

Thursday, April 30th Conference Call “Open House” for Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations Representatives, HC COLA Alternates and Lake Association Presidents between **6 PM to 7 PM:**

Our Goals for the April “**Open House**” **Conference Call** where you can come and go online are:

- 1) Provide forum to answer your questions, seek suggestions on the activities in the committee reports
- 2) Test use of Zoom for our potential **online** May 28th meeting to vote on the HC COLA Charitable Grant amount for 2021 & host May’s speaker Nicholas Macklem, Hubbard County Environmental Services
 - a. Determine if majority of HC COLA Board of Directors are able to use video conference
 - b. Determine if phone conference call capabilities work well as an alternative to video conference
 - c. Please email SharonMNatzel@gmail.com if you are having troubles
 - d. Please don’t share the info below with others outside of HC COLA to keep the meeting secure
 - e. Determine if Zoom may allow us to socially distance & “meet / work” comfortably in 2020...

- a. New to Zoom? First click on this link to video conference:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89817282482?pwd=c3FXdmJpSm9vamZYUkVhL1VlK0d0QT09>

Meeting ID: 898 1728 2482

Password: 021621

(If you don’t have the Zoom app on your device, you will be instructed to download it. It only takes a minute) Once you download the application you will see a button that says “join meeting”. Click on that and you will be in the meeting.

If you have low bandwidth where you live and generally speaking, video calls work best when you have all other applications closed (like email, web browsers and others). Come a little early and check your audio. Once you are in the meeting, look to the lower left corner of the screen. You will see a microphone symbol and an up arrow. Click on the up arrow, then scroll down to “test speaker and microphone,” follow the prompts. You can do the same to check your video using the up arrow located next to the video screen. Be sure you are using a microphone & camera that work by doing these tests.

- b. Or use your phone to dial into the conference call number to “hear” what is taking place if video conference is not an option for you:

1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 898 1728 2482

Password: 021621

Please see the HC COLA Committee Reports below and attached 2-27-2020 draft minutes for acceptance for our April 30th “Open House”. The E-Team will review the Treasurer’s report when available. We are seeking your comments, suggestions and participation. Just come and go! Help test this online meeting technology to maximize health safety!

Thank you! Be Healthy! Enjoy Our Open Water Season! Sincerely, Sharon Natzel, HC COLA President 763-355-7908

Water Monitoring lead by Peter Tuomisto (Blue Lake Association) – there have been a couple of changes in plans since our Feb 27th committee report http://www.hubbardcolumn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/cr_2020_02_27.pdf

On Wed 4/29 at 4 PM, RMB Labs will host a webinar on several new items for the 2020 sampling season and a refresher on sampling. This webinar will also be recorded and then be posted and available on the RMB website for viewing at any time. Ellie Kriese, RMB is communicating the details on participating in the webinar. <https://www.rmbel.info/lakes/>

Peter Tuomisto will be communicating specifics to the water monitors regarding the pickup of coolers for Wed 5/13. HC COLA will not have any training inside the bank building. The RMB webinar above will be the training from RMB. There are also RMB videos available on how to do water sampling: <https://www.rmbel.info/training/>

Currently, as of 4/27/2020 AM, Mike Bolinski, DNR Watercraft Inspection Program Supervisor, says about the AIS volunteers – “At this time, we are delaying the training and background checking of potential AIS volunteers, and volunteer field work is on hold. We will begin the process again when those activities are consistent with Minnesota Department of Health and other guidelines.”

AIS Operating Team:

Nicholas Macklem, Hubbard County Environmental Services has things as ready to go as possible under the current COVID-19 situation, depending on when MN determines it is OK to do AIS Watercraft Inspections safely healthwise due to COVID-19. When we met as a team in early April, Nicholas reported that 80% of the watercraft inspectors were returning so that should help training. The DNR is working on online training due to COVID-19. Nicholas plans to update the Hubbard County AIS webpage as he learns more going forward:

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

The Dry Run Simulation of Response to AIS Discovery was completed in Feb along with Nicholas Macklem, 3 Big Mantrap Lake Association team members, Nicole Kovar, DNR and Sharon & Deb Massey. We also looked at the Big Mantrap chain of lakes scenario; boating over the dam on BM isn't really a possibility. The brushy vegetation between BM and Upper Bottle should help prevent movement of any AIS if confirmed. We walked through the steps of AIS discovery when Eurasian Watermilfoil (EWM) growth, for example, is high enough in the water column to be sampled by rake by Nicole Kovar as DNR Northwest Invasive Species Specialist. We discussed the potential of EWM treatment, if indeed it is discovered / confirmed.

Ideas were discussed for Community Based Social Marketing and AIS Prevention next steps if ZOOM works out OK.

Education: - also see the Restore the Shore item #6 below

Hubbard County SWCD Freshwater Festival won't be a physical event in 2020. They are determining if will be online.

AIS Detectors coursework is cancelled for 2020. Webinars here: <https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/ais-detectors/webinars>

MN Lakes and Rivers Advocates – sign up for webinars as annual mtg with MAISRC was cancelled due to COVID-19: <https://www3.thedatabank.com/dpg/529/pm.asp?id=78174&nav=1&aacwc=371565295252364078174259739127%20target=>

Restore the Shore (RTS) lead by Cheryl Hilgemann (Middle Crow Wing Lake Association)

Cheryl has communicated with the individual RTS Coordinators for the HC COLA Lake Association's that placed orders last autumn for delivery May 1st. The RTS coordinators are assigned timeslots for picking up their lake association's orders using a drive-through scenario to maximize health safety in addition to using masks, gloves, and social distancing.

RTS coordinators will use social distancing, masks, gloves, etc. when delivering the items to their lakeshore owners too. This resource list will be provided for the RTS coordinators if they wish to include with their lakeshore orders on May 1st.

Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HC COLA) “Restore The Shore” Resource List to Enhance Your Individual Waterside Efforts for Your Natural Shoreland Habitats in 2020:

We live in the heart of the waters here in Minnesota. Our lakes, wetlands, streams and rivers face challenges, ranging from invasive species to pollinator decline, and threats to our water quality. Healthy waters begin on our lands. As a private landowner, your planting, care and feeding of the biodiverse native vegetation in the shoreland zone increases the natural aesthetic and provides wildlife habitat. You’re a model for your neighbors as attitudes change Waterside!

- 1) HC COLA Website has great resources for planning resilient yard projects to “Restore the Shore” and planting for “Pollinators” also:

<http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/more-resources.html>

<http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/score--restore-your-shore.html>

- 2) A comprehensive DNR site with very useful subpages:

<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/shorelandmgmt/index.html>

- 3) For specific problems: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/rys/sl/commonproblems.html>

- 4) Itasca County 2018 Shoreland Guide to Lake Stewardship (similar to the 2011 Hubbard County version but with active links and updated pictures and more):

<https://itascawaters.org/assets/2018%20Files/The%20Itasca%20Country%20Shoreland%20Guide%202018.pdf>

- 5) Peter Pierson’s “Restoration” story for HC COLA “Voices on the Water” on the changing shoreline at the family cabin will entertain you & provide ideas!

http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/cola-pierson_piece_1-restoration.pdf

- 6) **“Hold The Date”** for Friday evening 8/14/2020 for an HC COLA and Hubbard County UMN Extension educational workshop for you and your neighbor as Shoreland Advisors. The workshop will help provide background on restoring and preserving shoreland, along with helpful practices that can positively impact lake water quality. Build your skillset and knowledge. Lakeshore owners are interested in considering information and ideas from other property owners based on Itasca County research conducted. We are following their lead and success for our lakes area too! Stay tuned – check back in late June here: <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/news-and-events.html> or email: hccolamn@gmail.com to get on the distribution list for the workshop information.

What’s New On Your Lake - Member News:

HC COLA Member Lake Association Newsletters provided for your reading enjoyment – be sure to share yours too:

Twin Lakes Association – attached

Long Lake Area Association: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EbGVbMNHOPWYAt9c449OB9cnyHjNq0gk/view>

