



August 24, 2020

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:

- Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Monitoring Rake Kits sponsored by SWCD and SC COLA that provided detection devices and materials for ongoing protection throughout the boating season of each lake (at no cost).
- The development and release of the <https://sherburnecola.org/> website with considerable savings obtained from group licensing of its platform.
- The 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:

- Our AIS Early Detection Rapid Response Task Force is developing a universal action plan and pursuing agreements on the roles and responsibilities for local government and lake associations, so that we will be prepared for if / when new AIS challenges occur.
- 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 grant collaboration with Sherburne SWCD targeting reduction of water quality impairments and soil erosion, youth water quality project partnerships and additional waters-related advocacy memberships.

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 2020-2021 SC COLA Membership Form.

Please complete the membership form and submit it with your dues no later than September 18th, 2020. 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**

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<https://sherburnecola.org/>