

Minocqua Lake Region

AIS Prevention Step Prompts to Assist Inspector

If boaters are not familiar with the prevention steps or have questions, help them understand the reasons for taking these actions. **Remember the goal is to make this as relevant as possible to the boater by localizing the issue through the conversation.**

Step 1 – INSPECT

Step 2 – REMOVE

Why this is important?

- Plants and animals can easily attach to boat/equipment or become entangled in boat motors and fishing lines and then be moved to another lake. This is a concern in this area because of how easy invasives can be spread.
- The following area waterways contain invasive plants and animals, which can limit recreation and jeopardize our waterbodies.

Mid Lake

Curly-Leaf Pondweed

Lake Minocqua

Curly-Leaf Pondweed
Eurasian Water-Milfoil

Tomahawk Lake

Curly-Leaf Pondweed
Eurasian Water-Milfoil

Rainbow Flowage

Curly-Leaf Pondweed
Eurasian Water-Milfoil

Willow Flowage

Eurasian Water-Milfoil

Wisconsin River

Eurasian Water-Milfoil

- Many area lakes/ivers **do not** have invasives and **with your help**, we can keep them that way.

Step 3 – DRAIN BOAT AND EQUIPMENT

Step 4 – DRAIN LIVEWELLS & CONTAINERS HOLDING CATCH

LIVE BAIT MESSAGE

Why is it important to drain everything?

- Because many organisms such as spiny water flea, juvenile zebra mussels, and Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) are microscopic, invisible to the naked eye, and easily transported in water from one waterbody to the next.
- It is against the law to transport water from one waterbody to another waterbody!
- It is against the law to transport live fish from a waterbody (except for minnows)!
- Try transporting your catch on ice, which will reduce bacteria and rigor mortis.
- If live bait comes in contact with water that contains AIS, the bait or water within the container can carry AIS and might be transported to another waterbody. Microscopic organisms that cannot be seen may be transported via the water or live bait.

AIS OF CONCERN: VHS. Why? Because VHS is a virus that kills fish! It spreads via urine and reproductive fluids and the immune systems of the fish are defenseless. Area lakes do not contain VHS - please help keep them that way.

Types of Live Bait:



Earthworms



Minnows



Leeches



TRASH



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