What is a COLA?
(Coalition of Lake Associations)

Joe Shneider
President, MN COLA
• 16 to 18 COLA’s across Minnesota

• A few are well-established, and well-organized, but most are less so

• Usually form to address some common lake problems with a larger voice

• Have become very engaged on AIS and often are key members of their County’s AIS Task Force

• There is a statewide group of COLA’s, lake associations and individuals
The Crow Wing County Lakes and Rivers Alliance (LARA) is Crow Wing County's coalition of lake and river associations. LARA's mission is to:

* Represent the interests of member associations to the county, regional, state, and federal levels of government.
* Promote educational opportunities for member associations.
* Provide organizational support to existing and emerging lake and river associations.

LARA currently has 35 lake association members representing over 65 Crow Wing County lakes. We encourage your lake association to join LARA in its efforts to preserve and enhance the quality of Crow Wing County's lakes, rivers, wetlands, and groundwater.

Lake and river association membership dues for the calendar year are based on your association's membership and are as follows: 1-50 = $25  51-150 = $50  151-300 = $75  over 300 = $100
Challenges Facing OTC Lakes

- **Climate change** is accelerating the encroachment of aquatic invasive plants and algae formerly limited to southern regions.

- **Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)** including zebra mussels are migrating from the great lakes to OTC lakes.

- **Poor shoreland management** is accelerating shore and beach erosion.

- **Excess weeds in lakes** can be caused by land chemical runoff, inadequate septic systems and use of phosphate fertilizers.

- **Desire for organizational expertise** to form Associations, LIDs and Foundations.

Cross-infestation of lakes with Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) is occurring due in part to lack of public education and viable preventive systems and programs.

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Why Associations And Individuals Join OTC COLA

- **COLA Water Sampling** Over 50 member lakes participate in COLA’s water testing program each year. Data analysis contributes to promoting healthy lakes.

- **Influence Legislation** Member meetings include forums to confer directly with Federal, State and County legislators to give input on current issues.

- **Networking and Socializing** Events including monthly seasonal meetings provide opportunities to mix with others that have the same challenges as you do.

- **Association Administration** Get assistance in creating and managing various administrative functions and organizational projects.

- **Stay informed** Stay informed on lake news, current issues and legislative developments with COLA’S website and monthly E-Newsletter.

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OTC Lakes Need COLA

- OTC COLA partners with Lake Associations sponsoring water quality testing programs, communications, education and legislative forums.

- OTC COLA maintains strategic alliances with organizations, government lobbyists, State and County government officials.

- OTC COLA is an advocate for its Member Lake Associations providing assistance and support.
You Are Invited To Join OTC COLA

- **Lake / River Associations**
  COLA Membership dues are prorated by number of Association Members. Minimum is $10 annual dues for 10 Association Members.

- **Individual Property Owners**
  Individual Memberships annual dues are $10.

- **Donations**
  OTC COLA accepts unsolicited donations from lake property owners and Associations to help sustain the efforts and programs of COLA.

See Who We Are

OTC COLA Board of Directors

Bernie Steeves • Dave Sethre • David Majkrzak •
Jeff Stabnow • Patrick Prunty • Roger Neitzke •
Russ Severson • Sylvia Soeth

OTC COLA Members

Berger Lake Association • Big McDonald LID •
Boedigheimer Lake Association • Clitheral Lake Association • Dead Lake Association • Devils Lake Association • Eagle Lake Lakeshore Association • East Battle Lake WS Association • Elbow Lake Association • Franklin Lake Association • Hoffman Lake Association • Jewett Lake Association • Lake Lida Property Owners Association • Lake Lizzie Lakeshore Association • Lake Seven Association • Lake Six Association • Leaf Lakes Association • Little McDonald Kerbs and Paul Lakes LID • Loon Lake Association • Marion Lake Association • McDonald Lake Improvement Association • North Long Lake Association • Otter Tail Lakes Property Owners Association • Pelican Group Of Lakes Improvement District • Pickerel Lake Improvement Association • Pine Lakes LID • Prairie Lake Lakeshore Association • Round Lake 56-214 • Rush Lake Association • Silent Lakes Association • Silver Lake Property Owners Association • Stalker Lake Association • Star Lake Property Owners Association • Stuart Lake Association • Swan Lake Association • Sybil Lake Association • Tamarac Lake Association • Ten Mile Preservation Association • Trowbridge-Leek Lake Association • Wall Lake Association • West Battle Lake Association • West McDonald Lake Association

OTC COLA is dedicated to protecting and preserving Otter Tail Lakes

The Otter Tail County Coalition Of Lake Associations (OTC COLA) is a private volunteer group working with Lake Associations and lake property owners for the common good of all OTC lakes

We Love Our Lakes
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 has a membership of 30 lake associations with over 2200 members that have banded together with the intention of educating the public on the best lake management practices. We are celebrating our 30th year united in 2018! Our website’s purpose is to provide Hubbard county’s lakeshore owners the information needed to be good stewards of our lakes.
Questions?