

Minnesota Coalition of Lake Associations Best Practice in Action



NAME AND INFORMATION

Name of Project	Engaging Youth as Lake Stewards	Presented by	--Sarah Strommen, MN DNR Commissioner --Abi Parker, Sauk River Watershed District --Sharon Natzel, Hubbard COLA --Ezri Farnum, Koronis Lake Association
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Date Video	Presented December 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DNR No Child Left Inside Stearns County Water Fest • Hubbard County COLA and SWCD Youth Engagement • Engaging Young Leaders Lake Koronis President Ezri Farnum 	Project Description	A challenge for every lake association is to engage the next generation. Described are four programs to deepen engagement with the next generation of lake stewards.

MORE ABOUT THE BEST PRACTICE

MN DNR No Child Left Inside

This [unique effort funds](#) youth fishing, hiking, biking, nature and other outdoor experience through Minnesota.

Sauk River Watershed District Water Fest

Looking to set up a program to engage youth? Follow this [step by step checklist](#) prepared by Abi Parker, Environmental, Manager, Sauk River Watershed District (portions of Douglas, Todd, Pope, Stearns and Meeker County) about their successful Water Fest and Frozen Fest.

Hubbard County COLA and SWCD Youth Engagement

This is an amazing offering of events for youth to get firsthand experience about improving their environment. Take a look at all their amazing projects to the right! Watch this [short video](#) for more information.

Hubbard County COLA and Hubbard Soil and Water Conservation District Youth Projects	
Pollinator and Food Forest Gardens	Freshwater Festival
DNR Loon Restoration	Lead-free Tackle Samples
Aquatic Invasive Species Identification	Eviorthon—Program for High Schoolers
Native Seed and Cone Collecting	Online Virtual Lab

Koronis Lake Association, Ezri Farnum, President

A common challenge for a lake association is to identify and engage talented leadership. Here is an [remarkable story of a young lake association president](#) in her 3rd year as president of the Koronis Lake Association. She shares her ideas on how to engage young leaders.