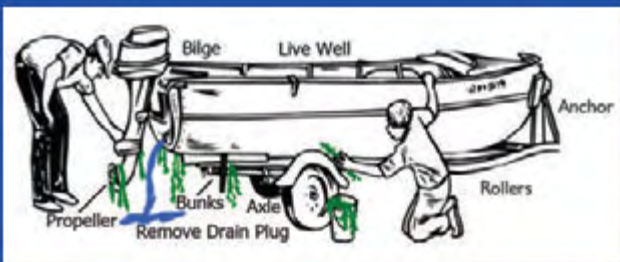




PROTECT YOUR WATERS

Clean. Drain. Dry.
Boating and Fishing Equipment

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are non-native plants and animals that interfere with boating and fishing, threaten native plants and animals, and destroy habitat. They are difficult and costly to remove, so let's help prevent their spread!



New York State regulations require you to:

- CLEAN, DRAIN, and DRY your watercraft, trailer, or docks before use in any public waterbody.

Additional recommendations include:

- Disinfect your boat's bilge area, all water-holding compartments, and other equipment (boots, waders, fishing gear) with hot water (140°F) for at least 30 seconds;
- Dump unused bait in trash cans and bucket water on dry land (not back in the water); and
- Avoid weed beds when boating.

More about preventing the spread of AIS:
www.dec.ny.gov/animals/48221.html



Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Examples of AIS in NY

Water chestnut



H. Smith, APIPP

- Fan-shaped leaves with toothed edges
- Sharp-edged seeds can cut feet
- Dense floating mats impede boating, fishing, and swimming

Zebra mussel



A. Benson, USGS, Bugwood.org

- Tiny striped oval- or D-shaped shells
- Can cover hard surfaces like docks and mooring lines
- Shells can cut feet

Eurasian watermilfoil



Graves Lovell, ADCNR, Bugwood.org

- 4-6 feathery leaves around stem, blunt-tipped, as if snipped off
- New plants sprout from fragments
- Dense plant growth impedes boating, fishing, and swimming

Spiny waterflea



E. DeBolt, LGA

- Tiny crustacean with long, barbed tail
- Competes with small fish for food
- Can clog guides of fishing rods

Hydrilla



Tim Krynak, Cleveland Metroparks, Bugwood.org

- 4-8 blade-like leaves with slightly toothed edges around stem
- Dense plant growth impedes boating, fishing, and swimming
- Tolerates both fresh and brackish water