

Aquatic Invasive Species

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) may be microscopic and can be plants or animals. AIS have the potential to cause significant economic and ecologic harm to our waterways by competing with native and game species for space and food. Anglers, boaters, swimmers, and others who contact waterways can unknowingly spread AIS.

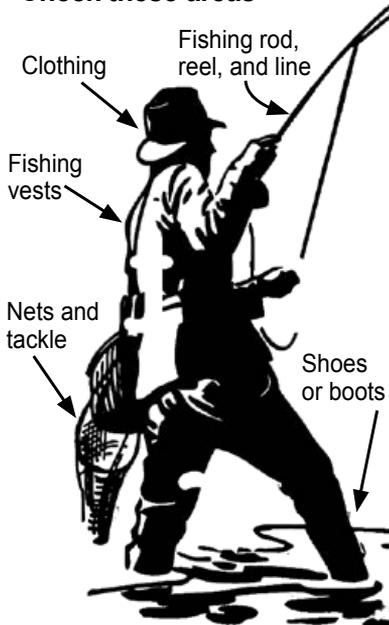
- Do not move or release animals or plants to other waterways.
- Dispose of unwanted fishing bait in the trash.

Clean Your Gear!

Before leaving waterways, check for and remove any aquatic life (plants and animals), mud, and other organic debris.

Use the following AIS disinfection methods before using your gear or equipment at a new waterway:

Check these areas

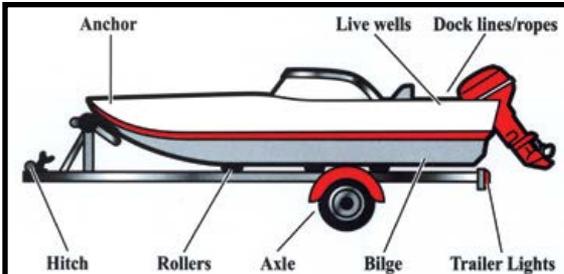


Small Gear

- For a minimum of 20 minutes, soak gear in hot water (120°-140° F) (may damage Gor-tex®) containing 1 cup of regular dish detergent per gallon of water OR freeze gear for at least 8 hours.
- After cleaning or freezing, allow gear to dry for a minimum of 48 hours before next use.
- Consider using your gear in only one waterway, thus eliminating the need to disinfect.

Boats and Heavy Equipment

- Before leaving this waterway, drain water from boat, motor, bilges, bladder tanks, live bait wells, any other wet compartments, and portable bait containers.
- Use a steam spray unit to thoroughly clean all parts of the boat or heavy equipment (including all wet compartments such as the bilge, bait compartments, and storage bunkers). If steam cleaning is not available, use a high pressure hot water sprayer. If these cleaning options are not available, put your boat through a hot water car wash.
- Thoroughly spray all parts of a boat trailer and towing vehicle that contact the water.
- Thoroughly flush the cooling system of all boat motors.
- After cleaning, allow equipment to dry for at least 48 hours.



Check these areas of your boat

STOP ASIAN CARP!

Bighead, Silver, and Black Carp are Asian carp* that are Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS). It is unlawful to possess, introduce or import, transport, sell, purchase, offer for sale, or barter these species in Pennsylvania. These species pose a significant threat to the biodiversity of native species and habitat, along with imposing safety risks to boaters.

Asian carp have had a devastating impact in the Mississippi River system and now pose this threat to the Great Lakes Basin. As AIS species, these fish do not naturally occur in Pennsylvania waters and would only occur if transported and released.

These carp species are a threat due to their large size (some can grow to more than 100 pounds and 5 feet in length), reproductive success, habitat damage, and large, year-round food consumption. In addition, Silver Carp, when startled, can jump up to 10 feet out of the water striking boaters, causing severe injury.

For more information and to report sightings or catches of these fish species and other AIS, visit PFBC's AIS web page at: www.fishandboat.com/AIS.htm.

*Grass Carp are also known as Asian carp. Diploid Grass Carp are banned from stocking in Pennsylvania, but Triploid (sterile) Grass Carp are allowed to be stocked in lakes and ponds with a PFBC-approved permit.

STOP THE SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

The Spotted Lanternfly (SLF), *Lycorma delicatula* (White), is an invasive planthopper native to China, India, and Vietnam. It was first discovered in Pennsylvania in Berks County and has spread to other counties in the Commonwealth. This insect has the potential to greatly impact agricultural crops such as grapes, hops, and hardwoods. It is also reducing the quality of life for people living in heavily infested areas.

If you are in the quarantine area, please "Look Before You Leave." Inspecting your vehicles, trailers, or any outdoor items before you move around or out of the quarantine is important. If possible, don't park in tree lines, and keep windows rolled up when you park your vehicle. Know the life stages of the insect and when to look for it. For more information, www.agriculture.pa.gov/Plants_Land_Water/PlantIndustry/Entomology/spotted_lanternfly/Pages/default.aspx.

STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

For more information, visit www.fishandboat.com/AIS.htm

REPORT AIS SIGHTINGS: <https://fishandboat.com/ais-reporting.htm>

THESE ARE SOME OF THE AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES IN PENNSYLVANIA.



photo provided by USGS



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photo provided by USGS



photo-PFBC archives

Rusty Crayfish

Quagga Mussel

Round Goby

New Zealand Mudsnail