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 bilges, keelwells, ballast tanks, motor and fuel tanks
- Pull the plug and leave it out

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 boat, clean, and leave your boat.

Water cleaning-related equipment is just as important as cleaning boats, so 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 fishing lines and rope
- Other watercraft before launching

These are YOUR waters and it is YOUR responsibility to not pollute, clean, and leave your boat!

AIS Ball Laws:

It is illegal to transport lake and river water. To save your minnows or leeches, the DNR recommends bringing bottled or tap water home and keeping it in your vehicle or cooler. Bringing ice can be a good idea on warm days to cool down the water.

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Laws and Requirements:

Watercraft Inspectors are here to ensure watercraft and aquatic species are "clean, learn, clean out". If you have any assistance, have questions about the laws, or are curious about the program, please ask.

How can you help the Watercraft Inspectors?

- Please clean your boat and pull your plug as soon as you are safely able to. That way when the inspectors are inspecting, they will have fewer things to check on your boat.
- If there is a Detainment Unit present, please follow all the instructions given by the inspectors, for your safety and theirs. There will be plenty of time to ask questions and watch them work from a safe distance.

Ways the Watercraft Inspectors can help you:

- The inspectors have tools, wrenches and pliers, if you are having trouble with your plug, ask them! It is illegal to transport lake and river water. To save your minnows or leeches, the DNR recommends bringing bottled or tap water home and keeping it in your vehicle or cooler. Bringing ice can be a good idea on warm days to cool down the water.

When you see the Watercraft Inspectors, please cooperate. The law requires compliance with inspectors, and it will help everyone to be on their way in a timely and pleasant manner.

Safe Boating

Personal Floatation Devices (PFD): On all boats (except sailboards) regardless of length there must be a readily accessible Coast Guard approved wearable PFD for each person on board. In addition, on boats 16 feet or longer, except canoes and kayaks, there must also be at least one Coast Guard approved throwable device, such as a ring buoy or seat cushion.

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 at certain distances from other watercraft, structures 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.