



Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HC COLA), P.O. Box 746, Park Rapids, MN 56470

May, 2022

Dear Hubbard County Resort & Campground & Short Term Rental Owners,

Thank you so much for being a good steward of Hubbard County lakes and promoting lake health. We are excited to introduce you to the Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HC COLA). You may already be familiar with HC COLA... or maybe not? Our mission is to protect and enhance the quality of our lakes and rivers, preserve the economic, recreational and natural environmental values of our shorelands and promote the responsible use of our waters and related habitats. How can we help you and your guests protect your lake?

If you desire, we can provide folders for promoting lake health for your office and/or each of your units. Our "Keep Your Waters Pristine" flyer helps your guests learn the steps to clean, drain and dry gear and equipment. There is a free watercraft decontamination station in Park Rapids – just call ahead for an appointment too with the local phone number on the flyer or the website for the map of decon units throughout MN. Information about identifying and preventing Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) like Starry Stonewort and Zebra Mussels is available.

In the HC COLA Kidz Zone, we have activities where the parents and children can learn together to identify the aquatic vegetation in our "dock talk", or get in the water and explore the shoreline and participate in a green and living scavenger hunt or an invasive species scavenger hunt together with the help of a certified UMN AIS Detector volunteer with HC COLA. The children can become Plant Heroes and Invader Rangers. And/or you may learn to do shoreline monitoring yourself for early detection of AIS with our HC COLA coaches. AIS like Starry Stonewort, if caught early, may be managed by hand-pulling.

You and your guests enjoy that special call of the Loon! Our Minnesota State Bird, the Common Loon, needs clean healthy water in order to see its "prey" and enjoys people at a distance of at least 200 feet away. To further protect the loons, promote the use of lead-free tackle with your guests who come to fish too.

Enjoy the "Shoreline Living" magazine which is full of ideas to help take simple steps to keep your lake clean and healthy for generations to come. Your special lakescape can be differentiated into areas for wildlife and pollinators; some of the reasons your guests may choose your northern lakes area. You may choose to invite HC COLA Shoreland Advisors for a complimentary HC COLA shoreland coaching visit to discuss your ideas on ways to reduce runoff and erosion plus attract pollinators, butterflies and birds too.

Please email [hccolamn@gmail.com](mailto:hccolamn@gmail.com) to reach out to us for information, resources and services. Thank you for promoting lake health, preventing AIS, and conserving our MN State Bird, the Common Loon!

Sincerely, The Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations Team

email: [hccolamn@gmail.com](mailto:hccolamn@gmail.com) website: [www.hubbardcolamn.org](http://www.hubbardcolamn.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/Hubbard-County-Coalition-of-Lake-Associations-171630942993959>

Working together to protect and enhance the quality of Hubbard County lakes and rivers.