

HC COLA April Committee Reports

AIS Lake Monitoring / Early Detection – Dan Kittilson

In 2017, Hubbard COLA will continue pursue a variety of actions that can be undertaken by anglers, boaters and lakeshore property owners to learn about aquatic invasive species and expand the capacity of AIS Lake monitoring & early detection in Hubbard County. To further expand our “eyes on the water”; HC COLA’s AIS Lake Monitoring Early Detection Plan will focus on the following elements:

1. Education in identification of invasive species, and sampling and monitoring techniques.
 - a. AIS Identification class will be held on Friday, June 9 at 4:00 p.m. at Northwoods Bank.
 - b. Anticipate that one volunteer from each Hubbard COLA lake association receive training for invasive species identification and monitoring techniques.
2. AIS Lake monitoring teams and leaders for lake monitoring is a key factor in AIS prevention.
 - a. Update current AIS Lake leaders/teams.
 - b. Expand the number of lakes with AIS teams.
3. Increase awareness for AIS Lake monitoring and expand our “eyes on the water” in Hubbard County through the following actions:
 - a. Maintain and expand the **dedicated approaches** to AIS sampling and monitoring that were initiated in 2016 including:
 - i. Monitoring for zebra mussels (zebra mussel settlement samplers, veliger sampling, and shoreline and equipment surveys).
 - ii. Monitoring for aquatic invasive plants.
 - b. Continue to expand AIS monitoring to focus on **opportunistic approaches** to AIS detection in an effort to boost our “eyes on the water” for the purpose of looking for AIS.
4. Expand the use of Hubbard COLA’s AIS Lake Monitoring Resource Guide that features tips and tactics that will assist lake associations with lake monitoring and early detection of AIS.
5. Advocate for enhanced communication and outreach to foster our AIS detection and monitoring actions through the following actions:
 - a. Expand participation with HC COLA’s on-line AIS Lake monitoring survey
 - b. Promote participation in Starry Trek, a statewide one day search for Starry Stonewort.
6. Foster community partnerships to further expand our “eyes on the water” that are watching for AIS on Hubbard County lakes.
 - a. Partner with Riverside Methodist Church AIS event on March 20, 2017
 - i. AIS presentations available on HC COLA’s website.
 - b. Foster AIS prevention through HC COLA’s monthly column in the Park Rapids Enterprise.

What can you do to help? Spread the word about the importance of Early Detection and Rapid Response with your neighbors, friends and family, visitors and your lake association members.

Civic Service Committee – Peter Tuomisto

1. Is your Lake signed up yet for water quality monitoring , zebra mussel veligers sampling and spiny waterfleas analysis?? Check the circulating list in our 4/27 meeting please.
2. Wed 5/10/17 at 6 PM Light Supper & 6:30 PM Training for Our Lakes' Monitoring Teams & equipment pickup at Northwoods Bank Community Room
3. HC COLA Treasurer will invoice Lake Association Treasurers in August for payment due to HC COLA 9/15/17. Still unknowns yet on final price; if volume discounts apply, etc...

March '17 details still pertinent - see ongoing Civic Service activities here -

http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/cr_2017_03_23.pdf

Education Committee – Sharon Natzel:

1. Our HC COLA and UM-Extension sponsored AIS Early Detection Training Course will be Friday, June 9th at 4 PM to 7:30 PM at Northwoods Bank – No charge. Preregistration Required: http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/um_ext - hc cola 6-9-17_ais_early_detection_training.pdf
2. Still time to register for the May 4th class in Detroit Lakes for AIS Detectors Training <https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/ais-detector>. The cost is \$175 and scholarships available. Online training to complete before is excellent. Other MN locations / dates available.
3. On Sat 5/6 in Brainerd, the Watercraft Inspection Program staff is offering training AIS Volunteer Training for Citizens who are interested in informing the public about AIS and how to slow the spread.
<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/calendar/app?jsp=/templates/event.jsp&id=52167>
 - a. If HC COLA has about 20 people who want to attend training on being an AIS Volunteer , a separate class may be scheduled .
 - b. Please let Sharon know if you have citizens on your lake that are interested in participating in this program and want to have a class scheduled.
 - c. These trained citizens could be part of your Lake AIS Rapid Response Plan for helping educate at your accesses. These citizens do not inspect boats.
4. Please let Sharon know if you have ideas for water-related topics to explore!