



- 1) RMB Environmental Laboratories water monitoring prices have increased after 3 years at \$210. Our new HC COLA discounted price for the program is \$235, so an increase of \$25 per lake.
- 2) The RMB Environmental Laboratories zebra mussel veliger composite sampling (ZMVS) along with spiny waterflea analysis are at \$115 per bottle to analyze for 2019. For just ZMVS analysis alone, the price will be \$85.
 - a. We clarified for a lake that asked; if a tester can fit their two dates of ZMVS into one bottle with a 3:1 of 91% alcohol to water for each date sampled – that is OK.
 - b. In a combined bottle, if veligers are discovered during analysis, you will not know which date sampled had the veligers.
 - c. A couple experienced ZMV samplers on our HC COLA team suggest keeping with the practice of one bottle per ZMVS date to maximize sampling ease, if possible.
- 3) Water monitoring coolers for May / June and integrated sampler pickup for the 2019 season will be Wed May 8th from 5:30 PM until 7:30 PM at Northwoods Bank / Community Room in Park Rapids. Refresher / Training for water monitoring, zebra mussel veliger sampling techniques plus an update for lakes is available along with refreshments. If you and/or your alternates are NOT able to make the pickup, please email hccolamn@gmail.com to make alternate arrangements.
- 4) Mark your Calendar with the Dates for Water Monitoring and ZMV Sampling and when the coolers need to be at Charlies Boat & Marine for our terrific HC COLA volunteer “cooler shuttle-service drivers”:
 - Sun 5/19 – Mon 5/20 delivery to Charlies Boat & Marine, E Hwy 34, P. R. by 11 AM
 - Sun 6/16 – Mon 6/17 with delivery to Charlies by 11 AM
 - By Mid June – 1st ZMV testing – when water in littoral areas is 54 F <https://www.in.gov/dnr/files/ZEBRA-MUSSEL.pdf>
 - End of June / First part of July for 2nd ZMV testing
 - Sun 7/14 – Mon 7/15 - delivery of water monitoring & ZMV samples - 11 AM to Charlies
 - Sun 8/18 – Mon 8/19 with delivery to Charlies by 11 AM
 - Sun 9/15 – Mon 9/16 with delivery to Charlies by 11 AM
- 5) AIS Volunteer Training is available on 2 separate dates to choose from: Fri 5/3/19 or Thurs 6/6/19 at Northwoods Bank Community Room from 1 PM to 4 PM. This training is available for citizens who are interested in informing the public about aquatic invasive species and how to slow their spread and is taught by DNR Watercraft Inspection Program staff. Twenty people are required per class and must be registered 7 days in advance. Please email hccolamn@gmail.com with the date you’ll attend. A DNR volunteer agreement form and a background check are required of all AIS volunteers annually.

After you receive your certification as an AIS Volunteer, you can coordinate ahead of time which dates / times you plan to educate at your public access with Nicholas Macklem, Hubbard County Environmental Services, email: nmacklem@co.hubbard.mn.us and phone: 218-732-3890.

- a. Remember that AIS Volunteers do not have the legal authority to tactilely and visually inspect watercraft like the Hubbard County Inspectors.
 - b. AIS Volunteers are there specifically for helpful reminders and education. For example:
 - Identify themselves as an AIS Volunteer trained by the Minnesota DNR as an educator for the public.
 - Drain plug removed (ZM veligers can live in the pooled water)
 - Where is boat coming from? (If an infested water body, share risks of AIS and transporting watercraft from infested waters.)
 - How long has the boat been out of the water? (if coming from infested waters boats usually need 5 days to completely dry out to kill ZM veligers, or decon)
- 6) Starry Trek – Sat Aug 17: Save the Date to help search our county lakes public access areas for Starry Stonewort.