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Help Keep New Hampshire a Boating Paradise!

Boaters: Take the Pledge with NH LAKES to be Invasive-Free and be entered to WIN prizes!

Concord, N.H., July 25, 2019 – Whether you explore New Hampshire’s 1,000 lakes by motorboat, canoe, kayak, paddle board, or sailboat, you know a day on the lake is like a trip to paradise.

But, dealing with long-spindly stems of the invasive milfoil plant wrapped around the boat motor or a paddle can ruin your day in paradise. So, too, can the razor sharp shells of the invasive Zebra mussel cutting your feet while wading in the lake.

You can help keep New Hampshire’s waters paradise by taking the “Pledge to Be Invasive-Free” and always taking time to clean, drain, and dry your boat, trailer, and gear between waterbodies.

It’s easy to be invasive-free, here’s how...

BEFORE leaving any area launch area and getting on the road:

CLEAN: Clean off all mud, plants, animals, and debris from your boat, trailer, and equipment. Clean off anchors and anchor lines, water intake grates on jet-powered craft, kayak and canoe cockpits, storage compartments, and paddles, too! Dispose of all material away from the waterbody where it won’t wash back into the water. **Cleaning is the law in New Hampshire!**

DRAIN: Drain motors, bilges, livewells, ballast tanks, storage compartments, and gear. Blow out water in jet-powered craft and tip paddle craft and motors to let out water. OPEN/REMOVE all drain plugs and drain compartments and gear away from the water where runoff won’t flow back into the lake. **Draining and keeping all plugs out or open while trailering is the law in New Hampshire!**

DRY: Dry off anything that came in contact with the water to remove invasive species not easily seen. If launching your boat again within five days, thoroughly rinse with clean water away from waterbodies and towel dry—rinsing with high pressure, hot water is best.

And, don’t forget to take the pledge! Take the “Pledge to Be Invasive-Free” by midnight on Columbus Day (Monday, October 14) and be entered to win cool prizes. Prize drawings will occur monthly during the summer. Visit nhlakes.org/invasivfree to learn more and to take the pledge!

NH LAKES is the only statewide, member-supported nonprofit organization working to keep New Hampshire’s lakes clean and healthy, now and in the future. For more information, visit nhlakes.org, email info@nhlakes.org, or call 603.226.0299.

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Photo 1 caption: Whether you explore New Hampshire's 1,000 lakes by motorboat or paddle craft, you know a day on the lake is like a trip to paradise.

Photos 2 – 4 caption: Boaters can help keep New Hampshire's lakes a boating paradise by always cleaning, draining, and drying their boats, trailers, and gear after taking their boat out the water.