

Join your fellow  
anglers and **protect**  
**our waters!**



Aquatic invasive species, like  
New Zealand mudsnails and Didymo  
("rock snot") can be transported by a variety  
of fishing equipment. Do your part to prevent  
the spread of invasive species.

**StopAquaticHitchhikers.org**



**STOP AQUATIC  
HITCHHIKERS!**

Be A Good Steward. Clean. Drain. Dry.  
[StopAquaticHitchhikers.org](http://StopAquaticHitchhikers.org)

## Take These Steps to Prevent the Spread of Invasive Species

**Inspect** your gear and remove attached plants, animals and mud. **Scrub** your wader or boot treads with a brush to help remove hard-to-see invasive species like New Zealand mudsnails. **Drain** all of the water from your equipment.

**Dry** your equipment for as long as possible. **Dispose** of unwanted bait in the trash and transport fish caught for eating or taxidermy on ice.

**Assess Risk.** When and where will you fish next?

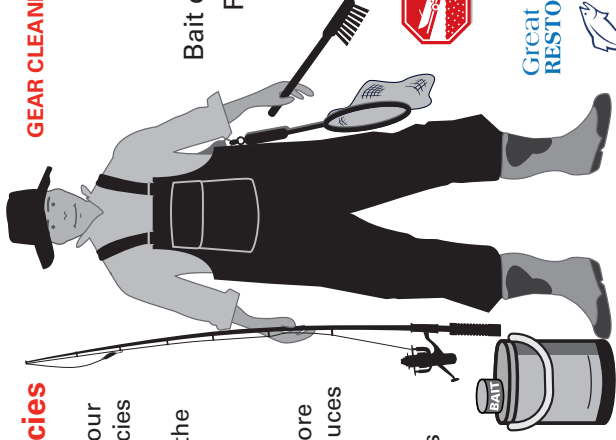
**LOWER RISK.** If you've finished fishing for the day and your next trip is more than five days away, inspecting, scrubbing and air-drying gear greatly reduces the risk of transporting invasive species.

**HIGHER RISK.** If you are fishing in multiple bodies of water on the same day or plan to fish again in less than five days, consider taking extra steps to stop invasive species:

1. **Consider fishing in locations without known invasive species** first and fishing in locations with invasive species last ([nas.er.usgs.gov](https://nas.er.usgs.gov) can help you determine where invasive species occur).
2. **Consider using different waders** on new bodies of water, **freezing your gear**, or using a **chemical treatment** on your gear before visiting a new stream. Contact your local state agency for specific recommendations. Find your contact here: <https://bit.ly/2Ctp8sT>

## GEAR CLEANING CHECKLIST

- Waders
- Footwear
- Net
- Bait containers
- Fish basket  or bucket



**STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!**  
Be A Good Stream Clean Crew 101  
<https://www.dnr.wisconsin.gov>

