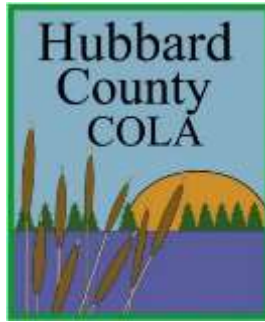


Hubbard County Coalition Of Lake Associations HC COLA E-Newsletter – April 2021



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](#)

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From The HC COLA President – Sharon Natzel

With April's early ice out, docks are starting to be placed in the water and an occasional boat is heard on the water! Our spring showers are helping the green appear in the landscape as trees bud and early bushes flower. It feels good to be cleaning the yard.

This year, I am carefully leaving some leaf litter in the shoreland buffer area and gardens to encourage fireflies which have dwindled over the years. I learned too through [Firefly.org](https://www.firefly.org/), that long grasses and low hanging trees are also welcome environments. Reducing the night light in our yard by drawing the blinds and using motion sensing lights will help so the fireflies can signal to each other with their flashing lights. This helps the fireflies find each other and build generations!



HC COLA Thu 4/29, 6:30 PM Virtual Meeting – Registration Here

Click to [Register](#) for the **HC COLA Thu April 29th, 6:30 PM Virtual Meeting** on Zoom to participate virtually on your smart device or by regular telephone. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. Our program is open to the public.

The April meeting focus is [Water Monitoring](#). Ellie Kriese, RMB Environmental Laboratories Inc Aquatic Ecologist will present on the Lakes Monitoring Program which now has an educational component for families too. Getting the kids engaged will benefit your lake and our entire lakes area long term! We will also learn about their new water monitoring “chain of custody” form and the RMB lakes database..

The April **HC COLA business meeting 4/29/21 follows after the presenter and will require voting** by each member lake association's HC COLA representative on budget decisions, charitable fund grant recommendations & HC COLA organizational personnel like Vice-President. Mike Dudley has volunteered as a VP candidate – learn more about Mike [here](#). We will ask for nominations from the floor.

Water Monitors on each lake will want to participate in this April meeting plus review the 2021 Water Monitoring Schedule communicated in Feb [here](#).

Water Cooler Wed is 5/12/21 at 5:30 PM at the Park Rapids Chamber of Commerce!

Invasive Zebra Mussels Found in Aquarium Moss Balls



On March 2nd, a nationwide alert led to the discovery of zebra mussels in moss balls used in aquariums and sold in pet stores in over 25 states, including MN pet stores. The large pet stores stopped selling the moss balls. The educational focus is now the small retailers and aquarium owners. State and federal officials are concerned if live mussels are released into a storm drain or flushed into the sewer, they could eventually be introduced into a nearby waterway. Detailed information on proper disposal and disinfecting tanks, pumps and accessories is being widely publicized. MN DNR community-based social marketing (CBSM) effort is focusing on [retail aquarium](#) and aquatic plant trades identified as major pathways for AIS movement.

[MORE](#)

Hubbard County Public Hearing Notices **Amendments to Ordinances - including Shoreland Management**

The Hubbard County Board of Commissioners will hold [public hearings](#) at the HC Government Center in May for the purpose of amending these County Ordinances:

- #31 Subsurface Sewage Treatment System on May 4, 9:30 AM
- #34 Signage on May 4, 9:30 AM
- #35 Subdivision Ordinance on May 18, 9:30 AM
- #17 Shoreland Management Ordinance on May 26, 6 to 9 PM & if needed May 27

The public is invited to attend in person or virtually to present oral comment. Citizens may send written comments on the proposed amendments. Drafts can be viewed online or in the County Administrator's Office during regular business hours. HC COLA will review the amendments & provide written comments to the commissioners.

[MORE](#)

Kiosk in Downtown Park Rapids in Pioneer Park



HC COLA is a member of the Downtown Business Association. We are on their [website](#) map & have two education posters related to AIS prevention currently in their kiosk in Pioneer Park in Downtown Park Rapids, frequented by browsing shoppers.

Visitors will be able to learn how to prevent the spread of AIS from our HC COLA community-based social marketing posters. In addition to [stopping the spread](#) of spiny waterfleas, we feature cleaning gear and equipment plus the courtesy decontamination station for boats / trailers. The full page “[Keep your waters pristine](#)” educational AIS prevention poster is also in the Park Rapids Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce Discovery Guide and the Park Rapids Enterprise Residents Guide for 2021.

Think about where you too might seek permission to post on bulletin boards in local establishments! Posters will be available for Water Monitors to pick up for your lake association kiosks on Water Cooler Wed 5/12 or email hccolamn@gmail.com.

Freshwater Festival – Hubbard County SWCD

We received a [“thank you”](#) letter from the Hubbard County SWCD for our 2020 donation for the Freshwater Festival used to start the virtual lab for everyone to enjoy and benefit from online. The link to the virtual lab website is below. The HC SWCD plans to continue adding new topics in the future and would like feedback if you have an idea for new material.

This year’s Freshwater Festival will be a “live” virtual event with The Headwaters Science Center and “Sam Ting” plus others. Thus far approximately 250 students are registered. The hope for 2022 is to be at the Boy Scout Camp Wilderness venue again.

[MORE](#)

Updates of Interest for Our Lakes Area

- Spring 2021 [Twin Lakes](#) Association Newsletter
- Draft for Comment before 06/01/21 – MN [Management Plan](#) for Invasive Species by the MN Invasive Species Advisory Council (MISAC)
- MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates [Update](#) – March 2021
- HC COLA letter to Hubbard County Commissioners on [April 4](#) regarding the Shoreland Management Ordinance Draft at that time. Now we look forward to reviewing the updates and will provide additional input in May.

AIS Detectors Online Training Registration is Now Open!

The AIS Detectors Core Course is a fun and engaging way to improve your aquatic invasive species (AIS) knowledge. Offered as a hybrid online/in-person program, this course provides participants with high-quality training, developed and reviewed by AIS experts.

Participants learn principles of aquatic ecology; AIS identification, impacts and biology; MN rules and regulations; and how to prevent the spread of AIS, perform surveillance, and report potential AIS findings. There are scholarship options available too! Learn to help your lake association with early detection!!

[MORE](#)



www.lakeadmin.org

[AIS](#) – [WATER QUALITY](#) – [ADMINISTRATION](#) – [REGULATION](#) – [GENERAL INTEREST](#)

Featured Posts - April 2021

- [What is The Trophic State Index](#)
 - [Curly Leaf Pondweed](#) – Non Native Aquatic Plant
 - [What's so Bad about AIS](#)
-

Hubbard County COLA

Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HC COLA) is the Leader in Protecting Hubbard County Lakes and Rivers.

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. Hubbard County COLA's mission enhances, promotes and protects the interests of lakeshore property owners, lake associations, local government, the general public and future generations.

Hubbard County COLA formed in 1988. HC COLA currently has a membership of 30 lake associations representing 42 lakes with over 2500 members. HC COLA is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

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 · 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 30 member Lake Associations.

HC COLA Officers

President:

Sharon Natzel, Long Lake

Vice President:	(seeking candidate volunteers)
Secretary:	Keith Minkel, Gilmore Lake
Treasurer:	Steve Hall, Boulder Lake
Immediate Past President:	Lynn Goodrich, Tripp Lake

[Committee Reports](#)

[Meeting Minutes](#)

[Meeting Schedule](#)

[Presentations at HC COLA Events](#)

Special! A report for each of your lakes! 36 lake reports:
[10-year Summary Water Monitoring Reports Created thru 2020](#)

[Accomplishments 2020 and Plans 2021](#)

[Newsletter Article Index](#)



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HC COLA Welcomes Your Comments and Your Suggestions!

Provide your feedback for Hubbard County COLA [here](#). We Welcome Your Input!

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