Aquatichy Invasive Species (AIS) Laws and Requirements:

The DNR issues lake 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: mndnr.gov/infestedsites. For more information about infested waters, including an up-to-date infested water list and additional location information, visit mndnr.gov/AIS.

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

- Clean off all aquatic plants and animals
- Dry all water including bikes, canoes, kayaks, boat buckets, motor and ballast 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 one. Check for and remove plants while dragging the boat down. 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 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 fishing lines and rope.
- Dump water out of canoes, kayaks, and other watercraft before leaving.

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

AIS Bait Laws:

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

Ways you can help the Watercraft Inspectors:

- Pull away from the boat ramp area. Check for and remove plants while dragging the boat down.
- 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.
- Clean anchors, ropes, fishing tackle, and other objects that were in the water. Many species can be transported in the mud or fishing lines and rope.
- Dump water out of canoes, kayaks, and other watercraft before leaving.

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

AIS Bait Laws:

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

Ways the Watercraft Inspectors can help you:

- The inspectors have tools, wrenches and pliers, so if you are having trouble with your plug, ask! The inspectors can also help pull weeds off boats or other such objects. They also have grappling tools for plants.
- When you see the Watercraft Inspectors, please cooperate. The law requires compliance with inspectors, and it will help everyone take on the task in a timely and pleasant manner.

Watercraft 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!}

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

Lincoln County

Lake Benton

- Depth in Feet

Depth in Feet