

Training

In order for a volunteer monitoring program to be successful, it is important to adequately train, support and guide volunteers along the way. No matter where boaters go across the state, the volunteer message will remain the same: **"Clean Boats, Clean Waters."**



Montello Lake District

Training sessions are scheduled at convenient locations across the state. During the training sessions, volunteers will get a general overview of what current aquatic invasive species threaten Wisconsin waters. They are given instructions on how to set up a boat launch monitoring program, approach boaters, perform boat/trailer checks, record pertinent data, and report suspect specimens. In addition, they receive a volunteer handbook and resource tool kit to assist them in their monitoring efforts. Contact the Clean

Boats, Clean Waters Coordinator for the next scheduled workshop in your area: 715/365-2659.



Laura Felda

How Can You Help?

- **Inspect and remove** aquatic plants, animals, and mud from boat, trailer, and equipment before leaving the water access;
- **Drain** water from boat, motor, bilge, live wells, and bait containers before leaving the water access;
- **Dispose** of unwanted bait in the trash;
- **Spray/rinse** boats and recreational equipment with high pressure and/or hot tap water (> 104° F), especially if moored for more than a day; OR -Dry boats and equipment thoroughly for at least 5 days.

Wisconsin laws prohibit launching a boat or placing a trailer or boating equipment in navigable waters if it has aquatic plants or zebra mussels attached.

For more information about the "Clean Boats, Clean Waters" program go to our website: www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexplakes/CBCW



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UW Extension



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!
Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWater.net



Volunteer Watercraft Inspection Program



Yes! I am interested in learning more about the Clean Boats, Clean Waters Volunteer Watercraft Inspection Program!



Organization _____
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
County _____ Phone _____
E-mail _____ Fax _____

Clip and mail to:

Clean Boats, Clean Waters Program
UW-Extension Lakes
107 Sutliff Avenue
Rhinelander, WI 54501
715/365-2659

History of Invaders

Exotic species or non-native species have been hitchhiking their way into Wisconsin for decades. By water, boat and land, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes, exotic organisms have been moving into inland waters. Some aquatic exotic species can become invasive, threatening the diversity and abundance of native species, altering ecosystems and effecting aquaculture and recreational activities. As we travel throughout Wisconsin, exotics tag along and create havoc in our water bodies. In today's world, exotics can move at "the speed of flight." With so many waterbodies and so few state resources, it only makes sense to encourage volunteers to monitor and educate boaters about invasive species.



Eurasian water-milfoil

The State Learns from Kids



Laura Felda

During 2002-2003, a small group of middle school students in Minocqua, Hazelhurst, Lake Tomahawk School

District received a \$25,000 grant to develop an educational tool kit to help stop the spread of Eurasian water-milfoil in Wisconsin lakes. The "Milfoil Masters" program was very successful in training people on 75 lakes in 25 counties. This program established a statewide volunteer watercraft inspection and education program in efforts to raise awareness of all invasive species.



Montello Lake District

What Can Volunteers Do?

Volunteer monitors have been an integral part of Wisconsin lakes since 1986 and are the core of the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership. Wisconsin is fortunate to have over 1000 volunteers who monitor water clarity, water chemistry, aquatic plants and invasive species. Volunteers are truly the eyes of aquatic biologists and help monitor more than 15,000 Wisconsin lakes. Volunteers can once again be a valuable tool in helping to prevent the movement of invasive species across the state.

Through the Clean Boats, Clean Waters Program, volunteers are trained to organize and conduct a boater education program in their community. Adult and youth teams educate boaters on how and where invasive species are most likely to hitch a ride into water bodies. By performing boat and trailer checks, distributing informational brochures and collecting and reporting suspect specimens, volunteers can make a difference in helping to prevent the spread of invasive species.

