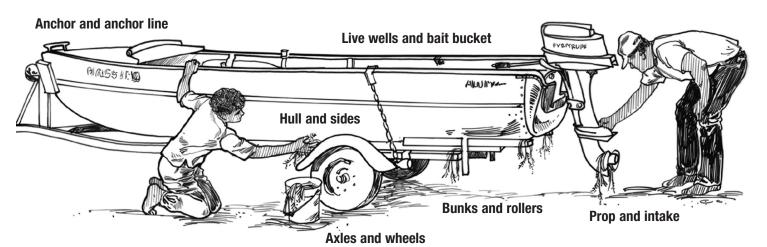


# Clean your boat and equipment to prevent the spread of invasive species...





Aquatic invasive plants and animals like Eurasian Water Milfoil, Curly Leaf Pondweed, Rusty Crayfish and Zebra Mussels are easily transported by boats and equipment as boaters travel from one lake to another. In order to prevent their spread, it is important for all of us to follow these preventative steps. Be diligent! Some plants and animals can be very small, hidden within mud or live wells. Even small fragments, roots or seeds transported by your boat can grow and infest another lake.

## Before you leave a body of water:

- Inspect and remove aquatic plants, animals, and mud from boat, trailer and equipment <u>before</u> leaving the landing.
- Drain all water from boat, motor, bilge, live wells and bait buckets and other containers before leaving the water access.
- Ice your catch; don't leave the landing with live fish, bait, or fish eggs.
- Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash, not in the water or on land.
- Rinse your boat and equipment with hot or high pressure water OR dry your boat for 5 days before entering another lake or river.

## It's the law...

These laws have been written and adopted to protect our water resources from invasive species.

#### State of Wisconsin NR 40:

- 1. Prohibits the transportation of any vehicle, including boats and trailers, on a public highway with aquatic plants or aquatic animals attached, and
- 2. Requires removal of aquatic plants and aquatic animals and draining of all water from any such vehicles or equipment immediately upon removal from the water and before leaving any boat launch or parking area, and
- 3. Prohibits the placing of any boat, vehicle or equipment into waters of the state (statewide) if they have any aquatic plants or aquatic animals attached.

### Polk County Ordinance 10-08:

Prohibits launching or operating on a public roadway any boat, boat trailer, or hunting, trapping, fishing, or boating equipment, including canoes, lines, anchors, nets, decoys, and waders if aquatic plants or invasive animals are attached.

Polk County Sheriff 715-485-8300 (non emergency) EMERGENCY DIAL 911