



# WATERCRAFT CHECK POINTS

Help Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

### Check and remove plants and/or animals:

- Boat hull, bottom and sides (visible mud or sand).
- Anchor and anchor line.
- Trailer, including rollers, trailer axle and lights/wiring.
- Sailboats and kayaks, also check the centerboard or rudder.
- Motorboats and jet skis, also check the motor/prop, anchors, bunks and intake grate.
- Drain water from the motor, live/bait/transom wells, bait bucket or bilge. Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash, not in the water.

### Additional precautions:

Spray, rinse, or dry equipment. (Ideally, wash your boat with warm tap water, take your boat through a car wash, or dry your boat and equipment in the sun for five days before entering another body of water.)

### What to do with an invasive species:

If you think you have found an invasive species from a body of water that is not currently listed as infested, please take the following steps:

- Put the sample in a plastic bag and keep it in a cooler or refrigerator.
- With a permanent marker, record the date and the specific location where the specimen was found on the bag, including:
  - Name of the body of water, and county.
  - Description of where the sample was found—on a boat, caught on fishing line, etc.
- Send the specimen to Michigan Sea Grant Extension, 334 Natural Resources Building, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1222
- Removing any invasive plants or animals on a watercraft before it enters a lake is the most effective means of preventing the transfer of invasive species.

Adopted from the Clean Boats Clean Waters program

To learn more about invasive species, see: [www.miseagrant.umich.edu/ais](http://www.miseagrant.umich.edu/ais)

## Watercraft Check Points

- Anchor
- Axle
- Bait bucket
- Bunks
- Bow line
- Fishing line
- Floor
- Hull
- Intake pipe
- Ladder
- Landing net
- License plate
- Motor
- Wheels
- Live well
- Lights/wiring
- Rollers
- Prop
- Spare tire
- Tackle
- Tow rope
- Trailer
- Transducer
- Transom well
- Trolling motor



Michigan Sea Grant College Program  
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