











# Sherburne County's AIS Prevention Aid Program: A Snapshot of Accomplishments in 2022

## Program Summary

The Sherburne County AIS Prevention Program leverages community-based programs to reduce the spread of AIS, manage existing populations, and create an informed public on the importance of this issue and its impacts on our water resources.

Category	Metrics
 <b>AIS Prevention Aid Used</b>	<b>\$ <u>65,996.72</u></b> AIS Prevention Aid used this calendar year <b>\$ <u>2,152.00</u></b> saved in a contingency fund
 <b>People Doing AIS Work</b>	<u>1</u> full-time staff with <u>20</u> % of their time dedicated to AIS work <u>6</u> Level 1 Watercraft Inspectors <u>n/a</u> Level 2 Watercraft Inspectors (operate decontamination units) <u>26</u> % of aid used this year for staff wages <u>92</u> volunteers conducting AIS work <u>350</u> volunteer hours served
 <b>Partnerships</b>	Local organizations engaged and/or actively conducting aid-funded AIS work: <u>10</u> lake associations <u>1</u> conservation nonprofits and/or outdoor groups (angling, hunting, paddling, sailing, etc.) <u>1</u> schools and/or youth organizations <u>6</u> businesses <u>3</u> local governments Our county has an AIS Task Force or Committee: <b>Yes</b>
 <b>Funds Distributed, Contributed and Leveraged</b>	<b>\$<u>15,771.25</u></b> in grants awarded (aid to other organizations) <u>10</u> organizations awarded grants <b>\$<u>31,715.20</u></b> in funds contributed by other organizations to directly support aid-funded work <u>10</u> organizations contributing additional funds
 <b>Communities Engaged</b>	<u>6</u> events held about AIS or that included AIS topics <u>191</u> residents and visitors directly contacted/engaged about AIS during events <u>5</u> posts on social media seen by <u>765</u> followers <b>\$<u>2,000</u></b> spent on paid advertisements (billboards, TV, radio, newspaper, social media, etc.)
 <b>Watercraft Inspected</b>	<b>\$<u>23,592</u></b> spent on watercraft inspection <u>2,328</u> inspections performed <u>965</u> hours of inspections performed <u>10</u> accesses covered by inspectors <u>11</u> water bodies covered by inspectors <u>97%</u> of watercraft recorded as arriving with drain plugs out <u>n/a</u> decontamination units in operation by Level 2 Inspectors <u>n/a</u> decontaminations performed <u>31</u> boaters engaged by AIS Volunteers/Ambassadors at water accesses

Category	Metrics
 <b>Law Enforcement Supported</b>	<b>\$4,402.21</b> provided to local law enforcement officers to enforce AIS laws <b>7</b> local law enforcement officers trained this year on AIS laws <b>7</b> local law enforcement officers conducting AIS work <b>811</b> boaters contacted by local law enforcement
 <b>Monitoring Conducted</b>	<b>16</b> total lakes and rivers surveyed for AIS. Surveys included: <b>4</b> early detection searches on <b>16</b> water bodies <b>55</b> zebra mussel settling plates deployed on <b>16</b> water bodies <b>4</b> aquatic plant surveys conducted on <b>4</b> water bodies <b>1</b> invasive carp surveys conducted on <b>1</b> water bodies <b>1</b> new detection in the county <b>0</b> volunteers trained and/or active as AIS Detectors <b>17</b> people participated in the University of Minnesota Extension and Minnesota AIS Research Center's "Starry Trek" event
 <b>New Infestation Response Planning</b>	<b>1</b> response(s) to new AIS populations coordinated Our county has a new infestation response plan: <b>Yes</b>
 <b>Invasive Aquatic Plant Management (IAPM) + Control of Other Invasive Species</b>	<b>\$9,783.75</b> spent on IAPM <b>5</b> water bodies with aid-funded IAPM activities <b>5</b> groups involved or conducting aid-funded IAPM work <b>\$26,007.97</b> in other funds leveraged for IAPM work from <u>grant recipients</u> List of species controlled: <b>Purple loosestrife, Phragmites, Curly-leaf pondweed, Eurasian watermilfoil</b>

## Program Spending Summary

Budget Category	County: AIS Prevention Aid Spent in 2022	Local Grants: AIS Prevention Aid Awarded in 2022	Description
Public Outreach and Education	\$3,334.74	\$500.00	
Watercraft Inspection	\$23,592.00	\$	Includes contributions from lake groups
Enforcement	\$4,402.21	\$	Sherburne Sheriff's Department
Monitoring	\$91.55	\$3,487.50	Does not include admin time to coordinate monitoring programs using existing equipment
New Infestation Response	\$n/a	\$	New phragmites population treated through MN Phrag program
Invasive Aquatic Plant Management	\$	\$11,783.75	AIS grants
Other: Administration	\$21,023.52	\$	

## Plans for 2023

The Sherburne County AIS Prevention Program will continue to operate under the guidelines of the 2020-2024 AIS Prevention Plan. Fundamentals of this plan include an educated public, engaged citizen partners, enforcement of AIS laws through watercraft inspections and outreach, early detection and rapid response, and support of local AIS programs through a county-based grant program. Though many of our programs are ongoing, new opportunities and techniques will be evaluated and put to use through to address existing and emerging non-native species threats.

## 2022 Highlights

### Success Stories

- The Sherburne County Coalition of Lake Associations and Sherburne SWCD completed an interactive AIS Early Detection and Rapid Response document. The visual-based document is a useful source of information for a novice or experienced individual.
- The Sherburne County COLA and Sherburne SWCD partnered to create and print a “Lakes Checklist Magnet” that lists conservation activities by season. Over 2,000 magnets were printed with the goal of sending a magnet to every single lake property owner in the COLA membership lakes.
- Big Eagle Lake Improvement Association volunteers and Sherburne SWCD staff completed a Phase II Carp study which resulted in an Integrated Pest Management Plan for Eagle Lake.

### Multi-County Collaborations

- Staff from Isanti County, University of Minnesota, and Sherburne SWCD surveyed areas of the Rum River for potential non-native phragmites. Two separate, small and very recently introduced populations were identified and managed through a rapid response action.

### Reports and Products

- Megan Weber, Extension Educator with the MN AIS Research Center, and Sherburne SWCD staff collaborated on a research article that was accepted for publication in the journal PLOS ONE.

## Photo(s) of AIS Activities

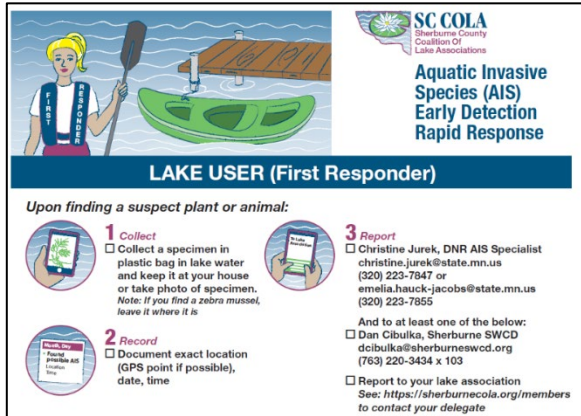


Photo 1: Sherburne COLA AIS EDRR infographic

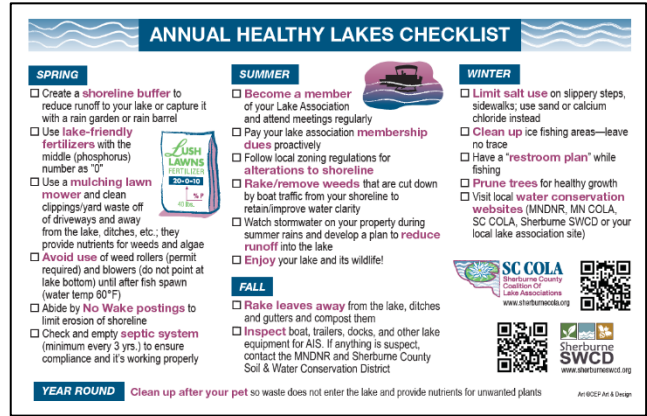


Photo 2: Sherburne COLA lakes checklist magnet



Photo 3: Starry Trek participants (credit: Shelly Binsfeld)



Photo 4: Starry Trek participants (credit: Becky Guthrie)



Photo 5: Eagle Lake telemetry training (credit: Dan Cibulka)

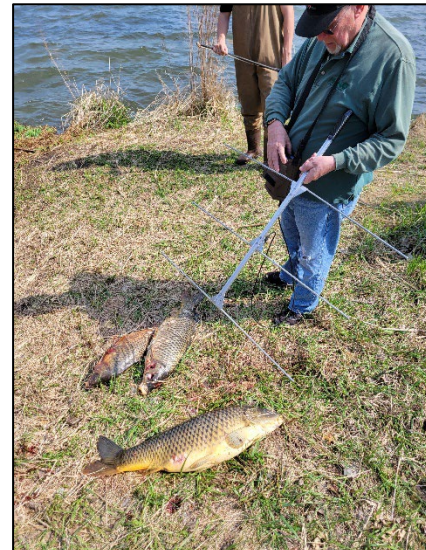


Photo 6: Eagle Lake carp telemetry (credit: Dan Cibulka)