



Clean Boats-Clean Waters Watercraft Inspection VOLUNTEER Sheet

“Sign up” button for a 2-hr period: <https://www.facebook.com/friendsofspringlakewausharacounty/>

References: <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/cbcw/default.aspx>

<http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/CBCW/> ; <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/boat.html> ; Marty (920) 566-4605

As a volunteer boat inspector, you are part of the Friends of Spring Lake volunteers helping the Spring Lake Management District improve the health of Spring Lake by talking with boaters at our main public access landing starting in 2017/ongoing each summer on Saturdays from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. Spring Lake has two aquatic invasive species (AIS), specifically Eurasian water milfoil (EWM) and Curley-leaf pondweed (CLP), and in our lake management plan, our efforts have significantly reduced the amount of AIS plants in our lake. We need to use prevention methods to keep more of these invasive plants from entering the lake – not just spending time, money and volunteer efforts at removing/controlling existing AIS plants. A simple, **friendly, non-confrontational approach** will allow volunteers to help boaters learn and follow Wisconsin’s “boat transportation and bait laws” when they visit Spring Lake. You’ll be stationed at the NW main boat landing off Holiday Lane for a 2-hour period (bring a **chair** to sit on/wear your Friends of Spring Lake **t-shirt**). When a boater arrives at the landing or you didn’t talk with them when they arrived – then when the boater removes their watercraft from the lake:

- 1) **Greet** them - Introduce yourself/explain why you’re there - “Welcome to Spring Lake” “I’m (first name) and with the Friends of Spring Lake and we’re helping boaters to be aware of Wisconsin’s boat transportation and bait laws to prevent aquatic invasives from spreading.” “Would you mind if I asked you a few questions?” (If boater is reluctant to cooperate – just hand them the 2 brochures if you can).
- 2) **Ask** - “Have you had your boat inspected at a public landing this season?” If yes, ask “Do you have any questions about the boat transport and bait laws?” If none, - “Enjoy you time on Spring Lake.”

If boater hasn’t had their boat inspected this season, ask “Will you join me as I quickly inspect your boat/equipment?” Talk/point out the watercraft checkpoints as you inspect the boat/trailer/equipment. If they don’t want to assist you, continue to talk about invasive species as you inspect. Show them the areas to check - boat, motor/prop/anchor, trailer/wheels/lights, equipment – plants/mud; bilge, bait buckets, live wells – water (day’s catch must be transported on ice – can’t use water to keep alive)

“Do you use live bait?” Explain that if live bait comes in contact with lake/river water, it can only be used on that same waterbody or discarded in trash (bait*=minnows/leeches/worms)/*WI bait dealer

“**Thank you** for your time & interest in keeping our lakes healthy & preventing invasives from spreading!”

Offer the 2 brochures only if they are interested - otherwise most are discarded if give to everybody.

- Listen to a boater’s concerns – we’re encouraging them to take an interest in invasive species!
- Water activities can include: Using personal watercraft, shore/fly-fishing, sailing, scuba diving, waterfowl hunting, boating.

Boat Transportation and Bait Laws



Wisconsin has laws in place to prevent the introduction and to control the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS) and diseases in Wisconsin waters.

Transport laws for boaters and anglers

- INSPECT your boat, trailer and equipment
- REMOVE any attached aquatic plants or animals and mud (before launching; after loading/before transporting on a public highway).
- DRAIN all water from boat, motor, bilge and all equipment (live wells, bait containers*).
- NEVER MOVE live fish away from a waterbody. (Take your day's catch home on ice)
- DISPOSE of unwanted bait (including earthworms) in the trash.
- BUY minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer. Use leftover minnows only under certain conditions.*

*You may take leftover minnows away from any state water and use them again on that same water. You may use leftover minnows on other waters only if no lake or river water, or other fish were added to their container (more information below).

Bait laws for boaters and anglers

- You must drain all water from boats, containers and fishing equipment when leaving any state waters, banks or shores, or entering Wisconsin over land.
 - This does not apply to any drinking water or up to two gallons of water being used to hold minnows that can be legally transported.
- You may not transport any live fish (gamefish and roughfish, like gizzard shad) or live fish eggs away from any state waters. There is an exception for minnows obtained from a Wisconsin bait dealer. These minnows may be transported away live and used again:
 - on the same water, or
 - on any other waters if no lake or river water, or other fish were added to their container.
- You may not use dead fish, fish eggs, or fish parts as bait. There are three exceptions:
 - you may use dead fish, fish eggs, or fish parts as bait on any waters if they were preserved by a method that does not require freezing or refrigeration, or
 - you may use unpreserved or just frozen dead fish, fish eggs or fish parts as bait on the water from which they were collected or on Lake Michigan or Green Bay (and connecting waters upstream to the first barrier impassible to fish), or
 - you may use live minnows that die during a fishing trip during that fishing trip (they may not be used on later trips unless you meet the two conditions above).
- You may not possess or use minnows for bait that are obtained outside of Wisconsin.