

E-Newsletter June 2018



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OTC COLA General Meeting Lineup 2018

2018 General Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 pm, June, July and August at the Ottertail Community Center in Ottertail, MN. To be announced is the September Day Trip.

- Thursday, June 21, 2018
 - Moriya Rufer, RMB Labs. Why Are We Testing The Waters?
- Thursday, July 19, 2018

- OTC Commissioners and candidates invitational
 - Thursday, August 16, 2018
 - OTC COLA Annual Meeting
 - Lake Association and volunteer awards
 - Thursday, September 20, 2018
 - Day Trip to be announced
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We Want To Hear From You!

OTC COLA is very interested in informing and assisting OTC lake associations and lake property owners. Click [HERE](#) to quickly give us your **comments**, **suggestions** for OTC COLA and **ideas** for our General Meetings on third Thursdays in the summer.



Moriya Rufer To Speak At OTC COLA June Meeting

The featured speaker at the June 21, 2018 OTC COLA General Meeting at 7:00 pm, at the Ottertail Community Center in Ottertail, MN is Moriya Rufer of RMB Laboratories. RMB Laboratories partners with OTC COLA for annual water quality testing of over 100 lakes in Otter Tail County.

Otter Tail COLA lakes have collected water quality data for many years but sometimes are unsure of how to access it or use it for better lake management. This presentation will provide lake residents with useful information on how to find and best use their lake data. Participants will be provided a one-page summary of their past lake data, and then we will work through a

lake diagnostic worksheet to take home with them that will guide them to the best implementation strategies for protecting or restoring their own lake.

Moriya has 14 years' experience working with lake associations, conducting lake monitoring programs and assessing lake water quality data. To date, Moriya and RMB staff have completed 451 lake reports for 15 county water plans and numerous lake summaries for lake associations. In addition, Moriya and RMB staff train over 500 volunteers annually (2007-present) through the RMB Lakes Program.

Moriya Rufer, RMB Laboratories

Also presenting will be Ben Underhill of East Otter Tail Soil and Water Conservation District (EOT SWCD) who will provide information about the Otter Tail River Watershed.

All Otter Tail County lake property owners are welcome to come and participate. The evening will include refreshments and door prize drawings.

John Kruse, OTC COLA Administrative Assistant



North Turtle Lake Forms Lake Association
North Turtle Lake property owners held their Lake Association Organizational Meeting on June 2, 2018. In attendance were representatives from lake home and agricultural residents. The meeting was the culmination of several months of effort in

reaching out to property owners, ascertaining their interest and formulating the administrative structure of the new organization. Jim Wilkus was elected President along with Lynn Aasen- Vice President, Vickie Severson- Secretary and Kim Booth- Treasurer. North Turtle Lake Association (NTLA) is the newest member of OTC COLA participating in the OTC COLA water quality testing program.



Call 911. Then What?

OTC COLA Meeting May 17, 2018

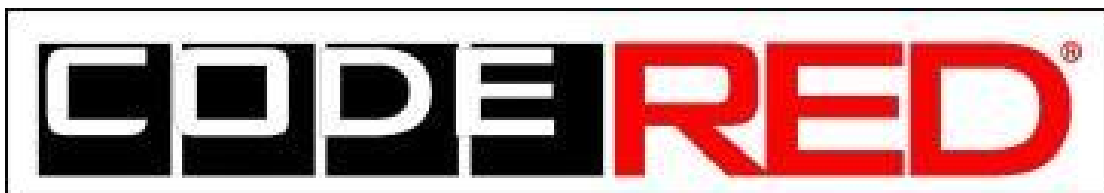
The regular General meeting of OTC COLA for May 18 was held on May 17, 2018 at the Community Center in Ottertail, MN. Featured at the event was a panel discussion by emergency service professionals in Otter Tail County providing valuable and interesting insight into medical, fire and law enforcement services. The panel consisted of OTC Deputy Sheriff and AIS Task Force Officer Jim Iverson, OTC Chief Deputy Barry Fitzgibbons, Pelican Rapids Fire Chief and President of OTC Chiefs' Association Trevor Steeves, Fergus Falls Fire Chief Ryan Muchow and Perham Mayor and firefighter Tim Meehl.

[**MORE**](#)

OTC COLA General Meeting July 19, 2018

Legislative Forum

The General Meeting for OTC COLA will be held 7:00 pm on July 19, 2018 at the Ottertail Community Center in Ottertail MN. Planned for this event is an opportunity to interact with County-level legislators and candidates on issues facing Otter Tail County lake property owners.



Otter Tail County and our community partners keep residents and businesses informed of emergencies and other time-sensitive information through CodeRED, a high-speed emergency notification system capable of delivering customized emergency messages by telephone call, text messages, and emails. Notifications can be sent to individual neighborhoods or communities, or the entire county for critical situations like weather, missing persons, and evacuation notices.

To see the video showing how the system works, click [HERE](#)

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[Otter Tail County Code Red website](#)

OTC COLA Annual Meeting And Volunteer Awards Night August 16, 2018

The deadline for nominating the OTC COLA Volunteer and Lake Association of the year is August 1, 2018. We ask that you honor your volunteers who tirelessly share their time and talent, either individually or as a group.

The OTC COLA's Volunteer of the Year and Lake Association of the Year is about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging volunteers to assist in protecting and preserving the lakes they love. Self-nominations are accepted.

Do not pass up this opportunity to inspire, recognize, encourage and engage your volunteers who have demonstrated that they have the fortitude to meet challenges and accomplish goals.

[MORE](#)



You are cordially invited to attend the
East Otter Tail Soil & Water Conservation District

OPEN HOUSE
CELEBRATING 60 YEARS

Thursday June 14, 2018; 1pm-3pm
USDA Service Center
801 Jenny Ave SW, Perham, MN 56573
A picnic lunch will be served.

The event is free. Come help us celebrate our 60th Anniversary!
Please contact 218-346-4260 ext. 3 with any questions.

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Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center Update

The Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) held an Update at the M-State Campus in Detroit Lakes MN, on June 8, 2018. Over 120 Minnesota lake property owners and concerned citizens attended the event. Featured speakers included Dr. Nicholas Phelps, Director of MAISRC, Jake Ferguson, Postdoctoral Associate MAISRC, Megan Weber, Extension Educator, Dr. Ranjan Muthukrishnan, Postdoctoral Research Associate and Bethany Bethke, Fisheries Research Biologist.

The Update focused on the progressive and continued research being conducted by MAISRC to combat the encroachment of Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) into Minnesota lakes. Of special interest was the proliferation of zebra mussels and the looming threat of starry stonewort infestation into new lakes.

OTC COLA was proud to co-sponsor the event with the Otter Tail County Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force, Pelican River Watershed District, Becker County Coalition of Lake Associations, Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations and Becker Soil and Water Conservation District.

[**MORE**](#) - Article in Pelican Press



Blue-Green Algae: If in Doubt, Stay Out

"You don't have to be an expert to recognize an algae bloom that might be harmful," Heiskary said. "If it looks bad and smells bad, don't take a chance. We tell people, if in doubt, stay out - if you are not sure, it's best for people and pets to stay out of the water."

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Counties Stepping Up To Close Gaps In State Law

This week the Otter Tail Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to require registration of all dock, boatlift and water related equipment 21 day dry time....

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Announcing FLOAT

Back in the day, most people did not trailer a watercraft from

lake to lake - they rented a boat when they arrived. That method of enjoying our lakes would certainly reduce the risk of spreading Aquatic Invasive Species.

Well, this summer two entrepreneurs from Minnesota are launching FLOAT, a peer to peer boat renting App. What was old will be new again and our lakes will benefit.

[MORE](#)



Aquatic Invaders Summit Sessions Available Online

This year, for the first time, MLR "live-streamed" the sessions at the Aquatic Invaders Summit. Hundreds of people followed the action at the summit. One MLR member even "attended" via her iPhone as her husband drove them to Kentucky.

Now you can attend. All of the Aquatic Invaders Summit recordings are available here:

[MORE](#)

Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates is the only advocacy group solely focused on protecting Minnesota's lake and river heritage for current and future generations by forging powerful links between lakes, lake advocates and policy makers.

[**Jeff Forester, Executive Director MLR
Minnesota Lakes and Rivers**](#)

OTC AIS Task Force Board Minutes
[**May 14, 2018**](#)

OTC Board of Commissioners Minutes

[May 1, 2018](#)

[May 8, 2018](#)

[May 22, 2018](#)

OTC COLA Board of Directors

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

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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 Lake Property
Owners Association · Pickerel Lake Improvement Association · Pine Lakes LID ·
Prairie Lake Lakeshore Association · Round Lake 56-214 · Rush Lake Association ·
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[John Kruse](#) OTC COLA Administrative Assistant

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