



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), such as Eurasian watermilfoil, Asian clams, and zebra mussels, can be spread between waterbodies on boating and fishing equipment that has not been cleaned, drained, and dried. Help protect Lake George by following these guidelines.

CHECK

AFTER BOATING, BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE LAUNCH:

Remove all visible mud, plants, fish/animals from your boat, trailer, or other equipment and dispose of in a suitable trash container or on dry land.



Do not transport any potential hitchhiker, even back to your home. Remove and leave them at the site you visited.

DRAIN

AFTER BOATING, BEFORE YOU LEAVE THE LAUNCH:

Drain water from hatches, bilge, live wells, and any other locations with water before leaving the launch site.



See information on reverse side to better prevent the spread of AIS that may be invisible to the naked eye.

CLEAN & DRY

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE AT THE LAUNCH TO GO BOATING:

Clean your boat and equipment with hot water greater than 140 °F (tap water is usually 120 °F or less). If hot water is not available, spray your boat, trailer, and equipment with high-pressure water.



Don't forget to clean gear and equipment such as anchors, tow ropes, life jackets, floats, nets, etc.

Dry your boat, trailer, and all equipment completely. Drying times vary depending on the weather and the type of material. **At least five days of drying time is generally recommended during the summer.**

For more information or questions about how you can help protect Lake George from AIS, call the Lake George Association at 518-668-3558 or go online to www.lakegeorgeassociation.org.



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!
Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

HELP STOP THE SPREAD OF AQUATIC INVASIVES!

Hydrilla



Zebra mussel



Spiny waterflea



Eurasian watermilfoil



Asian clam



Alewife

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are non-native plants and animals that threaten native plants, wildlife, and their habitat. They also affect humans by degrading boating and fishing areas and reducing lake shore property values and tourism. Once AIS are established, eradication is almost impossible and management programs are very expensive. Spread prevention is the most cost-effective option for protecting our lakes.

Lake George currently has four known AIS: Eurasian watermilfoil, curly-leaf pondweed, zebra mussels, and Asian clam. There are many more AIS that have already invaded other lakes close by, such as spiny waterflea, alewife, and hydrilla. Boats travel between these lakes and Lake George, creating pathways for AIS to spread.



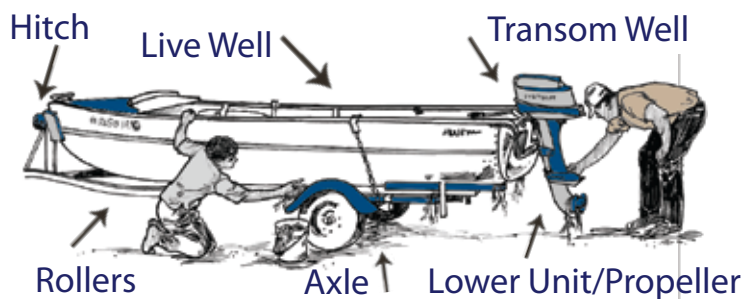
Not all hitchhikers are as visible as a prop covered in adult zebra mussels. Some adult or juvenile stage AIS are so small they can't be seen without magnification. Invasive viruses, zooplankton, and recently hatched zebra mussels and Asian clams can be transported in mud,

on plant fragments, or in small amounts of water. When you exit a waterbody, check for anything visible while at the launch and remove it. Then wash your boat and equipment more thoroughly at a boat wash station, car wash, or back home.



Data collected during the 2011 Lake George Lake Steward Program found that boats came from almost 200 different waterbodies in 15 different states prior to launching in Lake George. Many of these waterbodies are invaded with AIS.

WATERCRAFT CHECK POINTS



Alternative Cleaning/Disinfecting Options

Dip gear that cannot withstand hot water into:

100% vinegar for 20 minutes

OR

1% table salt solution for 24 hours

2/3 cup of salt mixed with 5 gallons of water

OR

2% bleach solution for 10 minutes

3 oz. bleach mixed with 1 gallon of water

OR

Household cleaners such as Fantastik® or Formula 409®, (or any cleaner with the active ingredient alkyl dimethyl benzyl ammonium chloride) for 10 minutes.

Rinse with clean water after disinfecting.

Follow label instructions for all materials. Dispose of all cleaning solutions away from surface waters in accordance with label restrictions.