



August 3, 2023

Dear Lake Association Member:

SC COLA's vision statement is: "**Protecting our lakes, rivers and waterways today and tomorrow.**" Its primary mission is to enhance the work of our member lake associations in their efforts to preserve fish and wildlife habitats; the economic, recreational and natural environmental values of our shorelands and waters; and promote their safe and responsible use.

Examples of actions that enhance the work of members are:

- Design and distribution of our "Annual Healthy Lakes Checklist" magnets to promote lake stewardship and association participation.
- "Lake Detective" Harmful Algae Blooms & We Are Water Event on 4/20/23
- AIS Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) Task Force published our [interactive action plan](#) and [print friendly handouts](#).
- Assisted in promoting Starry Trek, [water equipment cleaning protocol](#) use and Zebra Mussel monitoring platform distribution.
- The annual e-distribution of our "Lake Directory & Reference" of lake representative, service provider and government contacts.

Here is a list of planned activities for the upcoming year:

- Pursue further ways to promote lake stewardship and association participation (e.g., geofencing, education events and promotion items).
- Help implement the Adopt-a-Stormdrain project for Sherburne County and pursue County septic ordinance and education improvements.
- Build on our Business Sponsor Campaign to be able to afford goals like reduction of water quality impairments and soil erosion, youth water quality project partnerships and additional waters-related advocacy.

Together, the SC COLA member organizations can continue making a positive impact that is greater than one lake organization can accomplish alone.

Enclosed you will find the 2023-2024 SC COLA Membership Form.

Please complete the membership form and submit it with your dues no later than September 18, 2023. SC COLA's activities are driven by your lake organization's membership through representation and collaboration to protect and enhance Sherburne County's lakes, rivers and stream environments.

Sincerely,

Patrick Plant, *Chair*

SC COLA

sherburnecola@gmail.com

<https://sherburnecola.org/>