

# **NATIONAL GUIDELINES TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES**

Based on guidelines originally produced by the Recreational Activities  
Committee of the ANS Task Force in 2000  
(updated 2008 to address VHS and New Zealand Mudsail)

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## **Boaters and Anglers**

**Before launching.....before leaving:**

- ✓ **Remove** aquatic plants, fish, animals, and mud from boat, motor, trailer and equipment
- ✓ **Drain** water from boat, motor, bilge, livewell and bait buckets
- ✓ **Dispose** of unwanted live bait, fish parts, and worms in the trash
- ✓ **Rinse** boat and equipment with high pressure, hot (120 degrees or higher) water on your way home or at home, **OR**
- ✓ **Dry** everything for at least five days

## **Personal Watercraft Users**

**At the water access before leaving:**

- ✓ **Avoid** running engine through aquatic plants
- ✓ **Push** or winch the watercraft onto the trailer without running engine

**On the trailer:**

- ✓ **Run** engine for 5-10 seconds to blow out excess water and vegetation from internal drive, then turn off engine
- ✓ **Remove** aquatic plants, animals and mud from water intake grate, steering nozzle, watercraft hull and trailer
- ✓ **Rinse** watercraft and equipment with high pressure, hot water (120 degrees or higher), **OR**
- ✓ **Dry** everything for at least 5 days

## Sailboaters/Sailors

### Before launching.....before leaving:

- ✓ **Remove** aquatic plants, animals and mud from hull, centerboard and bilgeboard wells, rudderpost area, and trailer
- ✓ **Drain** water from motor and bilge
- ✓ **Rinse** watercraft and equipment with high pressure, hot water (120 degrees or higher, **OR**
- ✓ **Dry** everything for at least 5 days

## Waterfowl Hunters

### Before hunting...after hunting:

- ✓ **Remove** aquatic plants, animals, and mud from boat, motor, trailer, waders or hip boots, decoy lines, and anchors\*
- ✓ **Drain** water motor, livewell and bilge
- ✓ **Rinse** watercraft and equipment with high pressure, hot water (120 degrees or higher), especially if moored for more than a day, **OR**
- ✓ **Dry** everything for at least 5 days

\* use elliptical, bulb-shaped or strap anchors on decoys to help avoid snagging aquatic plants

## Aquarists and Water Gardeners

- ✓ **Contact** a retailer for proper handling advice or possible returns
- ✓ **Give** or **trade** with another aquarist, pond owner, or water gardener
- ✓ **Donate** to a local aquarium society, school, or aquatic business
- ✓ **Seal** aquatic plants in plastic bags and dispose in the trash
- ✓ **Contact** a veterinarian or pet retailer for guidance on humane disposal of animals