



Anoka County

PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

Parks and Recreation

Parks and
Recreation Office
763-757-3920

Wargo
Nature Center
651-429-8007

Park
Maintenance
763-755-0067

Chomonix
Golf Course
651-482-8484

Bunker Beach
Water Park
763-767-2895

Anoka County Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Aid Program Guidelines 2016

INTRODUCTION

Aquatic invasive species are threatening Minnesota waters. These nonnative species harm fish populations, water quality, and water recreation. The below guidelines and estimated costs will serve as the efforts that Anoka County will undertake in 2016 to help prevent the spread of harmful Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) in Anoka County.

In the 2014 Session Law Chapter 308 enacted by the Legislature provides Minnesota counties a County Program Aid grant for AIS prevention. The amount designated for each county is based on the number of watercraft trailer launches as well as the number of watercraft trailer parking spaces within each county. Anoka County was allocated approximately 4.5% of the total, which equates to approximately \$57,000 for 2014, \$127,000 for 2015 and \$135,000 for 2016. The budget for 2016 is \$185,000 which includes; \$135,000 from 2016 and \$50,000 carry forward from the 2015 budget.

GUIDELINES

- 1) Identify local enforcement peace officers and determine the training needs to enforce the AIS laws. Coordinate training for local peace officers. **February – March 2016**
- 2) Coordinate with local businesses to reduce the spread of AIS. **February – April 2016 (\$1,000 – Educational Materials)**
- 3) Incorporate outreach on AIS through environmental education programming. **March – October 2016 (\$3,000 – Climb Theatre)**
- 4) Develop & distribute AIS prevention messages in County News Letter, Activities Guide, City News Letters, Lake Associations, Billboards, Signs, and Gate Houses. **February – October 2016 (\$7,500 – Billboards along Hwy. 65, Hwy. 10, I35W/E, signs)**
- 5) Conduct educational efforts through city and county events to spread the message about AIS. **April - October 2016 (\$3,000 – Educational Materials)**
- 6) Coordinate and assist Lake Associations with outreach efforts and monitoring efforts. **April – September 2016 (\$3,000 – Educational Materials & Sampling Equipment)**

- 7) Explore a citizen monitoring program. **May – September 2016 (\$3,000 – Books/Manuals and Sampling Equipment)**
- 8) Hire an AIS Coordinator and approximately 15 watercraft inspectors. **February – December 2016 (\$123,000 – Salary, uniforms, equipment, and supplies)**
- 9) Ensure local peace officers enforce the AIS laws. **May – September 2016**
- 10) Coordinate AIS efforts with surrounding counties and cities that share watershed jurisdictions. **March – October 2016**
- 11) Establish a grant program to prevent the spread of AIS. **May – October 2016 (\$24,000)**
- 12) Explore decontamination trailers for high risk sites and determine costs. **May – October 2016**
- 13) Develop a Rapid Response plan for new AIS infestations. **March – October 2016 (\$16,500 – Prepare a plan and set aside emergency budget)**
- 14) Conduct a broad stakeholder group meeting to include Lake Improvement Districts, Lake Associations, Conservation Groups, Cities and Townships to review program direction, determine needs, ideas, and collaborate efforts to maximize the AIS Prevention Aid Program. **October - November 2016 (\$1,000 – Educational Materials)**
- 15) Review 2016 plan and prepare the 2017 plan and budget. **October – December 2016**