



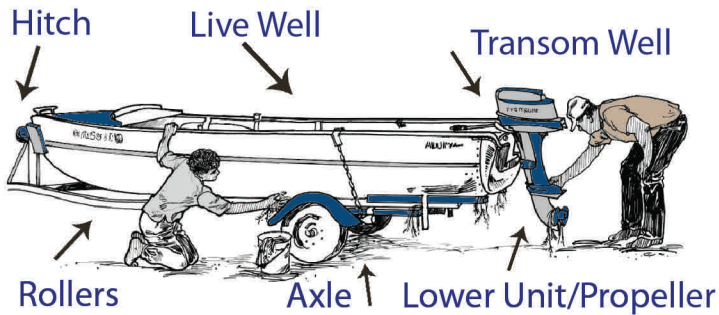
# CLEAN BOATS CLEAN WATERS






Watch out for unwanted aquatic hitchhikers when you move from one waterway to another!

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.

## WATERCRAFT CHECK POINTS



### When you leave a waterway:

-  Check and remove any visible mud, plants, fish or organisms from boats, trailers, equipment, clothing, dogs, etc.
-  Clean and eliminate water from equipment.
-  Dry anything that comes into contact with water.

Never release plants, fish, or other animals into a waterway unless they came from that waterway.



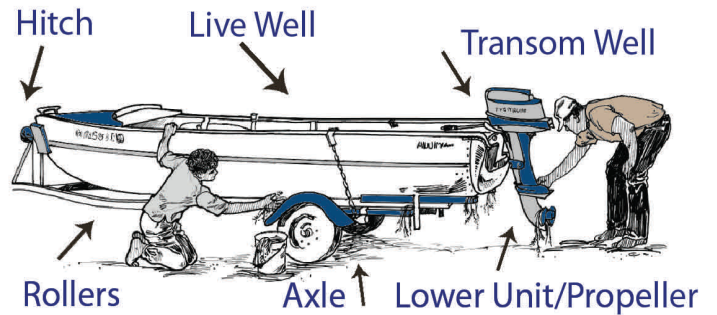
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## Aquatic Invaders to Look Out For:



H. Smith, APIPP

### Water Chestnut

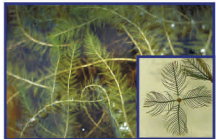
- Triangular leaves & toothed edges
- Forms dense floating mats
- Seeds & plants attach to trailers



J.E. Marsden, UVM & D. Jude

### Zebra/Quagga Mussel

- Tiny, "D" or oval shaped striped shells
- Covers hard surfaces & sharp shells cut feet
- Shells attach to plants & boat bottoms



A. Fox, Bugwood.org & Michigan DNR

### Eurasian Watermilfoil

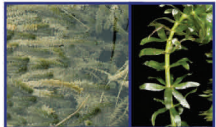
- Feathery leaves in whorls of 4
- Forms dense beds
- Plant fragments attach to boats & trailers



DFWI & J. Gunderson, MN Sea Grant

### Spiny Waterflea

- Tiny, 1/2 " crustacean with long, barbed tail
- Competes with fish for food
- Masses collect on fishing line



D. Moorhead, R. Vidéki, Bugwood.org

### Hydrilla

- Blade-like leaves in whorls of 4-8
- Forms dense beds
- Plant fragments attach to boats & trailers



J. Gunderson & D. Jude, Bugwood.org

### Live Bait

- Non-native crayfish and minnows
- Alters aquatic habitats & may carry pathogens
- Often released or illegally stocked

The Watershed Stewardship Program (WSP) is a collaborative education program offered at water access sites in the Adirondack and Champlain regions to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and help preserve the integrity of water resources and local economies.



Adirondack Park  
Invasive Plant Program



Lake George  
Association



Lake Champlain  
Basin Program



Adirondack Watershed  
Institute of Paul Smith's  
College



NYS Dept. of  
Environmental  
Conservation

For more information go to [www.adkinvasives.com](http://www.adkinvasives.com), [www.lcbp.org](http://www.lcbp.org), or [www.dec.ny.gov/animals/48221.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/48221.html).



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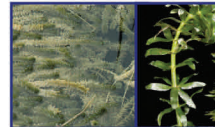
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