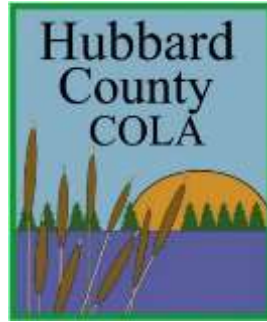


Hubbard County Coalition Of Lake Associations HC COLA E-Newsletter For Aug-Sept 2021



HC COLA, P. O. Box 746, Park Rapids MN 56470 email: hccolamn@gmail.com
Hubbard County COLA Website www.hubbardcolamn.org Hubbard County COLA [Facebook](#)

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IN THIS ISSUE:

- From the HC COLA President
- HC COLA Thur 9/30, 6:30 PM Hybrid Mtg– seating for 20 in-person or zoom
- Updates of Interest To Aid in Protecting and Preserving Lakes / Wildlife:
 - **Loon Liaison for Each Lake Assoc Needed** in Hubbard County for the MN Loon Restoration Program **Now** - Autumn/Winter Work Needed on Your Lake's Loon Management Plan
 - Our Shoreland Advisors Featured – Invite a Visit On Your Lakeshore Too!
 - AIS Explorer Tool – See Where Boats Come From to Your Favorite Lake
 - Hubbard Shoreland Management Ordinance Updated by County Commissioners
 - Survey by DNR on Quality Sunfish Initiative - Includes 2 Lakes in Hubbard County
 - HC SWCD Receives Grant and Shares Information on Programs
 - Survey on AIS by the UMN Center for Changing Landscapes
 - Cabin Succession Planning Workshop with Northern Waters Land Trust 9/30
 - HC COLA Volunteers search for Starry Stonewort on 18 lakes

Featured “Lakeadmin” Post:

- Power Loading Boats Causes Damage to Launch Ramps!

Instant Access Links:

- HC COLA
 - Lakes Represented In HC COLA
 - HC COLA Board of Directors
 - HC COLA Officers
 - Committee Reports & Meeting Minutes
 - Presentations at HC COLA Events
 - Newsletter Article Index
- Hubbard County
 - Environmental Services
 - Aquatic Invasive Species
 - Planning Commission / Board of Adjustments
 - Board of Commissioners plus the BOC Agendas & Minutes
 - Hubbard County Soil & Water Conservation District
- Comments and Suggestions Welcome for HC COLA

From The HC COLA President – Sharon Natzel

We learned at our Aug 26 HC COLA Meeting from DNR presenter Robert Rabasco, that **each lake association in Hubbard County** has an opportunity to **identify a loon liaison** right now please! Then - during the autumn 2021 and winter 2022, your loon liaison, with help from your lake association team, will define your lake's Loon Management Plan.



When the loons return next spring 2022, each lake association will have a renewed understanding of how to help our MN State Bird, our Common Loon, for the long term. The loon **“calls”** we hear next spring will echo their “thanks” for accomplishing a step in joining the Loon-Friendly Lake Registry here in Hubbard County. This is part of the Minnesota Loon Restoration Program (MLRP). Hubbard County is one of the eight counties participating in the MLRP.

Learn more about the important program in the article in this e-newsletter. Email hccolamn@gmail.com with your lake association's loon liaison contact info now! HC COLA has committed to help gather the loon liaison info for Rob. He will be providing each loon liaison with a template this autumn for your Loon Management Plan as a first step!

HC COLA Hybrid Meeting Thur 9/30/2021 at 6:30 PM

Our next HC COLA hybrid meeting is Thursday, Sept 30, 2021 at 6:30 PM (Zoom & in-person seating for 20 at Calvary Lutheran Church- Park Rapids, MN). First on the agenda is our speaker, Dan Steward, retired BWSR presenting in person in the Luther Room. Dan will present **"Forests and Fish, The Critical Connection!"** Peter Jacobson, retired MN DNR, will join us too and introduce Dan Steward.

Both Dan and Peter have extensive experience in these topic areas involving **fish** and forests! We are grateful for their willingness to share with us in our mission to protect and preserve our area lakes for this and future generations. The meeting is open to the public as part of our educational goals. Feel free to leave after the presentation if you are not interested in the business section of the meeting which is especially important for your HC COLA Representatives / Alternate HC COLA Reps to attend.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87585329554>

Meeting ID: 875 8532 9554

Passcode: 923634

OR

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,87585329554#,,,,*923634# US (New York)

+13017158592,,87585329554#,,,,*923634# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 875 8532 9554 and Passcode: 923634

Agenda for 9/30/2021 HC COLA meeting includes:

Presenter 1/2 Hr

Business Meeting up to 1 Hr

VIP! Bring your lake association's Loon Liaison contact information!

Updates of Interest to Aid in Protecting & Preserving Lakes / Wildlife



VIP! A Loon Liaison is Needed Now for Each Hubbard County Lake Association

The MN Loon Restoration Program (MLRP) that Rob Rabasco, MN DNR Coordinator for MLRP presented at our HC COLA 8/26/2021 meeting will benefit greatly from your “Loon Liaison” and your Lake Association team working together this Autumn / Winter on Your Lake’s Loon Management Plan. This is a first step for your lake in becoming part of the MN Loon-Friendly Lake Registry. This program is important for our MN loons long term!

If you missed Rob Rabasco’s presentation on the MLRP at our Aug 26th HC COLA meeting, please review the video: <https://www.hubbardcolamn.org/presentations.html>
Rob also shared his detailed [slide deck](#) explaining the MLRP recently too.

Editor, Shannon Geisen, from the Park Rapids Enterprise also attended our 8/26 hybrid meeting and wrote a terrific article that has been reprinted in the Duluth News Tribune. <https://www.parkrapidsenterprise.com/news/7174189-Loon-friendly-lake-registry-begins-in-Hubbard-County>

From Rob Rabasco, MN DNR, MLRP Coordinator, here is the MN Loon Restoration Program (MLRP) Background followed by the details of the overall 3-year program:

April 10, 2010 Deepwater Horizon offshore drilling rig exploded, resulting in a massive release of oil

2016 BP settles and agrees to pay \$8.1 billion in natural resources damages over 15 years.

The state of Minnesota was awarded \$7,520,00 under two grants by the Deepwater Horizon Open Ocean Trustee Technical Implementation Group (TIG) to reduce mortality and increase reproductive success of common loons in Minnesota

Loon Restoration Project Goals:

To reduce mortality and increase reproductive success of common loons in Minnesota. To increase loon productivity by ~ 5% on registered lakes.

Restoration Activities Include:

Permanent protection of targeted lake shorelines facilitates direct protection of loons and ensures future availability of habitat.

Augmenting natural nesting habitat with Artificial Nesting Platforms (ANP). While they have been effective at enhancing loon productivity and are very popular with lakeshore residents, artificial platforms do not ensure nesting success. ANPs are appropriate on lakes with fluctuating water levels during nesting season, recurring predation, and where there is no or limited opportunity to enhance natural nesting habitat.

Promote stewardship of lakes with loons by engaging lake associations, within an 8 county geographic focus area(s), to register as Loon-Friendly Lakes. Counties include Hubbard, Becker, Clearwater, Beltrami, Cass, Crow Wing, Aitkin, and Itasca.

Lake stewardship of lakes with loons includes promoting a Loon-Friendly Lake Registry (LFLR) program for lake associations within the Restoration of Common Loons in Minnesota Project (RCLMP) area:

- Establishing a Loon Liaison
- Training lake association members as volunteers to assist with loon monitoring

- Integrating loon conservation information into lake association management plans, newsletters, websites, and as agenda items in meetings
- Providing loon conservation information at key lake access points, and inviting Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) staff to speak about the Get the Lead Out (GTLO) program at lake association meetings.

The Minnesota DNR is assisting the MPCA with the GTLO program by disseminating information with lake associations to reduce the use of lead-based tackle.

Strategies to reduce the use of lead-based tackle include:

- Encouraging members to dispose of lead tackle at Household Hazardous Waste sites
- Hosting a lead tackle drop-off event with lake association members
- Inviting MPCA and DNR employees to speak at lake association meetings
- Asking association members to volunteer to be the leader for Get the Lead Out activities for individual lakes
- And installing tamper-proof containers where lake association members and guests can deposit lead fishing tackle for recycling.

Plan ahead now for your lake association's lead tackle drop-off as part of your annual meeting 2022! To order your lake association [GTLO](#) collection kit for your lake association annual meeting in 2022, please email LeadOut@state.mn.us (HC COLA collected 4.4 pounds with our GTLO collection at the Hubbard County Fair in 2021! You can too!)

[MORE](#)

HC COLA Shoreland Advisors Featured – Invite a Visit on Your Lakeshore Too!



Two of our HC COLA Shoreland Advisors from Kabekona Lake Association, Sue Schiess and Ingrid Bey, were featured in an informative article by Editor, Shannon Geisen in the Park Rapids Enterprise about the program. It also ran in the Bemidji Pioneer Paper.

<https://www.parkrapidsenterprise.com/northland-outdoors/7138669-Hubbard-County-shoreland-advisors-partner-to-improve-water-quality>

The HC COLA Shoreland Advisors are willing to coach lakeshore owners on other area lakes besides the lake they live on. We currently have HC COLA Shoreland Advisors also on Fish Hook, 5th Crow Wing, Ojibway, Long, and Spider Lakes. Email HCcolaMN@gmail.com if you are interested in scheduling an autumn walk along your shoreland with shoreland advisor(s) who will listen to your ideas on protecting your lake's water quality and perhaps be able to provide additional suggestions too to compliment yours. Autumn is a great time to plant perennials that can slow the flow of rainwater runoff and prevent erosion too.

[MORE](#)

AIS Explorer Tool – See Where Boats Come From to Your Favorite Lake



Meg Duhr, MAISRC's Research Outreach Specialist led a zoom workshop for HC COLA on the AIS Explorer Online Dashboard recently.

The web tool uses 1.3 million records of boater movements within MN, the most current DNR infested waters list and water connectivity to predict which lakes are most vulnerable to zebra mussels and starry stonewort to help in resource prioritization potentially.

Follow the workshop steps in using the tool on your PC and learn in the convenience of your home: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Q2XVTNGOBI>

Read “more” about MAISRC’s AIS Explorer Tool and access the tool here

[**MORE**](#)

Hubbard County’s Shoreland Management Ordinance Updated By Our Hubbard County Commissioners

The Hubbard County Shoreland Management Ordinance No. 17 has been amended by our Hubbard County Commissioners as of August 17, 2021. Please familiarize yourself with it. Prior to making changes to your shoreland, bring your ideas / plan to Hubbard County Environmental Services and review it with them. Determine what adjustments you may need and/or permit(s) from the county or MN DNR, etc.

You can find the amended ordinance here:

http://www.co.hubbard.mn.us/government/ordinances.php#revize_document_center_rz307

For a short recap of just the Short Term Rental portion of the ordinance with effective date of May 1, 2022, please see the Hubbard County Environmental Services webpage here:

http://www.co.hubbard.mn.us/departments/environmental_services/index.php

The HC COLA subcommittee of 4 volunteers from Tripp, Gilmore, Little Sand and Long Lakes provided 4 feedback letters during the various stages of the amendment process during 2020 and 2021. The team updated HC COLA during the process in E-Newsletters.

Please follow the Hubbard County Environmental Services Planning Committee and Board of Adjustments activities, which may relate to your lake, here:

http://www.co.hubbard.mn.us/departments/environmental_services/planning_commission_board_of_adjustment.php

Quality Sunfish Initiative - Includes 2 Lakes in Hubbard County Provide Your Input Please on the Survey by MN DNR

Our HC COLA member, Garfield Lake Association, has provided educational background and a request of each of us to support the daily limit of 5 for Garfield Lake in Hubbard County. They explain that Garfield’s sunfish population is made up of 70% in the size range of 0 to 5 inches currently. The daily limit of 5 sunfish will help Garfield increase the size of their sunfish. The 10-fish limit will keep the size range where it is currently.

The daily limit of 5 sunfish will help First Crow Wing in Hubbard County too. Currently Second Crow Wing, Third Crow Wing and Fourth Crow Wing are all at the daily limit of 5 sunfish – see below.

Fishing Regulations:

[General](#) »

[Inland Waters](#) »

Special Fishing Regulations: This lake has special fishing regulations that differ from statewide or border water regulations for those species identified below and take precedence. Regulations listed below are currently in place. Visit the [fishing regulations page](#) for links to upcoming regulations for specific lakes.

Including connected Second, Third, and Fourth Crow Wing Lakes

- **Sunfish:** Daily limit five.

There are several ways to provide your input on the MN DNR Quality Sunfish Initiative. You can visit in person with the DNR Fisheries on the phone or attend their in-person public meetings – see September dates coming right up for Park Rapids and Laporte in-person public meetings [here](#).

There is also additional background information and a short video available in link below. <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fish/sunfish/index.html>

Hubbard County Soil and Water Conservation District (HC SWCD) Receives Grant and Shares Information on Programs

Jake Shaughnessy, HC SWCD Water Quality Resource Technician and Claire Hansen spoke at our HC COLA 8/26/2021 Meeting about the grant to address green spaces in developed areas with a focus on agriculture, habitat, and water quality. **Lakeshore on developed lakes fit the criteria!** The HC SWCD has funds available for no cost site visits to help landowners develop plans to reduce erosion, improve water quality and increase erosion resilience! Give Jake a call to schedule your site visit. Office: 218-732-0121 x112 or email: jake.hcswcd@gmail.com.

View the 8/26/2021 presentation “Growing Water Quality” video by Jake and Claire [here](#) .

Jake also provided this information on the MN Board of Soil and Water grants through “Lawns to Legumes: You Can BEE the Change!” <https://bwsr.state.mn.us/l2l>

Survey on AIS by the UMN Center for Changing Landscapes & The Water Resources Center

Your help is requested in a study about aquatic invasive species (AIS). The study is being conducted by the Center for Changing Landscapes and the Water Resources Center, and funded by the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC).

The findings from this study will be used to help local resource managers and community leaders better understand residents' views and to facilitate communication and outreach

[**MORE**](#)

Complimentary Cabin Succession Planning Workshop

Virtual or in-person at Cass County Land Dept
with Northern Waters Land Trust 9/30/2021 from 4 to 5:30 PM
RSVP at www.NorthernWatersLandTrust.org

Experts will present options for passing on your “Piece of Heaven” to your heirs. One hour presentation by experts and 30 minutes Q&A

[**MORE**](#)

HC COLA Volunteers search for Starry Stonewort on 18 lakes



Our HC COLA volunteers for Starry Trek in Hubbard County searched 19 public water accesses on 18 lakes for Starry Stonewort and other AIS. No new, unknown AIS was found. We trained early Sat morning 8/21/2021 on [**how to identify Starry Stonewort**](#) at Wolf Lake near Bemidji on the border of Hubbard and Beltrami Counties before heading out to northern Hubbard County lakes. Read “more” about this and BE SURE to check the lake accesses on the lake you live on. Starry Stonewort would be evident at this time of year still.

[**MORE**](#)



www.lakeadmin.org

[AIS](#) – [WATER QUALITY](#) – [ADMINISTRATION](#) – [REGULATION](#) – [GENERAL INTEREST](#)

- [Power Loading Boats Causes Damage to Launch Ramps!](#)

Hubbard County COLA

Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HC COLA) is the Leader in Protecting Hubbard County Lakes and Rivers.

Our mission is to protect and enhance the quality of our lakes and rivers, preserve the economic, recreational and natural environmental values of our shorelands and promote the responsible use of our waters and related habitats. Hubbard County COLA's mission enhances, promotes and protects the interests of lakeshore property owners, lake associations, local government, the general public and future generations.

Hubbard County COLA formed in 1988. HC COLA currently has a membership of 30 lake associations representing 42 lakes with over 2500 members. HC COLA is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Hubbard County COLA Charitable Fund Grant Proposal Application – Open grant round now through deadline of 4/15/2022. More information at Northwest MN Foundation [here](#).

Lakes Represented In HC COLA

Bad Axe · Belle Taine · Big Mantrap · Big Sand · Blue · Boulder · Crow Wing Lower · Crow Wing 5th/6th/7th · Crow Wing 8th/9th · Crow Wing 10th/11th · Duck · Eagle-Island · Emma-Stocking-Bottle · Fish Hook L&R Association · Garfield · Gilmore · Ham Lake · Hinds Lake · Kabekona · Little Sand · Long Lake · Palmer · Plantagenet · Portage · Potato · South Island · Spider · Stony · Tripp · Twin Lakes
Fish Hook L&R Association · Garfield · Gilmore · Ham Lake · Hinds Lake · Kabekona · Little Sand · Long Lake · Palmer · Plantagenet · Portage · Potato · South Island · Spider · Stony · Tripp · Twin Lakes

HC COLA Board of Directors

The HC COLA Board of Directors is made up of one designated "HC COLA Representative" from each of the 30 member Lake Associations. We are all volunteers who care for our lakes and rivers!

HC COLA Officers – all volunteers!

President:

Sharon Natzel, Long Lake

Vice President:

VP / Co-VP roles open for possible candidates from our Hubbard COLA Member Lake Associations

Secretary: Keith Minkel, Gilmore Lake
Treasurer: Steve Hall, Boulder Lake
Plus Immediate Past President: Lynn Goodrich, Tripp Lake

[Committee Reports](#)

[Meeting Minutes](#)

[Meeting Schedule](#)

[Presentations at HC COLA Events](#)

[Newsletter Article Index](#)



[Environmental Services](#)

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HC COLA Welcomes Your Comments and Your Suggestions!

Provide your feedback for Hubbard County COLA [here](#). We Welcome Your Input!

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