

## ***We Are Water* Exhibit Shares Water Stories and Water Solutions**

By Kevin Strauss

Cannon River Watershed Partnership, [www.crowp.net](http://www.crowp.net)

We might think we know a lot about water in the Land of 10,000 Lakes, but a few minutes at the *We Are Water* Exhibit currently at the Weitz Center (320 Third Street East) in Northfield, shows you how much there is to know about the rivers, lakes, and drinking water that we depend upon.

This 1,000 square foot exhibit is hosted by the Cannon River Watershed Partnership and the Weitz Center for Creativity at Carleton College. The panels and activities help us see how humans depend upon water for drinking, growing crops, washing, and for recreation (fishing, swimming, boating, canoeing). But don't think this exhibit is going to be like schoolwork. This state-of-the-art exhibit uses video, computer game simulations, puppets, puzzles, and hands-on activities to show us how important water is to all of us. It also shows us what we need to do individually and as citizens and voters to make sure that our rivers, lakes, and drinking water gets cleaner and stays safe.

“One thing that I really like about *We Are Water* is how it shows us the many ways that water is important to all of us and it shows us what we can do to keep the Cannon River healthy for our communities and our families to enjoy,” said CRWP Executive Director Kristi Pursell.

In addition to science information, the exhibit gives visitors a chance to share their own water story and to listen to recorded water stories from area residents. The Weitz Center has also installed an art exhibit entitled *Fluid: Water Inspired Work from the Carleton Art Collection* adjacent to the *We Are Water* exhibit. And don't forget about the *We Are Water: Watershed* art exhibit at the Northfield Arts Guild. There's an Artist Reception on Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-11:00 am as part of the *We Are Water* Grand Opening festivities [www.northfieldartsguild.org](http://www.northfieldartsguild.org).

The Weitz Center *We Are Water* exhibit is open Tuesday-Friday 12:00-6:00 pm and Saturday 11:00 am-3:00 pm at the Weitz Center for Creativity from now until July 28<sup>th</sup>.

The exhibit Grand Opening takes place this Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 am-2:00 pm with family-friendly activities, a Mini-River Insect Safari, Fish Printing, special guests, exhibit tours in English and Spanish and refreshments. For more information, visit [www.crowp.net/events](http://www.crowp.net/events).

*We Are Water MN* is a collaboration of the Minnesota Humanities Center, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Minnesota Historical Society and the Minnesota Departments of Agriculture, Health, and Natural Resources. This exhibition was developed with money from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund that was created with a vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.