



# PADDLERS: Help Stop Aquatic Invaders



## We're All In This Boat Together.

Aquatic invasive species pose a serious threat to the recreational and natural resources of Lake Tahoe and can be spread through water found in cockpits and gear.

**CLEAN**    **DISPOSE**    **DRAIN**    **DRY**

[TahoeBoatInspections.com](http://TahoeBoatInspections.com)

1-888-824-6267





*Eurasian Watermilfoil*



*Zebra mussels on buoy*



*New Zealand mudsnail*

## Why are aquatic invasive species a problem?

Aquatic invasive species can be transported between waterbodies by kayaks, canoes, paddling equipment and fishing gear.

- **Eurasian watermilfoil** and **Curlyleaf pondweed** produce thick mats in nearshore areas, altering ecosystems and hindering recreation.
- **New Zealand mudsnails** reproduce quickly, disrupt ecosystems, and negatively impact native trout.
- **Zebra** and **Quagga mussels** cause damage to piers, boats and water intakes, and upset natural food webs by consuming large quantities of phytoplankton that other species need to survive.

## To prevent the spread of Aquatic Invasive Species:

Drain cockpits and hatches

Drain all gear, including sponges and pumps



Remove dirt and plants from hull and rudders

- ✓ **CLEAN** kayaks and canoes with pressurized water, removing all dirt, plant, and animal material from your rudder, hull, cockpit, and fishing gear.
- ✓ **DISPOSE** of foreign matter above the waterline on dry land or in a trash can.
- ✓ **DRAIN** the water from your hatches and cockpits on land before you leave the immediate area.
- ✓ **DRY** your kayak or canoe before launching.

Need help? Free inspections and decontaminations will be provided at some locations. For more info:

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