

PROTECT MANITOBA'S WATERS AND RESOURCES

STOP AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) threaten Manitoba's waters. Species such as zebra mussels can cause major negative economic, environmental and social impacts to water-users such as boaters, fishers, recreational water-users and industry.



Use this checklist in the WINTER (ICE-COVERED) SEASON to help stop the introduction and spread of AIS.

In Manitoba,

- you must be free of AIS.
- set fines for AIS offences are in effect year-round. For example, the fine for an individual depositing or releasing an AIS in Manitoba is \$2,542.
- if uncertain you have been in an aquatic invasive species invaded water body, it may be in your best interest to decontaminate everything (e.g., watercraft, motors, water-related equipment) before placing these items into a water body in the province.
- drain plugs must be removed when transporting watercraft over land. The exception are plugs used in onboard kitchen or washroom facilities.

BEFORE ENTERING A WATER BODY, you need to...

- ensure water-related equipment is free of AIS, aquatic plants (weeds), mud, and water. Drain any residual water on land away from the water body. This includes water in bait containers.
- ensure all water-related equipment (e.g., fishing gear, auger, ice scooper) are completely dry (preferably indoors) OR have been decontaminated (e.g., let all items freeze outside for three days at -10°C or colder) **before** placing them into the water body.

AFTER EXITING A WATER BODY, you need to...

- remove AIS and aquatic plants from water-related equipment **before leaving the shore**.
- drain all water **before leaving the shore**. This includes water in bait containers.
Note: water in its frozen form does not need to be removed before leaving the shore.

WHEN LEAVING AN AIS CONTROL ZONE in addition to the exiting steps above, you need to...

- dispose of all bait in the trash **before leaving the shore**.
- decontaminate all water-related equipment (e.g., fishing gear, auger, ice scooper).
Note: if returning to the **same** water body on the **next** trip, decontamination is not required.

To decontaminate you can:

- freeze all water-related equipment (e.g., outside) for at least three days at -10°C or colder.

OR

- follow the other Approved Decontamination Methods for Water-related Equipment (Schedule C) in the Aquatic Invasive Species Regulation.

- ensure all water-related equipment are dried completely **before** placing them into **another** water body.

NEED MORE INFORMATION

visit: Manitoba.ca/StopAIS or call (toll-free):

1-87-STOP AIS-0

**SET FINES FOR AIS OFFENCES
ARE IN EFFECT YEAR-ROUND AND RANGE FROM
\$174 TO \$2,542 (FOR INDIVIDUALS).**

**PROTECT MANITOBA'S WATER BODIES FROM AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS).
BE PART OF THE SOLUTION AND DO YOUR PART - EVERY TIME!**