

Aug 2021 HC COLA Committee Reports [\(Note - each team's members are listed here\):](#)

<https://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/hc cola structure - version 5-6-2021.pdf>

E-Team

- Received resignation email 8/20/21 from Mike Dudley, VP since 4/29/21. Mike shared this “my career and family just will not permit me to devote the time and energy to effectively function on the board.” We thank Mike for his service as a VP these past few months.
- A calendar / timeline was prepared for planning and awareness going forward beginning Sept 2021.
 - The HC COLA Board Meeting is held the last Thursday of the month (Hybrid with In-Person / Zoom)
 - E-Team to meet via zoom on the Wed, the week prior to the HC COLA Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting
 - Preliminary Draft E-Newsletter and the Treasurer’s Report to be sent to the E-Team by Monday prior to the E-Team Meeting
 - Committee Reports by Each Team Lead / Co-Lead to be sent to E-Team Members the Friday prior to the E-Team Meeting
 - Committee Reports will be combined & posted to the website Tuesday prior to the BOD Meeting
 - Agenda and Reports to be sent to the HC COLA Board members the Tuesday prior to the BOD Meeting.
 - Draft Minutes of the BOD Meeting submitted to the Communications Team for sending out Tuesday following the BOD Meeting
 - E-Newsletter Finalized by Communications & sent out on the Tues following the BOD Meeting
 - Special events (e.g. Fair, Freshwater Festival) will be noted for Committee and E-Team planning
- We invite you to attend a few E-Team meetings held on zoom on the Wednesday, the week prior to the HC COLA Board meeting. Attending may help you determine if you would like to be considered by the HC COLA Board for the openings for the E-Team and also for the Vice President / Co-VP roles too. (email hccolamn@gmail.com for the zoom connection info for any E-Team meeting please...)

AIS Operating Team:

HC COLA AIS Operating Team met with Nick Macklem via zoom on 8/17/21:

Nick Macklem reported that AIS inspections are ongoing with most shifts being filled as scheduled.

Nick discussed the discovery, by an AIS inspector, of live zebra mussels attached to the sea legs on a pontoon boat leaving the Nevis access from Lake Belle Taine. The pontoon boat had been at a local resort on the lake for a week, and had come from lake(s) in the Alexandria area known to be infested with zebra mussels. The zebra mussels were found when vegetation found on the sea legs was being removed. Nichole Kovar from the Minnesota DNR agreed that it is likely the zebra mussels were on the boat before it was launched into Lake Belle Taine and will not list Lake Belle Taine as an infested lake at this time. The Lake Belle Taine Association will do additional sampling and AIS inspectors will closely monitor boats leaving the lake. Nick will follow up on Conservation Officer ticket action in Alex area regarding the boat owner. The pontoon entered the lake in the evening after watercraft inspection hours. We will ask Nicole Kovar, DNR Invasive Species Specialist and Andrea Dutcher, HC COLA Rep to share an update for the HC COLA August meeting too.

Nick indicated that the Hubbard County decon station is looking at getting a sprayer mounted on wheels to better access under trailers.

Nick indicated that next year the lead AIS inspector will be making an effort to spend one day a week visiting resorts to advise them on AIS mitigation methods.

Sharon discussed the repairs to the Wolf Lake kiosk which has been damaged by vandals on several occasions. The South Big Wolf Lake Association arranged for the repair and additional buoys placement also to keep boats in access channel.

Sharon indicated that additional ZMV and SWF sampling kits will be available at next year's water cooler Wednesday pick up day. This year, there weren't enough sampling kits to meet the demand on that particular day. [Note: RMB is willing to mail out additional sample bottles at no charge if a water quality monitor discovers a shortage of bottles far enough ahead of sampling day.]

Sharon discussed the use of aqua weed sticks at the Long Lake accesses. She provided the following cost information for consideration for use by the Hubbard County AIS inspectors as follows: 2-4 Ft extendable aqua weed stick from Wildlife Forever is: \$25.50 each so 50 would be \$1275 plus tax plus shipping; They also have a 3-6 Ft extendable aqua weed stick for \$27 each so 50 would be \$1350 plus tax plus shipping.

<https://www.wildlifeforever.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/CD2-Catalog-and-Order-Form-9.22.20.pdf>

The HC COLA Starry Trek team of 11 volunteers searched 19 accesses on 18 northern Hubbard County Lakes for Starry Stonewort and other AIS on Sat 8/21/2021. We trained at the Wolf Lake Wildlife Management Area undeveloped access where Starry Stonewort was discovered during Starry Trek in 2018. We used separate rakes and different shoes at each access to prevent the spread of any AIS. We did not find any unknown AIS in our sampling at those 19 sites. Be sure to check your own lake accesses too for AIS – excellent, short training video from MAISRC here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ed59XIOHTw&list=PL0NM2CB7oAyHqAjU0E87p3nFvXNOVw8QM&index=3>

Jeff Mosner has sent out the first of three emails to our 325 AIS Citizen Watch volunteers with the invitation to participate in the 2021 "Eyes on the Water" Online Survey. It is also available on our website

<https://www.hubbardcolamn.org/eyes-on-the-water---early-detection.html>

Membership Team

The Membership Team will poll attendees at the August HC COLA meeting to determine if there is interest in gathering at Zorbaz over lunchtime where folks pay for their own lunch and we eat under the tent outside on the picnic tables this autumn 2021 or spring 2022, if at all.

The Membership Team has published an updated HC COLA master list of lake associations HC COLA reps and officers in our secured area on the website as of 8/25/2021. This is Confidential for HC COLA Business Use Only.

<https://www.hubbardcolamn.org/hc-cola-representative-info.html>

Please continue to provide your modifications for the HC COLA master list for lake association board members and HC COLA Reps / Alternate modifications to hccolamn@gmail.com We send out "Thank You" emails to outgoing HC COLA Reps and Lake Association Presidents and also "Welcome" emails to incoming HC COLA Reps and Lake Association Presidents also. We include the secured area password and the HC COLA Rep responsibilities that are displayed in the secured area in the "Welcome" emails; see below

HC COLA REP RESPONSIBILITIES

COLA Representative List of Responsibilities

The COLA representative from each lake shall:

1. Communicate with their lake association president on all COLA issues.
2. Have official voting rights for their lake association.
3. Ensure an alternate attends the COLA meeting if they are not available.
4. Be a member of a committee.
5. Attend at least one government meeting per year, if possible.
6. Keep COLA informed on any issues on their lake.
7. Act as the compliance coordinator for any lake issues.
8. Provide education information to their lake association.
9. Present COLA information at their annual lake association meeting.
10. Provide information about their lake to the HCOLA website coordinator.
11. Provide articles about their lake (when appropriate) for the COLA

newsletter.

12. Act as the coordinator for Restore-the-Shore on their lake.

13. Ensure their lake's water monitor knows the date/time for the annual water monitor training and pickup.

!!!!!!!!!!!!!! 7/29/2013

Lake Water Monitoring

Steve Hall, HC COLA Treasurer sent out the 2021 Lake Water Testing Invoices via email to lake association treasurers.

Sunday, Sept 19th is water monitoring Sunday. Cooler drop off at the Park Rapids Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce is Monday, Sept 20 between 9 AM to 11 AM. Remember you may provide your integrated sampler back too for HC COLA, if you prefer. Peter Tuomisto cleans the returned integrated samplers and Ken Grob stores them in his garage til spring.

Restore The Shore

Cheryl Hilgemann, our HC COLA Restore the Shore (RTS) Coordinator has been in contact with Annette Olson, Hubbard County SWCD about the order and payment process for this autumn for HC COLA for the plants that actually arrive May 2022. The nurseries are still in the process of providing the SWCD with the needed information. Cheryl will update us when the loose ends all come together and then Jeff Mosner will update the HC COLA website - stay tuned for RTS news.

Education

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 and it also ran in the Bemidji Pioneer. Great response from our area lakeshore owners for requests for a shoreland advisor coaching visit plus shadowing opportunities to promote learning among the Shoreland Advisors too.

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

For Spring - Summer 2022, please plan ahead to engage with our HC COLA Education Team's presenter at your lake association meetings. Sue Schiess, Kabekona Lake is a 15-year UMN Extension Master Gardener. Sue will be able to train your group in the Lawns & Lakes: There is a Connection concepts in a 20 min presentation with 10 min Q&A. We will provide a form so your lakeshore owners can easily sign up for a shoreland advisor coaching visit too. Email hccolamn@gmail.com to check out the schedule for next year! Preserve your lake's water quality with trees / plants!

The Univ of MN AIS Research Center (MAISRC) Showcase Registration is open for Wed 9/22/2021 MAISRC (available in-person in St. Paul \$50 & streaming online \$20):

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2021-minnesota-aquatic-invasive-species-research-and-management-showcase-tickets-164145683157>

AIS Detectors Andrea Dutcher and Sharon Natzel have each trained a couple of enthusiastic families with children who wanted to learn to identify aquatic vegetation for early detection of AIS. Fun was had by all involved. There is still time!