

HUBBARD COUNTY COALITION OF LAKE ASSOCIATIONS (HCCOLA)

Committee Reports and Announcements

July 30, 2015

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

By Lynn Goodrich

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

- i. E-team members attended the MN COLA meeting on July 16th to enforce our statewide voice on issues concerning our lakes and waters. Lynn Goodrich was elected Vice-President of MN COLA.
- ii. The HCCOLA member email subscription is live on the home page of hubbardcolamn.org website.
- iii. Please submit your lake association meeting dates to me and let me know if we can be of assistance.

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

Thank you to Ham Lake's Paul Jensen for his presentation on their recently completed and published book, lake association and lake history.

a. **HCCOLA Sports Sale ver2.0**

We have recently received the donation of a 14' Starcraft fishing boat with Shorelander trailer, electric trolling motor and 2 LCD depth/fish finders. If you are interested in any of these items please contact me (Lynn). We appreciate these donations and welcome others. If you have something to donate please contact me.

- b. **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. **Committee Reports**

- i. I have requested that our committee chairpersons keep their reports short and informative. We value your time but want to keep you abreast of what goes on behind scenes at HCCOLA and throughout the state.
- b. Interested HCCOLA members that are unable to attend our July 30th 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. We will only provide this service if we have prior request and notice.
- c. Mark your calendar and save the date.....attend HCCOLA's annual meeting on **Thursday, August 27, 2015**; social gathering/networking at **6:30 p.m.**, **Boat inspection program report 6:30** and meeting at **7:00 p.m.** at the **Northwood's Bank Community Room**. We will set the budget and E-team for the coming year.
- d. **Veliger Sampling Training** was a great success with many lake samplers attending. Thank you to Moriya Rufer of RMB labs for driving over to Blue Lake and conducting the training.
- e. **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, or Dan Kittilson at drkittil@q.com" □

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

Improve Internal Communications

By Larry Roberts

Direct e-mail to HCCOLA members is in place. More people need to sign up in order to gauge its effectiveness for this first year. Go to HCCOLA website to sign up. Feedback is needed for us to evaluate and make improvements to this program.

Lakeshore Education Committee

Strategic Action 5

By Sharon Natzel

- 1) 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.
- 2) A few Lakes are still working on providing their initial Lake Monitoring Baseline info and are being contacted by the Education Team.
- 3) Mentors available: a) AIS vegetation and invertebrate sampling mentors and b) lake management plan mentors; please contact the Education Team.

Manage Public Image Committee

By Larry Roberts

1. We are still seeking articles/stories from HCCOLA members and others regarding their lake experiences. You can also include a non-lake experience. Please forward articles to me at: lrobertsmn@gmail.com

Membership Committee Report

By Hillary Stoltz

1. Lake Associations usually have their Summer Annual Meetings and Elections of officers. All new Presidents and COLA Representatives names and contact information should be sent to Deb Rogers for the official list updates and she will notify Hillary Stoltz for new badges to be produced before the next monthly HCCOLA Meeting. The new Lake Association Representatives are encouraged to get the out-going representative's blue loose-leaf HCCOLA notebooks. Future information will be transmitted electronically and can be accessed by Reps through the HCCOLA Website.
2. Committees: If HCCOLA Reps are not signed up for a Committee, we can assign them if there is no preference, or they can inform anyone on the Membership Committee if they do have special interests or expertise to lend to their committee choice. HCCOLA Reps should be aware that they may request a change Committee affiliation as well.
3. After discussion of alternate venues, it was agreed that the **HCCOLA Fall Member/Spouse Social** Gathering would be held on **September 9, 2015 at 5 PM at Zorbaz** on Little Sand Lake.

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.
2. Dues invoices and member lake association information forms will be delivered in August. Dues are due and payable September 1, 2015 and are past due after November 1, 2015. Lake Associations please mail your dues checks and information sheets back to COLA at P.O. Box 746, Park Rapids, MN 56470

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 Water Testing for August will be the weekend of August 15th and 16th with collection at Charlie's by 11:00 am on Monday August 17th. Remember, the Veliger samples do not have to be refrigerated and can be done ahead of the Water Monitoring weekend.
2. Hydro Lab SWCD will again have 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 do Veliger Sampling and Map Lake Vegetation for a fee. Contact SWCD if interested.
3. Water Monitoring is going on as scheduled. July has been collected and sent to the RMB Labs for testing and recording. The next collection weekend is August 16 with samples returned to Charlie's on Monday as soon as possible. The transportation to DL will be leaving at noon to avoid the rush at the Labs. If there is inclement weather on Sunday, we will be flexible on the departure time on Monday. Please remember to keep your samples refrigerated and/or packed with ice to keep them cool. The last testing weekend is Sept 20 with collection on Monday the 21st. The collection tubes will be turned in with the sample at Charlie's at that time.
4. Please get the Restore the Shore Lake Coordinator orders in to Theora Goodrich by October 1, 2015.

Pipeline Update

By Jeff Mosner

On June 5th, the PUC Commissioners approved a Certificate of Need for the Sandpiper pipeline.

[Click here](#)

For full announcement from PUC. We are still awaiting the official written order. Hearings for the Certificate of Route will be announced soon. A Comprehensive Environmental Assessment (CEA) will begin shortly on the two routes left under consideration. Both of these routes cross the headwaters of the Mississippi and Hubbard County. Friends of the Headwaters (FOH), a local group opposed to routes through our lake country is exploring various legal options.

FOH is also awaiting an appeals court ruling on a lawsuit it filed (due by September) calling for a comprehensive Environmental Impact Study (EIS) of routes considered for the Sandpiper. The Minnesota Environmental Protection Act (MEPA) requires that any major structural project built in Minnesota with potential impact to the environment requires an EIS. The PUC is attempting to sidestep this law by substituting the above mentioned CEA.

The PUC also recently announced acceptance of application from Enbridge for a “Line 3 Rebuild” pipeline which, as proposed, would parallel Sandpiper. Notice of this acceptance along with a schedule of public hearings (Park Rapids will be August 19th) and open comment period can be found [here](#).

Also please consider supporting FOH future legal and advertising costs by attending an FOH fundraiser on August 16th. For more information, [click here](#).

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

By Ken Grob 7.30.2015

1. County AIS Task Force continues to make progress on 2015 Objectives. Status by project follows:
 - **Public Awareness:** Resort visits continuing. Radio PSA’s continue to promote decontamination. Tune into 97.5FM and listen. Julie Kingsley will provide verbal report at meeting.
 - **Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination:** All townships and cities have completed their funding commitments with the addition of Arago Twp on July 21. In 2015, 17 townships/cities in Hubbard County have provided funding for AIS watercraft inspection. Eleven of them have matched or exceeded their 2014 match. Total funding from them has matched the total of 2014. Cheers to them for support and to the lake associations that work with the townships & cities. Jamin Carlson will provide a full update on watercraft inspection at the meeting on July 30. He will conduct a special report session prior to the regular meeting.
 - **Veliger Sampling and Lake Monitoring:** Program progressing very well. Dan Kittilson and Peter Tuomisto will provide verbal updates (or handouts) at meeting.

2. Statewide there have been several lakes reported as newly infested with Zebra Mussels.
 - The Red River from Breckenridge to Canadian border had six sites with veligers, including an adult Mussel at the Fargo water intake. A long stretch in one year. Not surprising since the Ottetail River flows into the Red at Breckenridge. Ottetail River has been infested since 2012 (from flow of the Pelican River).
 - Lake Eunice and probably Big Cormorant (Becker County). Eunice is part of the connection to Pelican Lake (infestation not a surprise), but Big Cormorant is isolated (very close to Pelican Lake) and probably infested by overland transport. This is a big concern for us in Hubbard County because we do get watercraft from Cormorant entering our lakes.
 - Clearwater (Wright county), Forest lake (Washington county), and Ruth Lake (Crow Wing County). Ruth (next to Gull Lake) and Forest Lake are close to infested lakes. Infestation not a big surprise. Clearwater (near Annandale) is isolated.
 - In addition Lake Vermilion has been infested with spiny water fleas. It is in very close proximity to a BWCA lake (Trout Lake) that has water fleas. Many boats are portaged between the two lakes.
 - **Message:** Lakes in close proximity to infested lakes or lakes that are part of a infested chain of lakes are the highest risk of getting infested. Hubbard County must continue to be aggressive in prevention so we don’t get infested lakes locally.