Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

Laws and Requirements:

The DNR lists lakes and rivers as “infested” with certain aquatic invasive species. If you are harvesting bait, commercial fishing, or diverting 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 LakeFinder to find out if a particular lake is listed as infested. Remember to check for more information about infested waters, including an up-to-date infested waters list and additional location information, visit mndnr.gov/lakefind.

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

1. Drain water including hide, hide, (carpet), buckets, motor and ballast tanks.
2. Pull the plug and lean 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 and remove plants while stopping the boat. Pull the plug when adjusting the motor. 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 fish, 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 on fishing lines and rope.
- Pump water out of canoes, kayaks, and other watercraft before leaving.

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

AIS Bait Laws

It is illegal to transport lake and river waters. To save your bait (minnows or worms), the DNR recommends bringing “fish safe”, treated water from home and keeping it in your vehicle or cooler. Bringing live minnows 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

Drain, Cover, Dry. 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:

- Please dry your boat and pull your plug as soon as you are safely able to. That way when the inspector comes, the inspection process will move quickly.
- If you have a Decal and have checked it, please follow all the instructions given by the inspectors, for your safety and theirs. There will be plenty of time to ask questions and work them out from a safe distance.
- The Watercraft Inspectors can help you.
- The inspectors have tools, wrenches and pliers, so if you are having trouble with your plug, ask them for help! All the Watercraft Inspectors can also help pull weeds off boats or other such tasks. They also have grabbing tools for plants.

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

Public Water Access in Grant & Stevens Counties

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Body Name</th>
<th>Map Grid Location</th>
<th>Ramp Type</th>
<th>Fish Species</th>
<th>Administrator</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ash Lake</td>
<td>A1</td>
<td>carry in</td>
<td>unknown</td>
<td>DNR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barrett Lake</td>
<td>B3</td>
<td>concrete</td>
<td>C, L, N, S, W</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
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<td>Barrett Lake</td>
<td>B6</td>
<td>fishing plier</td>
<td>C, L, N, S, W</td>
<td>City/DNR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christine Lake</td>
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<td>DNR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cottonwood Lake</td>
<td>C2</td>
<td>concrete</td>
<td>C, L, N, S, W</td>
<td>DNR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elk Lake (Lower)</td>
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<td>concrete</td>
<td>C, L, N, S, W</td>
<td>DNR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elk Lake (Upper)</td>
<td>C4</td>
<td>concrete</td>
<td>C, L, N, S, W</td>
<td>DNR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graham Lake</td>
<td>C2</td>
<td>earth</td>
<td>unknown</td>
<td>Township</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon Lake</td>
<td>C1</td>
<td>unknown</td>
<td>USFWS</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lightning Lake</td>
<td>A2</td>
<td>concrete</td>
<td>N, P, City/Township</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>C2</td>
<td>earth</td>
<td>Various</td>
<td>DNR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muffuline River</td>
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<td>carry in</td>
<td>various</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niemackl Marsh</td>
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<td>carry in</td>
<td>unknown</td>
<td>DNR</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Pomme de Terre Lake (E)</td>
<td>A3</td>
<td>concrete</td>
<td>C, L, N, S, W</td>
<td>City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pomme de Terre Lake (S)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pomme de Terre Lake (W)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>USFWS</td>
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</table>

Fish Species:
- C — Crappie, L — Longnose Bass, N — Northern Pike, S — Suckfish, W — Walleye

Administrator: DNR – MN Dept. of Natural Resources USFWS – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Public Water Access in Minnesota:

The Minnesota DNR State Parks and Trails’ water recreation program provides approximately 1,400 boat accesses, over 365 fishing piers and shore fishing sites and manages 35 designated Water Trails in Minnesota. The DNR, Federal Government and local communities operate boat accesses. See the table on the right for specific site information. The DNR boating programs are funded by user fees including boat license and gas tax-related to marine use.

Public accesses are usually open 24 hours unless otherwise posted. Most sites have launch ramps but some sites, especially on smaller rivers, are open only during duels and docks are usually located only on the larger and busier sites.

Public Water Access Rules - The launch area must be kept clean and the following activities are unlawful: littering, camping, littering, leaving debris, and consuming alcoholic beverages. See Minnesota Rules, chapter 621B for complete rules.

Boating in Minnesota

The annual Minnesota Boating Guide summarizes Minnesota’s boating laws and regulations in an easily-read format. The guide supplies information about operating watercraft on the various lakes and rivers. Operator age restrictions apply to operators 17 years old and younger.

Licensing - All motorized and non-motorized watercraft must be licensed by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Please contact the DNR License Bureau for information.

Fishing in Minnesota

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 Auditor’s offices, and more stores that sell fishing-related goods. Funds from fishing license sales are used to support sport fish and game management. To check your license status or purchase a license by phone 24 hours a day, call 1-888-646-6367. To purchase a license in person, call the DNR Information Center at (651) 296-6157 or mndnr.gov.

Selective Harvest Fishing - Improved technology and increased fishing has caused the quality of fishing to decline in many waters. Practicing “Selective Harvest” offers anglers an opportunity to take some fish, and other species, to improve fishing quality. Here are some tips to use for effective Selective 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.
- Ease the fish back into the water, do not throw it back.

Safe Boating

Life Jackets - On all boats (except vessels weighing 2,000 lbs or more) regardless of length there must be a readily accessible Coast Guard approved wearable life jacket 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 sea cushion.

Personal Watercraft - Special laws apply including wearing a life jacket and operating at a slow no wake speed at certain distances from other watercraft, swimmers 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.

Cleaning watercraft, Drain all water, Dispose of unused bait.

Federal Aid Project funded by your purchase of fishing equipment and motor boat fuels.

The DNR Information Center

The DNR’s Information Center is available to provide free publications of facilities and services as well as answers questions pertaining to DNR recreational opportunities in Minnesota. 500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4040 651-296-6157 (local) or 1-888-MN-0004 mndnr.gov

FRANT AND STEVENS COUNTIES

GRANT CO.

Lake Charlotte E4 concrete unknown DNR
Hatte Lake E2 concrete N, S, W DNR

Lake Edgerton E4 gravel C, L, N, S Sport Club
Page Lake E6 concrete C, L, N, S Sport Club
Perkins Lake C3 concrete C, L, N, S DNR
Pomme de Terre Pool E3 carry in unknown DNR

Pomme de Terre River E3 gravel Various USFWS

Pomme de Terre Lake

Lake Administrator: DNR - MN Dept. of Natural Resources USFWS – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

MSASInvasive Species and Fishing Regulations

- The MSAS Invasive Species and Fishing Regulations brochure is available from local DNR offices, libraries, or by calling the DNR Information Center at (651) 296-6157.

- The brochure is available free of charge. It includes information on invasive species and fishing regulations.

- The brochure is updated regularly to reflect changes in laws and regulations.

- The brochure is a valuable resource for anyone interested in fishing in Minnesota.

- The brochure provides detailed instructions on how to identify and properly handle invasive species.

- The brochure also contains information on fishing regulations, including licensing requirements, fishing seasons, and bag limits.

- The brochure is available in both English and Spanish.

- The brochure is available for download from the DNR website.

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