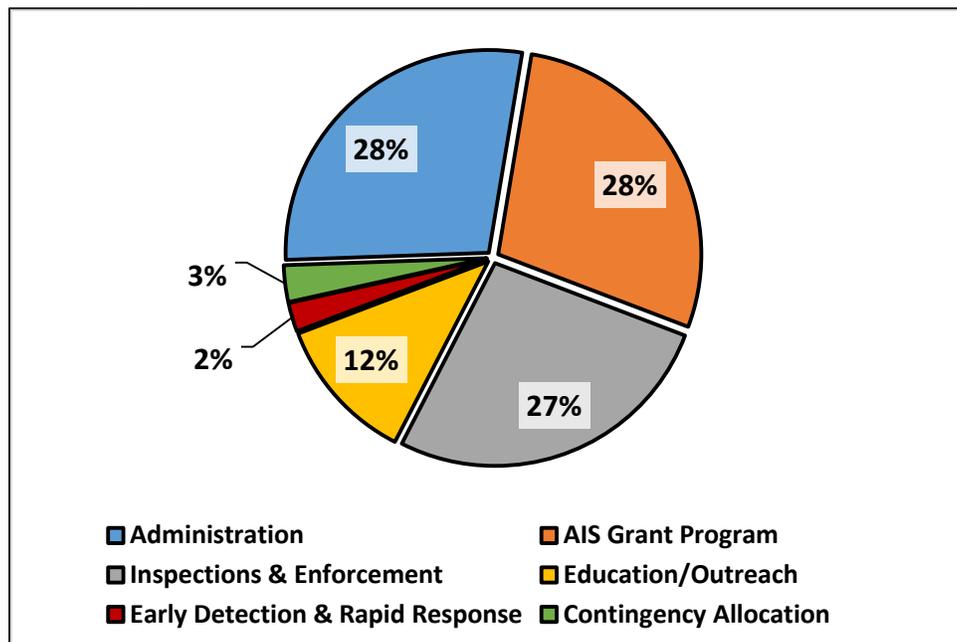


Sherburne County's AIS Prevention Aid Program: A Snapshot of Accomplishments in the Year 2018

Category	Metrics
 AIS Prevention Aid Used	\$81,404.93 used in 2018
 People Doing AIS Work	1 full-time staff with 20% time dedicated to AIS duties 1 part-time staff with <5% time dedicated to AIS duties 1 seasonal staff with AIS duties 12 Level 1 Inspectors (contracted) 0 Level 2 Inspectors 32 Volunteers 252 Volunteer hours served Yes the county has an AIS Task Force or Committee
 Funds Distributed and Leveraged	\$27,825 in grants awarded 6 organizations awarded grants \$84,236 in additional funds leveraged 6 organizations contributing additional funds
 Communities Engaged	5 events held about AIS or that included AIS topics 115 residents and visitors reached about AIS during events 40 in-school presentations about AIS 640 children taught about AIS
 Watercraft Inspected	1,757 inspections performed 1,341 hours of inspections performed 10 accesses covered by inspectors 10 water bodies covered by inspectors 97% of watercraft recorded as arriving with drain plugs out
 Law Enforcement Supported	6 local law enforcement officers conducting AIS work 263 watercraft encountered 758 people educated on AIS laws 6 warnings issued for minor AIS law infractions
 Monitoring Conducted	17 lakes and rivers surveyed for AIS 32 zebra mussel settling plates deployed 16 water bodies with zebra mussel settling plates 14 water bodies where veliger tows were taken
 New Infestation Response Planning	\$2,067 saved in a contingency fund \$0 spent on new infestation response(s) Yes the county has a new infestation response plan
 Invasive Aquatic Plant Management (IAPM)	7 water bodies with IAPM activities (funded with AIS Prevention Aid)

Program Spending Summary



Program Summary

The Sherburne County AIS Prevention Program is fine example of how collaboration, volunteer efforts, and adaptive management can be effective in reducing the advancement of AIS infestation in a County. AIS Prevention funds are spent in a diverse manner to support programs in categories of education, inspection / enforcement, AIS management, and early detection. These efforts enlist the assistance of professionals in the industry and supports a large group of county residents who spend their own time and resources searching for AIS, managing AIS, and sharing their stories and knowledge with their fellow residents and future generations.

Story(ies) of Success

With an increasing level of effort this year, no new AIS infestations were found in Sherburne County. Several new collaborative efforts took place this year that increased both AIS monitoring and enforcement of AIS laws.

- 1) Sherburne SWCD and Sherburne County Coalition of Lake Associations (COLA) worked with an Eagle Scout prospect to develop a project that would benefit area lakes. The scout created over 50 zebra mussel settling plates, overseeing both the construction, budgeting and planning for the project. A presentation was given to the COLA at an annual meeting and 32 plates to residents were distributed to lake property owners.
- 2) The City of Big Lake, Big Lake Community Lakes Association, and Sherburne SWCD teamed up to use AIS Prevention funds for the purchase of three I-LID remote camera units. The I-LIDs keep watch at the Big and Mitchell Lake's public access points, taking photographs of incoming and outgoing watercraft and playing an audible message which reminds the watercraft operator to clean, drain and dry their watercraft.
- 3) SWCD staff partnered with the United State Fisheries Wildlife Service (USFWS) to monitor areas around the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge for native and non-native Phragmites through a University of Minnesota "MNPhrag" project. Nine sites were assessed, and two identified as holding non-native Phragmites. Samples were sent into the University of Minnesota for verification.
- 4) Sherburne County Sheriff's Department (Water Patrol and Sheriff Reserves) partnered with Sherburne SWCD to increase law enforcement presence on lakes during holidays and weekends. Law enforcement staff spent 47.5 hours encountering 263 watercraft, and educated 758 people on AIS laws. Six AIS law warnings and no citations were given.

Photo(s) of AIS Activities



Starry Trek volunteers pose after an aquatic plant ID session



Native plants on a sampling rake



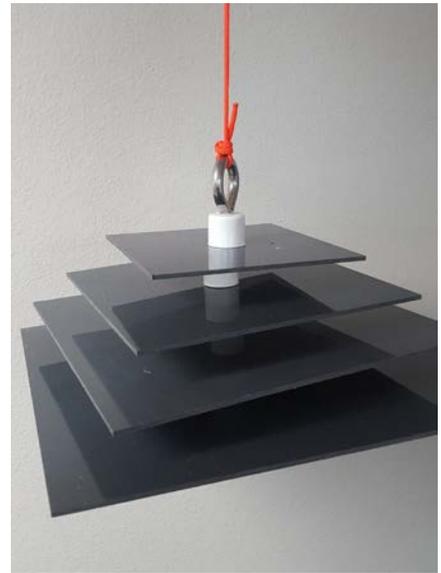
Big Lake I-LID camera



Conservation Corps Intern Will Anderson inspects a Phragmites specimen



Eagle Scout Alex Collins with his parents



ZM settling plate, crafted by Alex Collins

Continued AIS Prevention

Similar programs will be administered in 2019 which will allow Sherburne County to continue to prevent introduction of AIS, monitor new and existing infestations, and promote strategic manage of existing AIS infestations. An AIS Task Force convened in 2014-2015 to develop a five-year AIS Prevention Plan. In 2019, the AIS Task Force will reform to examine the progress and programs that have transpired and reassess for a new five year plan, to last 2020-2025. Recruitment for the AIS Task Force will take place in early 2019 to ensure the group has representation from a variety of lake stakeholder use groups as well as local decision makers.