

Zebra Mussel Alert

In 2018, several Zebra Mussels were found in Bay Lake and last fall, their evidence was widespread. This summer we expect to see a significant increase in their numbers. The mussels have the ability to attach to any hard surface and some vegetation. Most important at this time:

1. Raise boat motors completely out of the water. Mussels can infiltrate any entry to a boat motor, grow there, and clog cooling and other systems.
2. Raise boats completely out of the water to reduce the likelihood they will attach to boat hulls or enter through-hull ports.
3. Keep pipes and hoses out of the lake except for when they are in use. Leaving this equipment in the water can allow mussels to establish themselves in irrigation and pump systems.
4. Consider wearing "water shoes or sandals" when walking on the lake bottom.

When moving boats or equipment from lake to lake, please follow DNR regulations:

Boats taken from infested lakes are to be cleaned, drained, and dried for 5 days. Lift, docks, and similar equipment removed from infested lakes are to be left to dry for 25 days.

We are working on additional guidance. Please send questions or concerns to the email address below, although it is not necessary to report findings or to send pictures.

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