

MEETING MINUTES: CCCoLA APRIL 18, 2024

PRESENT: KATHY BOGEN (LOON), PATTY CRADDOCK, Ashley Hatchett (Sag/Seagull), RORY LAIHO (SOUTH GREENWOOD), GARY MACIEJEWSKI (TAIT), IRENE MULLEN, LARRY MULLEN (CARIBOU), DAN SWENSON-KLATT (HUNGRY JACK), ANN SULLIVAN (COOK COUNTY DISTRICT 4 COMMISSIONER), AMANDA WEBERG (COOK COUNTY AIS), JERRY WILKES (DEVILS TRACK)

Item	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Introductions	All members introduced themselves and their Lake or Road Association affiliation.	
SSTS Plans	<p>Patty Craddock gave an update on the June workshop on septic system care and maintenance being planned by the SSTS group. The workshop will be held on Wednesday, June 19, 10-noon at the Cook County Higher Education facility 300 West 3rd St. in Grand Marais. The workshop is intended primarily for lakeshore property owners.</p> <p>The agenda will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduction by Kathy Bogen about CCCoLA • Mitch Everson discussing construction and inspection of septic systems • Neva Maxwell will share information about Cook County ordinances pertaining to septic systems. • G & G Septic hopefully will be able to come to share anecdotes and answer questions. • There will be a Q & A/discussion time. 	<p>CCCoLA members who can help out on the day of the workshop, please contact Biz. Your assistance will be much appreciated!</p> <p>Suggestion made to record the session.</p> <p>Can it be offered remotely as well?</p>

<p>CCCoLA T-Shirts</p>	<p>CCCoLA members decided at the March meeting to order T-shirts with the design with the shoreline, heron, fishing child, and paddler. On the back will be a by-line “Cook County Coalition of Lake Associations (CCCoLA) Celebrating 30 years of citizens working together to protect and preserve the waters and shorelands of Cook County Minnesota”</p> <p>The T-shirts will cost us approximately \$10 each with a front and back design if we order 100. There will be a small upcharge for sizes 1X,2X, and 3X in men's and women's. We are therefore thinking of charging \$15 per shirt to cover any extra cost and to make a small profit on those sold. We will need to receive pre-payment for as many T-shirts as our members wish to order for themselves.</p> <p>Although it is simpler if we don't have too many T-shirt color choices, there is no extra charge for having the design printed on a different color T-shirt.</p> <p>Please fill out the order form so that we have the correct sizes for those who order and pre-pay and send to Gary. Gary will then let Kathy know what sizes to order.</p>	<p>Since we don't have the funds available to “float” the cost of T-shirts not pre-paid, Kathy will look into the cost of ordering fewer than 100. This way, we won't be paying for unpaid T-shirts. We also won't have extras to sell.</p> <p>If CCCoLA members and/or members of their Lake Associations wish to pre-order, please encourage them to do so by May 15 we can get the order placed by then. This way, they can be distributed at the June 13 CCCoLA meeting.</p> <p>If it's possible to include Lake/Road Association contributions of \$50 with the T-Shirt orders, this will make it easier for Gary and get the season off to healthy start financially. Mail order forms and checks to:</p> <p>Gary Maciejewski P.O. Box 323 Lutsen, MN 55612-032</p>
<p>Testing Lake Water for Nitrates</p>	<p>Jerry Wilkes brought up the idea of working with High School students on a project to test the lake water on Devils Track for nitrates by choosing specific sites along the lakeshore from which to take samples. Likely this would be a good project for the fall when septic systems have been more heavily used.</p>	<p>Jerry will speak with Mitch Everson from Cook County and April from the Cook County Schools about implementing this project.</p>
<p>Wildfire/Emergency Evacuation preparedness</p>	<p>Ann Sullivan shared that there are going to be several controlled burns coming up that residents should be aware of. She also mentioned upcoming Wildfire Safety meetings and updating of Emergency Evacuation plans.</p>	<p>Kathy will send out information about the controlled burns and Wildfire Safety meetings. Please let Ann know asap when your Lake/Road Associations are meeting so she can plan to attend and share details about the emergency preparedness/evacuation plans. It would also be beneficial</p>

		to invite a fire department representative to this meeting.
Breakout Groups	AIS Amanda shared that this year’s themes will be: “The year of the Kid” and “The year of Purple Loosestrife”. Purple Loosestrife, an invasive plant, has been spotted near the County Highway Building on Highway 61. Amanda will be tabling weekly at the Fisherman’s Daughter and Java Moose to educate residents and visitors about AIS infestation and mitigation strategies.	Amanda will be acquiring some Purple Loosestrife beetles which will eat the plants (exclusively). Fines for carrying AIS on watercraft need to be increased to work as an incentive for people to clean their boats, lines, and trailers. This is a legislative issue.
	Get the Lead Out summary: Information about lead poisoning in waterfowl: A recent study found that 100% of Trumpeter Swans in a channel in Ramsey County died of lead poisoning most likely from lead tackle on channel bed. Approximately 45% of Loon deaths are attributed to lead poisoning from lead tackle. Jerry Wilkes mentioned that lead easily gets into the bloodstream when ingested as it becomes soluble in an acidic environment. One barrier to changing over to non-lead tackle and shot is that it isn’t readily available in Cook County and is more expensive than the lead variety. Currently, Stone Harbor is one of few sources for non-lead tackle. A bill in the Minnesota legislature to ban lead tackle and ammunition is unlikely to pass in its full text. There is opposition from Youth Clay Target shooter leagues as non-lead shot is currently about twice the cost of lead shot. Sponsors of the bill cite negative health effects of lead shot on youth participants and the difficulty of reclaiming lead shot left on fields where it can be ingested by wildlife. The focus of Get the Lead Out group will be to mount a robust campaign this summer to educate anglers and the general public about the danger lead tackle poses to wildlife and human health.	CCCoLA members will place lead tackle collection/non-lead exchange kiosks at outfitters and tackle shops willing to be a collection site. Kathy will bring the large posters and collection cans to the June 9 CCCoLA meeting at the Schaap Center so members can pick them up for distribution. Ann can collect lead tackle at Lake Association meetings she will be attending. CCCoLA have a table at community events such as the Gunflint Green-up and Fisherman’s picnic where the GLO materials will be included. Jerry will connect with April at the Cook County School District to see about presenting GLO information to students in the classrooms. Jerry is also interested in speaking about eliminating lead tackle/ replacing with non-lead on WTIP.

	<p>The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Coordinators of the GLO effort will send us more materials and non-lead tackle samples for the campaign.</p> <p>Jerry Wilkes has worked on making the collection buckets more visible at Buck's Hardware and Trail Center. Adding the large posters to these will call more attention to them. The Holiday Gas station owner isn't interested in displaying the GLO information or serving as a collection site, but we can continue to ask.</p> <p>Individual CCCoLA members are encouraged to collect lead tackle at Road and Lake Association meetings and to promote non-lead tackle use.</p>	<p>Kathy will work on getting an article in the Cook County Chronicle and/or Paddle and Portage magazine on lead tackle/non-lead replacement.</p> <p>Ann will check on the cost of lead shot vs non-lead so we have clear data on cost.</p>
Closing reflection	<p>Jerry plans to connect with April at the Cook County Schools and go to the Earth Day Event to share information about GLO. Gary plans to continue promoting GLO efforts and collecting lead tackle among lake property neighbors. Thanks for the background information being provided. Education is a big theme for us as we move into the summer season. Year-round continuity is great. Appreciate learning and getting together. Amanda has a good plan for summer AIS work. Great to have ongoing engagement and commitment from members. Small group conversation allowed us to dig deeper into research and issues.</p>	
Adjournment		Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.
Next Meeting	Next CCCoLA meeting will be Thursday, May 9, 10-11:30 a.m. via Zoom	