



APRIL 5, 2017 - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Zoomobile at annual Earth Day Festival April 22 at Prairie Woods

Spicer, Minn. – The Minnesota Zoomobile will bring live animals to the annual Earth Day Festival, Saturday, April 22, 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center.

With the theme “Water Connects,” the festival offers food, entertainment, and learning about ways to help improve water quality, soil health, increase property values, and make our earth healthier. The Zoomobile program will be at 10:30 a.m.

Growing more popular each year is the Recycled Outdoor Gear sale. Gear donations are welcome until the day of the sale; proceeds benefit Prairie Woods programs.

A pancake and sausage breakfast will be served 8-10 a.m. at no charge; however, donations are welcome. Presentations and informational booths will feature urban and rural environmental practices and small steps to help make the planet healthier. You can do a craft, practice casting, see live animals, receive a free tree, or buy a rain barrel.

If you are interested in learning about agriculture and water quality, at 9 a.m. there will be a panel discussion about agricultural practices that maintain productivity while practicing good stewardship of land and water resources.

Many farmers are participating in the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification program, sponsored by the Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture. Certification specialist Grant Pearson of the Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District will give a short overview prior to the panel discussion.

Equipment from the Minnesota Dept. of Agriculture will be available to test private well water samples for nitrate levels. All are welcome to bring a sample of their well water in a small, clean jar.

Along with Prairie Woods, festival sponsors include: Crow River Organization of Water, Middle Fork Crow River Watershed District, Kandiyohi Soil and Water Conservation District, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, North Fork Crow River Watershed District, REDstar Creative, Jennie-O-Turkey Store, Minnesota Dairy Association, Minnesota Pork Producers, Cash Wise Foods, and Cub Foods.

For more information contact: Mari Klebe, Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center, 12718 10th St NE, Spicer, MN 56288, 320-354-5894, www.prairiewoodselc.org