Ohio’s Boat Cleaning and Inspection BMP’s

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Ohio’s Boat Cleaning and Inspection BMP’s

✓ Currently, Ohio has no AIS related boat cleaning regulations

✓ Ohio Sea Grant promotes BMP’s to variety of stakeholders through the Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! campaign
  ✓ Charter Captains
  ✓ Tournament Anglers
  ✓ Recreational Boaters/Fishers
  ✓ Clean Marinas
How Does Boat Washing Fit?

Voluntary Guidelines to Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species Through Recreational Activities

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Purpose of guidelines:

✓ Consistent, practical, and effective guidance to communication and outreach efforts
✓ Take into account key pathways, vectors, and life history of all AIS, including fish, aquatic plants, invertebrates and pathogens
✓ Support, not supersede local, state or tribal laws
✓ Promote voluntary actions to support the national Stop Aquatic Hitchhikers! campaign as well as Clean Marinas campaign
Rinsing Versus Decontamination

✓ A key concept for recreational equipment rinsing/washing compared to decontamination is that the effectiveness of the treatment depends on the recreation activity and the type of AIS.

Bottom Line:

✓ Not all watercraft need to be rinsed or washed
✓ Rinsing, flushing or high pressure washing removes them, while hot water kills AIS
Day Users
“One Lake – One Day”

✓ **Inspect** and clean off any aquatic plants, animals, and mud from watercraft, motor and trailer *before leaving a water access*

✓ **Dispose** of unwanted bait, worms, and fish parts in the trash

✓ **Drain** motor, bilge, livewell and water containing devices

✓ **Flush** motor according to owner’s manual

✓ **Spray/rinse** watercraft, trailer and equipment with high pressure hot water **AND/OR**

✓ **Dry** everything for more than 5 days or **wipe** with a towel *before reuse.*
Where to look for aquatic nuisance species:

- Bait buckets and live wells
- Transom well
- Lower Unit
- Trailer axel
- Anchor and line
- Rollers and bunks
Moored On Water

“More Than a Day”

Follow recommended decontamination methods, especially if left in the water for more than a day on invasive mussel infested waters:

- **Spray/rinse** hull and other external areas or recreational equipment with high pressure (2,500 psi) hot water (140°F for 10 sec)
- **Rinse/flush** motors with hot water (120°F) for 2 minutes
- **Rinse/flush** interior compartments with hot water (120°F)

Young invasive mussel settlers are difficult to see with the unaided eye, but on smooth surfaces they feel like sandpaper.
Summary

✓ Recommended actions for day users are: inspect/clean off, dispose, drain, rinse (with low pressure, hot as possible) and dry for more than five days.

✓ For recreational equipment left in zebra mussel infested waters for more than a day, do all of the above, except use high pressure, hot water for exterior surfaces, and low pressure hot water for interior components.
Boat Washing at Ohio Marinas

- Boat bottom pressure washing conducted at larger marinas may be classified as an industrial activity and the facility must comply with the Ohio EPA requirement for wastewater discharges:
  - Wash water must not be discharged to surface waters or a storm sewer system if:
    - Detergents or chemical cleaning agents are used
    - The water is from the cleaning of engines or other oily parts

- See [http://epa.ohio.gov/dsw/permits/GP_Marinas.aspx](http://epa.ohio.gov/dsw/permits/GP_Marinas.aspx) for more information
Clean Marinas Guide AIS BMP Examples

✓ Signage
✓ Pamphlets/Newsletters/Inserts
✓ Host Clean Boats, Clean Waters volunteer
✓ Provide Trash Receptacles
✓ Provide High Pressure/Hot Water Washer
✓ Provide Oil Absorbent Materials at Wash Station
Questions?

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