

Hello CRWP members!

Blue Thumb © workshops will begin in February and will demonstrate how home owners can create their own rain garden, native plant garden or a garden to stabilize shore land. Last year, 332 residents attended Blue Thumb workshops. Register for a workshop and you can have plans for your spring project before the snow melts.

Introductory workshops are free. Garden design courses, which will be offered two to three weeks after the initial workshop, cost \$25. Pre-registration is required. The design course helps you create a garden that's perfect for your yard. The program will even help you install the garden and apply for a grant to help with the cost.

Workshop dates:

Hastings.....February 25, Pleasant Hill Library, 1490 South Frontage Rd. Hastings

Burnsville.....March 3, Burnsville City Hall, 100 Civic Center Parkway, Burnsville

Eagan.....March 4, Eagan City Hall, 3830 Pilot Knob Road, Eagan

Lakeville.....March 10, Lakeville City Hall, 20195 Holyoke Avenue, Lakeville

West St. Paul.....March 25, Dakota Lodge, Thompson Park, 1200 Stassen Lane, West St. Paul

Farmington.....March 30, Farmington Library, 508 Third Street, Farmington

Apple Valley.....April 6, Apple Valley Municipal Center, 7100 West 147th Street, Apple Valley

For additional information or to register, reply to this email with your name, address and telephone or number visit www.dakotacountyswcd.org or call 651-480-7777. Find more information about Blue Thumb at www.bluethumb.org.

Blue Thumb © was named last year's Program of the Year by the Minnesota Association of Watershed Districts, was a finalist for the Minnesota Environmental Initiative Award,

and received the 2008 Governor's MnGREAT award—recognizing environmental achievement by government employees.

Funding for the Blue Thumb Workshops and Blue Thumb Grants is provided by the Vermillion River Joint Powers Organization, Black Dog Watershed Management Organization, Gun Club Lake Watershed Management Organization and the Lower Mississippi River Watershed Management Organization.

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