

IMPORTANT NEWS from Otter Tail County Coalition of Lake Associations

E-Newsletter February 2022



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OTC COLA Events Planned for 2022

OTC COLA has several events planned for 2022. Some events will be conducted in collaboration with regional organizations and agencies.

- March 12, 2022, Stewardship cleanup activity at West Battle Lake as a function of the We Are Water Exhibit taking place August 18, 2022 to October 10, 2022.
- April 14, 2022, Annual OTC COLA Water Sampling Kickoff
- June 9, 2022. MN Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) Conference, MN State, Detroit Lakes, MN.
- July 11, 2022, Starry Stonewort Field Trip to Lake Koronis
- Return to Otter Tail County Lake Property Owner meetings, Otter Tail Community Center, April, May, August (Annual Meeting), September.

Current updates will be published in the future OTC COLA E-Newsletters.

[John Kruse, OTC COLA Administrative Assistant](#)



AIS Research Update June 9, Detroit Lakes

OTC COLA is among a group of regional lake advocate organizations hosting the Aquatic Invasive Species Research Update at the M-State Campus in Detroit Lakes, MN on June 9, 2022. Speakers from the University of Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Research Center ([MAISRC](#)), Dan Larkin and Meg Duhr, will offer the latest on combating such invasive species as zebra mussels and starry stonewort. Jeff Forester of Minnesota Lakes and Rivers Advocates ([MLR](#)) will give the latest update on legislation affecting Minnesota lakes. Tables for distribution of information will be present. Organizations hosting the event are Becker County Coalition of Lake Associations ([BC COLA](#)), Becker County Soil & Water District ([BC SWCD](#)), Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations ([HC COLA](#)), Otter Tail County ([OTC AIS Task Force](#)), Otter Tail County Coalition of Lake Associations ([OTC COLA](#)) and Pelican River Watershed District ([PRWD](#)).

Invited are regional lake organizations, lake property owners and anyone interested in preserving and protecting Minnesota lakes. Please forward this email to anyone and print the [EVENT FLYER](#) to post on any appropriate places. A QR code on the Flyer has been included for convenient and easy Registration.

[MAISRC EVENT FLYER](#)

[REGISTER NOW](#)

[John Kruse](#), OTC COLA Administrative Assistant



Online AIS Management 101 Registration Open

Aquatic Invasive Species Management 101 is a self-paced online course that runs throughout February and March 2022. AIS Management 101 is designed to help lakeshore homeowners, lake association members, and anyone interested in their local lake get a better understanding of aquatic invasive species management strategies and be informed consumers of management programs.

This course is entirely online, and can be done from the comfort of home (or any place with an internet connection). While this course is focused on Minnesota lakes, many of the core concepts covered can be applied outside of the state's borders. AIS Management 101 is open to everyone! there are no training or educational prerequisites required to register.

[MORE](#)



UMN study: Wakesurf Boats Require A Greater Distance

A new study by researchers in the University of Minnesota College of Science and Engineering's St. Anthony Falls Laboratory found that popular wakesurf boats require a greater distance from the shoreline and other boats compared to more typical recreational boats.

This distance is needed to reduce the potential impact of their larger waves.

The results provide key insights into differences between specialized wakesurfing boats and more typical recreational boats operating on lakes and rivers. It also provides baseline data that can be used for future decision-making.

[**MORE**](#)

[**Boat-Generated Wake Wave Study Results**](#)

We Are Water MN

Lake Litter Cleanup Events for "We Are Water MN"

Otter Tail County, along with community partners, is celebrating local water. Otter Tail County will be hosting "We Are Water MN," a traveling exhibit and community engagement program at the Fergus Falls Public Library August 18 through October 10, 2022. The committee invites all lake associations and community members to participate in a lake clean up on one of Otter Tail County's 1,048 lakes.

A county-wide effort to remove litter and protect water is encouraged. "We Are Water MN" is welcoming lake associations to sponsor frozen lake cleanups this year. If your lake association is sponsoring a cleanup event, please contact

Shannon Terry at sterry@co.ottertail.mn.us or call/text 218-671-3445.

When you are at events please take pictures for us to publicly acknowledge the effort of those participating. Please email pictures to:

[John Kruse](#), OTC COLA Administrative Assistant

[MORE](#)

1W1P Update

Meetings are continuing for the One Watershed One Plan (1W1P) program.

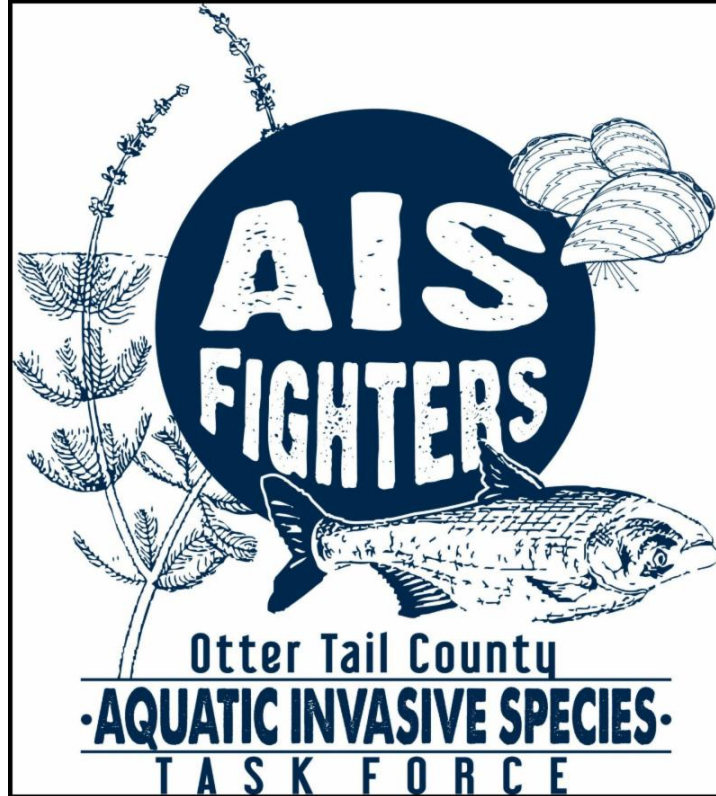
The purpose of the One Watershed, One Plan program is to develop [comprehensive watershed management plans](#) that:

- Align local water planning purposes and procedures under this chapter and chapters 103C and 103D on watershed boundaries to create a systematic, watershed-wide, science-based approach to watershed management;
- Acknowledge and build off existing local government structure, water plan services, and local capacity;
- Incorporate and make use of data and information, including watershed restoration and protection strategies under section 114D.26;
- Solicit input and engage experts from agencies, citizens, and stakeholder groups; focus on implementation of prioritized and targeted actions capable of achieving measurable progress; and
- Serve as a substitute for a comprehensive plan, local water management plan, or watershed management plan developed or amended, approved, and adopted, according to chapter 103B, 103C or 103D.

[MORE](#)



OTTER TAIL
COUNTY - MINNESOTA



OTC AIS Task Force Program Summary 2021

The Otter Tail AIS Task Force Program Summary for 2021 will soon be published. Highlights of the reports focus on:

- People doing AIS work
- Partnerships with local organizations, lake associations, schools, businesses and local governments
- Benefits to Otter Tail County communities
- OTC AIS prevention programs retarding the proliferation of AIS

[**OTC 2021 AIS Prevention Snapshot Of Accomplishments**](#)

[**OTC 2021 AIS Program Summary**](#)

[**Spencer McGrew, Aquatic Invasive Species Specialist**](#)



Otter Tail Land & Resource Management Temporarily Relocating

The Otter Tail County Land & Resource Management office is being remodeled in 2022. During the remodel, Land & Resource will be temporarily located at the former Daily Journal building, located at 914 Channing Avenue in Fergus Falls, MN. Land & Resource will be moving to the new location in phases beginning on Monday, March 14, 2022 and will be fully operational at the new location on April 1, 2022. All phone numbers and email addresses will remain the same.

[Chris LeClair](#), Land & Resource Management Director

Handouts for your Lake Association Meetings

OTC COLA has received requests from Lake Associations for materials to be handed out at Association meetings or other events this summer. OTC COLA and the OTC AIS Task Force have numerous items of 4-color glossy handouts available at no cost. We will be assembling packages of updated and new materials. Lake Associations are invited to submit requests for these packages for distribution. Please send an email to otccola2@gmail.com including the name and email address of the Association contact person and the estimated quantity of handouts being requested. Below are samples of items to be included. More items are being produced at this time.

[Aquatic Invasive Species Identification Card](#)

[OTC COLA Membership Brochure](#)

[John Kruse](#), OTC COLA Administrative Assistant



Importing Live Crayfish Is Illegal

As Minnesota resorts, restaurants and community groups start planning their annual crawfish boils, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources cautions it is illegal to import live crayfish and to release nonnative crayfish into the wild.

“Some nonnative crayfish pose serious risks to Minnesota fish, wildlife and infrastructure,” the DNR’s Chelsey Blanke said. “They can destroy aquatic plant beds, displace native species, compete with fish for prey and cause major declines in amphibian, invertebrate and waterfowl populations. Once introduced, invasive species of crayfish are extremely difficult to remove, due to their ability to burrow into shorelines, which can also be damaging to nearby infrastructure.”



[AIS * Water Quality * Administration * Regulation](#)

Featured Posts - February 2022

- [Blockbuster Slide Presentations](#)
- [Enhanced Lake Association Directories](#)
- [Lake Associations- Who They Are, What They Do](#)

www.lakeadmin.org

OTC AIS Task Force Minutes

- [January 24, 2022](#) Draft
-

OTC Board Of Commissioner Minutes

- [January 25, 2022](#)
-

Instant Access Links

- [Newsletter Article Index](#) - Visually scan article titles from all OTC COLA E-Newsletters from 2018.
- [Water Quality Analysis Reports \(2021 samples\)](#) - Individual reports for 60 OTC COLA Lakes
- [Lake Property Owner Directories \(2018\)](#) - Directories by Street and Name for 100 OTC Lakes
- [OTC COLA Brochure](#) - View and/or download the OTC COLA Brochure
- **We want to hear from you!** - Go [HERE](#) to give OTC COLA your comments and suggestions

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[John Kruse](#), OTC COLA Administrative Assistant