

PROTECT MANITOBA'S WATERS AND RESOURCES

STOP AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) threaten Manitoba's waters. Species such as zebra mussels can cause major negative economic, environmental and social impacts to water-users such as boaters, fishers, recreational water-users and industry.



Use this checklist in the OPEN-WATER SEASON to help stop the introduction and spread of AIS.

In Manitoba,

- you must be free of AIS.
- set fines for AIS offences are in effect year-round. For example, the fine for an individual depositing or releasing an AIS in Manitoba is \$2,542.
- if uncertain you have been in an aquatic invasive species invaded water body, it may be in your best interest to decontaminate everything (e.g., watercraft, motors, water-related equipment) before placing these items into a water body in the province.
- drain plugs must be removed when transporting watercraft over land. The exception are plugs used in onboard kitchen or washroom facilities.

BEFORE ENTERING A WATERBODY, you need to...

- ensure watercraft and water-related equipment are free of AIS, aquatic plants (weeds), mud, and water. Drain any residual water on land away from the water body. This includes water in bait containers.
- ensure all water-related equipment (e.g., fishing gear, anchors, bait bucket) are completely dry **before** placing them into the water body. Note: if returning to the **same** water body on the **next** trip, drying water-related equipment completely is not required.

AFTER EXITING A WATER BODY, you need to...

- remove AIS and aquatic plants from watercraft and water-related equipment **before leaving the shore**. If you cannot remove the AIS before leaving the shore you must obtain a Transportation Authorization.
- drain all water from motors, bait bucket or other water holding areas **before leaving the shore**.
- open drain plugs/valves and leave them open while transporting watercraft over land. The exception are plugs used in onboard kitchen or washroom facilities.

WHEN LEAVING AN AIS CONTROL ZONE in addition to the exiting steps above, you need to...

- dispose of all bait in the trash **before leaving the shore**.
- decontaminate watercraft and water-related equipment before placing them into **another** water body. Note: if returning to the **same** water body on the **next** trip, decontamination is not required.

To decontaminate you can:

- visit a provincial Watercraft Inspection Station. There is no cost for this service.

OR

- self-decontaminate by following the Approved Decontamination Methods (Schedule B and C) of the Aquatic Invasive Species Regulation. When choosing this option, watercraft and water-related equipment must also be dried completely **before** they are placed into **another** water body.

NEED MORE INFORMATION

visit: Manitoba.ca/StopAIS or call (toll-free):

1-87-STOP AIS-0

**SET FINES FOR AIS OFFENCES
ARE IN EFFECT YEAR-ROUND AND RANGE FROM
\$174 TO \$2,542 (FOR INDIVIDUALS).**

**PROTECT MANITOBA'S WATER BODIES FROM AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS).
BE PART OF THE SOLUTION AND DO YOUR PART - EVERY TIME!**