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# **A Citizen Based Aquatic Invasive Species Monitoring Protocol for Wisconsin Shorelines**

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# Many Ecological, Social, Economic Effects of Invasive species...

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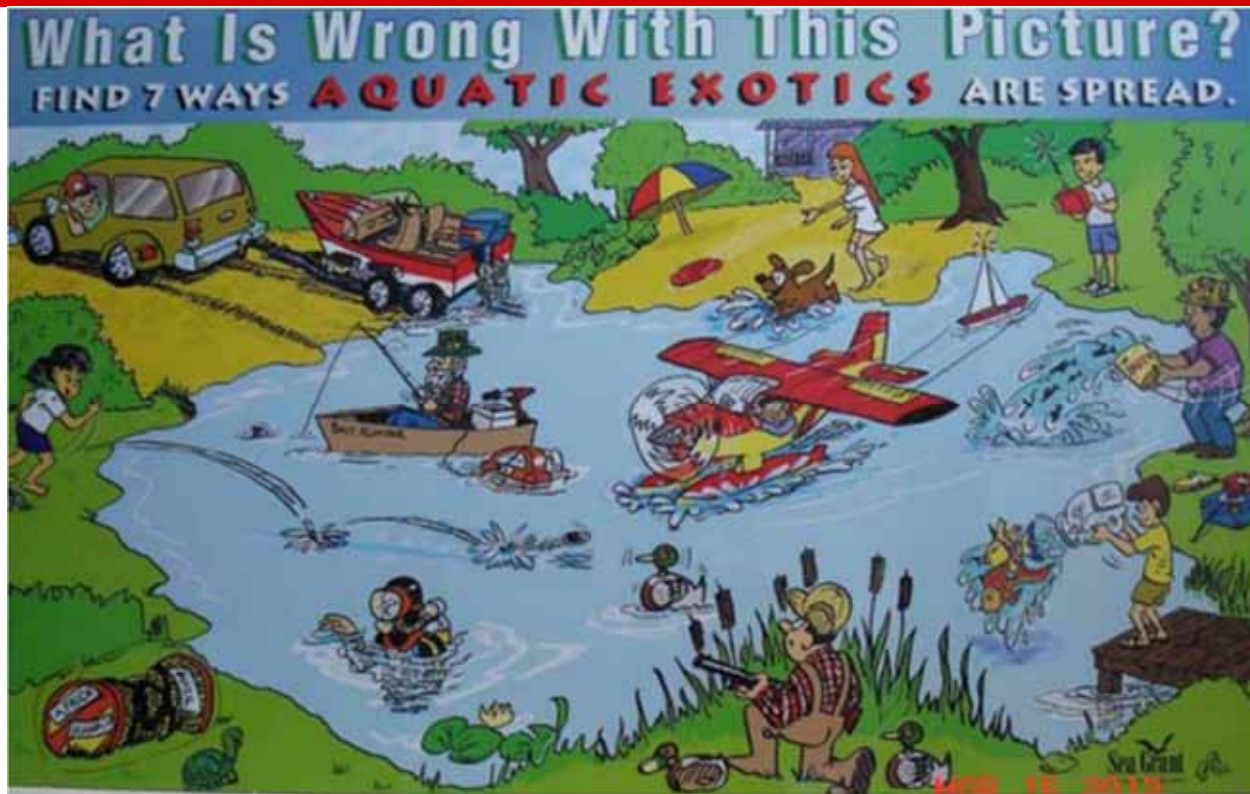


Property values rise on zebra-mussel infested lakes, study shows



# AIS Education Outreach Programs are important... Prevent the Spread!

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**... but species are still spread**

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# Early Detection Matters!

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Early detection allows for rapid response...



Don Behm

A fabric fence has been erected along the shoreline of Esquire Estates storm water pond to prevent the large and aggressive red swamp crayfish from crawling to other water bodies.

**DNR plans to pour 4,000 gallons of the chemical into Germantown ponds to kill intruders**

*By Don Behm of the Journal Sentinel*

Nov. 7, 2009



# We need more eyes for early detection!

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## Goals of the Citizen Shoreline Monitoring Protocol:

- To provide a better citizen monitoring system for early detection of AIS.
- To increase citizen involvement in AIS monitoring.
- Increase the number of people able to identify AIS.



# Contents

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- The Citizen's Shoreline Monitoring Protocol
  - How to assemble a citizen's monitoring kit
  - Wisconsin invasive species to watch for
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# The Citizen's Shoreline Monitoring Protocol

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Formatted and created with the ease of the user in mind, allowing for 5 easy steps!

1. Prepare
  2. Scan
  3. Collect
  4. Identify
  5. Report
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# Prepare

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- Familiarize yourself with the aquatic invasive species that you are on the lookout for.
- Can be tailored to your region
- Assemble a monitoring kit



# Scan

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- Walk along the shoreline
- Use polarized glasses and the aquaview scope



# Collect

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- Throw the double-sided rake
- Use the bucket and scraper
- Use the hand scoop to take samples of soft bottom areas.



# Identify

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- Use keys and field guides to identify species
- Collect and label suspected specimens with the date, location, time, and any other pertinent information.

Aquatic plant specimens can be kept in a sealed container with a small amount of lake water for identification purposes. It is not illegal to transport aquatic plants for the purpose of identification/documentation.

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# Report

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- Report all findings of all invasive species
- Turn over collected specimens (previously undetected) to the local DNR or the regional AIS coordinator.



# Suggested Contents of a Monitoring Kit

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- Aquaview scope
- Double-sided rake
- Hand scoop
- Polarized sunglasses
- Pail with lid
- Hand lenses
- Clipboard with AIS monitoring forms



## Suggested Contents of a Monitoring Kit (cont.)

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- Containers - Polypropylene collection bottles, Ziploc bags (qt. & gal.) and/or other appropriate bags or containers for specimens Pens, towels, hand sanitizer
  - Several field books for ID, such as Lake Plants You Should Know, A Visual Field Guide or Aquatic Plants of the Upper Midwest. Order from: <http://www4.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/publications/>
  - Freshwater mussel identification website <http://wiatri.net/inventory/mussels/>
  - Key to Wisconsin Freshwater Snails  
<http://www.uwlax.edu/biology/faculty/perez/wifwsnailkey/wifwsnailkey.htm>
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**What might you find just by looking around?**

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# What might you find using the *aqua-view scope*?

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**What might you find using the *sampling rake*?**

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**What might you find using the *hand scoop*?**

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# Who can do this?

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**Anyone!**

Venues for promoting volunteers:

- Clean Boats Clean Waters Programs
  - Lake Associations
  - Boy and Girl Scouts
  - Conservation Clubs
  - Sportsmen Clubs
  - People who want to volunteer
  - Many more!
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