

Good afternoon Honorable Chair Heintzeman and Committee members. Thank you for your time today.

If you get outdoors in Minnesota in the spring, summer, or fall, you will notice the thousands of lakes and rivers, parks, trails, recreation areas, forests, campgrounds, resorts, wildlife areas, beaches, and picnic areas enjoyed by the public, and managed and protected by state agencies, with help from local governments, lake associations, and NGOs.

If you are fortunate enough to enjoy overnight stays on state waters and in state parks in an RV, a houseboat, or another shelter of your choosing, you are required to follow rules for where and how to set up camp, and how to manage your garbage and waste. **In a nutshell, your shared outdoor experience is a privilege, and protecting it for future generations is required.**

Not so for Minnesotans in the ice belt. Since the popularity of ice fishing, winter camping, and recreation has exploded in the last decade, the Keep it Clean Coalition has seen an increase in leftovers of human activity on and around frozen public waters. Volunteers have worked tirelessly to bring awareness to a problem that should not exist and help our fellow humans change their attitudes and careless habits. We have a new **"litter on ice" law**. That's a start, but it's not enough.

The State invests our tax dollars to make public places more enjoyable and accessible. Minnesota's economy is strongly reliant on people getting out more, and there is an expectation that users, through fees and taxes, share the costs. Nothing is free in this world.

We believe that rather than go into hibernation (leaving the management of human leftovers and cleanup efforts to local communities), state agencies must take the lead in educating the public, providing resources, and implementing the same regulations for **activities on ice** as they do for public lands and waters during **ice-out activities**.

You would never leave your bags of trash or camp toilet leftovers to pollute campsites, parks or trails. You would never accept human or pet excrement on your picnic grounds. We all pay dearly to use state lands and waters and are proud to be good stewards.

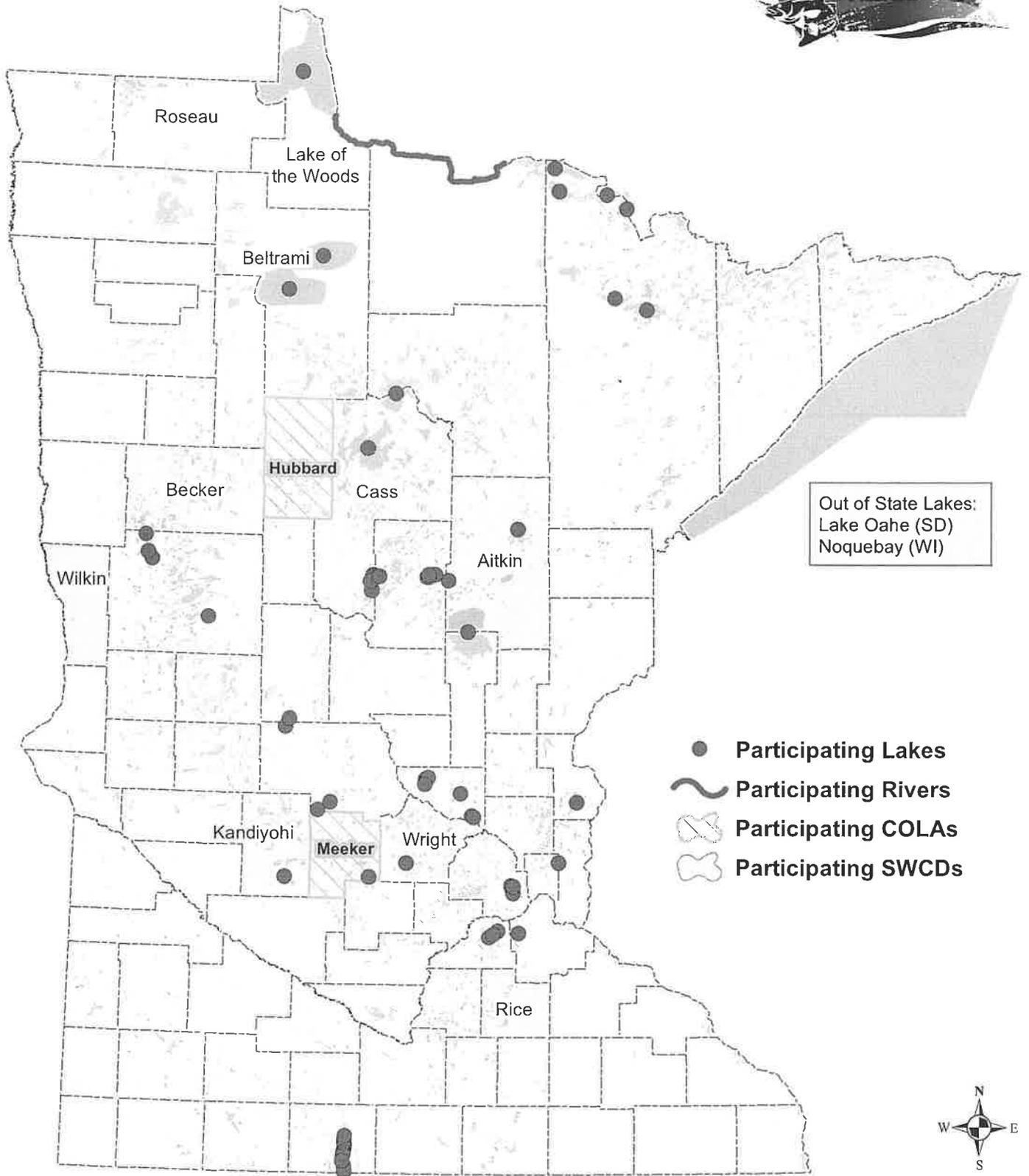
I am asking respected house members to extend management and protection of our shared resources to the ice belt. The disconnect needs to be fixed. We can't manage and protect our natural resources three seasons of the year while disregarding what goes on during winter months on our frozen waters. We must acknowledge that people travel to enjoy winter experiences, and then stay for extended amounts of time, far from our homes and our constituencies, to have unique outdoor experiences that are ingrained in Minnesota's constitution.

Please support **HF1120** and establish a **Statewide Keep it Clean Program** ensuring the professional management and community resources needed to protect and preserve Minnesota's prized public waters. **Ice is water and we must work together to keep it clean.**

Thank you,

Robyn Dwight  
Keep it Clean Coalition member  
President: Upper Red Lake Area Association

# Keep it Clean Partners



Out of State Lakes:  
Lake Oahe (SD)  
Noquebay (WI)

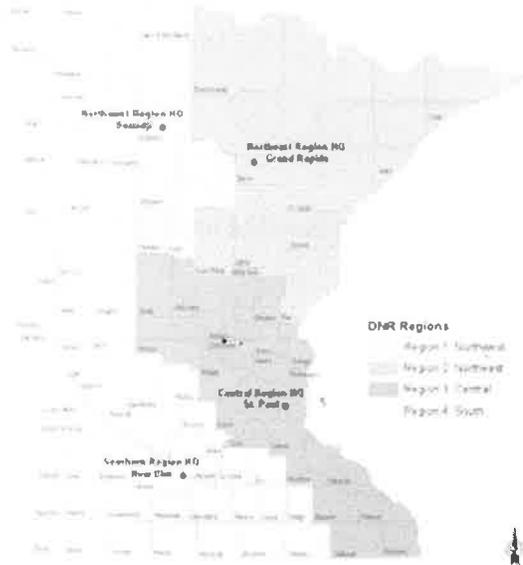
- Participating Lakes
- ~ Participating Rivers
- ▨ Participating COLAs
- ⋯ Participating SWCDs



## Keep It Clean

### Ice Angling, Recreation & Waste Disposal

\*1. What part of Minnesota are you most likely to ice fish / recreate?



- Northwest Region
- Northeast Region
- Central Region
- Southern Region

\* 5. Do you have access to a dump station in your preferred fishing / recreating location?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

\* 6. Do you believe there is a need for human waste disposal infrastructure where you fish / recreate?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

\* 7. Did you know it is illegal to place any garbage or waste on the ice, unless secured to a shelter, in a vehicle, or other conveyance?

- Yes
- No

\* 8. What is your current zip code?

9. Do you have any additional thoughts or comments regarding human waste disposal or the Keep It Clean Initiative?

Done



CONSERVATION  
MINNESOTA

February 25, 2025

RE: HF1120 (Myers)

Chair Heintzeman and Members of the House Environment Committee:

Conservation Minnesota urges your support for HF1120 (Myers), which would establish a Keep It Clean grant program to help protect Minnesota's rivers and lakes from winter litter and waste. This program will play a crucial role in preserving our many public waters across the state.

We are fortunate in Minnesota to be home to some of the most pristine lakes and rivers in the country, and to offer year-round outdoor recreation opportunities. In the winter months, many Minnesotans enjoy activities like ice fishing and will set up wheelhouses and other temporary shelter on the frozen water. The state has seen a major uptick in these winter activities, but with this comes an increase in leftover trash, refuse and even human waste, which is harmful to aquatic species and habitats.

In 2023, this legislature passed the Keep it Clean Law, which prohibits leaving garbage and human waste on or under the ice of our lakes and rivers. HF1120 (Myers) builds on this work by enlisting BWSR and MPCA to administer grants for local water protection programs. These grants will support local units of government and non-government organizations in adding and updating facilities, expanding winter and spring cleanup services, and increasing overall enforcement of the Keep It Clean law.

Enabling LGUs and NGOs to implement the Keep It Clean rule with state funding ensures we have the tools available to make sure our public waters can be enjoyed by all for generations. Winter recreation is a Minnesota tradition that we must preserve, but one we must also ask people to participate in responsibly and with respect for the water and environment. These grants will bring us closer to our goal of keeping our public waters clean and safe all year long.

We strongly encourage you to support HF1120 (Myers) and the establishment of a Keep It Clean grant program.

Sincerely,

Nels Paulsen

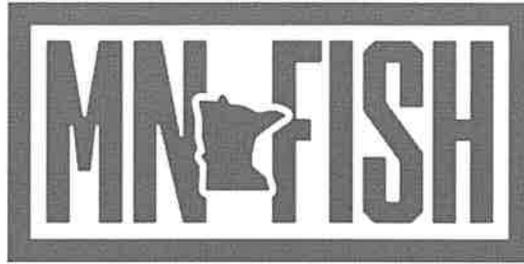
Policy Director

[nels@conservationminnesota.org](mailto:nels@conservationminnesota.org)

James Lehner

Policy Associate

[james@conservationminnesota.org](mailto:james@conservationminnesota.org)



February 25, 2025

Via E-Mail Delivery

Representative Josh Heintzeman, Chair  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Peter Fischer, DFL Lead  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Centennial Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Chair Heintzeman and Lead Fischer:

MN-FISH is a statewide organization formed in 2018 to represent the fishing interests of anglers, clubs, local organizations, and industry stakeholders. MN-FISH provides anglers and outdoor recreation supporters the opportunity to have a voice and be heard at the State Capitol.

The boating and outdoor recreation industries are a vital part of Minnesota, supporting over 90,000 jobs and \$9.9 billion in economic benefit to the state (Outdoor Industry Association, 2022).

MN-FISH supports the Keep It Clean Coalition and the campaign to address the growing problem of garbage and waste left behind on the ice by individuals during the ice fishing season. Back in 2023, MN-FISH supported the legislation to establish policy keeping our lakes clean during the ice fishing season and we support this year's legislation as well.

The legislation, HF 1120, is authored by Rep. Andrew Myers and will establish a statewide program with grants to local units of government and nongovernmental organizations to implement local programs to prevent water pollution. We believe this legislation will protect Minnesota's waterways and aquatic habitat and benefit those who recreate on Minnesota's waters.

Please support HF 1120 for approval and enactment into law this year.

Sincerely,

Dave Osborne  
MN-FISH Board of Directors



**Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HCCOLA)**

**P.O. BOX 746**

**PARK RAPIDS, MN 56470.**

[www.HubbardCOLAmn.org](http://www.HubbardCOLAmn.org) [HCCOLAmn@gmail.com](mailto:HCCOLAmn@gmail.com)

February 22, 2025

Rep. Andrew Myers  
377 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-9188,  
[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

Senator Aric Putnam  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-6455,  
[sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn](mailto:sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn)

**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD** Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

The Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations (HCCOLA) would like to acknowledge the work of the Keep it Clean Coalition and its support of H.F. 1120 and its companion Senate file as introduced. This bill will help manage the leftover waste from winter angling on waters across the State of Minnesota. The popularity of overnight stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the impact of trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up.

The bill will provide state agency leadership for local efforts and funding to address local needs throughout the state.

Keep It Clean efforts will help to keep our waters waste free for future generations to enjoy our valued water resources.

Sincerely,

Jon Dennis, President, Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations & our 31 HCCOLA Board of Directors

*Hubbard County COLA is the leader in protecting Hubbard County Lakes and Rivers. Formed in 1988, HC COLA now has 31 lake associations representing 43 lakes with over 2,775 members. Our mission is to protect and enhance the quality of our lakes and rivers, preserve the economic, recreational & natural environmental values of our shorelands and promote the responsible use of our waters & related habitats.*



# MASWCD

## Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts

100 Empire Drive, Suite 205, St. Paul, MN 55103 | 651-690-9028 | [www.maswcd.org](http://www.maswcd.org)

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Assistant Director  
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Conference & Events Manager  
MICHELE ASMUSSEN

Accounting Manager  
STEFANIE MARTINEZ

February 21, 2025

Senator Aric Putnam  
651-296-6455,  
[sen.aric.putnam@mnsenate.gov](mailto:sen.aric.putnam@mnsenate.gov)

Rep. Andrew Myers  
651-296-9188,  
[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

### ***Legislation for Keep It Clean program***

Sen. Putnam and Rep. Myers,

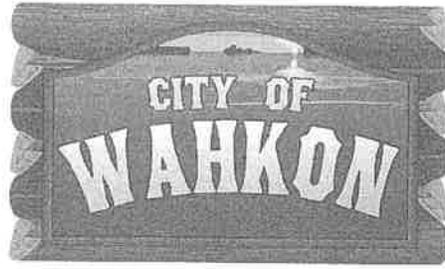
The Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts (MASWCD) would like to acknowledge the work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by supporting state legislative initiatives for the program. MASWCD adopted a resolution in support of the Keep It Clean efforts at our annual meeting in December of 2022.

We appreciate your interest in helping manage the leftover waste from winter angling on waters across the State of Minnesota. The popularity of overnight stays on the ice has outpaced the ability for local and state resources to adequately address the impact of trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up.

MASWCD supports efforts to address the trash and other waste left behind from winter anglers. Support of the Keep It Clean efforts will help to keep our waters waste free for future generations to enjoy our valued water resources.

Sincerely,

Chuck Rau  
President  
Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts



February 21, 2025

Rep. Andrew Myers  
377 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-9188,  
[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

Senator Aric Putnam  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-6455,  
[sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn](mailto:sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn)

**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD** Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

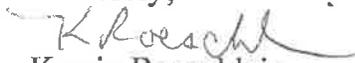
Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

The City of Wahkon would like to acknowledge the work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by supporting H.F. 1120 and its companion Senate file as introduced. This bill will help manage the leftover waste from winter angling on waters across the State of Minnesota. The popularity of overnight stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the impact of trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up.

The bill will provide state agency leadership for local efforts and funding to address local needs throughout the state. Today more than ever, citizens and local communities have inquired as to what can be done. Around Lake Mille Lacs, increased visibility of the Keep it Clean Coalition campaign is evident. However, more needs to be done to assist in the future installation of public infrastructure to properly dispose of human waste.

Keep It Clean efforts will help to keep our waters waste free for future generations to enjoy our valued water resources.

Sincerely,

  
Karrie Roeschlein  
City Clerk/Treasurer

# Township of Shotley

"On the South Shore of Beautiful Upper Red Lake"

46371 Pioneer Road NE  
Kelliher MN 56650

February 21, 2025

Dear House Committee Members:

Shotley Township is located on the south shore of Upper Red Lake, in Beltrami County. The township is 46.8 square miles of which 14.0 square miles is water.

The Township Board is in full support of HF 1120, The Keep it Clean Bill.

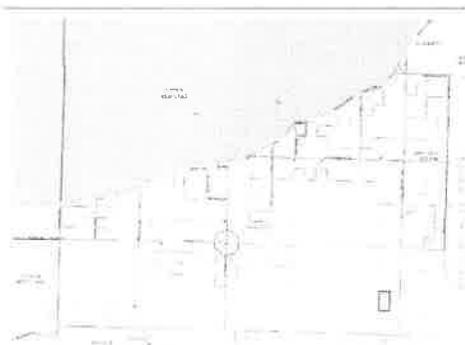
Since the Keep It Clean Program was enacted, Upper Red Lake sees very little trash on the ice, as well as, the roadways. The program has brought attention to the people who use Minnesota public waters the importance of keeping our state waters clean.

With the increased use of sleeper fish houses and the ability to spend multiple days on the ice, it is extremely important that state laws and state funding, as well as enforcement, keep up with the ever-changing recreational environment.

We urge you to properly fund this project and pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Dave DeNoyer  
Township Chairman





**BELTRAMI COUNTY**  
**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION**  
701 Minnesota Ave NW Suite 200, Bemidji, MN 56601  
Thomas H. Barry, County Administrator  
tom.barry@co.beltrami.mn.us  
Telephone: 218-333-4109

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February 24, 2025

Senator Aric Putnam  
95 University Ave. W.  
MN Senate Bldg. Rm 3215  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Rep. Andrew Myers  
377 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**TESTIMONY: Keep It Clean Program**

Dear Senator Putnam and Rep. Myers,

The Keep It Clean initiative is a grass-roots initiative that was inspired by residents from both Lake of the Woods and Beltrami counties a number of years ago to address pollution problems associated with on-ice winter recreation activities. Recently, this program expanded as a local partnership between the Upper Red Lake Area Association, the Beltrami Soil and Water Conservation District, and area resorts to address the growing problem of garbage and human waste left on the ice by anglers and other visitors during ice fishing season. The success of the program has grown rapidly. However, this success is limited to the time and resources of volunteers.

Beltrami County supports the efforts of the Keep It Clean initiative and encourages the assistance of the State to continue these efforts locally and statewide. With the State's assistance, we can create a long-lasting legacy of keeping our waters safe for all to enjoy.

Respectfully,

Thomas H. Barry  
County Administrator

cc Beltrami County Board of Commissioners



**BELTRAMI**  
county

**Environmental Services Department**  
**Soil & Water Conservation District**  
701 Minnesota Ave NW, Suite 113  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
Brent Rud, Director/District Manager  
Brent.rud@co.beltrami.mn.us  
Telephone: 218-333-4158

February 21, 2025

Rep. Andrew Myers  
377 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-9188,  
[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

Senator Aric Putnam  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-6455,  
[sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn](mailto:sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn)

**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD** Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

Beltrami Soil & Water Conservation District would like to acknowledge the work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by supporting H.F. 1120 and its companion Senate file as introduced. We are hopeful that this bill will help manage the leftover waste from winter angling on waters across the State of Minnesota. The popularity of overnight stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the impact of trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up and has forced this issue on small local communities to address the regional tourism related problem of excess trash and human waste.

The bill will provide state agency leadership for local efforts and funding to address local needs throughout the state in a coordinated program administered at the State level.

Keep It Clean efforts will help to keep our waters waste free for future generations to enjoy our valued water resources.

Sincerely,

Brent Rud  
Environmental Services Director  
Soil & Water Conservation District Manager



**Lake of the Woods  
Soil and Water Conservation District**  
119 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NW, PO Box 217  
Baudette, MN 56623  
(218) 634-1842 ext 4  
[www.LakeoftheWoodsSWCD.org](http://www.LakeoftheWoodsSWCD.org)

February 25, 2025

**KEEP IT CLEAN TESTIMONY**

**H. F. 1120, A bill for an act relating to natural resources; establishing Keep it Clean program; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 97C.**

Good afternoon Honorable Chair Heintzeman and Committee members. Thank you for your time today.

As one of the founding members of the Keep It Clean efforts in 2012 on Lake of the Woods, the Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors considers this bill instrumental in addressing the trash and waste left on Minnesota lakes. The bill will provide state agency leadership for local efforts and funding to address local needs throughout the state.

There are obvious gaps in state agency management of garbage and trash on public waters during the winter. This gap was created by a shift in recreation that has changed the way the public utilizes their public waters. The recognition of this gap of management was the genesis for the creation of the Keep It Clean Initiative. Local efforts started on Lake of the Woods in 2012. In 2022, other lakes including Red Lake and Mille Lacs joined the Keep It Clean Initiative. Since 2022, a coalition has formed to address this issue. This coalition includes over 60 members representing soil and water conservation districts, lake associations, chain of lake associations, foundations, tourism bureaus/chamber of commerce, lake improvement districts, and others. Membership ranges from Lake of the Woods in the north to the Fairmont Chain of Lakes in the south. This is a statewide issue. Which is why state agency leadership is needed.

Under this legislation these local efforts will continue. Local efforts often can be more reactive than state agencies. State agencies have been very supportive of Keep It Clean efforts, but without this legislation, agencies are unable to fully address this increasing problem without the support and direction from the legislature.

You can protect our waters with this simple piece of legislation that makes this issue a priority for state agencies to actively address.

Sincerely,

Mike Hirst

Resource Conservationist at Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District  
Lake of the Woods Keep It Clean Committee member  
Keep it Clean Coalition member



**Lake of the Woods  
Soil and Water Conservation District**  
119 1<sup>st</sup> Ave NW, PO Box 217  
Baudette, MN 56623  
(218) 634-1842 ext 4  
[www.LakeoftheWoodsSWCD.org](http://www.LakeoftheWoodsSWCD.org)

February 13, 2025

Senator Aric Putnam  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-6455,  
[sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn](mailto:sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn)

Rep. Andrew Myers  
377 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-9188,  
[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

**RE: SF3957 / HF TBD** Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

Sen. Putnam and Rep. Myers,

The Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District would like to acknowledge the work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by supporting SF 3957 and its companion House file as introduced. This bill will help manage the leftover waste from winter angling on waters across the State of Minnesota. The popularity of overnight stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the impact of trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up.

As one of the founding members of the Keep It Clean efforts in 2012, the Lake of the Woods Soil and Water Conservation District considers this bill is instrumental to address the trash and waste left on Minnesota lakes. The bill will provide state agency leadership for local efforts and funding to address local needs throughout the state.

Keep It Clean efforts will help to keep our waters waste free for future generations to enjoy our valued water resources.

Sincerely,

Lake of the Woods  
Soil and Water Conservation District  
Board Chair



# CLEAN WATER ACTION

PEOPLE • ACTION • JUSTICE

February 21, 2025

Mr. Chair and members of the committee,

Clean Water Action was founded in 1972 with a mission to protect the land we live on, the air we breathe, and the water we drink. Representing tens of thousands of Minnesotans, we urge your support for HF1120 (Myers), the **"Keep it Clean"** bill which is a commonsense solution to a persistent problem.

Minnesotans take great pride in our pristine natural spaces and recreational activities, especially those on and around our waterways. Unfortunately, some individuals fail to clean up after themselves, particularly during winter activities like ice fishing.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) estimates that **160,000 pounds of trash enter our waterways annually** as ice thaws, with plastic waste making up nearly a third of that total. Research from Macalester College and Friends of the Mississippi River further highlights the problem, showing an average of **four pieces of trash per 10' x 10' square** in tested metro-area lakes. As this waste breaks down, it releases **microplastics and chemicals**, which infiltrate our environment, harm aquatic life, and contaminate the food and water sources many Minnesotans depend on.

The growing prevalence of microplastics is alarming. Studies estimate that the average person now ingests large amounts of plastic each year. One study by the World Wildlife Fund estimates a person consumes an average of **five grams of microplastics per week**, this is the weight of a **credit card**. Another study out of the University of Newcastle estimates people consume up to 250 grams of microplastics in a year. Microplastics, which are full of toxic chemicals, are found in human and animal sperm, brain matter, placenta, saliva, liver, and kidney tissue. Addressing this crisis requires immediate action.

Outdoor recreation, including ice fishing, has evolved, with larger, more modern ice houses becoming increasingly popular. While these structures enhance comfort, they also bring **greater responsibility** to prevent trash, plastic, and human biowaste from polluting our waters.

The 2023 **Keep It Clean** law made it illegal to dump waste on the ice, but enforcement challenges remain. **HF1120 (Myers) strengthens these efforts by expanding jurisdictional authority, providing municipal grant funding, and ensuring the necessary resources are in place to keep our waters clean.**

We strongly support this legislation and urge the committee to pass **HF1120 (Myers)**. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,  
Avonna Starck  
State Director, Clean Water Action | Clean Water Fund  
[astarck@cleanwater.org](mailto:astarck@cleanwater.org)  
612-423-6939

February 21, 2025

**Rep. Andrew Myers**

377 State Office Building

St. Paul, MN 55155

651-296-9188,

[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

**Senator Aric Putnam**

95 University Avenue W.

Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215

St. Paul, MN 55155

651-296-6455,

[sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn](mailto:sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn)

**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD** Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

I would like to acknowledge the important work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by asking for you to support H.F. 1120 and its companion Senate file as introduced.

The increased popularity of ice fishing, wheelhouses and extended stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up — and the impact of that garbage and waste on our lakes, rivers and wetland areas.

This bill will help empower leaders, organizations and community members by providing them with much needed funding to manage the leftover garbage and waste from winter angling on lakes and rivers across the State of Minnesota.

Keep It Clean efforts help preserve and conserve our waters — enabling current and future generations to enjoy our valued water resources — and help ensure that Minnesota remains an attractive tourist destination.

Sincerely,

**Greg Lyon**

**[Glyon.lyon@gmail.com](mailto:Glyon.lyon@gmail.com)**

**16811 Ironwood Circle**

**Lakeville, MN 55044**

**612-801-8684**

February 21, 2025

Rep. Andrew Myers  
377 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-9188,  
[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

Senator Aric Putnam  
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Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-6455,  
[sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn](mailto:sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn)

**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD** Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

Koochiching SWCD would like to acknowledge the work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by supporting H.F. 1120 and its companion Senate file as introduced. This bill will help manage the leftover waste from winter angling on waters across the State of Minnesota. The popularity of overnight stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the impact of trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up.

The bill will provide state agency leadership for local efforts and funding to address local needs throughout the state.

Keep It Clean efforts will help to keep our waters waste free for future generations to enjoy our valued water resources.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jolen Simon". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Koochiching SWCD Program Coordinator

February 21, 2025

Rep. Andrew Myers  
377 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-9188,  
[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

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651-296-6455,  
[sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn](mailto:sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn)

**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD** Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

Minnesota Lakes & Rivers would like to acknowledge the work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by supporting H.F. 1120 and its companion Senate file as introduced. This bill will help manage the leftover waste from winter angling on waters across the State of Minnesota. The popularity of overnight stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the impact of trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up.

The bill will provide necessary state agency leadership for local efforts and funding to address local needs throughout the state. The pairing of local and state efforts in this way is crucial for advancing water protection efforts as a united base of advocates.

Keep It Clean efforts will help to keep our waters waste free for future generations to enjoy our valued water resources.

Sincerely,

Lily Carr,  
Lake Steward Program Coordinator  
Minnesota Lakes & Rivers

February 21, 2025

**Rep. Andrew Myers**

377 State Office Building

St. Paul, MN 55155

651-296-9188,

[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

**Senator Aric Putnam**

95 University Avenue W.

Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215

St. Paul, MN 55155

651-296-6455,

[sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn](mailto:sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn)

**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD** Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

I would like to acknowledge the important work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by asking for you to support H.F. 1120 and its companion Senate file as introduced.

The increased popularity of ice fishing, wheelhouses and extended stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up — and the impact of that garbage and waste on our lakes, rivers and wetland areas.

This bill will help empower leaders, organizations and community members by providing them with much needed funding to manage the leftover garbage and waste from winter angling on lakes and rivers across the State of Minnesota.

Keep It Clean efforts help preserve and conserve our waters — enabling current and future generations to enjoy our valued water resources — and help ensure that Minnesota remains an attractive tourist destination.

Sincerely,

**Ann Brucciani Lyon**

Vice Chair, Mille Lacs Area Community Foundation | Keep It Clean Coalition

16811 Ironwood Circle

Lakeville, MN 55044

February 21, 2025

Rep. Andrew Myers  
377 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-9188,  
[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

Senator Aric Putnam  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-6455,  
[sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn](mailto:sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn)

**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD** Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

I, Erika Gilsdorf, who personally witnesses the disgusting amount of garbage left on the ice from those ice fishing, would like to acknowledge the work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by supporting H.F. 1120 and its companion Senate file as introduced. This bill will help manage the leftover waste from winter angling on waters across the State of Minnesota. The popularity of overnight stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the impact of trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up.

The bill will provide state agency leadership for local efforts and funding to address local needs throughout the state.

Keep It Clean efforts will help to keep our waters waste free for future generations to enjoy our valued water resources.

Sincerely,



February 21, 2025

**Rep. Andrew Myers**

377 State Office Building

St. Paul, MN 55155

651-296-9188,

[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

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**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD** Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

I would like to acknowledge the important work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by asking for you to support H.F. 1120 and its companion Senate file as introduced.

The increased popularity of ice fishing, wheelhouses and extended stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up — and the impact of that garbage and waste on our lakes, rivers and wetland areas.

My husband and I live on Crystal Lake in Burnsville and we are pleased to be partners in the Keep It Clean campaign. There are more ice houses on Crystal Lake this year than I can recall in the 45 years we have lived here. Keep It Clean reminders are critical to the ongoing success of the project.

This bill will help empower leaders, organizations and community members by providing them with much needed funding to manage the leftover garbage and waste from winter angling on lakes and rivers across the State of Minnesota.

Keep It Clean efforts help preserve and conserve our waters — enabling current and future generations to enjoy our valued water resources — and help ensure that Minnesota remains an attractive tourist destination. Minnesota's children, visitors from out-of-state and adults of all ages swim in Minnesota's lakes. Healthy lakes are good for everyone!

Sincerely,

Beverly Brucciani

9915 Oak Shore Drive

Lakeville MN 55044

952-425-8259

[bruccianib@gmail.com](mailto:bruccianib@gmail.com)

February 21, 2025

Rep. Andrew Myers  
377 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-9188,  
[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

Senator Aric Putnam  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-6455,  
[sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn](mailto:sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn)

**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD** — Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

As a long-time home owner on Lake Sallie in Becker County, I want to acknowledge and promote the work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by supporting H.F. 1120 and its companion Senate file as introduced. This bill is critical to help manage the leftover waste from winter angling on waters across the State of Minnesota. The popularity of overnight stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the impact of trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up.

It's sad to think such a bill is needed to educate, advocate, and regulate the fact that it is illegal to pollute the lake by leaving garbage and human waste on the ice in the winter. But we have seen it firsthand, every single year. And as the rigs get bigger, it's no longer just a few 2x4 skids frozen in the ice and a bag or two of beer cans. These are essentially seasonal campers that leave their trash and waste with little or no regard for how that impacts water quality and natural resources after ice-out.

This bill will provide state agency leadership for local efforts and funding to address local needs throughout the state. Keep It Clean efforts will help to keep our waters waste free for future generations to enjoy our valued water resources. Please support this bill to help local entities be more effective and impactful in protecting our communal waters.

Sincerely,  
Hans and Mary Beth Gilsdorf  
24447 Woodland Ln  
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501



Robyn Dwight <robyndwight1@gmail.com>

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## Letter of Suppot

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**dave wood** <davewood869@yahoo.com>  
To: <robyndwight1@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 21 at 6:42 PM

Robyn:

This is a letter in full support of the House Bill to Keep Upper Red Lake Clean!!! I witnessed, prior to this initiative, the trash and garbage that would be left on the lake during ice fishing season. Since this initiative has been ongoing, the amount of trash on the lake has been reduced by at least 90%. You are to be commended for leading this initiative..... a job WELL DONE!!

Regards

Dave Wood

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone



Robyn Dwight <robyndwight1@gmail.com>

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**H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD**

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**Kelly Petrowske** <melp@paulbunyan.net>  
To: <robyndwight1@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 21 at 6:52 PM

Feb. 21, 2023

Rep. Andrew Myers  
377 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-9188,  
rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.go

Senator Aric Putnam  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-6455,  
sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn

RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.  
Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

Hello,

My family has lived on the shores of URL for over a century so URL has been a big part of my family both work and recreation. These Bills are a very important part of keeping URL and other lakes clean. I ask you to support them.

Kelly Petrowske

Waskish, MN

February 21, 2025 Re: HF 1120 "Keep it Clean Bill"

Dear House Committee Members:

Thank you for your work drafting this bill to help keep our lake and streams clean during the winter months. Me and my family are cabin owners on Upper Red Lake. To us there is no where else in the world that is more beautiful than our cabin on the waters of that lake. It is a very popular destination for ice fishing with people coming from all parts of the county to fish this wonderful lake. We enjoy seeing all the people enjoy the ice and the great fishing that this lake has to offer. Unfortunately, we witness firsthand when the ice melts each spring the poor decisions that some users make each year. This bill will help spread the word and drive the culture of doing the right things with our waste and garbage on the ice. It will also help provide facilities to dispose of wastes and make it easier for visitors to our lake and streams to do the right thing and dispose of wastes properly. Me and my family very much hope that you will pass this bill and provide the necessary resources to keep all of Minnesota's lake and streams clean.

Sincerely,

Keith Buley and family

From: Marlowe Berg <mbergnorthwoods@gmail.com>  
Subject: HF 1120 Keep It Clean Bill Signed Support  
Date: February 21, 2025 at 1:34:31 PM CST  
To: robyndwight1@gmail.com

Dear House Committee Members,

Please support the HF 1120 Bill. The efforts and initiatives by the Keep It Clean Committee have succeeded to help keep our Public Waters Clean and Safe. It is now a fine for littering on the ice; either garbage or human waste. There has been much done to heighten Public awareness and educate anglers about the devastating impact trash and waste leave behind on our precious bodies of lake and river waters.

As a property owner on Upper Red Lake for over 50 year,s since there has been the influx of winter and summer fishing on Upper Red Lake, my husband and I spend many hours (days) picking up litter on the roads and lakeshore al lleft behind by people who are careless, lazy, and plain rude to the people who live in the area; in addition, to the reckless regard to the environmental damage.

However, the situation has improved since the inception of the Keep It Clean Bill. We are seeing less impact on the roadways and lakeshore. We still need further assistance and we ask the State to help with professional management and community resources to continue to protect and preserve our Minnesota Public waters.

With the help of the State we can do more to protect, preserve and ensure clean water in our lakes, rivers, and streams for ALL Minnesotans to enjoy!

Thank you,

Audrey Irene Berg  
Marlowe Berg



Robyn Dwight <robyndwight1@gmail.com>

---

**(no subject)**

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**Becky Lewis** <beckabowe@gmail.com>  
To: <robyndwight1@gmail.com>

Fri, Feb 21 at 6:30 PM

HF1120

As a resident of Waskish I commend those who are on the Keep It Clean committee. They have done great work, adding cleaning stations, dumpsters for human refuse and garbage. Putting billboards up promoting keeping lakes clean. It is a very concerned effort for the health of beautiful Red Lake and all that live, visit or enjoy. Thank you Robyn for doing such great work. Help to promote this bill would be wonderful and very appreciated. Thank you,  
Rebecca Lewis.  
Waskish resident.

February 21, 2025

Re: HF 1120 "Keep it Clean Bill"

Dear House Committee Members:

Thank you for everything the Keep It Clean Program has done to keep Minnesota water clean and clear. Minnesota has the most lakeshore of any other state in the lower 48 states and 15 years ago I remember walking on the shore of Upper Red Lake with my grandfather. I remember seeing a bag covered by sand on the beach. As a dumb little kid, I wanted to touch it and clean up the shore. My grandfather told me not to touch it because it was someone's waste from the last ice fishing season. I remember seeing so much garbage washing up on the shore of the lake. Since the first year Keep It Clean was used, I barely see any garbage when I walk on the shore. Because of the good work of the Keep It Clean program I be able to walk the shore with my kids someday and not have to worry about this problem.

Keep It Clean has done an amazing job in the last couple of years making sure the lakes are cleaner, and that the future generation does not have to worry. HF 1120 is meant to help keep our lakes and rivers in Minnesota cleaner for generations to come.

Please help us leave the lakes better than we found them.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles Cease", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Charles Cease

February 22, 2025

Re: HF 1120 "Keep it Clean Bill"

Dear House Committee Members:

First, I want to thank the Keep it Clean Committee for their foresight on keeping Minnesota waters clean and for all the work they have done to get this very important program up and running.

As a homeowner on Upper Red Lake in Waskish, I appreciate everything that has been done by the Keep it Clean Committee to educate the thousands of people who use the lake ---- that ice is NO PLACE for garbage and human waste. Since the inception of the Keep It Clean program, we don't see any human waste bags or garbage floating up on our shoreline each Spring. When I travel on the ice roads during fishing season, I observe the changes this program has implemented.

Minnesota lakes, rivers and forests are used by thousands of Minnesota residents each year. The residents and business owners in our small community do what they can to support the current Keep it Clean program.

Over the years there has been an influx of sleeper fish houses with the ability for them to spend several days on the ice and it has just become too much for this committee and the small communities to keep up with all that is needed to maintain this very important program. The HF1120 is needed to fund and to continue this important program.

These lakes, rivers and forests are Minnesota's most important resources. The Keep It Clean HF1120 Bill will save these resources for generations to come.

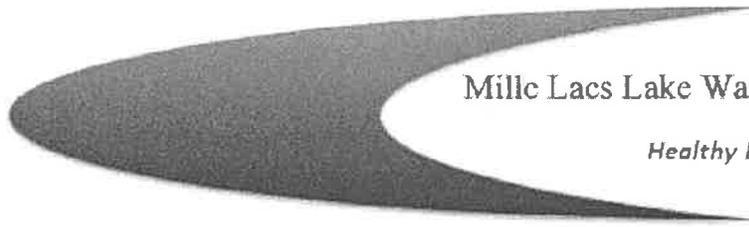
Thank you!



Robert and Kendra Schulz

54144 Eagle Nest Dr.

Waskish, MN 56685



Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Management Group

*Healthy Land, Healthy Lake*

February 21, 2025

Rep. Andrew Myers  
377 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-9188,  
rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov

Senator Aric Putnam  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-6455,  
sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn

**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated**

Dear Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

On behalf of the members of the Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Group, we would like to acknowledge the work of the Keep it Clean Coalition on the basis of our past support by supporting **H.F. 1120** and its companion Senate file as introduced. This bill will help manage the leftover waste from winter angling on waters across the State of Minnesota and will certainly impact us on Mille Lacs Lake.

The popularity of overnight stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the impact of trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up. The bill will provide state agency leadership for local efforts and funding to address local needs throughout the state. Keep It Clean efforts will help to keep our waters waste free for now and future generations to enjoy our valued water resources.

Sincerely,

*Margaret Vos*

Margaret Vos, Chair - Mille Lacs Lake Watershed Group  
16709 130<sup>th</sup> Street  
Foreston, MN 56330

02/21/2025

To whom it may concern:

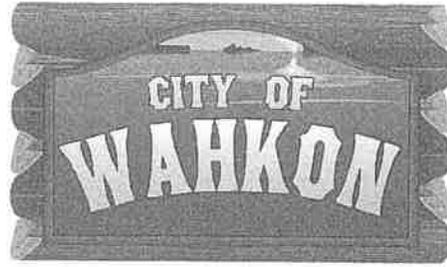
My name is Carl Adams from Blackduck MN. My wife and I purchased two businesses in town just over 6 years ago, Timberline Sports –N- Convenience and Blackduck Auto Parts - Napa. We employ over 35 people. Our businesses have been able to be successful, help keep our small town vibrant and provide both opportunity for employment and provide options for local retail spots.

Our two businesses are both dependent on our local tourism, primarily the upper Red Lake traffic. We took out large, long-term loans to fulfill our dreams of owning and running a business. We had the confidence to do this because of the 25 years of running the businesses for before purchasing. We also knew there was significant risk involved in businesses so dependent on a natural resource. Any crash in the walleye population, closure of any access, or any other reason to slow the traffic to Upper Red Lake would devastate our businesses and lead to almost certain failure. I have been on the Upper Red Lake Citizens Advisory Committee since its inception. I have tried to stay on top of the giving away of any public lands and have been a huge proponent of the Keep It Clean program.

Before the Keep It Clean program we were beginning to hear complaints about garbage and unsightly waste on and around Upper Red Lake. Bad experiences on the lake make us all nervous as they can affect traffic for years to come. The Keep It Clean program started at this time and through education and hard work has had an enormous impact and I have heard little about garbage recently. Please do all you can to continue the funding of the Keep It Clean program as it not only helps keep our beloved Red Lake beautiful but is essential to many small businesses, small towns, and families on the path to the lake.

Sincerely,

Carl Adams



February 21, 2025

Rep. Andrew Myers  
377 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-9188,  
[rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov](mailto:rep.andrew.myers@house.mn.gov)

Senator Aric Putnam  
95 University Avenue W.  
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3215  
St. Paul, MN 55155  
651-296-6455,  
[sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn](mailto:sen.aric.putnam@senate.mn)

**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD** Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

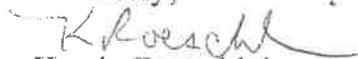
Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

The City of Wahkon would like to acknowledge the work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by supporting H.F. 1120 and its companion Senate file as introduced. This bill will help manage the leftover waste from winter angling on waters across the State of Minnesota. The popularity of overnight stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the impact of trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up.

The bill will provide state agency leadership for local efforts and funding to address local needs throughout the state. Today more than ever, citizens and local communities have inquired as to what can be done. Around Lake Mille Lacs, increased visibility of the Keep it Clean Coalition campaign is evident. However, more needs to be done to assist in the future installation of public infrastructure to properly dispose of human waste.

Keep It Clean efforts will help to keep our waters waste free for future generations to enjoy our valued water resources.

Sincerely,

  
Karrie Roeschlein  
City Clerk/Treasurer

**RLK'S Guide Service  
7234 Woodcrest Dr NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601  
Cell: 507-360-6405**

**February 24, 2025**

**Visit us on the World Wide Web:  
[www.rlksguideservice.com](http://www.rlksguideservice.com)**

Dear House Committee Members:

First, I want to thank the Keep it Clean Committee for their foresight on keeping Minnesota waters clean and for all the work they have done to get this very important program up and running. As a business owner & recreational property owner on Upper Red Lake, I appreciate everything that has been done by the Keep it Clean Committee to educate the thousands of people who use the lake ---- that ice is NO PLACE for garbage and human waste. Since the inception of the Keep It Clean program, we don't see any human waste bags or garbage floating up on our shoreline each Spring. When I travel on the ice roads during fishing season, I also see the difference this program has made. Minnesota lakes, rivers and forests are used by thousands of Minnesota residents each year. The residents and business owners in our small community do what they can to support the current Keep it Clean program. Over the years there has been an influx of sleeper fish houses with the ability for them to spend several days on the ice and it has just become too much for this committee and the small communities to keep up with all that is needed to maintain this very important program. The HF1120 is needed to fund and to continue this important program. These lakes, rivers and forests are Minnesota's most important resources. The Keep It Clean HF1120 Bill with Senate bill yet to be determined will save these resources for generations to come. Thank you!

Respectively Thad Lambert & Noah Sandmeyer

RLK'S Guide Service

**From:** Patrick Murphy <murphy1227.pm@gmail.com>

**Date:** February 21, 2025 at 4:47:49 PM CST

**To:** Andrew Myers <Rep.Andrew.Myers@house.mn.gov>

**Subject: RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD Keep It Clean program**

**RE: H.F. 1120 / S.F. TBD** Keep It Clean program established and funding appropriated.

Representative Myers and Senator Putnam,

I, Pat Murphy, would like to acknowledge the work of the Keep it Clean Coalition by supporting H.F. 1120 and its companion Senate file as introduced. This bill will help manage the leftover waste from winter angling on waters across the State of Minnesota. The popularity of overnight stays on the ice has outpaced the State's ability to adequately address the impact of trash and other waste left behind for others to clean up.

The bill will provide state agency leadership for local efforts and funding to address local needs throughout the state.

Keep It Clean efforts will help to keep our waters waste free for future generations to enjoy our valued water resources.

Sincerely,

Patrick Murphy President ACLARA

Aitkin County Lakes and Rivers Association

33029 Nuthatch Ave

Aitkin MN 56431