



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

Summer 2022

Dear Hubbard County Resort, Campground and Short-Term Rental Owners,

Thank you so much for your role in promoting stewardship and health of Hubbard County's lakes.

We are excited to introduce you to the Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations, or HC COLA. We represent 31 volunteer-based lake associations on 43 lakes whose primary mission is to protect and enhance the quality of Hubbard County's lakes and rivers. We also work to preserve the economic, recreational and natural environmental values of our shorelands, and promote responsible use of the county's waters and related habitats.

One of our popular efforts over the years is providing businesses such as yours with free educational materials to pass along to your customers who want to learn more about preserving our valuable lake-based visitor experience. As part of that, we can provide folders with varied information for promoting lake health for your office and/or each of your units.

Our "Keep Your Waters Pristine" flyer will help your guests learn the steps to clean, drain and dry gear and equipment as part of the effort to curb the spread of aquatic invasive species. In addition, there is also information on a free watercraft decontamination station in Park Rapids, where visitors can just call ahead for an appointment for a thorough high-pressure washing of their watercraft.

The HC COLA Kidz Zone has activities for parents and children to learn together to identify the aquatic vegetation, 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 volunteer.

HC COLA also provides coaching for individuals who want to monitor shorelines and detect invasive species, such as starry stonewort, which can be managed by hand removal if detected early.

The packet also provides guests with insight into Minnesota's state bird, the common loon, which needs clean, healthy water in order to see its "prey," and enjoys people at a distance of at least 200 feet away.

Another feature is the "Shoreline Living" magazine, which is full of simple ideas to improve shoreline appearance and health, which are part of the reason your guests may choose to visit our northern lakes area. HC COLA shoreland advisors can help with ideas on ways to reduce runoff and erosion plus attract pollinators, butterflies and birds as well.

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 state bird, the common loon.

Sincerely, *The Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations Team smn*  
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.*