



Doing our Part..... Boat Trailing

If you trailer your boat, pwc, or kayak please Clean, Drain, and Dry!!!

Our lake is already suffering from several aquatic invasive species that have disrupted our ecology (Alewives, Eurasian Milfoil and Zebra Mussels to name a few) but there are numerous nasty aquatic invasive species in nearby bodies of water that have not yet contaminated our lake. Hydrilla, Spiny Water Flea, Blood Red Shrimp are some of the most harmful **and the only way we can prevent them is through a concerted effort by our resident and visiting trailering boaters.**

A study by the University of Wisconsin – Madison concluded that boaters were the singular cause of the spread of invasive species from lake to lake. Our watercraft stewards last year inspected almost 1100 launching boats and found that 10% of recreational boats and 15% of fishing boats had some amount of visible organic or vegetative matter. That is almost 100 boats that could have been the one carrier to introduce Hydrilla to our lake, and those are only the visible levels of contamination.

So what can you do to protect our lake? The New York State DEC has produced a very complete brochure at the following link:

http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/fish_marine_pdf/boatdisinfect.pdf which I will summarize:

Clean: Before leaving any body of water, move away from the ramp and clean your boat, trailer and equipment of any visible matter (weeds, mud, and organics). Don't forget your fishing gear, trolling motors and anchor gear. Place any matter at appropriate AIS disposal stations or garbage.

Drain: Drain all live wells, bait buckets, bilges, motor wells and ballast tanks. Dispose of remaining bait appropriately.

Dry: The best way to eliminate the chance of contamination is to dry your boat, trailer and gear for a minimum of 5-7 days before launching in a different body of water. This time frame is based on hot dry conditions and can be much longer in cooler wetter periods. This ensures that all less visible threats are eliminated (many species can be spread in their larval or seed stages).

Disinfect: If you are unable to thoroughly dry your boat, DEC recommends you use a combination of 140 degree water, steam, potassium chloride, bleach and/or cleaning agents (409 / Fantastic) to clean your boat, trailer and gear on shore. (Please refer to aforementioned link)

Check: Before launching in a new body of water, please check and ensure you have complied with these recommended procedures.

In 2015, we will have Watercraft Stewards available during the most popular times of usage at the State Boat launch to assist in inspecting your boat. Please be pleasant and cooperative with

them, and feel free to ask them for additional information on how you can “do your part” to protect our lake.