

Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program City of Burnsville & City of Lakeville Watercraft Inspections



Inspecting and Decontaminating Watercraft and Water-Related Equipment

Dakota County has significantly increased watercraft inspections at several boat launches thanks to Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Aid and support from the cities of Burnsville and Lakeville. In 2018, Dakota County purchased a high-pressure, hot water decontamination unit which is operated at Lake Byllesby Regional Park during the open water season. The system is capable of killing and removing attached adult zebra mussels on a watercraft.

Dakota County inspectors and operators of decontamination equipment are trained by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and may deny access if a watercraft owner or operator fails to comply with AIS laws. If decontamination is required, Dakota County's operators are trained to ensure AIS are safely removed without damaging watercraft finishes or equipment (though mandatory decontamination orders are rare). Compliance rates within Dakota County are approximately 95 percent—which is consistent with other inspection programs throughout Minnesota. Inspections occur during the open water season on Crystal Lake, Orchard Lake, Lake Marion, and Lake Byllesby. The program is expected to expand to provide inspection coverage on two Mississippi River launches in Hastings and South St. Paul in 2019.



Dakota County's AIS Inspection Program began in 2017 to boost efforts by the Minnesota DNR within the County.

To increase public awareness of harmful Aquatic Invasive Species, Dakota County developed brochures for distribution by inspectors at boat launches. The brochures provide information about AIS laws and included a bathymetric (lake-bottom contour) map. Printed on waterresistant paper, these lake map AIS brochures have been extremely popular with boaters.





Dakota County receives Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Aid annually from the Minnesota Department of Revenue. Dakota County's AIS Plan includes the following guidelines for the use of AIS Prevention Aid:

- Prepare a comprehensive inventory of boat launches and waterbodies at risk
- Undertake awareness campaigns
- Develop early detection and rapid response procedures
- Manage existing populations of AIS
- Establish partnerships with local units of government and lake associations



Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention

Inspect your watercraft and water-related equipment for the presence of aquatic invasive species (AIS) after each use. Participating in watercraft inspections can help you learn where to look for AIS that might otherwise hitchhike to another lake.



CLEAN your watercraft and all water-related equipment before leaving any water access or shoreland by removing all aquatic invasive species.



DISPOSE of unused bait and fish parts in the trash – see other side for laws.

RINSE AND DRY your watercraft and equipment before going to another body of water. Rinse with very hot water and let watercraft dry for at least five days.



Dakota County Water Resources 14955 Galaxie Avenue Apple Valley, MN 55124 www.dakotacounty.us 952-891-7000