



Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA)

Welcome to Hubbard County . . . as Visitors and Residents of Hubbard County, it is your privilege to enjoy some of the cleanest, clearest lakes in Minnesota. Along with everyone's right to enjoy our lakes, comes the responsibility to help prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species like Eurasian Watermilfoil, Curlyleaf Pondweed, Zebra Mussel and Spiny Waterfleas.



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

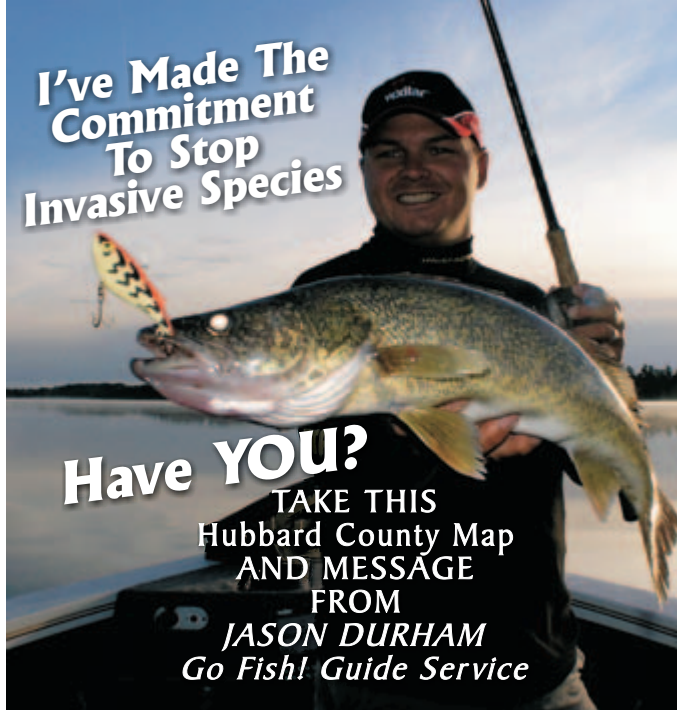
Prevent the transport of nuisance species. Clean all recreational equipment. www.ProtectYourWaters.net



PLEASE. EAT REZPONZIBLY.



I've Made The Commitment To Stop Invasive Species

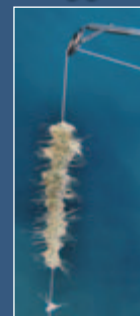


Have YOU?

TAKE THIS Hubbard County Map AND MESSAGE FROM **JASON DURHAM** Go Fish! Guide Service

Spiny Waterflea

Fouls fishing gear



Zebra Mussel

Filters the bottom of food chain



Photo courtesy of Wisconsin Sea Grant

Curlyleaf Pondweed

Forms weed mats



Take The Time To Stop These Invasive Species

"Make the Commitment to prevent the spread of invasive species and be a hero for the lake experience of future generations."

Jason Durham

Eurasian Watermilfoil

Crowds out native plants



Tips for Water Recreationists to Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers:

- **INSPECT** and **REMOVE** aquatic plants and animals before entering/leaving access
- **DRAIN** water before leaving access
- **DISPOSE** of unwanted live bait in the trash, not in the water or on land
- **SPRAY and RINSE or DRY** boats for 5 days before launching in another water body



Learn to identify Aquatic Invasive Species

- SAVE a suspected invasive plant or animal in a sealed plastic bag
- REPORT location of suspected invasive species to the DNR Invasive Species Program Office in the Park Rapids area at 218-699-7293
- VISIT www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives

Know the Rules/Laws:

- Do not transport aquatic plants, zebra mussels, other prohibited invasive species
- Do not launch a boat or place a trailer in the water if it has aquatic plants, zebra mussels or other prohibited invasive species attached
- Do not transport water from infested waters (bilge, live well, bait buckets, etc)
- Use **TIP** line to report violations: **1-800-652-9093**
- Transporting prohibited invasive species in Minnesota is subject to a \$250 civil penalty, launching is subject to **\$500 to \$1000 civil penalties**

Protect Your Waters: Visit one of the websites listed below for further guidelines

- VISIT www.mnwaters.org/hubbardcola
- VISIT www.ProtectYourWaters.net

The impacts are broad and extensive.*

Economic Impacts:

- Hurts tourism, a \$9 billion dollar/year industry in Minnesota.
- Loss of water quality = loss of property values = loss of taxes for local communities, counties, and the state.
- Lakeshore property values in Minnesota are over \$250 billion.
- Zebra mussels clogging the water intakes of St. Cloud, St. Paul and Minneapolis water supplies and industrial water cooling intakes could cost millions to control.
- Lake associations are shouldering the costs of managing AIS. For example: the Bay Lake Association raises \$120,000 per year to control Eurasian watermilfoil.

Ecological Impacts

- Eurasian watermilfoil and Curlyleaf pondweed have the potential to displace native plant communities that are essential to lake health and fish habitat.
- Curlyleaf pondweed degradation = increased nutrients = devastating blue green algae blooms and oxygen depletion = loss of recreational use and impacts to fish populations.
- Zebra mussel infestations can lead to changes in water clarity, impacts to fish populations.
- Rusty crayfish feed on walleye spawn potentially impacting the fishery.

***MINNESOTA WATERS PUBLIC POLICY**

These impacts diminish the "lake experience" that Minnesotans value, both today and for future generations.

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PLEASE. EAT REZPONZIBLY.

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zorbaz ON THE LAKE

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(218) 237-1969

Paid Advertisement

Dispose of bait on land or in the trash

Bait and non-native plants and animals hitchhiking in bait can harm our lakes and rivers.

PROTECT OUR WATERS...



Pull the Plug

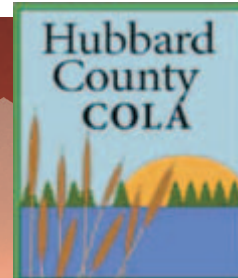
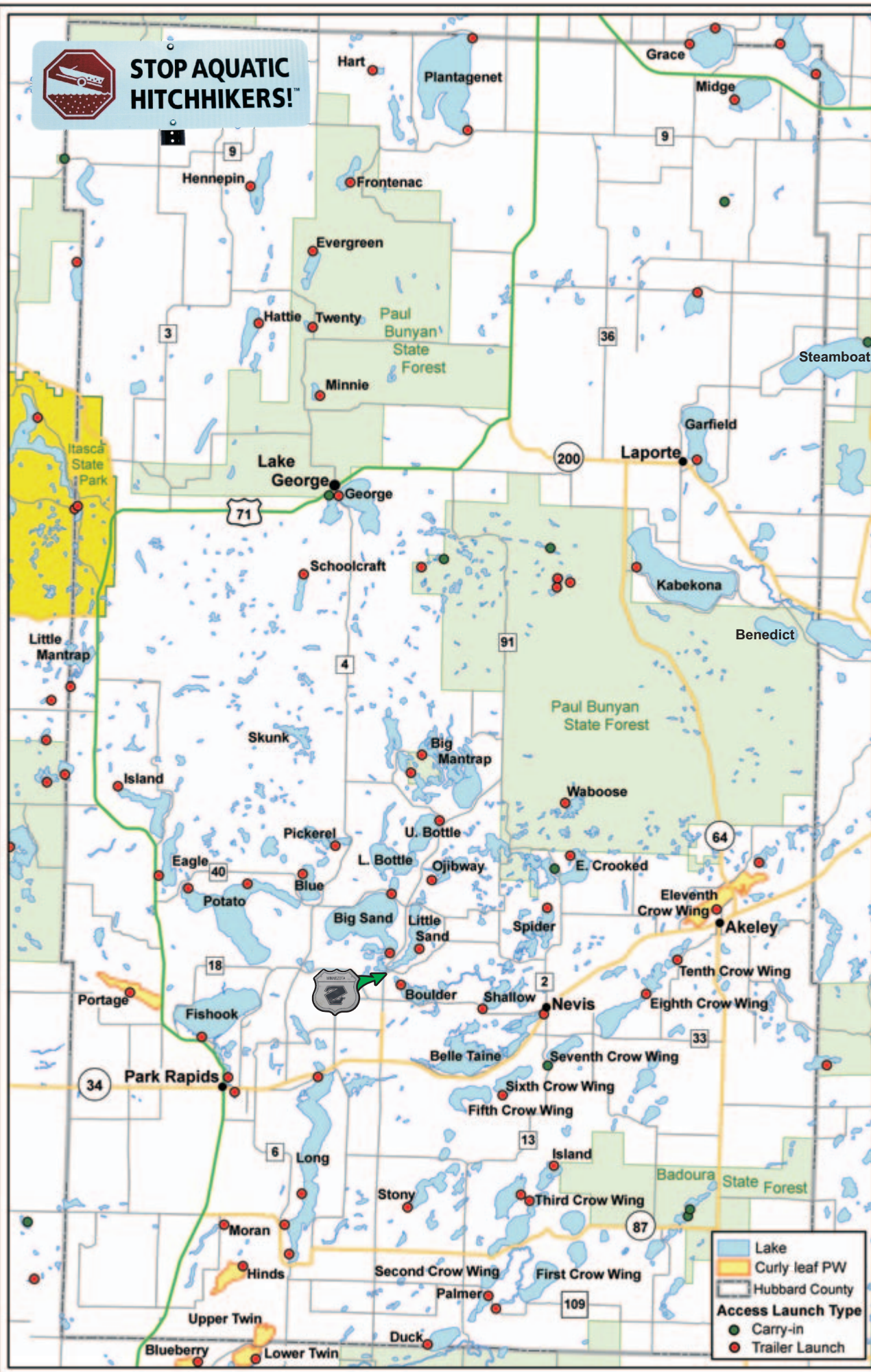
On Aquatic Hitchhikers!

✓ Clean ✓ Drain ✓ Dry

Logos: EPA, MN, WI, IL, IN, OH, PA, NY, VT, NH, ME, Sea Grant, US Coast Guard



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!™



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

HUBBARD (COLA) IS . . .

- A non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the water quality and health of our lakes and rivers for present and future generations.
- An organization comprised of 30 lake associations with a total of 40 lakes and over 2,000 citizen members.

HUBBARD (COLA) IS ACTIVE IN THE HEALTHY LAKES AND RIVERS PARTNERSHIP WHICH HAS LED TO THE FORMATION OF...

- Eleven (11) lake associations developing lake management plans.
- And the formation of the Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force to coordinate a countywide effort to prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species.

THE AIS TASK FORCE PREVENTION EFFORTS HAVE BEEN SUPPORTED BY DNR PREVENTION GRANTS AND HAVE FOCUSED ON THE FOLLOWING INITIATIVES...

- Awareness/education signage program
- Resort education/communication project
- Volunteer inspection training and launch awareness events
- Lake Emma Township/DNR Watercraft Inspectors
- Public service announcements
- Stronger partnerships among citizens, local and state agencies, local units of government, law enforcement and state legislators

Aquatic Invasive Species Present In Minnesota's Lakes and Streams

Curlyleaf pondweed
Eurasian watermilfoil
Flowering Rush
Purple loosestrife
Zebra mussels
Rusty crayfish
Spiny waterflea
New Zealand mud snail

HUBBARD COUNTY COLA PARTICIPATES IN THREE ANNUAL INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT LAKESHORE AND WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT...

- Provide financial and volunteer support to the Children's Freshwater Festival
- Order and distribute shoreline trees/shrubs for lake associations in Hubbard County
- Coordinate the Water Quality Monitoring program for MPCA and DNR

Aquatic Invasive Species that Are a Threat to Minnesota's Lakes and Streams

Hydrilla
Water chestnut
Didymo (invasive algae)
VHS (fish virus)
Asian carp
Snakehead