

IMPORTANT NEWS from Otter Tail County Coalition of Lake Associations

E-Newsletter January 2023



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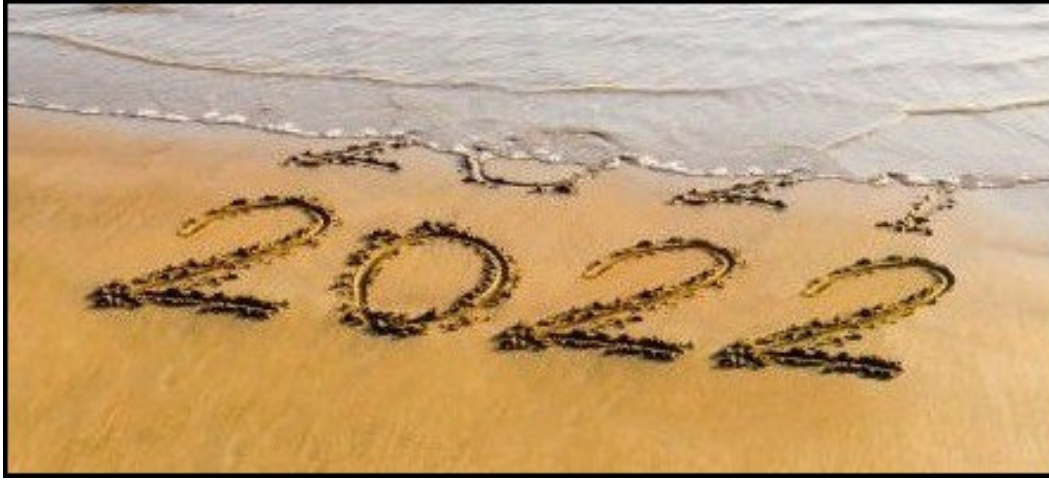
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OTC COLA 2022 Year In Review

The Otter Tail County Coalition of Lake Associations had an extremely busy and productive 2022.

Highlights include:

- Administering another extremely successful Water Quality monitoring program for the year
- Working with regional county COLAs and agencies on the Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) Update event in June
- Coordinating and participating with the Otter Tail County Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force on the Starry Stonewort bus tour to Lake Koronis in July
- Participating with Otter Tail County in the We Are Water event in Fergus Falls, August 18 to October 20
- Lake property owner meetings in May, June and August with informative speakers
- Creation of the Lake Property Owner Event Administration system
- Update of the OTC COLA Brochure

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OTC COLA Receives 2022 Donations

Again in 2022 Otter Tail County Coalition Of Lake Associations (OTC COLA) has received substantial, unsolicited donations. Noted was "donations were given in recognition of the excellent work of OTC COLA". OTC COLA enjoys support from the Otter Tail County Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Task Force. It also receives support from foundations, Member Lake Organizations and donations from individual lake property owners. Future donations are invited to not only enable OTC COLA to continue its current programs and services but also to expand them.

OTC COLA is a 501 (c)(3) allowing donations to qualify for tax deductions.

To donate to OTC COLA please send your check to:

OTC COLA
4302 13th Ave S, Suite 4-333
Fargo, ND 58103

Please direct questions to:

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

Forwarding OTC COLA E-Newsletters

Lake Associations Forwarding Newsletters to Members

Forwarding monthly issues of the OTC COLA E-Newsletters to lake stakeholders, especially in Minnesota, is always encouraged. News and education on good lake stewardship and best practices is beneficial for all of our lakes. The OTC COLA E-Newsletter has never been just for "Members". We would like everyone who can benefit from the Newsletter to receive it.

Some Lake Associations recognize that some of their Members are reluctant to subscribe to the OTC COLA E-Newsletter directly, thinking that they are safeguarding the confidentiality of Member email addresses. This is understandable. OTC COLA's policy is to keep email addresses of its subscribers confidential to OTC COLA. The email subscriber data is never shared with any outside organization for any outside purpose. There are several ways to accommodate distribution of OTC COLA E-Newsletters to Members while respecting confidentiality of email addresses.

[MORE](#)



Lake Association Hard-Copy Newsletters

If your Lake Association publishes its newsletters in hard-copy form there is an option to include access to any OTC COLA E-Newsletter since 2018.

A NEW feature is to go to the [OTC COLA Newsletter Index](#) on the OTC COLA website to see a QR code image that can be copy/pasted to any email or hard-copy document.

How to read a QR code with a smartphone or tablet

- On your compatible phone or tablet, open the built-in camera app.
- Point the camera at the QR code.
- Tap the banner that appears on your phone or tablet.
- When you see the Newsletter Index click on the desired Newsletter. The

most recent will always be on top

Please let me know if you have any questions.

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



[November 2022 Newsletter](#)

- Winter Layers / Lake Stratification
- Ice Safety

[December 2022 Newsletter](#)

- What happens to Aquatic Invasive Species In Winter
- Chloride Contamination: Salt in our fresh water lakes
- MN DNR Ice Thickness Guidelines

[Emelia Thielman](#), Lakes Program Coordinator
RMB Laboratories, Inc



Request for Research Proposals

The Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center (MAISRC) is now seeking proposals for research studies to advance control and management, prevent establishment and spread, assess risk, and allow for early detection of aquatic invasive species (AIS) in Minnesota.

Through this competitive proposal process, MAISRC will administer an estimated \$2,000,000 to fund high-priority research needs focused on new lines of research and continuation of existing projects. MAISRC conducted a thorough and systematic needs assessment in 2022 that included AIS

managers, researchers, and the public, to identify and prioritize research needs that will develop science-based solutions to Minnesota's AIS problems.

[MORE](#)



UMN – Healthy Water Initiative Phase II Update

The project team successfully completed their field work and data collection on Lake Minnetonka this past September and October. We tested the propeller wash of five boats, with two being wakesurf boats. The field work involved driving boats over water velocity sensors that were deployed on the lake bottom at two different water depths. We also collected water samples before and after the boat passes to measure any changes in water quality. Our team will spend much of the winter analyzing the data and writing a report for external peer review that we anticipate publishing summer 2023.

[MORE](#)



Request for proposals: 2024 Lake Conservation Grant

We support conservation projects that work toward meeting the goals and objectives set forth in the [MGLP Strategic Plan](#) to benefit glacial lake fish habitats, which include addressing the chemical, physical, and biological components of the habitats that fishes found in glacial lakes use throughout their lives. We have directed funding toward a wide range of aquatic conservation projects that benefit imperiled, endangered, and recreational fish species and their habitats. We typically fund 3-5 projects annually between \$30,000 and \$100,000, but larger projects will be considered for funding up to a maximum of the approximately \$360,000 expected for distribution. Projects have been successfully implemented because contributions and capabilities of many partners have been combined to accomplish project goals that none of the partnering entities could accomplish on their own.

[MORE](#)



Significant Changes In MN 93rd Legislature

Minnesota's 93rd Legislature was sworn in January 3rd. It will be a busy, busy session. Only once in the thirty years that MLR has been working at the Capitol have the Governor's office, the Senate and the House been in one party control (2013 & 2014). MLR successfully lobbied a number of measures then, including the \$10 million annual County AIS Prevention Aid which funds so many county AIS programs.

It will be a busy and important year for our lakes. With the unprecedented budget surplus, DNR Commissioner Sarah Strommen, at the MLR annual meeting, said, "We have a once in a generation opportunity to invest in our

outdoors."

[MLR January 2023 E-Newsletter](#)

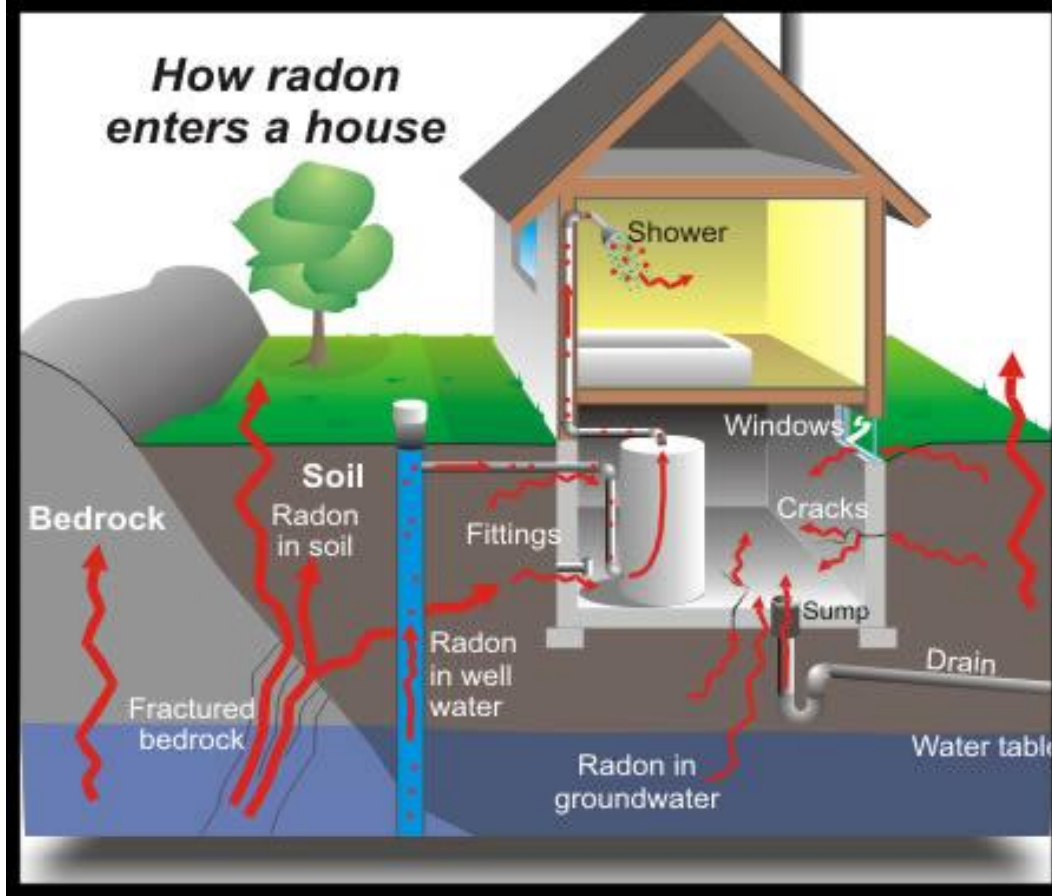


Minnesota DNR shares 2022 accomplishments

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has released a [summary of some of its major accomplishments](#) in 2022. From major milestones in habitat restoration that were decades in the making, to climate adaptation and mitigation efforts, to ensuring Minnesota's unparalleled outdoor opportunities are accessible to more people, the DNR made significant progress on the goals and priorities in its [strategic plan](#).

[MORE](#)





Testing Your Home For Radon

Otter Tail County Public Health recommends testing your home for Radon [Download this news release January 4, 2023](#) – Otter Tail County, MN– Otter Tail County, MN-Radon is the leading environmental cause of cancer deaths in the United States and the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. More than 21,000 lung cancer deaths are attributed to radon each year.

[MORE](#)

[Am I At Risk Of Radon Poisoning?](#)

OTC Land & Resource Fee Schedule Update

On March 1, 2022 a new fee schedule was published by the Land & Resource Management Department of Otter Tail County. The Schedule is current except for a 3% - 5% increase for septic permit fees effective January 1, 2023.

[OTC Land & Resource Management Fee Schedule](#)

2021 PROGRAM SUMMARY

AIS Task Force Update January 2023

- [AIS Task Force January 2023 Update](#)
- [Otter Tail County's AIS Prevention AID Program: A Snapshot of Accomplishments in 2022](#)

[Spencer McGrew, Otter Tail County AIS Specialist](#)



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

Featured Posts - January 2023

- [Blockbuster Slide Presentations](#)
- [Introducing lakeadmin](#)
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OTC Board Of Commissioner Minutes

- [December 13, 2022](#)
 - [December 20, 2022](#)
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Instant Access Links

- [Newsletter Article Index](#)- Visually scan article titles from all OTC COLA E-Newsletters from 2018.
- [Water Quality Analysis Reports \(2022 samples- Individual reports for 60 OTC COLA Lakes](#)
- [Lake Property Owner Directories \(2019\)](#)- 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