

## VOLUNTEER PROGRAM FORM

Yes! I am interested in participating in the Clean Boats, Clean Waters Aquatic Invasive Species Volunteer Program! Please mail or fax this form by March 15 to register for program training.

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Website \_\_\_\_\_



To learn more about participating in Clean Boats, Clean Waters, contact the coordinator:

Phone: (517) 353-9723

Fax: (517) 353-6496

E-mail: [cys@msu.edu](mailto:cys@msu.edu)

U.S. Mail at:

Clean Boats, Clean Waters

c/o Michigan Sea Grant Extension

334 Natural Resources Building

Michigan State University

East Lansing, MI 48824

Program updates:

[www.miseagrant.umich.edu/cbcw](http://www.miseagrant.umich.edu/cbcw)

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Inspect and remove any visible mud, plants, fish or animals before transporting your recreational equipment.
- Drain water from equipment (boat, motor, trailer, live wells) before transporting it.
- Dry equipment for at least five days.
- Dispose of unwanted live bait in the trash.
- Know the Law: Michigan laws prohibit possessing or transporting any live transgenic (genetically engineered) organisms, several live nonnative fish and many nonnative aquatic plants, including entire plants, fragments and seeds, as well as hybrids and genetically engineered variants.

For a list of these species, visit [www.miseagrant.umich.edu/ais](http://www.miseagrant.umich.edu/ais)



For more information about Michigan's Clean Boats, Clean Waters program, call (517) 353-9723.

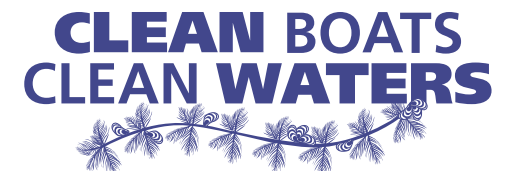


Michigan Sea Grant Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status or family status. Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by calling (517) 353-9723.

MICHU-05-715

## Aquatic Invasive Species

# VOLUNTEER PROGRAM





## INVASIVE SPECIES ARE BAD NEWS FOR BOATERS

Michigan has nearly 39,000 square miles of Great Lakes waters and more than 11,000 inland lakes larger than five acres. So it's natural that boating is one of the most popular recreational activities in the state, with nearly one million watercraft registered.

Unfortunately, invasive non-native plants, fishes and other organisms disrupt these precious ecosystems. They also interfere with the enjoyment associated with boating and damage recreational watercraft.

Boaters, skiers or swimmers can unintentionally spread invaders from one body of water to another when aquatic invasive species (AIS) hitch a ride on their recreational equipment.

Fortunately, most Michigan boaters want to help prevent the spread of AIS. However, many are not familiar with the few simple steps they should take.

Clean Boats, Clean Waters is a new volunteer education program designed to assist Michigan boaters with keeping their boats free of invasive species and to help protect their equipment and our waters from the havoc caused by invaders.

## VOLUNTEERS CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

Volunteers can play an important role in protecting Michigan's water resources by preventing the introduction of and controlling the spread of aquatic invasive species.

By showing boaters how to inspect their equipment, demonstrating cleaning techniques for boats and trailers and by sharing educational information about invasive species, volunteers can make a big difference in Michigan's efforts to prevent the spread of AIS from one body of water to another.

Through the Clean Boats, Clean Waters program, volunteers will organize and conduct a boater education program in their community. Adult and youth teams will educate boaters about where they are most likely to find invasive species on their recreational watercraft.

### A Clean Boats, Clean Waters volunteer is:

- caring, wants people to enjoy water recreation and wants Michigan to be free of aquatic invasive species
- congenial, interested in meeting new people and helping them
- informed, understands the problems caused by aquatic invasive species
- a good communicator, able to explain the problem and demonstrate inspection and cleaning techniques
- flexible, willing to volunteer on some weekends and holidays
- physically able to inspect watercraft and trailers
- reliable, ready, willing and able to make and keep a commitment to the program this boating season
- accurate, able to record information for program organizers.

If that sounds like you, you're invited to join Michigan's Clean Boats, Clean Waters team!

## TRAINING AND TOOLS

Participants in Michigan's Clean Boats, Clean Waters program will be trained for success this spring!

They will learn which aquatic invasive species are currently threatening Michigan waters. They will receive instruction about starting a boat launch education program, including

- how to approach boaters,
- how to demonstrate boat and trailer inspection and cleaning techniques,
- how to record important information,
- how to share their findings.

Volunteer group leaders will receive a comprehensive handbook and kit of resource materials. Team members will be outfitted with a program tee shirt.

