

# FISH HOOK LAKE AND RIVER ASSN NEWSLETTER

## Spring 2017

EMAIL: FISHHOOKLAKEANDRIVER@GMAIL.COM

Website: <http://minnesotawaters.org/>



### *President's Letter by Neil Jordheim:*

*Lots of activity has taken place since our last newsletter. This publication brings you up to date.*

- "We dodged the bullet" is an old saying. When we identified curly leaf pond weed (CLPW) in 2015 our AIS team began taking steps to control it. Maps of infected areas were created and permits for chemical application were prepared. Fortunately, when spring came in 2016 the concentrations of CLPW were gone. It appears that our native lake weeds choked them out. Thanks goes out to the AIS team that is doing the hands on work. Monitoring and pulling of some CLPW will continue.
- The permit for the proposed Sandpiper pipeline was withdrawn by Enbridge in 2016. Unfortunately, they are continuing with their pursuit of the "Line 3" oil pipeline project that could cross the Headwaters of the Mississippi and our watershed leading to our lake. Much work and fund raising has been done to fight this battle.
- COLA continues to work to protect the water quality of our lake and river. The Hubbard County COLA has been held up as an excellent example of local people working together to preserve the water quality in our lakes and rivers. We are thankful for their work in preserving these beautiful resources.
- Finally, we are preparing a Fish Hook Lake & River directory that will be available to association members for a small fee. If you want one, please attend the annual meeting or send an email to [fishhooklakeandriver@gmail.com](mailto:fishhooklakeandriver@gmail.com)

We have a great Board of Directors. Several of our long-term members have given notice of their departure. We need to find more people that will fill vacancies while providing energy, ideas & future leadership. Is it time for you to step up and take your turn? If you are willing, please contact any of our board members to get more information.

We ask that you join our Association for 2017 and make additional contributions to the AIS fund. Our membership dues continue to be a REAL BARGAIN. The small investment you make each year is very inexpensive insurance to protect the present and future value of your lake property.

**Have a fun and safe summer at the lake and river this year.**

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

July 1st – 11:00 am FHL&R  
Annual Meeting/potluck, entrée  
provided - Heartland Park  
Shelter

July 4<sup>th</sup> – Boat Parade @ 11:00  
Red Bridge Park

Sep 9– 5:30 pm Fall Dinner Y-  
Steakhouse (rsvp by 9/6/17)

**Annual Meeting:** Last year we held our annual meeting at Heartland Park. It was combined with a potluck lunch. We are going to follow the same format this year. The meeting will be held in conjunction with a neighborhood potluck picnic on **Saturday July 1st @11:00 am at the Heartland Park main shelter**. The Board will provide hamburgers & hotdogs, coffee & juice, paper plates and utensils. We are asking you to bring a salad or dessert. You may also choose to bring your own beverage. We promise to keep the meeting portion short. Lots of parking is available at the park.

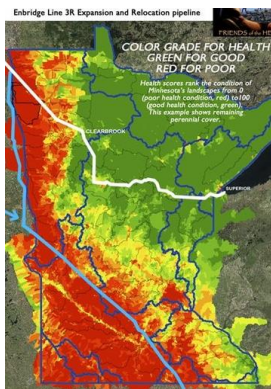
**AIS TEAM REPORT - Don Sells:** AIS (aquatic invasive species) continues to be a big concern. The Hubbard County AIS Prevention and Management Plan is in full operation for the summer season. Hubbard County's share of the state funding is \$249,244 for the prevention and education efforts. Components of the plan are: public awareness, prevention, early detection, a rapid response team and mitigation and management. The most effort and dollars are in the prevention area. This includes the boat inspection

program. Fish Hook Lake and River Association will receive 720 hours of state funded inspections. We are paying for 280 additional hours. 2016 stats on boat inspection are available on the web site. Additionally, Fish Hook will be conducting veliger (zebra mussels) sampling with the costs paid with county AIS funds. Don and Jan Rumpza volunteer to do this sampling. We are pleased to report that there has been very limited growth of CLPW in 2017.

The AIS Team's other effort will be the testing of dissolved oxygen and temperature at the deepest part of the lake (75 feet). The analysis has been done for the past six years. This scientific probe provides an indicator of the health of our lake (refer to results on the FHLRA website). AIS team members: Bob Stelter, Dave Mohn, Denny Diedrich, Don Rumpza and Don Sells

As a reminder, **a watercraft decontamination unit is available**; it is located at the north side of the road as you enter the Park Rapids waste disposal facility off of Henrietta Ave. It is a free service to everyone.

**We need your contributions to the AIS fund to pay for more inspection time. \$20.00 or more can be included with your Lake Association annual fee, or, if you prefer to make a tax-deductible contribution it can be mailed to: City of Park Rapids, Treasurer, Angela Brumbaugh, 212 W 2nd St. Park Rapids, MN 56470. Reference Fish Hook Lake & River AIS Fund on the Memo Line. Remember: If our lake has a serious AIS issue it could result in a 15-20% drop in property values.**



**Update on Line-3 Pipelines:** *(This is very complex situation. The following explanation is attempts to summarize the actions taken to date. The FHL&River Assn is providing an update, not taking a legal stand on this issue.)*

**THE GOOD NEWS:** The application for the Sandpiper pipeline filed by Enbridge with the Public Utilities Commission in Nov. 2013 was withdrawn by Enbridge.

**THE BAD NEWS:** However, Enbridge did not withdraw their application for "Line 3". The following article was taken from the Hubbard County web site <http://www.hubbardcolamn.org/line-3-pipeline.html>

**What is Line 3?** At a cost of \$7.5 billion, Line 3 is the **largest project in Enbridge's history**, and would be one of the largest crude oil pipelines in the continent, carrying up to 760,000 barrels toxic, Alberta tar sand oil PER DAY. Enbridge calls this project a "replacement" because they already have a Line 3 pipeline in their mainline corridor, which transects Northern Minnesota with 6 pipelines in it. But don't be fooled – this is a new pipeline. The new pipe would be larger (36" instead of 34"), carry nearly twice the volume of oil, and establish an entirely new corridor through Northern Minnesota. That is NOT a replacement. This route is the same one Enbridge had earlier proposed for the "Sandpiper", a 30" pipeline that would carry 375,000 barrels of crude oil per day from the Bakken oil fields of North Dakota across Minnesota, through Hubbard County to Superior Wisconsin. The Sandpiper pipeline proposal was withdrawn by Enbridge in August of 2016.

**Possible impact on Fish Hook Lake** - The proposed route would cross Hay Creek which feeds Island, Eagle, Potato and Fishhook lakes. A pipeline spill could damage the lakes and could limit lake use resulting in reduced property values. The pipeline would also cross the Mississippi twice and would go through wetlands areas. Enbridge's preferred pipeline route goes through the area of highest susceptibility for ground water contamination in Hubbard County which creates a threat for our aquifer that provides municipal water and irrigation water. The stated benefits from the pipeline include some rents paid to landowners and some new jobs during the construction period. (note: some jobs would not be filled by local residents). More information is available at Friends of the Headwater's website at [www.friendsoftheheadwaters.org](http://www.friendsoftheheadwaters.org) and the Facebook page [https:// www.facebook.com/savemississippiheadwaters](https://www.facebook.com/savemississippiheadwaters).



***AIS Update:*** The list of invasive species attacking MN lakes and rivers continues to grow. In 2015 a new and very destructive aquatic invasive species was discovered around the DNR boat ramp in Lake Koronis, **starry stonewort**. Researchers in Michigan have labeled starry stonewort as the most destructive AIS in that state, so this infestation is serious and serious action should be taken to stop its spread to other lakes.

**COLA NEWS:** Did you know that our lake association is one of 29 lake associations that make up HC-COLA representing 37 Hubbard County lakes?

With over 2100 individual members we become a powerful force.

The mission of COLA – 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 has some of the cleanest healthiest waters in our state.

COLA brings all of us together to continue this work through:

- Water quality monitoring (Fish Hook since 1983)
- Zebra mussel veliger testing – lab testing and cinder block observations
- Eyes – on – the – Water - a community partnership to expand the number of people watching for AIS
- Early Detection & Rapid Response Plan – building connections with other agencies
- Watercraft Inspections – Inspectors educate and build connections with all entering & leaving our lake
- Decontamination – offered free of charge to watercraft that have been in contaminated waters
- Education about various water issues – at COLA meetings, at other scheduled venues, and in the
- Monthly articles in the local paper
- Restore the Shore – partnership with the Soil & Water Conservation District providing plantings at reasonable costs

FHL&R Assn. (our association) is a member of Hubbard County COLA. A portion of our member's dues is forwarded to them each year.

HC COLA's Website Loaded with Information Our website is continuously updated with the latest "good to know" information. Check it out here: <http://hubbardcolamn.org/index.html> you will see news, announcements, events and our meeting schedule. **The HC COLA meets on the last Thursday each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Northwoods Bank Community Room.** You are invited to attend.

**NEW CONCERN "SUPPORT SAFETY CAMPAIGN:"** Denny Ulmer of FHL&R has offered to spearhead a campaign to encourage safe driving habits around Fish Hook Lake. Recently Denny visited a friend near Detroit Lakes and noticed numerous red & white yard signs in the area that read: **"Drive Like Your KIDS live Here"**. This campaign encourages drivers to slow down, stop texting and pay attention to your driving habits in the interest of public safety. The primary areas targeted for the campaign are County Hwy-1 and Hwy-18. Anyone interested in getting a sign can contact Denny Ulmer at 218-255-4564 or [dkulmerfish@outlook.com](mailto:dkulmerfish@outlook.com). A \$5.00 donation is requested for each sign.



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In 2016 there were 95 members of the Fish Hook Lake and River Association that carried the financial and volunteer time burden for our lake and river. There are approximately 315 other properties that are not represented in our membership. If you are not a member, please consider joining. If you aren't willing to join, please consider supporting the Association with your financial contribution. We are working to protect the ALL PROPERTIES including yours.

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**Join the Fish Hook Lake and River Association** for 2017 (January 1 – December 31) today

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Please check here if you are a current member and your information is current.

Telephone: (lake) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell) : \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Other Add: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Please provide your email address and save us postage.)

**Please send this registration and \$30.00 for your annual membership. Please include an additional \$20.00 or more for the environmental fund. Mail to: FHLRA PO, Box 225, Park Rapids, MN 5647**

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**Fish Hook Lake and River Association Board of Directors**

Neil Jordheim – President & Newsletter Editor

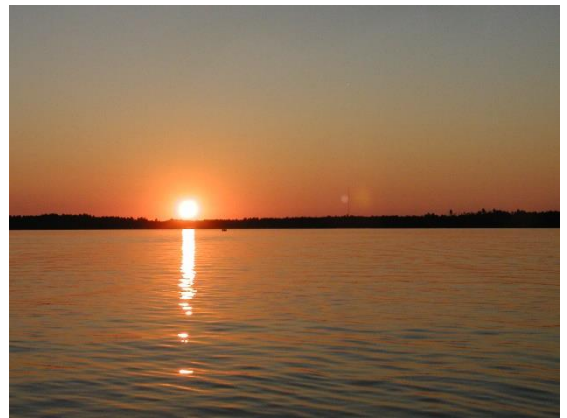
Nancy Jordheim – Secretary

Maggie Jorgenson – Treasurer

Janice Rumpza – COLA Representative

Vacant - Webmaster

Marvel Haynes, Jim Tronsgard, Bill Peterson, Phil Smith, Phil Cline,  
Jim Spencer, Jim Knox, Bill McLean & Stuart Larson members at  
large



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*MISSION STATEMENT: The Fish Hook Lake & River Association shall be an advocate of the environment of our lake/river systems. We shall be a partner with other lake associations and agencies which have an impact on water quality. We shall act as an educator in community understanding of the issues and goals of our association. The objectives of our efforts are better water quality and property values for everyone. As a group, we have a stronger voice than as separate individuals.*

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*FISH HOOK LAKE AND RIVER ASSOCIATION  
PO Box 225 Park Rapids, MN 56470*