

# HUBBARD COUNTY COALITION OF LAKE ASSOCIATIONS (HCCOLA)

## Committee Reports and Announcements

May 28, 2015

### LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

By Lynn Goodrich

#### 1. **Executive Committee (E-Team)**

- i. The E-team has approved our rejoining MN COLA organization. Our membership in this group will allow us to join with other COLAs and LARAs to further our mission.
- ii. The HCCOLA member email subscription is live on the home page of hubbardcolamn.org website.
- iii. Please see individual committee reposts (below) for upcoming events

#### a. **Share your talents to make HCCOLA better:**

The Executive Committee (Team) is looking for people (members) to help build communications within HCCOLA and to get our message out to the public. We need to inform and engage the public about the issues that affect the waters here in Hubbard County and northern Minnesota. Our waters affect us all, whether we live in the city, country, or on a lake, whether we are year round, seasonal, or occasional visitors. The future of this area is so closely tied to the environment that we must work tirelessly to protect and enhance it. Please help by sharing your unique talents with HCCOLA. You can email me at hccola.lynnng@icloud.com or give me a call.

#### a. **Getting to know HCCOLA lakes:**

To allow everyone in HCCOLA to better appreciate the diversity of our lakes we are initiating a new feature at the board meeting. Each meeting we will ask the “Nifty Nine” host lakes to tell us about their lakes. We are looking for some basic background (size, type, population mix, etc) as well as what you feel is unique about the lake, history, greatest asset, best accomplishment, biggest problem, organized lake activities, or anything else that you would like to share.

- b. **The “Nifty Nine” Hosts** for the May 28<sup>th</sup> HCCOLA meeting are Big Sand, Boulder, and Duck Lakes. This group is responsible for setting up the Northwood’s Bank Community Room, providing and preparing the refreshments and treats, and doing clean up after the meeting. Nifty Nine hosts are responsible for taking minutes at the HCCOLA meeting.

- c. **HCCOLA’s mission is to protect and enhance the quality of our lakes and rivers, preserve the economic, recreational and natural environmental values of our shore lands and promote the responsible use of our waters and related habitats. Our mission enhances, promotes and protects the interests of lakeshore property owners, lakes associations, local government, the general public and future generations.**

#### 2. **President’s Report and Announcements**

- a. Mark your calendar and save the date.....attend HCCOLA’s upcoming meeting on **Thursday, May 28, 2015**; social gathering/networking at **6:30 p.m.** and meeting at **7:00 p.m.** at the **Northwood’s Bank Community Room.**
- b. Interested HCCOLA members that are unable to attend our May 28<sup>th</sup> HCCOLA meeting will have the opportunity to participate via your phone during the meeting. Please let me (Lynn G) know if you would be interested in connecting to our HCCOLA meeting via your phone. I will email instructions to you.

- c. Hubbard County Extension and Hubbard COLA will present a training course on aquatic invasive plants and invertebrates. Participants will learn how to identify aquatic invasive plants and invertebrates, and when and where to look for these invasive species. This training program will be held on Friday, June 19, 4:30 p.m. at Northwoods Bank, Park Rapids, MN. Pre-registration is REQUIRED. For further information/registration contact Sally Shearer at 218-732-3391 or email [sshearer@umn.edu](mailto:sshearer@umn.edu) Or register online at [hubbardmastergardeners.org](http://hubbardmastergardeners.org). Flyers will be available at the May 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- d. Lake contact information and newsletters: Please provide updated contact information for your HCCOLA reps, presidents and e-mail coordinators so we can keep our contact lists up-to-date. Lake associations are encouraged to send their newsletters to Lynn Goodrich at [tripplake1@mac.com](mailto:tripplake1@mac.com), or Dan Kittilson at [drkittil@q.com](mailto:drkittil@q.com)" □

HCCOLA's e-mail address: Comments, suggestions, and questions can be sent to [hccolamn@gmail.com](mailto:hccolamn@gmail.com)

### **Improve Internal Communications**

By Larry Roberts

New direct email subscription is in place. Please go to the HCCOLA website to subscribe.

### **Lakeshore Education Committee**

By Sharon Natzel

The Speaker series for the monthly HCCOLA meetings in 2015 will include the Lake Monitoring types from the 12/2014 Capstone Report on Enhancing Hubbard County COLA's Lake Monitoring Program by the Indiana University, School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

### **Manage Public Image Committee**

By Larry Roberts

No report this month.

### **Membership Committee Report**

By Hillary Stoltz

1. No report this month.
2. Please report any changes/updates in Lake Association Presidents or Representatives or their contact information to Deb Rodgers. Please download the updated Presidents/Reps list from HCCOLA website

### **Finance Committee:**

By Steve Hall, HCCOLA Treasurer

1. The E-Team and Finance committee is working on the HCCOLA 2015-2016 budget in preparation for our August board meeting. We welcome all constructive input from members and lake associations.

### **Impact Political Action Committee**

By Chuck Diessner

1. No report this month.

### **Civic Service Committee**

By Peter Tuomisto

Civic Committee activities for 2015

1. **Veliger Sampling:** Water sampling and analysis for Zebra Mussels will be done again this year

in July and August. In 2014, Potato, Blue, Eagle, Big Sand, Little Sand, Long, Belle Taine, Kabekona, Fish Hook as well as Spider, the Crooked Lakes and Ojibway participated in the testing. No veligers were found. New lakes participating in 2015 will include Big Mantrap, Bottle Lake, 11<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing, 8<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing, 6<sup>th</sup> Crow Wing, 3<sup>rd</sup> Crow Wing, Boulder, Plantagenet and Duck Lake. Please let Pete Tuomisto know if your lake will continue testing in 2015 or if your lake would like to participate for the first time in 2015.

2. **Early detection Blocks:** I will be making blocks available (to hang on the end of docks) at each COLA meeting. We will have a signup sheet for the blocks at the April 30<sup>th</sup> meeting and distribute them at the May 28<sup>th</sup> meeting as well other meetings and events. The blocks are provided at no cost to the member.

3. **Hydro Lab:** The SWCD will again offer the Hydro Lab testing for those interested lakes in 2015. This is for monitoring the dissolved oxygen and the water temperature in your lake. Please see Julie Kingsley at SWCD if interested. There will be a charge for SWCD to perform this test. SWCD will also Veliger Sample and Map Vegetation for a fee. Contact SWCD if interested.

### **Sandpiper Pipeline Update**

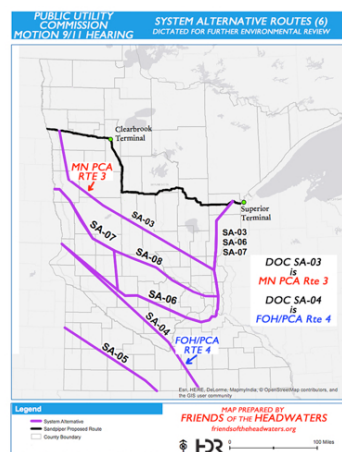
By Jeff Mosner

The big news is that the PUC has scheduled final hearings on the Certificate of Need (CON) for the Sandpiper on June 3<sup>rd</sup> in St Paul. This will allow for legal representatives of groups that had filed for “party status” to provide supporting information directly to the 5 PUC commissioners. Friends of the Headwaters, a local group opposed to the proposed route through Hubbard County's lake country (and supported by HCCOLA) will testify. On June 5<sup>th</sup>, these commissioners will then deliberate and presumably make the decision to approve or deny the CON. If approved, hearings for the Certificate of Route would then commence. The outcome will be posted on the website indicated below.

**Join Dakota Dave Hull and Finn Hall and special guests Pop Wagner and Bob Douglas for a fundraiser concert for Friends of the Headwaters (FOH) on Saturday, June 6, 2015 from 7 to 9 PM at Terrapin Station on Main Street in Nevis, MN. Tickets available at the door; suggested minimum donation \$25/ticket. Complimentary appetizers & desserts.**

**Friends of the Headwaters is a now 501(c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit organization and all donations will be tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.**

I encourage you to visit FOH's website at <http://friendsoftheheadwaters.org/index.html> to retrieve the latest news, view events, read what local “voices” are saying as well as see what actions you can take to become a part of this effort. Also be sure to “like” FOH's Facebook site at <https://www.facebook.com/savemississippiheadwaters> to get the latest breaking reports.



## **AIS Committee**

### Strategic Action #10

By Ken Grob

County AIS Task Force continues to make progress on 2015 Objectives. Status by project follows:

1. **Public Awareness:** Resort visits continuing. Radio PSA's are very well done. Tune into 97.5 and listen. Billboards in place. Resort folders to be completed by 5/30 and will be distributed as part of a follow-up effort in June.
2. **Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination:** Julie Kingsley, district manager HSWCD, will provide a program update at the meeting.
3. **Lake Monitoring:** Program progressing well. Dan Kittilson and Peter Tuomisto will provide verbal update (and/or handouts) at meeting.
4. **Rapid Response Planning:** Bob Berdahl has outlined a RRP plan for the county. Work to start on coordination planning with DNR. It is expected that once the overall plan is in place, a few individual lake associations will be asked to develop a lake specific plan.
5. **General Information:** Itasca State Park has started a robust watercraft inspection program. All boats entering the park must go through an inspection at the North entrance. This is a major advancement for MN Parks. Clearwater County is providing the funds from the State Aid money.