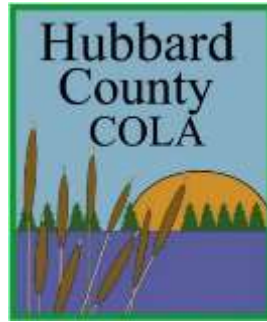


Hubbard County Coalition Of Lake Associations HC COLA E-Newsletter – March 2021



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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- Comments and Suggestions Welcome for HC COLA

From The HC COLA President – Sharon Natzel

With March's warm weather, the snow is going fast! The ice fishing houses have cleared out and cleaned up too! The cardinal is singing it's Spring tunes, hidden away in the treetops near the lakeshore with an eye on the bird feeder with the black oil sunflower seeds! The "ice out" date guesses are in full swing in our lakes area!

Be sure to [Register](#) for our **Thursday April 29th, 6:30 PM HC COLA Meeting** on Zoom to participate virtually on your smart device or by regular telephone too. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. It program is open to the public. The April focus is [Water Monitoring](#). Ellie Kriese, RMB Environmental Laboratories Inc will present on the Lakes Monitoring Program which now has an educational component for families too. Getting the kidos engaged will benefit your lake and our entire lakes area long term!

The April **HC COLA business meeting 4/29/21 follows after the presenter and will require voting** by each member lake association's HC COLA representative on budget, charitable fund recommendations & HC COLA organizational personnel.

Be sure to see the MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates (MLR) Update below. Learn about your lake association's opportunity to bring Gull Lake Association's successful Lake Steward program to your lakeshore property owners too. Virtual training for your lake association's MLR Lake Steward coaching team in that program is planned by MLR for April 1st, 7-9 PM! There is a cost component for your lake's metal sign awards in the MLR Lake Steward program.



The MLR Lake Steward program compliments our HC COLA Shoreland Advisor's program which began in 2020. HC COLA Shoreland Advisors are available to coach a lakeshore owner on a county lake. A lakeshore owner emails hcolamn@gmail.com. A metal sign award is not distributed in our HC COLA Shoreland Advisor program.

Introducing Our HC COLA Candidate for Vice President

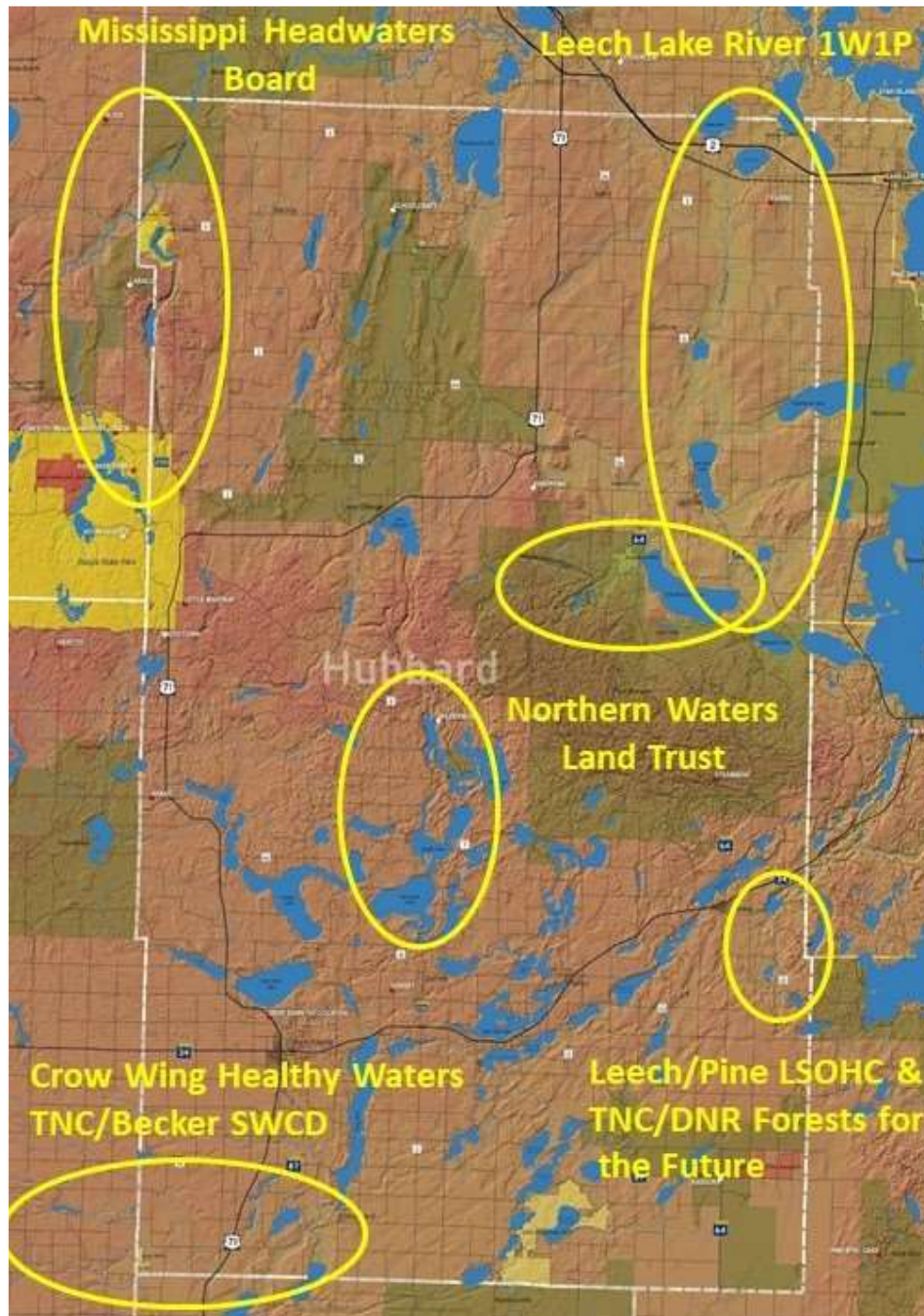
Our Vice President candidate is Mike Dudley. His experiences compliment HC COLA! Mike will meet virtually with the full E-Team in mid-March & the board in April. Consider following Mike's lead! Offer to serve in additional [HC COLA roles](#) too...

[MORE on Mike...](#)

Hubbard County Conservation Easement Programs

Pete Jacobson, Hubbard County Soil & Water Conservation District (HC SWCD) explains the 5 conservation easement programs in the county for privately owned priority parcels which will benefit lakes & streams plus preserve the land in its natural state. When an easement contract is completed, the landowners are paid a percentage of the unimproved value...and retain ownership. The land stays on the property tax roll.

[MORE](#)



Opportunities in our Lakes Area Community

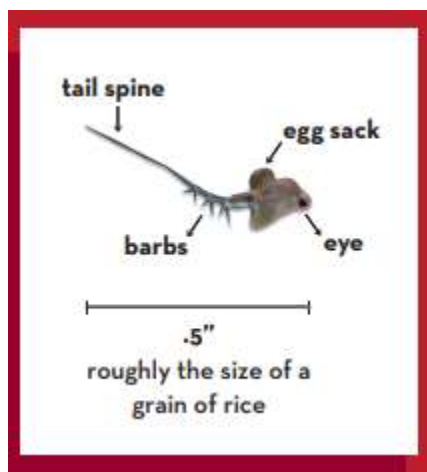
- 1) The Park Rapids Enterprise Chili Challenge has been cancelled for 2021 but the donations for the Hubbard County Food Shelf are still needed so no one goes hungry!
- 2) Email the Straight River Groundwater Management Area project manager if you wish to be considered as a candidate on the implementation advisory team.
- 3) Are you a Homestead Resident of School District 309? Be sure to vote on the Referendum on or before April 13, 2021!

[MORE](#)

Stop Spiny Water Flea – Campaign Resources

MAISRC has put together excellent online campaign resources for us all to use to Stop Spiny Water Flea!

The Spiny Water Fleas reach sexual maturity as early as one week old. There is a factsheet on walleye growth decreases after spiny water flea and zebra mussel invasions.



Use your Swedish Dishcloth to wipe down fishing line, reels, live wells and bait buckets.

[MORE](#)

MN Lakes & Rivers Advocates Updates

Consider subscribing to MLR's complimentary Citizens Action Network; website <http://www.mnlakesandrivers.org/>.

Learn about the [Stop Starry Program](#) and how you can help now!

Learn about your lake association's opportunity to bring Gull Lake Association's successful Lake Steward program to your lakeshore property owners on your lake too. Virtual training for your lake association's MLR Lake Steward team in that program is being planned by MLR for April 1st, 7-9 PM! (That is your team that interacts with your lakeshore owners on your lake.) There is a cost component for your lake's metal sign awards in the MLR Lake Steward program. Email jeff@mnlakesandrivers.org to sign your lake association up plus your team info & copy hccolamn@gmail.com please.

[MORE](#)

Our AIS Prevention Preparations for Open Water Season

The HC COLA Education Team has some complimentary posters available for your lake association kiosks, etc. Through a [community based social marketing survey](#) with 1,965 angler responses, the MN DNR found anglers prefer to receive AIS information at the boat ramp, bait dealer and fishing pier and fishing access points. See MORE below on how to receive your posters.

The billboard selection "Pro Angler" was made by the AIS Operating Team for 2021 and will be in place May through Sept in the same location as last year on Hwy 71. Hubbard COLA partners with Hubbard County Environmental Services – AIS Program on this.



[MORE](#)

Nitrates in Well Water – What You Should Know

Marcel Noyes, Hubbard County Soil & Water Conservation District (HC SWCD) highlights special nitrate test dates / locations for nitrate testing. Natural levels of nitrate in Minnesota groundwater are usually quite low (less than 1 milligram per liter [mg/L]). Sources of nitrate such as fertilizers, animal wastes, or human sewage are concentrated near the ground surface; nitrate may seep down and contaminate the groundwater. Elevated nitrate levels in groundwater are often caused by run-off from barnyards or feedlots, excessive use of fertilizers, or septic systems. Wells most vulnerable to nitrate contamination include shallow wells, dug wells with casings that are not watertight, and wells with damaged, leaking casing or fittings...

On the morning of **April 1st**, three additional drop off stations have been created:

1. Laporte Grocery Store, 20 Main St, Laporte
2. Benedict Outpost, 34365 Hwy 38, Laporte
3. The Peddler, 23528 398th St, Laporte

[**MORE**](#)



[**www.lakeadmin.org**](http://www.lakeadmin.org)

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

Featured Posts - March 2021

- [**Steps to Write a Lake Management Plan**](#) & HC COLA [Info](#) too!
- [**Audio / Visual Remote Conferencing**](#)
- [**MN Lake Associations – Who They Are & What They Do**](#)

& HC COLA [Indiana University Capstone Reports](#) on the topic too!

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.

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

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.

HC COLA Officers

President:	Sharon Natzel, Long Lake
Vice President:	(seeking candidate volunteers)
Secretary:	Keith Minkel, Gilmore Lake
Treasurer:	Steve Hall, Boulder Lake
Immediate Past President:	Lynn Goodrich, Tripp Lake

[Committee Reports](#)

[Meeting Minutes](#)

[Meeting Schedule](#)

[Presentations at HC COLA Events](#)

Special! A report for each of your lakes! 36 lake reports:

[10-year Summary Water Monitoring Reports Created thru 2020](#)

[Accomplishments 2020 and Plans 2021](#)



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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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