

## Fishing? Boating? Working in or around water? Are you compliant with the Aquatic Invasive Species Regulation under The Water Protection Act?

Here is a brief summary of what needs to be done if you are using a watercraft (e.g., canoe, kayak, power boat etc.) or water-related equipment (e.g., anchors, waders, PFDs, paddles etc.) in Manitoba.

**Before launching** a watercraft or placing water-related equipment into a water body in Manitoba it must be free of aquatic invasive species, aquatic plants, mud, and standing water. All water must be drained so it does not drain into any water body or storm sewer.

**Before leaving** the boat launch at any water body in Manitoba, you must:

**CLEAN and remove all AIS and aquatic plants.** Inspect the watercraft, trailer, motor vehicle and water-related equipment visually, while running your hands over the surfaces that were submerged in the water. Recently settled zebra mussels feel like sandpaper, but may not be noticeable to the naked eye.



Common places where aquatic invasive species like zebra mussels can be found on a watercraft and trailer.

**DRAIN all water** from the watercraft (e.g., motor, live well, bilge, ballast tanks, compartments) and water-related equipment (e.g., bait buckets). Pull drain plugs and open valves and/or operate pumps to expel water. Leave boat plugs out when transporting watercraft over land – it is the law.

**DRY completely (or decontaminate)** water-related equipment prior to placing it into any other water body. Any hard-to-drain areas or compartments of the watercraft should be dried with a towel. Leave live wells, bait buckets and storage compartment doors open to allow for drying. If drying is not feasible,

please see Schedule C of the AIS regulations under The Water Protection Act for decontamination options for water-related equipment.

**DISPOSE of unwanted bait and worms in the trash**, and dump bait bucket water on land. Bait, or the water in which they are held, may introduce diseases which can impact native fish and other aquatic life. **Bait used in a control zone must be disposed of at the shore and cannot be used in any other water body.** Refer to the Manitoba Anglers' Guide for more information on bait use.

**NOTE: If you are removing watercraft and/or water-related equipment from a Control Zone, the watercraft and water-related equipment must be decontaminated before it placed into another water body.**

A map of control zones in Manitoba can be found here:

[http://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/waterstewardship/stopais/help/control\\_zone.pdf](http://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/waterstewardship/stopais/help/control_zone.pdf)

Information on how to decontaminate a watercraft can be found here:

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/waterstewardship/stopais/help/decontamination.html>

#### Watercraft Inspection Stations:

Remember it is also the law for all watercraft (e.g., power boats, canoes, kayaks) being transported overland to stop at Watercraft Inspection Stations when they are operating. The Watercraft Inspection program's schedule is updated weekly and can be found here:

[http://dev4.manweb.internal/conservation/waterstewardship/stopais/watercraft\\_inspectors.html](http://dev4.manweb.internal/conservation/waterstewardship/stopais/watercraft_inspectors.html)

#### Removing a watercraft from a Zebra Mussel invaded water body for the season? What you need to know:

If you're removing watercraft or water-related equipment from zebra mussel invaded waters (Lake Winnipeg, the Red River and Cedar Lake), you may need a Transportation Authorization. More information can be found here:

[http://dev4.manweb.internal/conservation/waterstewardship/stopais/transportation\\_authorization.html](http://dev4.manweb.internal/conservation/waterstewardship/stopais/transportation_authorization.html)

#### Requirements for water-related craft such as aircraft and ORVs:

In addition to watercraft, there are regulations also in place for water-related craft such as float planes and ORVs being used in water.

#### Additional information:

Information about the legal Aquatic Invasive Species requirements under The Water Protection Act can be found here: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/sd/waterstewardship/stopais/legislation.html> and a copy of the

AIS regulations can be found here: [http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/current/\\_pdf-regs.php?reg=173/2015](http://web2.gov.mb.ca/laws/regs/current/_pdf-regs.php?reg=173/2015)

For more information on aquatic invasive species visit [Manitoba.ca/StopAIS](http://Manitoba.ca/StopAIS) or call 1-877-867-2470