Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Laws and Requirements:

Before leaving the water access or shoreline property, you must:

- Clean off all aquatic plants and animals
- Drain all water including bilge, engine, freshwater tanks, bait and live well, and ballast tanks
- Pull the plug and leave it out

Get into the habit of taking these three simple steps, and you will soon become part of your local AIS prevention efforts from the boat ramp area. Check for plants while strapping down the boat. Pull the plug before you leave. If you have other people (especially kids with you), have them help! Adding a few minutes will help safeguard our waters.

Cleaning water-related equipment is just as important as cleaning your boat, while you're cleaning your boat, please remember to also:

- Clean anchors, ropes, fishing tackle, and other objects that were in the water. Many species can be transported in the mud or in the fishing lines and ropes.
- Dump water out of canoes, kayaks, and other watercraft before leaving.

These are YOUR waters and it is YOUR responsibility to inspect, clean, and drain your boats!

AIS Bait Laws:

- It is illegal to transport lake and river water. To save your bait (minnows or leeches), the DNR recommends bringing live bottomed or tap-water from home and keeping it in your vehicle or cooler. Bring ice can be a good idea on warm days to cool down the water.

DO NOT dump unwanted bait into water bodies or on the shoreline! Unwanted bait belongs in the trash or a designated compost bin. Unwanted worms must be disposed of in the trash.

Working Together to Protect the Waters:

- Fishing Regulations and Licensing - All persons 16 and older are required to have the appropriate license with them when fishing. Licenses are available through the DNR License Bureau, most County Auditors, and many stores that sell fishing related goods. Trout fishing requires a trout stamp. For more information call the DNR Information Center at (651) 296-6157 or 1-888-646-6367.

- Safe Boating - On all boats (except a sailboard) regardless of length there must be a readily accessible Coast Guard approved wearable PFD for each passenger. Kayaks, canoes, and kayaks, there must also be at least one Coast Guard approved throwable device, such as a ring buoy or seat cushion.

- Maintaining your watercraft - Don’t litter and do properly dispose of boat and sanitary wastes.

Safe Boating:

Personal Flotation Devices (PFD): On all boats (except a sailboard) regardless of length there must be a readily accessible Coast Guard approved wearable PFD for each person on board. Boating while intoxicated (BWI): Boating while intoxicated is illegal. For persons found to be under the influence there are significant penalties, including fines and possible jail sentences. Personal Watercraft - Special laws apply including wearing a PFD and operating at slow no wake speed at certain distances from other watercraft. In addition to these and other objects in the water. Operator age restrictions also apply. Consult the Boating Guide for more information. A DNR safety video is available free of charge.