**Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Laws and Requirements:**

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

1. Clean off all aquatic plants and animals.
2. Drain all water including bilges, towers, livewells, boat buckets, motor and ballast tanks.
3. Pull the plug and leave it out.
4. Get into the habit of taking these three simple steps, and it will soon become part of your routine. Pull away from the boat ramp area. Check for plants while strapping the motor in. If you have other people特別 closely packed with you there. Add cleaning. A few extra minutes will help safeguard our waters.

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

- Clean anchors, ropes, fishing tackle, and other objects that were in the water. Many species can be transported in the mud or in fishing lines and rope.
- Drain water out of canoes, kayaks, and other watercraft before leaving.
- There are YOUR waters and it is YOUR responsibility to inspect and drain your boats.

**Allowing Invasive Plants and Animals:**

It is illegal to transport lake and river water. To save your bait (minnows or leeches), the DNR recommends bringing bucketed or live water back to your vehicle or cooler. Bringing ice can be a good idea on warm days to cool down the water.

**Boating in Minnesota:**

- **Easy the fish back into the water, do not throw it.**

**Selective Harvest Fishing:**

- Practicing these appropriate techniques, the DNR recommends keeping fish home while releasing others back into the water to improve fishing quality. Here are some tips to use for effective Selective Harvest fishing:

  1. Use barbless hooks.
  2. Play the fish quickly and handle the fish carefully.
  3. Never hold the fish by the gills.
  4. Use a needle nose pliers to remove hooks or cut the line if it is too deep.
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**Safe Boating:**

- Do not consume alcohol.

**Boating While Intoxicated (DWI):**

- **Boating while intoxicated is illegal.** For more information, visit the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources website.

**Personal Floatation Devices (PFD):**

- Boats must be equipped with a properly fitting PFD approved by the U.S. Coast Guard. At least one adult must be wearing a PFD at all times. Additional PFDs are recommended for children. A Coast Guard approved PFD must be worn by everyone on board at all times.

**Public Water Access in Minnesota:**

- **Public Water Accesses in Mahnomen County and a portion of Polk County:**

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