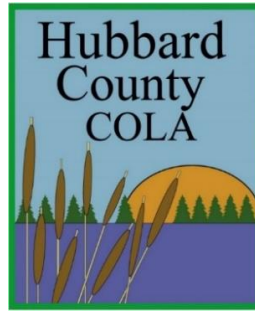


Hubbard County Coalition Of Lake Associations HC COLA E-Newsletter – First Quarter 2023



HC COLA, P. O. Box 746, Park Rapids MN 56470 email: hccolamn@gmail.com
Hubbard County COLA Website www.hubbardcolamn.org Hubbard County COLA [Facebook](#)

IN THIS ISSUE:

- 1) HC COLA Hybrid Mtg, Thurs 4/27, 6:30 PM; Aaron A presents HC AIS Program 2023
- 2) Lake Sampling Schedule '23 & Cooler Wed 5/10, 5-7 PM, P.R. Chamber of Commerce
- 3) AIS Detector Course: Online available 4/3/23 & In Person Fri 6/2/23 in Park Rapids
- 4) HC COLA [Charitable Fund Grant Applications](#) due by 4-15-2023
- 5) Loons benefit from HC COLA's collaborations with 4-H Youth winter-spring 2023!
- 6) Youth at 2 Ice Fishing Events were provided complimentary lead-free tackle samples
- 7) HC COLA member Lake Associations Suggested News to Share:
 - Loon-related Webinars from the DNR, Itasca Waters and the MPCA
 - UMN AIS Research Center's Ongoing Study Shared at Conference
 - Midwest Invasive Species Identification Network – Terrestrial & Aquatic
 - Portage Lake Associations' Management of Curly Leaf Pondweed Recap
- 8) Youth-related Volunteer Opportunities shared with HC COLA:
 - Hubbard County UMN Extension–4H invites help with Engineering Design
 - Hubbard County SWCD invites your help with the Freshwater Festival
- 9) News and Information from our Partners
 - [MAISRC](#) at Cass Lake's Cedar Lake Casino Event Center – [Fri 6/23 & Sat 6/24](#)
 - MN COLA [news](#)
 - MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates: legislative and other [news](#)
 - Northern Waters Land Trust [news](#)
 - LakeAdmin – [Sunfish and growth](#)

1 – HC COLA Hybrid Meeting is on Thursday, 4/27/23 at 6:30 PM

Our **HC COLA Hybrid Meeting is Thurs 4/27/23 at 6:30 PM** at the Northwoods Bank in the lower level Community Room at 1200 East First Street, Park Rapids, MN 56470. If you plan to attend by Zoom, **use this Zoom link below to register in advance.** The **educational presentation is first on the agenda and is open to the public**, so we can all learn together! **Aaron Anderson, Hubbard County Environmental Specialist will share the County AIS Program 2023.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZItfumtqDwsGNPrMI6PeVgIP282GHhDPpYT>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing info about joining the meeting.

Our business meeting will follow the presentation by Aaron after a 5 min break. Voting by member lake associations' HC COLA Representative or their Alternate will be required: budget, charitable fund grant award, etc. A more detailed agenda will be emailed as it gets closer to our 4/27/23 meeting!

===###===

===###===

===###===

===###===

2 – Lake Sampling Schedule '23 & Cooler Wed 5/10/23, 5-7 PM at Chamber

Peter Tuomisto, HC COLA Water Quality Monitor Coordinator, has been communicating via email with the lake associations' water quality monitors about the key dates for the 2023 season. If you are the water quality monitor and have missed receiving these email communications from Peter, please let us know to update our email list - both petertuomisto@gmail.com and hccolamn@gmail.com

Water Cooler Wednesday is Wed, 5/10/23 from 5 to 7 PM in the Park Rapids Chamber of Commerce Parking Lot at 1204 Park Ave S. We will be distributing the coolers for May and June, the sampling tubes, veliger sample bottles, and chloride sample kits (if wanted) along with the paperwork for the 5 months. If you are unable to make it 5/10/23, please arrange for your alternate to pick up.

The following are the **Monday mornings when your water sample coolers would need to be dropped off** between 9 AM to 11 AM at the Park Rapids Chamber of Commerce Parking Lot for our volunteer to shuttle to RMB in Detroit Lakes. The WQM sampling is easiest to complete on Sunday.

Mondays, 9 to 11 AM: May 22, June 26, July 17, August 21, and Sept 18.

- Review the Water Monitoring training: <https://www.rmbel.info/training/videos/>
- See Demo Using Plankton Net for Zebra Mussel Veliger Sampling: https://youtu.be/ZVpywp8_NvM
- HC COLA has complimentary zebra mussel settlement samplers made of PVC pipe to hang on docks
- Consider MAISRC's **Surveillance Monitoring** of **Spiny Water Fleas** with Plankton Net & Eyes

3 – AIS Detector Course: In-Person Workshop Fri 6/2/23 in Park Rapids



z.umn.edu/DetectorsRegistration

Registration is now open to become an Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Detector! You will learn how to identify and report AIS, best practices for preventing the spread of AIS, relevant rules & regulations, & how to search for AIS on your own.

The course consists of two portions; a self-paced online course plus a live workshop with the instructors. The self-paced online course takes approximately 8 hours to complete, followed by either a one day in-person workshop or two 3-hour virtual workshops. You will select which workshop(s) you will be attending during registration.

Workshop options are:

Minneapolis – May 5th; 9 am – 5 pm (* \$220)

Wayzata – May 12th; 9 am – 5 pm (* \$220)

Park Rapids – June 2nd; 9:30 am – 5:30 pm (\$195 or \$220 Pro^{})**

All Virtual: May 15th AND May 17th; 1-4 pm (\$150 or \$175 Pro^{})**

Your registration fee includes unlimited access to the self-paced online course, access to the live workshop(s) of your choosing, a copy of the new edition of our AIS identification field guide, and networking opportunities with other AIS Detectors and experts.

*** Registration for the Minneapolis and Wayzata options are available at NO COST to you this year thanks to a sponsorship from Hennepin County Environment & Energy.**

**** The Professional version adds in wetland invasive plants**

If the registration fee for the other workshops presents a barrier to your ability to participate in the AIS Detectors Core Course, please visit the MAISRC / UMN [scholarship page](#)

Note: Some lake associations reimburse the workshop fee for their lake association members when they complete the Workshop and become certified AIS Detectors. Check with your lake assoc!

For more info about AIS Detectors and FAQs, please visit <https://maisrc.umn.edu/detectors-core>

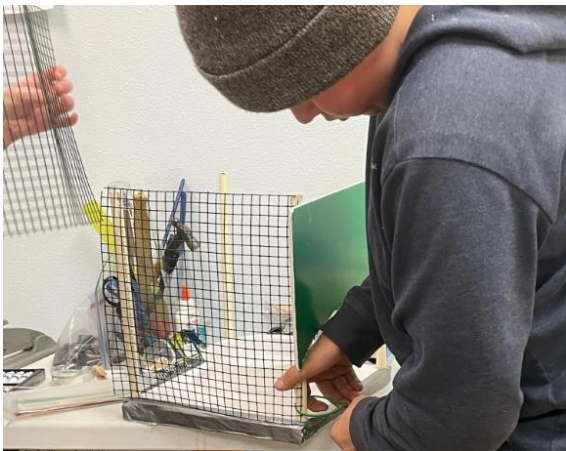
4 – HC COLA Charitable Fund Grant Applications Due By 4-15-2023

Our Hubbard County COLA Charitable Fund supports charitable and educational programs, projects and activities that protect, preserve, and enhance the quality of area lakes and their environs. **To learn** more about this program, **how you can apply for a grant** or to donate to this program, **click [here](#)**.

The HC COLA Charitable Fund will consider grant applications from 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations and community groups. The geographic eligibility area is Hubbard County and watersheds that impact Hubbard County. The HC COLA Charitable Fund **Request for Proposals applications deadline is 4/15/23**. The HC COLA Charitable Fund works in collaboration with the Northwest Minnesota Foundation (NMF), a 501(c)(3) charitable foundation, serving as a regional community foundation.

5 - Loons benefit from HC COLA's collaborations winter-spring 2023!

The [DNR Loon Restoration Project](#) goal for an artificial nesting platform (ANP) for the loons on Daisy Lake for Spring 2023, helped provide the educational opportunity that HC COLA then shared with others. UMN Hubbard County Extension Educator, Mari Jo Lohmeier along with Margo Bowerman, Extension Educator – Crookston, collaborated with Sharon Natzel, HC COLA in partnership with the Hubbard County Solid Waste Department | MN GreenCorps Member, Christina Hill. Steve Maanum, wildlife photographer, retired teacher and volunteer for Big Mantrap's Loon Program, lent his talent also. He used his special loon photographs, videos, and stories from his experiences with loons to help the 4-H youth understand the predators and dangers loons face in hatching chicks successfully.



We used the S.T.E.A.M. educational approach which combines science, technology, engineering, the arts and math. The ten 4-H youth also learned about the importance of reusing and diverting construction materials away from our landfills. Dividing into 3 teams, the youth discussed the loon's problems and created prototypes which included much reused material during the 1st three sessions.

On the first day of Spring 2023, in our 4th session, the ten 4-H youth assembled 3 full size Artificial Loon Nesting Platforms (ANPs) for Daisy Lake and 2 other local lakes. The PVC pipe was reused construction material. The DNR Loon Restoration Project's "Treatment ANPs" for specific lakes identified by the DNR / Federal partners are based on the "Eternal Loon Platform" by Sandra Gillum.

Wildflower seeds were planted. The plants will help provide some camouflage on two sides of the ANP. With their parents, 4-H youth and collaborators will help launch one ANP on Daisy Lake after ice out. A game camera is planned for a post close to the ANP location to help further the educational experiences.



See the Article from the Northwoods Press, March 29, 2023, page 7 below:

4-H Clubs build loon nesting platform at Fair Grounds

Hubbard County 4-H, U of M Extension at Crookston, MN DNR, Hubbard County COLA (Coalition of Lake Associations) and Hubbard County Solid Waste have all partnered together to create a four-session program for Hubbard County 4-Hers to learn about our state bird, the Common Loon, how to protect them, and the importance of reusing and diverting construction materials away from our landfills.

The 4-Hers first learned that loon populations are mysteriously in decline; how much reusable materials end up in our landfills;

and that they can do something about both of these issues at the same time. Using STEAM learning methods, the 4-H teams used diverted, reused construction materials to engineer their own 1 ft x 1 ft prototypes or models of Artificial Nesting Platforms (ANPs). Next, group by group, they tested and presented their design ideas and prototypes to their peers.

The final session on Monday, March 21, is where the 4-Hers assembled a full-size DNR-approved ANPs, again using lots of diverted construction materials. These

ANPs will be launched on Daisy Lake near Nevis and on other lakes shortly after ice out.

This is the first time these organizational partners have collaborated together. With the 4-Hers success in learning how to create and building ANPs, there is hope that more projects can be found to support the Hubbard County community in the future.

For further information about 4-H clubs and programming, please contact Mary Jo Lohmeier at 218-732-3391 or email mlohmeie@umn.edu. For

information about collaborative diversion projects with Hubbard County Solid Waste department, please contact Christina Hill by calling her at 218-732-2341.

**AD
DEADLINE**

for the
Northwoods Press
is
**Monday
11 a.m.**

6 – Youth at 2 Ice Fishing Contests received complimentary lead-free tackle

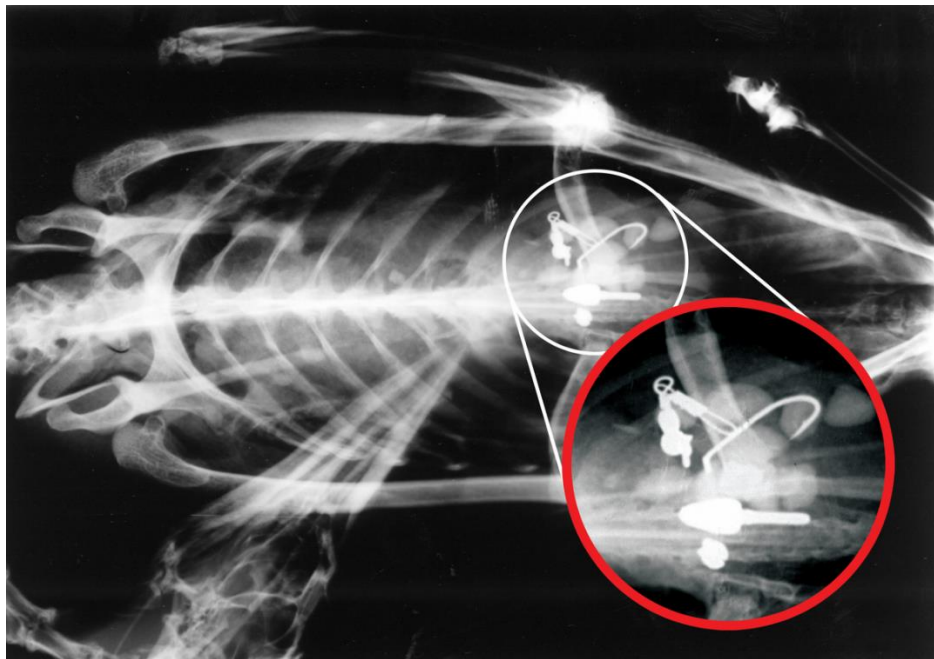
HC COLA collaborated with DeLaHunt Media and the MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) to provide the youth attending two local ice fishing contests with complimentary lead-free tackle samples. Each week, leading up to the specific ice fishing local event, an educational message on the radio was shared 10 times on how the *use of lead-free tackle protects our state bird, the common loon.*

Loons scoop up lost lead sinkers at the bottom of the lake when gathering pebbles for their gizzards to aid in their digestion. Loons are also exposed when eating fish that have ingested lead tackle. One lead sinker will kill a loon. Lead also poisons swans, eagles, and some mammals.

Our radio ad also went on to explain that youth attending the specific ice fishing tournament could pick up their complimentary lead-free tackle sample containing a tungsten ice jig and five tin split shot sinkers at the “on ice” radio station announcing during the fishing event right on the lake.

The on-ice radio announcer also reiterated the educational message periodically, while on the lake, on how lead-free tackle protects the loon. One hundred samples were provided to youth at the American Legion Fishing Derby on Sat 2/4/23 on Fish Hook Lake in Park Rapids. Also 100 samples were provided to youth attending the Audrey’s Purple Dream Fishing Tournament on 11th Crow Wing Lake in Akeley, Sat 2/11/23.

This winter, we also visited the local bait and tackle shops for lead-free tackle. They all had Tungsten fishing tackle available! Remember that you can turn in your lead tackle to the Hubbard County Household Hazardous Waste Site; check with the attendant at the South Transfer Station which building to bring it to.



**X-Ray of Loon with
Lead Tackle in this
picture from the MPCA**

7 – HC COLA “Member Lake Associations” Suggested “News Items” to Share:

- **Loon-related Webinars** from the DNR, Itasca Waters. and the MPCA
 - DNR sponsored webinar by **Kevin Kenow**, loon researcher with the USGS. Kevin talks about loon basics, migration, and loon conservation in “**Unraveling mysteries of the common loon**”. (Notice many of Steve Maanum’s loon photographs in this webinar!)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hyIwuWTYE9s>
 - Itasca Waters hosted **Dr. James Paruk** in his webinar on “**Loons and Bald Eagles – Can They Coexist**” as part of their Water Series 2023. Paruk is the author of “Loon Lessons – Uncommon Encounters with the Great Northern Diver”
 - [Practical Water Wisdom 2023 Series | Itasca Waters](#)
 - Sign up for additional presentations or review other webinar topics too!
 - DNR sponsored this webinar by the MPCA, program coordinators **Kelly Amoth and Steven Yang**, on the “**Get The Lead Out**” program and the dangers lead poses to loons and other wildlife. Learn the connection to 2010 BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill.
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-roFo9WA8y8>
- UMN AIS Research Center’s Ongoing Study Shared at Conference

MaJeana Hallstrom, Little Sand Lake, read about a MAISRC study that is ongoing in the “Outdoor News” about “What’s the best bang for your AIS bucks?” She asked “Outdoor News” if she could share the article with Little Sand Lake Association and with HC COLA. The “Outdoor News” provided the pdf file. As MaJeana states: “It will be interesting to see what MAISRC reports this summer.”

 - “Outdoor News” provided: [What’s the best bang for your AIS bucks?](#)
- Midwest Invasive Species Identification Network – Terrestrial & Aquatic

Ingrid Bey, Kabekona Lake, learned about this website while taking the Michigan State University (MSU) “[Lakes Online](#)” Course recommended by MN COLA this winter. She shared the website below as it is “pretty neat for AIS education.” Ingrid explains: “You can click on terrestrial, aquatic, etc. and then view these quick little modules that show you info about the invasive species you have chosen. They are short, sweet and well done.”

 - The website: [Species Training Modules – MISIN \(msu.edu\)](#)

- Portage Lake Associations' Management of Invasive Curly Leaf Pondweed Recap

HC COLA was contacted for info March 2023 on Curly Leaf Pondweed (CLP) management experiences by a lake association in Morrison County. We reached out to Marilyn Peterson, former Portage Lake Association President (1998-2022), who generously provided documentation that recapped the Portage Lake Association's CLP treatment journey. Marilyn and her husband are helping Amy Aasen, Portage Lake Assoc President, transition too in understanding CLP management. [MN DNR: [CLP is a prohibited invasive species in MN.](#)]

Marilyn's reports and comments are combined in the link below by HC COLA to help form an overall CLP management recap illustrating the tremendous care that the Portage Lake Association and the lake residents are taking in managing the CLP on these public waters. HC COLA appreciates all you do! [[CLP info UMN](#) Extension and **AIS Research** Center.]

- [Recap - Portage Lake CLP Management](#)

8 – Youth-Related Volunteer Opportunities For Your Participation

- Hubbard County UMN Extension–**4H** invites **help Sat 4/15 Engineering Design Challenge**

Mari Jo Lohmeier, Hubbard County's UMN Extension Educator, invites HC COLA volunteers to help the 4-H Youth with the upcoming Engineering Design Challenge. Please call or email Mari Jo if you have any questions or to register at 218-732-3391 or mlohmeie@umn.edu :

Mari Jo explains that Hubbard County is offering a kick-off event for the Engineering Design Challenge. We are trying to encourage our youth to get involved and try something new. We are also looking for adults that have a passion for science and engineering (but seriously, they do not need any experience or expertise) and a heart for working with and encouraging youth.

[Here is a bit more](#) from Mari Jo on the 4-H Engineering Design Challenge / State Competition

- Hubbard County **SWCD** invites help with the **Freshwater Festival** Wed 5/17/23

If you would like to volunteer to help with the Freshwater Festival for area sixth graders this year at Camp Wilderness Boy Scout Camp, please contact Claire Hansen, Community Conservationist, Hubbard County Soil & Water Conservation District, at the office: 218-732-0121 Ext. 101 or

email Claire at claire.hcswcd@gmail.com Learn more on the Freshwater Festival [here](#). Note too that HC COLA provides \$1200 for the Freshwater Festival each year to the HC SWCD.

9 - News and Information from our Partners:

- [MAISRC](#) at Cass Lake's Cedar Lake Casino Event Center – [Fri 6/23 & Sat 6/24](#)
- MN COLA [news](#)
- MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates: legislative and other [news](#)
- Northern Waters Land Trust [news](#)
- LakeAdmin – [Sunfish and growth](#)

_____ Important Partners in Protecting Our Lakes & Rivers! _____



[Environmental Services](#)

Subscribe to the [Hubbard County Portal](#) to receive info on the County Commissioners meetings and the Planning Commission / Board of Adjustment meetings. You have the ability to **view virtually**.

You can **view the past meetings' video** too! The recent **12/8/2022 "Truth in Taxation"** can be viewed and listened to. You can also access the pdf file of the presentation used that evening by the Hubbard County Auditor / Treasurer, Kay Rave. Informative meeting!

Here is a link to the **Hubbard County Assessor** web page:

<http://www.co.hubbard.mn.us/departments/assessor/index.php>



[Subscribe](#) for your own E-Newsletter if someone forwarded this email to you!

Hubbard County COLA

Lakes Represented In HC COLA

Bad Axe · Belle Taine · Big Mantrap · Big Sand · Blue · Boulder · Crow Wing Lower · Crow Wing 5th/6th/7th · Crow Wing 8th/9th · Crow Wing 10th/11th · Duck · Eagle-Island · Emma-Stocking-Bottle · Fish Hook L&R Association · Garfield · Gilmore · Ham Lake · Hinds Lake · Kabekona · Little Sand · Long Lake · Palmer · Plantagenet · Portage · Potato · South Island · Spider · Steamboat · Stony · Tripp · Twin Lakes

HC COLA Board of Directors

The HC COLA Board of Directors is made up of one designated "HC COLA Representative" from each of the 31 member Lake Associations. We are all volunteers who care for our lakes and rivers!

HC COLA Officers

President:	Sharon Natzel, Long Lake
Vice President & Pres-Elect '24:	Jon Dennis, Spider Lake
Secretary:	Seeking Secretarial Volunteer – we have tools that make this easy!
Treasurer:	Keith Minkel, Gilmore Lake
Plus Immediate Past President:	Lynn Goodrich, Tripp Lake

[HC COLA Accomplishments 2022 and Plans for 2023](#)

[Meeting Minutes](#)

[Past Presentations](#)

[Newsletter Article Index](#)

===###===

===###===

===###===

===###===

To “**Unsubscribe**” from the HC COLA E-Newsletter, please send an email with “unsubscribe” in the Subject line to hccolamn@gmail.com