

PROTECT MANITOBA'S WATERS AND RESOURCES

STOP AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY AND DISPOSE. IT'S THE LAW!

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are threatening Manitoba waters. Non-native species such as zebra mussels cause major negative economic, environmental and social impacts to boaters, fishers, recreational water users and industries.

To help prevent the spread of AIS, the Manitoba government has passed a law that requires all water users to take the following steps when moving water-related craft and equipment (ex: boats, trailers, removable docks, fishing gear and recreational water equipment) from one body of water into another body of water:

CLEAN and remove any AIS, aquatic plants, and mud from watercraft, float planes, ATVs, trailers, and all water-related equipment (ex: fishing gear, ropes, anchors).

DRAIN all water from the watercraft (ex: ballast tanks, motor, live well, compartments) and water-related equipment (ex: bait bucket). Keep drain plugs out while transporting watercraft.

DRY completely (or decontaminate) water-related equipment and any hard-to-drain compartments that come in contact with water.

DISPOSE of unwanted bait and worms in the trash. Refer to the Manitoba Anglers' Guide for information on live bait use.

If you are visiting Manitoba, please ensure you are free of AIS, aquatic plants, mud, and standing water before entering a Manitoba water body.



Photo credit: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Control Zones

Control zones are areas in which AIS have been found or are expected to spread. The purpose of control zones is to ensure that in addition to the cleaning requirements (Clean, Drain, Dry), all water-related craft or equipment leaving the control zone area are decontaminated before they are moved into another water body. Decontamination will be conducted:

- at a Watercraft Inspection Station or,
- on your own, following approved decontamination methods found in the regulation

Also, before leaving a control zone, you **MUST** dispose of all bait in the trash.

The following are established control zones:

Central Control Zone includes all of Lake Winnipeg, Cedar Lake (west of Grand Rapids), the Red River and the Nelson River from Lake Winnipeg to Hudson Bay including all the lakes through which the river passes.

Winnipeg River Control Zone includes the Winnipeg River from Ontario to Lake Winnipeg including all the lakes through which the river passes.

Buffalo Bay Control Zone includes Buffalo Bay, the Manitoba portion of Lake of the Woods.

Whiteshell Control Zone includes Betula, Jessica and White lakes, and the portion of the Whiteshell River from Jessica Lake to its entry into the Winnipeg River.

You Can Help Prevent the Spread of AIS

Know the law. You may not:

- transport watercraft overland without drain plug removed.
- launch a watercraft in Manitoba with AIS aquatic plants, and mud attached.
- leave a water body access area with AIS, aquatic plants, or mud attached.
- transport water from one water body to another, including water in bait buckets.
- place watercraft or water-related equipment removed from water bodies within control zones, into any other water body, unless the watercraft or equipment has been decontaminated.
- take bait used in a control zone to another water body. It must be disposed of in the trash prior to leaving the water body.
- pump out water from float plane pontoons/floats directly into a water body.

You must also report any AIS when you see or suspect you see them. Violating these regulations may result in fines.



To find out more about the Aquatic Invasive Species legislation or report new sightings, visit manitoba.ca/StopAIS or call

1-87-STOP AIS-0

Manitoba 