

9.7 Boat Cleaning for Invasive Species Removal

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are abundant throughout the Midwest. Our boats and equipment enter and exit many lakes and ponds throughout the year. This increases the odds of transferring AIS between lakes. It is Aquatic Control's duty to our customers and lake users to reduce the chance of spreading AIS between waterbodies which we have been tasked with managing. The following steps will be taken before one leaves a waterbody and enters another waterbody.

1. Remove any visible mud, plants, fish, or animals before leaving the water access point
2. Eliminate water from equipment and bilge before transporting
3. Be aware of where zebra mussels are known to occur (http://www.in.gov/dnr/files/zebra_mussels_sightings.pdf). Equipment used in zebra mussel positive water must be disinfected prior to entering a body of water not known to contain zebra mussels. Wash equipment in a 104-degree water or use a 10% bleach water solution and rinse, or allow boat and trailer complete drying for 5 days.