

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

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

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

Scuba Divers

Before diving...before leaving:

- ✓ **Remove** aquatic plants, animals, and mud from gear including wetsuits, masks, snorkels, boat, motor, and trailer
- ✓ **Drain** water from buoyancy compensator (bc), regulator, tank boot, boat and trailer
- ✓ **Rinse** suit and inside of bc with hot water or salted water (1/2 cup/gallon) followed by a clean freshwater rinse, **OR**
- ✓ **Dry** everything for at least 5 days

Seaplane Operators

Before take-off:

- ✓ **Remove** aquatic plants, animals and mud from floats, rudders, cables, transom, chine, wheel wells, and step area
- ✓ **Pump** water from floats
- ✓ **Avoid** taxiing through heavy growths of aquatic plants
- ✓ **Raise** and **lower** rudders several times to free aquatic plants

After take-off:

- ✓ **Raise and lower** rudders while over waters you are leaving or over land – if plants
- ✓ remain, return to that waterbody to remove

Regular Maintenance:

Use one or more method below:

- ✓ **Spray** floats with high pressure, hot water (120 degrees or higher)
- ✓ **Dry** floats by storing aircraft on land for at least 5 days
- ✓ **Scrub or scrape** undersides of floats (when spraying or drying is not possible)
- ✓ especially if moored for more than a day

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