

Oakland County is home to thousands of lakes and rivers our residents use for boating paddling, fishing, and hunting.



These outdoor activities can unintentionally disperse aquatic invasive species (AIS); non-native plants, animals and other organisms that can harm our local economy, environment and even our health.

The Oakland County Board of Commissioners prioritized preventing the spread of AIS in Oakland County water bodies by purchasing two mobile CD3 decontamination stations. Oakland County Parks and Recreation is operating these stations across Oakland County annually.

The stations can be used on any watercraft, are waterless, user-operated and completely self-contained.

Three hand tools allow for manual removal of non-native plants and animals, and solar panels power a vacuum and air blower that prevent accidental transport of organisms in water left on boats.



## How YOU can prevent aquatic invasive species from spreading:

**CLEAN:** Use the provided hand tools to remove all organic matter from the watercraft and trailer.

**DRAIN:** Remove plugs and drain livewells and ballast. Use the provided vacuum to remove and water leftover or on deck. Keep your plugs out when transporting your vessel.

**DRY:** Use the provided air compressor to dry all wet parts of the watercraft and trailer. Ideally let your boat and trailer dry for 5 days between launching, or use high pressure or hot water to kill additional organisms that may be hitching a ride.

**DISPOSE:** Make sure all unused bait or leftover organic material is properly disposed of in the trashcans attached to the units.



### STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Be A Good Steward. Clean. Drain. Dry.  
[StopAquaticHitchhikers.org](http://StopAquaticHitchhikers.org)

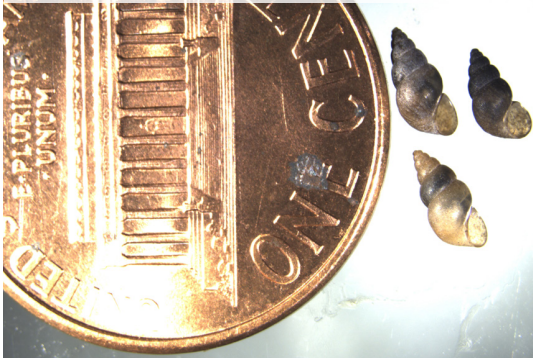
# WASH YOUR BOAT!

## PREVENTING AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES



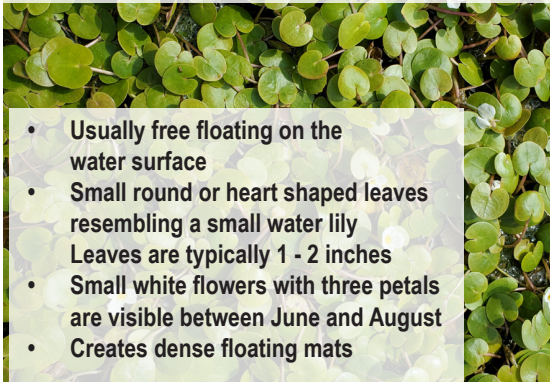
# BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR THESE INVASIVE SPECIES

## New Zealand Mudsnails (*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*)



- Very small, averaging about 1/8th inch in length
- Shell has 5 - 6 whorls and is typically brown to black in color
- When established, mudsnails can form dense colonies upwards of 10s of thousands of snails per square meter
- Mudsnails can outcompete native macroinvertebrates for resources and have little nutritional value for other wildlife

## European Frog-bit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*)



- Usually free floating on the water surface
- Small round or heart shaped leaves resembling a small water lily  
Leaves are typically 1 - 2 inches
- Small white flowers with three petals are visible between June and August
- Creates dense floating mats



## Water Lettuce (*Pistia stratiotes*)



- Free floating plant
- Thick leaves, typically light green
- Leaves form a round rosette
- Roots hang below the plant
- Creates dense mats, blocking sunlight and reducing oxygen levels in the water below

## REMEMBER, ITS MICHIGAN LAW TO:

- Not place watercraft or trailers in waters of Michigan if an aquatic plant is attached and ensure your watercraft and trailer is free of aquatic organisms (including plants).
- Remove all drain plugs from bilges, ballast tanks, and live wells and drain all water from bilges and live wells.
- Not release baitfish in any waters of the state and only use fish as bait in the waterbody where it was caught.
- Only release fish caught in Michigan waters back into the same waters.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

**Oakland County**  
[OaklandCountyParks.com](http://OaklandCountyParks.com)  
**Clinton River Watershed Council**  
[CRWC.org](http://CRWC.org)