



September 11, 2018

Dear Lake Service Provider,

2018 was the first season of the newly passed **Burnett and Washburn County Decontamination Ordinance** which states, "If available, boaters are required to decontaminate boats, trailers and equipment before entering and leaving a waterbody". Decontaminating your equipment further minimizes the chances of spreading aquatic invasive species, especially small critters like zebra mussel larvae that the naked eye cannot see.

Through a DNR grant, decontamination stations were bought which consisted of a 4x8' sign, cleaning tools, bottle of bleach and a gallon sprayer. Lake associations were excited to take advantage of this "new tool" at their landing and installed them. To date, they are found at the following landings in Washburn and Burnett Counties:

- Mathews Lake**
- Nancy Lake**
- Spooner Lake**
- Stone Lake**
- Fish Lake**
- Birch Island Lake**
- Loon-Cadotte Lake**
- North Sand Lake**
- Long Lake**
- Rooney Lake**
- Lipsett Lake**
- Little Wood Lake**
- Big, Middle, Lower McKenzie Lake**



With zebra mussels in Big and Middle McKenzie Lakes, this effort helps makes boat/trailer cleaning and even more important. Moving trailers, docks, boats and boats in and out all season, is always a concern in transporting invasive species. The Land and Water Conservation Departments continue to offer **free** disinfection equipment (bleach/1 gallon sprayer) and training on proper usage. We simply ask you to spray all your boating equipment down before moving lake to lake. The bleach solution is a substantially diluted chlorine solution from household bleach. Ratio is 2 tablespoons of household bleach per 1 gallon of water. Note: once mixed, the potency diminishes after 24 hours, so you'll need to mix a fresh batch every day.

THANK YOU to those who are already doing this and/or who have bought a trailer specifically for a lake you work on. With storage season upon us, please keep an extra eye out for zebra mussels on dock posts, underwater support bars, wheels, boats, pontoons and jet skis that have been sitting in water for a long period of time. Zebra mussels will feel like gritty sandpaper.



Adult and juvenile zebra mussels

Please feel free to contact us if you find something suspicious, are interested in receiving equipment, educational brochures, identification cards, or other aquatic invasive species information. We appreciate your partnership to keep our lakes clean!

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****Remember that transportation of aquatic plants, animals, and water is illegal both under state and county laws. Always Inspect, Remove plants and animals, Drain all water, and Never Move plants, animals, or water from any boat landing.***