

“How can I help protect our lakes?”

Thankfully, it’s a question we are asked a lot!

Here’s how:

#### **HELP BUILD THE APP – AQUAHUNTER.ORG**

Kandiyohi County currently has an app in Beta version called AQUAHUNTER.ORG. You can help by snapping photos of both invasive and non-invasive species and uploading them to the site. This will help us to build a database of photos and help in the early detection of invasive species in our lakes. Currently a web-based app, Apple and Android smartphone apps are coming soon!

#### **DECONTAMINATE YOUR WATERCRAFT**

Every time you move from one body of water to the next – make sure your watercraft is decontaminated! Even if a lake has not been designated as infested with an AIS species, it may be in the early stages of an infestation we haven’t detected yet. Also, lakes contaminated with one type of AIS, may still be contaminated with another species. Many microscopic organisms can live in the small amount of water near your boat drain, inside your bilge tanks, or inside the mud from your anchor.

Call the AIS HOTLINE at 320-214-6730 to schedule watercraft decontaminations at 4 Seasons Lawn & Beach in Spicer at no cost to you. Decontamination is also available at Green Lake’s Saulsbury Beach Access in Spicer. Check the hotline for dates and times.

#### **LEARN HOW TO PROPERLY CLEAN, DRAIN AND DRY YOUR WATERCRAFT**

Hot water pressure spray is the best way to decontaminate your watercraft. However, if you have time to allow your boat to dry – here are instructions for doing it yourself.

*Link to DNR webpage on watercraft decontamination*

*[http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/preventspread\\_watercraft.html](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/preventspread_watercraft.html)*

*Link to YouTube video on Clean, Drain, Dry*

*<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8IEcDnLDpz8&feature=BFa&list=PL1A468B277F9A6E57>*

#### **WORK AS AN AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES INSPECTOR**

*Job Application for Aquatic Invasive Species Inspector*

#### **APPLY FOR FUNDING TO HELP LOCAL PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PROJECTS**

*Local Grant Application*

#### **ATTEND AIS TASK FORCE MEETINGS**

The Kandiyohi County Aquatic Invasive Species task force meets the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Dethlef Center, 217 Hillcrest Avenue (near the Green Lake Mall) in Spicer from 6:00 – 7:00pm. Please call Coordinator Stephanie Felt at 320-214-6730 to confirm dates and times in case of a schedule change.

As a community, we all have a part to play in protecting the heritage of Kandiyohi County – both above and below the waterline!

*Link to Starry Stonewort and other AIS video “AIS Above and Below the Waterline”*

*<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MS2frOOQWHI>*

Kandiyohi County Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator:  
Stephanie Felt; 320-214-6730; AIS@KCMN.US