

June 2021 HC COLA Committee Reports:

E-Team

E-Team / Communications developing a cover letter for the updated template for “Dear Visitor” for Resorts / Campgrounds / Short Term Rentals that is on the HC COLA website under AIS – Resort Resources. We will ask Short Term Rental owners if they would like a binder with AIS Prevention information, similar to what has been provided to Resorts.

AIS Operating Team

The HC COLA online resort/campground/short term rental materials <https://www.hubbardcolamn.org/resort-resources.html> related to AIS Prevention have been reviewed and are being refreshed. A “Call to Action for Walleye Anglers” has been created with the help of Dan Kittilson. This includes education on spiny water flea and zebra mussels impacts to walleye and a Call to Action for Anglers to prevent the spread of AIS.

AIS Prevention Coordinators for each lake assoc are reminded to place zebra mussel settlement samplers (ZMSS) at your public accesses out of the way of motors / boats or very close to the public accesses with the neighbors please. We heard from a few of you that this has been completed on your lake; Email hccolamn@gmail.com. We would like to discover which accesses still need ZMSS on them. Here are the tips for installation now and monitoring in August before removal by Oct. https://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/protocols_for_ais_lake_monitoring_v.2.pdf

Andrea Dutcher, AIS Lakeshore Monitoring Coordinator for Lake Belle Taine Association shared / discussed the LBT program with other AIS Detectors on Big Mantrap, Kabekona, Long, and Lake Ojibway on 6/21/2021. She provided the electronic files that can be adapted for other lake association’s. She coordinates / trains 16 teams to cover the lakeshore on LBT. More at <https://www.lakebelletaineassociation.org/how-you-can-help>

At the July 29, 2021 HC COLA Hybrid In-Person / Zoom meeting at 6:30 PM , Meg Duhr from the MAISRC will present in person, information from MAISRC tailored to lakes with recent infestations of zebra mussels. The presentation will cover how zebra mussels impact a lake ecosystem and the recreational experience, what lakeshore property owners can and can’t do about zebra mussels and why continued AIS prevention efforts are needed. An update on MAISRC research progress in zebra mussel control tools will also be provided.

HC COLA is coordinating Starry Trek which is Sat 8/21/2021 approx 8 AM to 1 PM. <https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/ais-detectors/starrytrek> Focus will be on northern county lake public accesses this year. Training that day will be at the undeveloped access at the Wolf Lake Wildlife Management Area where you will observe starry stonewort (extra caution will be required – extra pair of shoes too) before teams head off on their assignments. Sign up available after 7/2/2021!

AIS Prevention Coordinators on the HC COLA Lakes - - Please make sure you do your own check at your lake’s public access about that timeframe too for Starry Stonewort and other AIS!

Membership Team

The “secured area” on the website is being updated with the latest HC COLA Master List and the tabs representing the different roles. These tabs include the roles of HC COLA Rep/Alternates, Presidents, Water Monitors / AIS Prevention Coordinators, Treasurers, Restore the Shore Coordinators and the various HC COLA Committees individuals serve on also. Please continue to provide modifications of your lake assoc HC COLA reps / officers to hccolamn@gmail.com

Please email hccolamn@gmail.com to volunteer for 2 to 3 hours at the HC COLA Table at the Hubbard County Fair in the Environmental Education Building on Fri July 16 and Sat July 17 from 11 AM to 4 PM (HC SWCD Nitrate Clinic then too.)

Please examine the various committees in link below. Consider adding your talents to a committee / perhaps change the committee you are on? We would enjoy your input / ideas! We are also seeking vice presidents / co-VPs also! https://www.hubbardcolamn.org/uploads/3/4/5/6/34563649/hc_colan_structure_-_version_5-6-2021.pdf

Lake Water Monitoring

Zebra Mussel Veliger Sampling Time! See the information from the [Feb 2021 committee report](#) below:

We appreciate the HC COLA Volunteer Citizen Scientists that do the Sampling with the Plankton Net for Zebra Mussel Veligers (ZMV) & Spiny Waterflea (SWF) Detection. This monitoring is an AIS Early Detection tool! Veligers may be detected before ZM adults. Typically 1 or 2 samples are conducted June/July. Your Water Sample needs to be Preserved in 91% Alcohol on the boat with plankton net.

VIP!! If Spiny Waterflea Detection analysis is desired from RMB, that service is conducted at RMB in conjunction with the ZMV analysis on same water sample. Indicate the type of analysis needed on the RMB "Chain of Custody" Form, for example – "please analyze for both ZMV and SWF". Bring the preserved ZMV water samples on Cooler Dropoff Mon 7/19/21* , to the Park Rapids Chamber of Commerce

RMB ZMV Sampling Procedure here:

<https://www.rmbel.info/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Zebra-Mussel-Veliger-Monitoring-Procedure05132020.pdf>

RMB ZMV Sampling with Plankton Net Training Video here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZVpywp8_NvM

Education

Email hccolamn@gmail.com to engage any of these complimentary services:

Shoreland Advisor(s) are available to walk along your shoreland with you as you discuss your ideas to slow the flow of runoff into the lake and prevent erosion too. Healthy water quality starts on the land.

Youth program with children and their parents or grandparents – a fun Dock Talk – we bring the double-sided rake to check the aquatic vegetation at the end of the dock and invertebrate net to check along the shoreline plus magnifying glass and ID guides. Kids help ID. We provide the RMB activity booklets for the families too. In the meantime, enjoy this site which has some fun Frog calls and also coloring sheets: <https://www.pca.state.mn.us/frogs-minnesota>

HC COLA Shoreline Monitoring Training Wed Aug 4 at 10 AM at the Long Lake South Access at Hubbard, MN. Learn Aquatic Vegetation Identification, AIS Early Detection techniques plus Shoreline Monitoring techniques. Educational materials will be provided. Practice with rake tosses and use your hands to separate the vegetation! Bring your own gloves and enthusiasm for learning!