Clean, Drain, and Dry:
It’s not just a good idea

Watercraft Inspection Program Leaders Workshop
April 29, 2016
Catherine McGlynn, Megan Phillips, & Matt Brincka
New York’s Updated Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan

- Released July 15, 2015

- Emphasizes prevention and early detection

- Top priority is the expansion of boat stewardship coverage across New York
Prevention

A spectrum of responses to the threat of AIS

• Regulatory
• Voluntary
State Legislation

• Senator O’Mara and Assemblymember Lifton introduce legislation to prevent the spread of AIS by recreational boaters

• Governor Cuomo signs the bill into law on September 2, 2014
Regulatory Efforts

• Amendment to Article 3 of the Navigation Law – “AIS spread prevention signs at public boat launches”

• 6 NYCRR Part 59.4 (DEC) & 9 NYCRR Part 377.1 (Parks) – “AIS spread prevention regulations for boat launching/retrieving at DEC and Parks-owned sites”

http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/101325.html
Exemptions

- Plants *(NOT invasive)* used for camouflage for hunting or wildlife viewing purposes
- Baitfish and gamefish that are possessed and/or taken in accordance with applicable laws/regulations
- Plants *(NOT invasive)* used for habitat restoration purposes or research – must be approved by DEC
Self Permit Process

Example situations:
1. Transport of watercraft to an on-land location for storage
2. Transport of watercraft to a cleaning or repair facility
3. Transport of legally caught bass or other fish kept in a watercraft's live well to a weigh-in location
New Part 576 – Reasonable Precautions

• Draft released December 16, 2015

• Public comment period ended January 30, 2016

Photo by Cathy McGlynn
The Details: Part 576

- Cleaning, draining, and treating (i.e. drying and rinsing) must be done before launching a watercraft into a public waterbody.
- ECO’s have discretionary authority to enforce the law.
- Watercraft and floating docks are exempted when re-launched from *same* waterbody without having been launched in another waterbody.
The Details: Part 576 “Public waters”

“Waters” or “waters of the state” shall be construed to include lakes, bays, sounds, ponds, impounding reservoirs, springs, wells, rivers, streams, creeks, estuaries, marshes, inlets, canals, the Atlantic ocean within the territorial limits of the state of New York and all other bodies of surface or underground water, natural or artificial, inland or coastal, fresh or salt, public or private (except those private waters which do not combine or effect a junction with natural surface or underground waters), which are wholly or partially within or bordering the state or within its jurisdiction. ECL 17-0105(2)
Voluntary: Boat Steward Programs

What do boat stewards need to know about boat launch regulations?

Photo by Megan Phillips
The Stewards’ Role

• Education, not enforcement
• Confrontation avoidance
  ▪ Stewards **do not** write down license plates and report
• Provide regulation documents to boaters
• Provide transport permits
• Tell ECO’s or Park Police of repeat violations at launches
Answers to FAQs

1. Are boat stewardship programs required by law?
Answers to FAQs

2. Where does this regulation apply?
More FAQs

3. Who is responsible for following clean, drain, and dry protocol?
More FAQs

4. How are public waters defined?
More FAQs

5. How do you define watercraft?
More FAQs

6. What if my watercraft or dock is only launched or placed in one water body (does not leave site)?
Other Questions?

www.amorebeautifulquestion.com
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