

Invasive Species Laws

It is **unlawful** to:

- **Transport** aquatic plants, ruffe, round goby, zebra mussel or any other prohibited invasive species on any road.
- **Leave** any body of water before removing drain plugs and draining all water related equipment. (including live wells and bait containers) **Note: To keep unused bait, drain and replace with tap or spring water.**
- **Move** water equipment (docks, lifts, pumps, etc.) and place in another body of water unless dried for 21 days.
- **Launch** a watercraft with aquatic plants, zebra mussels or any prohibited invasive species attached.
- **Harvest** bait (minnows, frogs, crayfish or other wild animals) from most designated infested waters, without a permit.

For help in species identification or additional information
Contact:

MN Department of Natural Resources
Area Fisheries 218-732-4153
Area Invasive Species Specialist -
218-732-8960

STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

- **Clean** visible aquatic plants, zebra mussels and other prohibited species off your watercraft, trailer and other boating equipment **before** leaving the water access.
- **Drain** water from your boat's bilge, motor, live wells, ballast tanks, and bait containers **before** leaving the water access. You must also remove the drain plug and leave it removed prior to leaving any water access in the state and while transporting.
- **Dispose** of unwanted bait in the trash. You may not dispose of bait in state waters.
- **Spray, rinse or dry** boats and recreational equipment **before** transporting to another water body. Spray/rinse with high pressure and/or hot tap water (above 140° F) **or** dry at least 5 days.

A complete list of prohibited species
can be found at
www.mndnr.gov/invasives
or by calling the DNR Information line
651-296-6157.



Hubbard County COLA
P.O. Box 746
Park Rapids, MN 56470

www.hubbardcolumn.org



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INVASIVE SPECIES WATCH Unlawful to transport any aquatic plants, animals, or infested water!



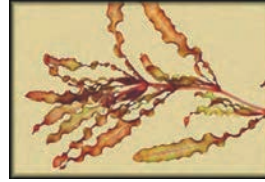
EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL

Forms dense mats that interfere with boating and swimming. Long spaghetti-like stems. Delicate feather-like leaves. Leaves arranged in whorls (circles) of 3-5 around stem. Each leaf has 12-21 leaflet pairs. Northern watermilfoil, a native look-alike, has 7-10 leaflet pairs. **Not currently in Hubbard County.**



PURPLE LOOSESTRIFE

A hardy perennial which can degrade wetlands and diminish their value for wildlife habitat. 3-7 ft. spike with small purple flowers. Downy smooth-edged leaves usually paired, opposite. Mature plants have many stems that grow from a root crown. **Already present in Hubbard County.**



CURLY-LEAF PONDWEED

Forms weed mats that shade out native plants. Have somewhat stiff, wavy leaves with fine-toothed edges that are 1/2 inch wide and 2-3 inches long, arranged alternately around the stem. It dies back in mid-summer. **Already present in Hubbard County: Portage, 11th Crow Wing, Upper Twin, Hinds, and Fish Hook Lakes.**

IT'S THE LAW
DRAIN BOATS AND PULL
BOAT PLUGS WHEN
TRANSPORTING



**STOP AQUATIC
HITCHHIKERS!**

Prevent the transport of nuisance species
Clean all recreational equipment.

www.protectourwaters.net



ZEBRA MUSSEL

Filter feeders which take plankton out of the water that young fish rely on for food. Yellowish-brown clams, up to 2 inches long, have light and dark stripes on their "D" shaped shells. Damages ecosystems. Uses byssal threads to attach to all hard surfaces. **Not currently in Hubbard County. In neighboring Becker, Beltrami, Ottertail, and Cass Counties.**



RUSTY CRAYFISH

Grazes on and can eliminate aquatic plant beds. Adults 3-5 inches long. Claws larger and smoother than other crayfish. Dark rusty spots on each side of carapace. Displaces and can hybridize with native crayfish. **Not currently in Hubbard County.**



SPINY WATERFLEA

Competes with small fish for food and fouls gear. Tiny crustacean (<1/2 inch). Difficult to distinguish without magnification. 1-4 pairs of barbs on tail. Prominent, tiny, dark eyespot. Clumps look and feel like gelatin. Impossible to eradicate. **Not currently in Hubbard County.**



FAUCET SNAIL

Populations can outcompete many native snails and are hosts to a parasitic trematode that can kill waterfowl. Shells have 4-5 whorls and a right hand opening with a hard cover called an operculum. Shells are light brown or black color and are generally smaller than 1/2 inch in length. **Already present in Hubbard County in Upper Twin and lower Crow Wing Lakes.**