



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!™

Clean ALL recreational equipment. It's the law.

Dear Boater,

Most lakes and rivers in Minnesota do not have aquatic invasive species (AIS)—and you can help keep it that way. These nonnative species harm fish populations, water quality, and water recreation. You can help prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species by following both the required and recommended actions listed on this card.

REQUIRED ACTIONS: You must...

✓ **CLEAN** all visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species from watercraft, trailers, and water-related equipment before leaving any water access or shoreland.

✓ **DRAIN** water-related equipment (boat, ballast tanks, portable bait container, motor) and drain bilge, livewell, and baitwell by removing drain plugs before leaving a water access or shoreland property. **Keep drain plugs out** and water-draining devices open while transporting watercraft.

✓ **DISPOSE** of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches, and worms, in the trash; it is illegal to release bait into a water body. If you want to keep your live bait, you must refill the bait container with bottled or tap water.

Violating these regulations may result in fines up to \$1,000. To report a violation, contact a DNR Conservation Officer. You can locate officers at mndnr.gov/officerpatrolareas or by using the QR code below.



**DNR Conservation
Officer Locator**

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Spray, rinse, dry — Some invasive species are small and difficult to see at the access. To remove or kill them, take one or more of the following precautions before moving to another water body, especially after leaving zebra mussel or spiny waterflea infested waters:

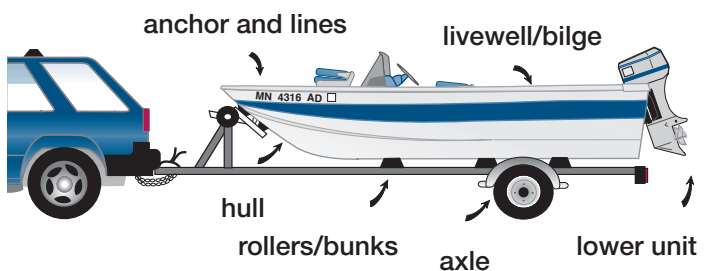
- **Spray** with high-pressure water
- **Rinse** with very hot water*
- **Dry** for at least 5 days
- **Run personal watercraft motor** for a few seconds to discharge water before leaving a water access.
- **Transport fish on ice** — be prepared, bring a cooler.

* These water temperatures will kill zebra mussels and some other AIS: 120°F for at least 2 minutes; or 140°F for at least 10 seconds.

To help protect Minnesota's lakes, rivers, and wetlands, I will:

- Clean all plants, prohibited invasive species and mud from my boat and trailer
- Drain my boat and equipment before I leave a water access
- Dispose of all unwanted bait, worms, and fish parts in the trash
- Learn to recognize aquatic invasive species
- Follow Minnesota's AIS laws and regulations
- Share these steps with others who spend time fishing, boating, or recreating in Minnesota

Check these places on your boat and trailer for aquatic plants or animals:



To report new AIS sightings or for more information contact:



Minnesota DNR Invasive Species Program
500 Lafayette Road
St. Paul, MN 55155-4025
651-259-5100
mndnr.gov/ais