

PROTECT MANITOBA'S WATERS AND RESOURCES

STOP AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*) are a Prohibited Species under *The Fisheries Act*. Possession and release of zebra mussels in Manitoba is illegal.

Zebra mussels were confirmed in Lake Winnipeg in 2013. Help protect our precious lakes, rivers, and wetlands by taking a few important precautions when moving watercraft, trailers, aircraft, or before moving any water-based equipment and gear such as docks, nets, bait buckets, ropes, buoys, life jackets, anchors and totes between waterbodies.

BEFORE LAUNCHING AND BEFORE LEAVING:

1. CLEAN

Clean and inspect watercraft, trailer, aircraft, and all water-based equipment and gear.

Remove all plants, animals, mud. Rinse using high pressure (>250 psi) and extremely hot tap water - 50°C (120°F) for at least two minutes; or 60°C (140°F) for at least 10 seconds.

2. DRAIN

Drain all water from watercraft, equipment, and gear including the motor, livewell, bilge, bait buckets, and totes before transporting.

3. DRY

Dry watercraft, trailer, and all water-based gear and equipment for at least five days in the hot sun, 18 days in the spring/fall, or freeze for three days (if rinsing is not available).

4. DISPOSE

Dispose of unwanted live bait and worms in the trash, and dump all water from bait buckets and totes on land away from any waterbody.



Photo credit: Ohio Sea Grant



Photo credit: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources