

HC COLA Committee Reports for June 28, 2018:

Committee: Civic Service – Peter Tuomisto: Zebra Mussel Veliger (ZMV) Sampling Timeframes: the 2 separate ZMV samplings with your plankton net should be collected between June 20 and July 15. Preserve your composite sample with alcohol that is 91%. It should be 3:1 ratio alcohol to water. ZMV samples do not need to be refrigerated. Please bring the 2 separate ZMV sample bottles in a separate bag along with your water monitoring cooler to Charlies on Monday 7/16 by 11 AM.

Committee: Education – Sharon Natzel

- Doug Kingsley confirmed that we will all be able to learn over time through the MN DNR Fisheries zooplankton analysis that begins this month on Garfield. They will use protocols similar to the Large Lakes Program Doug described in his May 2018 HC COLA presentation on Ecosystem Changes on Lake Winne. The MN DNR Fisheries will continue to sample Garfield Lake monthly during the open water season for the foreseeable future, to look for changes that might be attributable to the recent discovery of Zebra Mussel Veligers or expansion of a Zebra Mussel population. The Garfield Lake Association water quality monitoring team will continue the HC COLA / RMB Lakes Program for chlorophyll-a and phosphorus including secchi. They will also do more frequent secchi readings through the MPCA volunteer citizen monitoring program. This will enable the MN DNR to understand water clarity. Then additional phytoplankton sampling isn't going to be necessary.
- Heartland Lakes – Community Branding Finalized Now! HC COLA participated in 2017 input sessions: <https://www.facebook.com/heartlandlakes/videos/640881479609589/UzpfSTeZNzg0MTYwMDk6MTAyMTMwNTcyODkwNTE3Mzk/>
- Free AIS Prevention Videos and Images available for you on HC COLA website (see related press release info at end of the committee reports): <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/public-awareness--education.html>
- When you / your family go to the movies at Park Theater, our Personal Watercraft AIS Prevention ad is about 3 ads before the movie starts. This is a “sweet spot” in the “ad” lineup as most people will be seated by that time!
- HC COLA now listed on the Volunteer Park Rapids Area Website – Focus on “Eyes On The Water” to reach out to people interested in their lake. <https://volunteerparkrapids.galaxydigital.com>
- 7/11-15/18 Fair – HC COLA Table – Focus “Eyes On The Water” – Can You Staff HC COLA Table in the Conservation Building for 2 Hrs? Please let Sharon know your best date / time; email hccolamn@gmail.com
- Fri 7/27/18 AIS Early Detection Course sponsored by Hubbard Cty Extension & HC COLA- Registration info here: http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/2018_july_27_ais_flyer_with_eyes_on_water_logo_too_1_.pdf
- Sat 8/18/18 Starry Trek across MN. Hubbard COLA to do 10 lakes in North Hubbard County close to Starry Stonewort infestations. Please do check your own public access in August too! Please volunteer to help Sharon with the 10 north HC lakes. Register for Farris Park location in Cass Lake, MN to help HC COLA www.starrytrek.org

Committee: AIS Operating Team – Bob Berdahl: Kabekona Lake Foundation attended the Hubbard County Parks & Recreation Board 6/25 mtg to discuss the concept of an ILid at their public access (Internet Landing Installed Device Sensor). The County Commissioners next meeting is 7/3. Kabekona Lake Association will share more information with HC COLA on the project once has been approved by the Hubbard County team members and it is up & running.



Committee: Eyes on the Water – Dan Kittilson: HC COLA's 2018 lake monitoring season is in full swing. 2017 was an exciting year with 142 AIS Citizen Watch Volunteers identified by lake associations as having an interest in lake monitoring and participating in COLA's on-line survey. Of those 142 participants, 126 members representing 34 Hubbard County lakes answered COLA's on-line survey. Wow....89% participation rate.

HC COLA was successful engaging numerous lakes with zebra mussel monitoring devices with broad coverage around their lake (including N-S, E-W locations). These active lakes included: Duck, Long, Portage, Little Sand, Potato, Big Sand, Belle Taine, Gilmore, Eagle & 5th Crow Wing. In 2018, COLA will strive to expand monitoring on key lakes that need greater participation in our early detection lake monitoring program.

In an effort to expand our monitoring beyond hanging a settlement sampler on your dock, during our 2017 "Eyes on the Water" Campaign, COLA successfully engaged lake residents in looking for AIS along their shoreline, at the public access, near inlets/outlets or by resorts and other high risk areas. 57% of survey respondents looked for submerged invasive plants, while 63% conducted visual scans in shallow water.

Hubbard COLA will endeavor to use our survey as an educational tool focusing on the benefits of participating in COLA's "eyes on the water" on-line survey and the importance of lake monitoring. We will strive to engage more "eyes on the water" stressing that the greater the number of lake users who become active AIS detectors, the greater the likelihood our pristine waters will remain healthy for present and future generations.

Our 2018 lake monitoring program will feature a new message and logo that will profile "Eyes on the Water for Healthy Lakes". Our logo will promote a broader message of protecting the health of our lakes, including water quality in addition to shielding our lakes from aquatic invasive species.

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AIS Public Service Messages Now Available for Free Download - - we have placed on our HC COLA Website for You! If however, you need a different format, you may contact Erika Gilsdorf – see below:

June 22, 2018

DETROIT LAKES, MN—A new video series is the latest weapon in the fight against the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species in Minnesota lakes. Thanks to a collaborative multi-county effort in West Central Minnesota the video series created for broadcast and social media is free for any individual, business or organization to download. The video series features six video PSA's in formats for broadcast and social media that cover some of the key actions people visiting Minnesota lakes can take to stop the spread of AIS.

Lake and river quality in the entire state of Minnesota is under attack by AIS. Zebra mussels, Eurasian watermilfoil, Starry Stonewort, and Spiny Waterflea are a few of the aquatic species that threaten water bodies limiting the enjoyment of lake activities like swimming, angling and boating ultimately hurting tourism, the state's economy and reducing property values.

The videos were produced by LB Video Productions, a division of Leighton Broadcasting. Lead producer Erika Gilsdorf says her first-hand experiences with AIS prompted her to find a way to spread the message to people that personal responsibility when enjoying the lakes and rivers is the best way to stop the spread of AIS.

"As a former AIS watercraft inspector, it was my goal with the project to provide a fresh and creative "hook" around aquatic invasive species messaging and the actions people can take to stop their spread," Gilsdorf said the response to

this new video series has already been phenomenal. "We are excited to be part of a multi-county project that can offer these videos and social media posts at no charge to individuals or organizations like lake associations, government agencies, and businesses...anyone who wants to help stop the spread."

Funding for the video series was a collaborative effort from the Minnesota counties of Douglas, Pope, Otter Tail, Cass, Becker and Aitkin along with Crow Wing County Lakes and Rivers Alliance and the Pelican Lakes Association in Crow Wing County.

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