

## **Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HC COLA) Accomplishments Topline 2022**

HC COLA, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) formed in 1988, currently represents 43 lakes with 31 lake associations composed of 2,776 members. An all-volunteer organization, its 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.

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- Theme determined for 2023 “Celebrating 35 Years” at events and on correspondence beneath logo
- Achieved 25 years of Water Quality Monitoring (WQM) with 37 Hubbard County Lakes participating
- Hosted presentation by Leif Olmanson, PhD, Research Associate, Dept of Forest Resources, UMN on remote sensing of lake water quality via satellite; learned 25 yrs of WQM helps ground truth RS data
- Completing 18 years of AIS prevention efforts in Hubbard including coordination with Hubbard County Environmental Services Dept (ESD), early detection, decontamination and education.
- Billboard Hwy 71; HC COLA AIS Operating Team co-sponsoring with Hubbard County ESD
- AIS Identification cards updated and 5000 printed on plastic; partnered with HC ESD AIS Program
- Co-sponsored 6/9/22 UMN AIS Research Center’s Update at M-State in DL for 100+ attendees
- Provided approx. 100 hospitality unit folders with HC COLA info for resorts, campgrounds and STRs
- Piloted Aqua Weedsticks at 13 public accesses to help anglers remove vegetation from their boats
- 23 Lake Association Loon Liaisons worked with MN DNR Loon Restoration Project (MLRP) team on each of their lakes’ Loon Friendly Lake Management Plans (LFLMP)
- HC COLA hosted 3 presentations on separate topic areas by the MLRP team for Loon Liaisons
- Hosted Presenter, Kelly Amoth, MPCA Program Coord with “Get The Lead Out” Tackle Program
- At Fair, shared info on lead poisoning of loons causing approx. 25% of their deaths, provided 242 samples of lead-free tackle & tackle exchange netted 4 lbs for county household hazardous waste site
- “Keep Your Waters Pristine” with free decon info in Discovery Guide, Residents Guide, & Plat Book
- 8 monthly articles by HC COLA Communications on program-related topics for PR Enterprise
- Little Sand Area Lake Association was awarded the HC COLA Charitable Fund Grant in 2022 and will report in April 2023 on the outcome of their aquatic vegetation survey completed in 2022.
- 2 lakes began MAISRC’s volunteer surveillance monitoring for spiny water fleas w/plankton net
- Early detection of AIS via shoreline monitoring “garage talk” attended by 8 individuals from 6 lakes
- Presented the “Stop Starry” program with discussion of the CD3 units at starry stonewort accesses
- MAISRC Cattail research site visit in Aug attended by 6 from HC COLA
- Shoreland Advisors invited by 10 separate lakeshore owners for visits; provided 4 LA presentations
- Hubbard County Lake Associations (LA) contributed \$107,782 supplemental funding for Hubbard County watercraft inspections in 2022. From 2009 to 2022, the total amount contributed by LA is \$950,626. The Townships / Cities total is \$399,279. The State of MN along with some early years of DNR grants contributed a total of \$1,324,825 thus far. 2023 Supplemental Funds are due 1/31/23!