WATERCRAFT CHECK POINTS
Help Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

Check and remove plants and/or animals:
- Boat hull, bottom and sides (visible mud or sand).
- Anchor and anchor line.
- Trailer, including rollers, trailer axle and lights/wiring.
- Sailboats and kayaks, also check the centerboard or rudder.
- Motorboats and jet skis, also check the motor/prop, anchors, bunks and intake grate.
- Drain water from the motor, live/bait/transom wells, bait bucket or bilge. Dispose of unwanted bait in the trash, not in the water.

Additional precautions:
Spray, rinse, or dry equipment. (Ideally, wash your boat with warm tap water, take your boat through a car wash, or dry your boat and equipment in the sun for five days before entering another body of water.)

What to do with an invasive species:
If you think you have found an invasive species from a body of water that is not currently listed as infested, please take the following steps:
- Put the sample in a plastic bag and keep it in a cooler or refrigerator.
- With a permanent marker, record the date and the specific location where the specimen was found on the bag, including:
  - Name of the body of water, and county.
  - Description of where the sample was found—on a boat, caught on fishing line, etc.
- Send the specimen to Michigan Sea Grant Extension, 334 Natural Resources Building, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1222
- Removing any invasive plants or animals on a watercraft before it enters a lake is the most effective means of preventing the transfer of invasive species.

Adopted from the Clean Boats Clean Waters program

To learn more about invasive species, see: www.miseagrant.umich.edu/ais