

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.

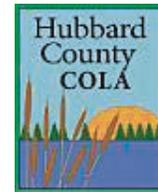
For help in species identification or additional information
Contact:

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



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



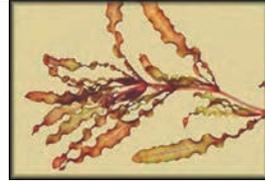
EURASIAN WATERMILFOIL

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.**