

Attention Resort Guests

In order to maintain the natural ecosystems and fish populations of our pristine lakes & rivers, we ask that you take the proper precautions to not spread Aquatic Invasive Plants and Animals to new bodies of water.

Be sure to remove all plants, animals, water, and mud from watercraft and trailers before launching in a new body of water.

DNR Infested Waters List - https://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/infested_waters.xlsx

CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY

Please contact the Itasca County Aquatic Invasive Species Program for a complimentary watercraft decontamination. **BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY!**

“Decontaminations” are a precautionary measure that will ensure that you’re not responsible for the spread of Invasive Species.

Invasive Species Hotline (218-256-4243)

Decon. Unit Locations Map - <https://www.itascaswcd.org/ais-decon-station-locations>



Flip Over for Aquatic Invasive
Species Identification

Or Download This Detailed AIS ID Guide

https://www.maisrc.umn.edu/sites/maisrc.umn.edu/files/ais_id_guide_2018.pdf



Major Threat to Our Lakes and Rivers



Zebra Mussels

D-shaped mollusks that attach to solid surfaces with thread-like structures. They eliminate the base of the food chain (zooplankton & algae) through filter-feeding. They may dominate an ecosystem shortly after introduction.



Starry Stonewort

Non-native macro-algae that rapidly spreads through fragmentation. It can form dense mats throughout the entire water column. It may be easily identified by its star-shaped bulbils.



Spiny Water Fleas

Very small crustaceans that compete with native species for food. Known to gather in gelatinous masses on fishing gear. Eradicating an infestation may be impossible.



Eurasian Watermilfoil

Forms a dense mat of vegetation that interferes with swimming and boat traffic. Each leaf has 12-21 leaflet pairs. Not to be confused with the native relative Northern Watermilfoil which has less than 12 leaflet pairs per leaf.



Curly Leaf Pondweed

Forms a dense mat of vegetation that interferes with swimming and boat traffic. It out-competes native vegetation by beginning to grow under the ice in the spring. Easily identifiable by its “Lasagna Noodle” shaped leaf.



Purple Loosestrife

A perennial plant native to Eurasia that may quickly dominate riparian ecosystems through prolific seed production. Can be identified by the pinkish spike flower that is present in July-Sept., as well as the square stem. Not to be confused with Fireweed or Mint.



Flowering Rush

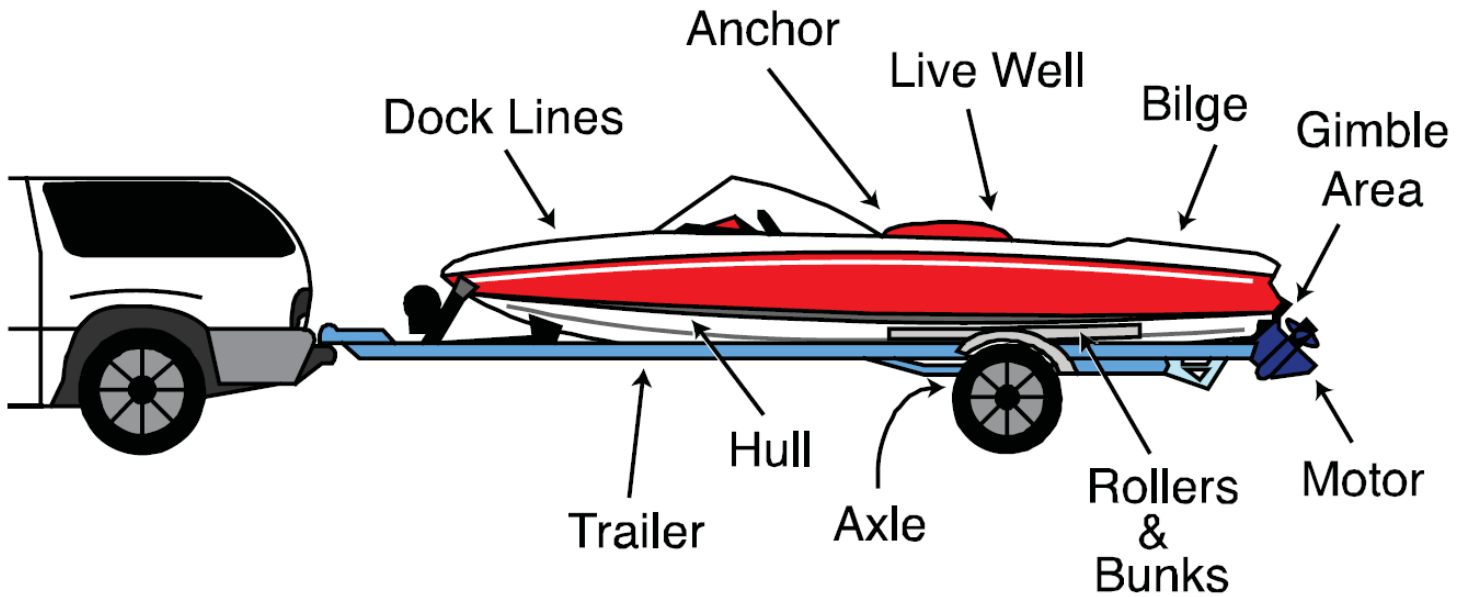
An emergent plant that may quickly overtake areas of fish spawning habitat. Native to Eurasia, this plant may be identified by its tightly-arranged “match stick” stem formation and its unique showy flower. Stems have a triangular cross-section.



Faucet Snails

A small brownish snail that may carry parasitic worms that infect the digestive track of waterfowl. The snail’s shell has 4-6 whorls and the opening for the shell (operculum) is situated to the right when the pointed end of the shell is pointing up.

Where Could Invasive Species be Hiding on My Boat and Trailer?



Boat Lifts, Docks, Swim Rafts, and all Water Related Equipment May Harbor Invasive Species



Allow all Water Related Equipment to Dry a MINIMUM of 21 Days Before Moving it to a New Body of Water

It's The Law!