AquaInvasive Species (AIS) Laws and Requirements:

The DNR Topic lakes and rivers as “Inferred” 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 inferred waters.

To identify an inferred water, look for orange Invasive Species Alert signs at the access. You can also use LabelFinder to find out if a particular lake is listed as inferred: minnesota.gov/Invasives.

For more information about inferred waters, including an up-to-date inferred waters list and additional location information, visit mindnr.gov/Invasives.

Boating in Minnesota

The annual Minnesota Boating Guide summarizes Minnesota boating laws and regulations in an easy-to-read format. The guide supplies information about operating watercraft on the state’s lakes. Operate your watercraft in a manner that does not create a hazard to others.

License - All motorized and non-motorized watercraft operators must possess the appropriate license issued by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Please contact the DNR’s 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 Auditors, and many stores that sell fishing gear. For more information call the DNR Information Center at 651-296-6157 (local) or 1-888-MINNDNR (state). To purchase a license by phone 24 hours a day, call 1-888-MN-angling (624-3643).

Selective Harvest Fishing - Improved technology and increased fishing have lowered the quality of fishing to decline in many waters. Practices “Selective Harvest” offers anglers a way to reduce the number of fish that are not large enough to catch. You can help maintain a healthy fish population by using selective harvest fishing methods.

- Clean up live bait: Do not dump unwanted bait into water bodies or on the shoreline.
- Keep baits separate: Keep Fish Lake (N).
- Don’t dump or carry live bait in water bodies or on the shoreline. Unwanted bait belongs in the trash or a designated carry-in box. Unwanted worms must be disposed of in the trash.

AIS Bait Laws

It is illegal to transport lake and river water. To save your bait (minnows or leeches), the DNR recommends bringing “fish safe” treated water from home and keeping it in your vehicle or cooler. Bringers of live bait can use a good mix of warm and cold temperatures to keep water flowing properly.

Accessible Accesses

Public water access sites developed after 2012 have been designed with accessible parking spaces and accessible routes to the top of the boat ramp. Some sites have additional accessible routes to a dock or other site amenities. These sites are identified with the red, accessible symbol shown above.

Fishing piers and developed shore fishing sites have been designed to meet the needs of people with disabilities. Parking is generally located within 200 feet of the site and there is a short walk from the parking area to the facility. The DNR cooperates with a variety of local units of government to maintain the fishing pier.

 occasionally, weather or vandalism can make these designed sites no longer accessible. If a site is found to be out of compliance, please report problems to the site administrator listed in this guide, or contact the DNR Information Center. 651-296-6157 (MN 800-657-3027) or email info.dnr@state.mn.us.

Accessible Accesses

Public water access sites developed after 2012 have been designed with accessible parking spaces and accessible routes to the top of the boat ramp. Some sites have additional accessible routes to a dock or other site amenities. These sites are identified with the red, accessible symbol shown above.

Fishing piers and developed shore fishing sites have been designed to meet the needs of people with disabilities. Parking is generally located within 200 feet of the site and there is a short walk from the parking area to the facility. The DNR cooperates with a variety of local units of government to maintain the fishing pier.

Sometimes, weather or vandalism can make these designed sites no longer accessible. If a site is found to be out of compliance, please report problems to the site administrator listed in this guide, or contact the DNR Information Center. 651-296-6157 (MN 800-657-3027) or email info.dnr@state.mn.us.

Accessible Accesses

Public water access sites developed after 2012 have been designed with accessible parking spaces and accessible routes to the top of the boat ramp. Some sites have additional accessible routes to a dock or other site amenities. These sites are identified with the red, accessible symbol shown above.

Fishing piers and developed shore fishing sites have been designed to meet the needs of people with disabilities. Parking is generally located within 200 feet of the site and there is a short walk from the parking area to the facility. The DNR cooperates with a variety of local units of government to maintain the fishing pier.

Sometimes, weather or vandalism can make these designed sites no longer accessible. If a site is found to be out of compliance, please report problems to the site administrator listed in this guide, or contact the DNR Information Center. 651-296-6157 (MN 800-657-3027) or email info.dnr@state.mn.us.

Accessible Accesses

Public water access sites developed after 2012 have been designed with accessible parking spaces and accessible routes to the top of the boat ramp. Some sites have additional accessible routes to a dock or other site amenities. These sites are identified with the red, accessible symbol shown above.

Fishing piers and developed shore fishing sites have been designed to meet the needs of people with disabilities. Parking is generally located within 200 feet of the site and there is a short walk from the parking area to the facility. The DNR cooperates with a variety of local units of government to maintain the fishing pier.

Sometimes, weather or vandalism can make these designed sites no longer accessible. If a site is found to be out of compliance, please report problems to the site administrator listed in this guide, or contact the DNR Information Center. 651-296-6157 (MN 800-657-3027) or email info.dnr@state.mn.us.

Accessible Accesses

Public water access sites developed after 2012 have been designed with accessible parking spaces and accessible routes to the top of the boat ramp. Some sites have additional accessible routes to a dock or other site amenities. These sites are identified with the red, accessible symbol shown above.

Fishing piers and developed shore fishing sites have been designed to meet the needs of people with disabilities. Parking is generally located within 200 feet of the site and there is a short walk from the parking area to the facility. The DNR cooperates with a variety of local units of government to maintain the fishing pier.

Sometimes, weather or vandalism can make these designed sites no longer accessible. If a site is found to be out of compliance, please report problems to the site administrator listed in this guide, or contact the DNR Information Center. 651-296-6157 (MN 800-657-3027) or email info.dnr@state.mn.us.

Accessible Accesses

Public water access sites developed after 2012 have been designed with accessible parking spaces and accessible routes to the top of the boat ramp. Some sites have additional accessible routes to a dock or other site amenities. These sites are identified with the red, accessible symbol shown above.

Fishing piers and developed shore fishing sites have been designed to meet the needs of people with disabilities. Parking is generally located within 200 feet of the site and there is a short walk from the parking area to the facility. The DNR cooperates with a variety of local units of government to maintain the fishing pier.

Sometimes, weather or vandalism can make these designed sites no longer accessible. If a site is found to be out of compliance, please report problems to the site administrator listed in this guide, or contact the DNR Information Center. 651-296-6157 (MN 800-657-3027) or email info.dnr@state.mn.us.