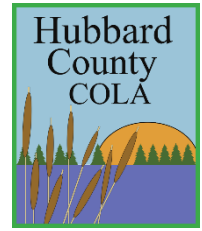




# Hubbard County & HCCOLA



## To Our Resort Partners:

With its many clean lakes and scenic views, Hubbard county has a rich history of fostering a traditional 'north-woods' destination for summer recreation. The private resorts of this county provide the symbolic 'post card' of that history.

As many of us are aware, aquatic invasive species (AIS) continue to be an ever-present concern, degrading the quality and health of the lakes we enjoy and depend on. As a resort owner, the Hubbard County AIS program recognizes the vital role you play as one of the first lines of defense in stopping the introduction and spread of AIS.

To recognize, cultivate and assist your hard work in promoting and protecting our lakes, we ask this question:

### ***In what ways can the Hubbard County AIS program better serve & support you / your resort?***

Below is a list of information and services we offer:

- Informational aides: AIS I.D. cards / pamphlets / posters / hand-outs for your resort guests
- Information on actions to stop aquatic hitchhikers and procedures for boat inspections
- Example Letter You May Personalize for Your Resort Guests on Preventing AIS
- Free boat decontaminations; call ahead for Park Rapids appointment 218-616-1631
- Sources for AIS prevention signage for your resort
- Sources for boat inspection and aquatic weed removal tools
- Aquatic vegetation sampling for early detection of AIS at your resort. We can conduct and/or coach.
- Other: Ask if you have any specific requests....
- Interactive AIS Distribution Map [https://www.co.hubbard.mn.us/departments/environmental\\_services/ais/index.php](https://www.co.hubbard.mn.us/departments/environmental_services/ais/index.php)



**FOR MORE INFO**

**Hubbard County  
AIS Program**



**HCCOLA**

If you would like further information, or to make a request for any of the above items, please contact:

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# 2024 AIS Emphasis:

## Zebra Mussels

Keys to ID:

- D-shaped, bivalve shell (a hinged, two-part shell)
- Small, ranging from ¼ to 1 ½ inches
- Yellow and brown striped shells
- Often attached to aquatic plants or hard surfaces; clog water intakes
- Attach to and kill native mussels
- Young forms (veligers) cannot be seen with the naked eye (Clean. Drain. Dry. Boats / Gear!)

*As a filter-feeder, a single zebra mussel can filter one quart of water per day (feeding primarily on algae). Living underwater they attach to rocks, docks, aquatic vegetation, and moored watercraft.*

*During the summer months, a female can produce up to half a million eggs per year. Zebra mussel larvae (veligers) are microscopic and free-floating for two to three weeks before settling out of the water column.*

*Both the adults and veligers are highly susceptible to transport via attachment to watercraft hulls, pontoon lift systems, weeds, or standing water.*

*By increasing water-clarity, zebra mussels alter plankton communities and increase light penetration. These changes can affect food chains, water temperatures, and plant growth.*

*A study in 2020 (Gretchen J. A. Hansen et al) determined the presence of zebra mussels decreased the size of first-year walleyes by 14% due to corresponding habitat and environmental changes. <https://rdcu.be/dx3VB>*

**Let's work together to stop the spread of AIS!**



**STOP AQUATIC  
HITCHHIKERS!**

Clean ALL recreational equipment. It's the law.



*Image courtesy of MNDNR*

**Currently, 5 of Hubbard County's 185 lakes are listed as infested with zebra mussels:**

- *Wolf Lake a.k.a. 'Big Wolf'* (Beltrami County border, 2014)
- *Benedict* (2017)
- *Garfield* (2017)
- *Long* (2020)
- *Plantagenet* (2023)

*Less than 3% of Hubbard County lakes have zebra mussels.*

**Other Counties in the neighborhood with waterbodies infested with zebra mussels (and corresponding counts):**

- 5% Cass County (**20 of 410**)
- 8% Becker County (**26 of 311**)
- 11% Beltrami County (**20 of 183**)



**Thanks for working hard to keep  
Hubbard County waters clean  
and healthy!**