



Minnesota
Humanities
Center



For Immediate Release
June 23, 2016

MEDIA ALERT

**Smithsonian Exhibit, *Water/Ways*, Connects Minnesota Communities
Through Ethics, Stories, the Humanities**

***Water/Ways* Opening Ceremony in Spicer on Saturday, June 25**

On Saturday, June 25, a new traveling exhibit—*Water/Ways*— makes its Minnesota debut at Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center in Spicer. *Water/Ways* focuses on the relationships between people and water and is brought to Minnesota through a partnership with the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street (MoMS) program and the Minnesota Humanities Center. Minnesota is one of only five states chosen by the Smithsonian to launch this new traveling exhibit.

Water/Ways reveals the central nature of water in our lives by exploring how Americans use water, how water unites communities, how water affects every element of life, and how Americans care for our water and protect this valuable resource for the future.

What: ***Water/Ways* Opening Ceremony**

Sponsored by: the Minnesota Humanities Center, Smithsonian Institution, National Endowment for the Humanities the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, the Minnesota Historical Society, the Minnesota Department of Health, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, and the Minnesota Section of the American Water Works Association, and Minnesota Public Radio.

Who: Kick-off event for *Water/Ways* 2016-2017 tour of six Minnesota host sites. Free and open to the public. www.mnhum.org/water

When: June 25, 2016

Program 10 am Welcome and Words from *Water/Ways* Partners

Speakers include: David O'Fallon, (Minnesota Humanities Center), and Dave Pederson, (Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center), Paul Allwood (Assistant Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health), Rebecca Flood (Assistant Commissioner, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency), Barb Naramore (Assistant Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources)

10:45 am Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Photo Opportunity

11:00 am Reception and *Water/Ways* exhibit opens until 4:00 pm

Where: Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center
12718 10th St NE, Spicer, MN 56288

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The public can participate in the conversation to raise awareness of water on social media at www.facebook.com/mnwaterways or **#wearewatermn**.

For more information about exhibit host sites, the Opening Ceremony, tour dates, and community activities visit www.mnhum.org/water. To learn more about the nation-wide *Water/Ways* tour and other MoMS traveling exhibitions, visit MuseumonMainStreet.org.

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