Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Laws and Requirements

If you are harvesting bait, commercial fishing, or harvesting or taking water, you might need to follow special regulations in infested waters.

To identify an infested water, look for orange Invasive Species Alert signs at the access. You can also use an online tool to find out if a particular lake is infested with AIS. Visit ais.mndnr.gov for more information about infested waters, including an up-to-date infested waters list and additional location information, visit mndnr.gov/Invasives.

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

- Clean off all aquatic plants and animals
- Drain all water including, baitwells, bait buckets, motor and ballast tanks
- Dry out or use dry leaves to carry in
- Clean anchors, ropes, fishing tackle, and other objects that are in the water. Many species can be transported in the mud or the plug and leave it out
- Dump water out of cans, kayaks, and other watercraft before leaving

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

AIS Bait Laws

It is illegal to transport water and live water. To save your bait (minnows or minnows), the DNR recommends bringing “hot salt,” treated water from home and keeping it in your vehicle cooler. Draining this can be a good way on hot 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 designated compost bin. Unwanted waste must be disposed of in trash.

Selecting Harvest Fishing: Improved technology and increased fishing have caused the question of how to fish in Minnesota. Practicing “Selecting Harvest” offers anglers an opportunity to take some fish home while releasing others back into the water to improve fishery stocks. There are some tips to use for effective Selecting Harvest fishing:

- Use barbless hooks
- Play the fish quickly and handle the fish carefully
- Never hold the fish by the eyes
- Use a needle nose pliers to remove hooks or cut the line if it is too deep
- Easy fish back into the water, do not throw it back.

Working Together to Protect the Waters

Fishing inspectors are here to ensure watercraft and equipment are clean in, clean out! If you need assistance, have questions about the laws, or are curious about the program, please ask!

Way you can help the Watercraft Inspectors:

- Clean your boat and put your plug in so as not to contaminate the water system when the inspector closes, the inspection process will move smoothly.
- If there is a Deselection Unit present, please follow all the instructions given by the inspector for your safety and theirs.
- Be there to help and keep water and waste from a safe distance

Way the Watercraft Inspectors can help:

- Inspect the water, take all materials, and prams, etc. and clean or replace them.
- If there are weeds that are too much, inspectors can also work to pull them off or other such tools. They also have grabing tools for plants

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


Administrators: — DNR, Mn. Dept. of Natural Resources, 1165 N. 5th St., St. Paul, MN 55155-4040

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Ten Mile Lake

Depth in Feet

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