriculture and learn how to best prepare for these future changes. In this session, we will learn more about climate risks, resources for addressing these challenges, and climate communication strategies. We will also explore the University of Minnesota Climate Adaptation Partnership's newly launched tools, MNcliMAT and Resilient Farm Planner, that can help advisors incorporate local climate data into planning activities on and off the farm.

*Trainer: Katie Black – University of Minnesota Extension*