

Dear Short-Term Rental Owner,

Beltrami County is renowned for its clean water, good fishing, and remarkable recreational opportunities – and we hope you want to keep it that way for visitors and future generations. Unfortunately, some invasive species can harm Beltrami County’s lakes, rivers, and forests. Aquatic invasive species such as starry stonewort, zebra mussels, and spiny waterflea can harm fish habitats and disrupt water recreation activities. These plants, animals, and other unwanted species may “hitch a ride” in water, on boats, in firewood, or on other gear that people move into and around the state.

To help protect the precious water of Beltrami County we are offering free AIS materials for your rental. It is helpfully to understand that a lot of boaters, if they do not find anything on or in their boat and trailer, just need to flush with, at least, hot tap water if going to another waterbody within 5 days as a best management practice

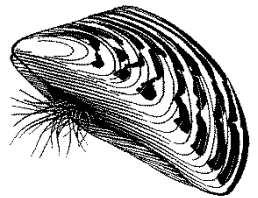
Just stop by our office at the Environmental Services desk and ask for AIS materials for your rental. Or if you like I can deliver materials to you within Beltrami County. Just call or email and we can set up a delivery date.

The AIS business size card with best management practices, laws and web site for free watercraft decontaminations throughout the state is the one item I would suggest for all.



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net



CLEAN DRAIN DISPOSE DRY

BMP (**Best Management Practices**)
to prevent the spread of
AIS (**Aquatic Invasive Species**)

Clean - aquatic plants, mud, and animals from watercraft, trailers and equipment.

Drain - all water including bait containers by removing drain plugs and keep drain plugs out while transporting watercraft, verify water drained. To keep bait refill the bait container with bottle or tap water.

Dispose - of unwanted bait in the trash, never release into the wild.

Dry - for five hot/dry days, if unable then Spray/Flush all water containing compartments and trailer with very hot water.



Beltrami County AIS Program 218-333-8281

To kill adult zebra mussels: Use hot water
(120° F for 2 mins or 140° F for at least 10 seconds)

Know the law: you may not...



- Transport watercraft without removing the drain plug.
- Arrive at lake access with drain plug in place.
- Transport aquatic plants, zebra mussels, or other prohibited species on any roadway.
- Launch a watercraft with prohibited species attached.
- Transport water from Minnesota lakes or rivers.
- Release bait into the water.

DNR Authorized Decontamination Locations
www.mndnr.gov/decon



**STOP INVASIVE SPECIES
IN YOUR TRACKS.**
PlayCleanGo.org

Beltrami County Environmental Services Department, <http://www.co.beltrami.mn.us>
701 Minnesota Avenue NW, Suite 113, Bemidji MN 56601-3177, Phone (218) 333-4158
We also have things like Stop the Spread of Spiny water flea magnet, and various "watch cards" and a brochure about Beltrami County AIS Prevention and business cards for our watercraft decontamination unit.

Some helpful information as you grow your rental property.

All moored equipment (dock, lifts, and rafts) must:

- ✓ **Dry** for 21 days before launching into new waterbodies.

Every boater in Minnesota must:

- ✓ **Clean** all aquatic plants, zebra mussels, and other prohibited invasive species from boats, trailers and other water-related equipment. You may not transport aquatic plants or prohibited invasive species in the state, even if they are dead.
- ✓ **Drain** water-related equipment (boat, ballast tanks, portable bait containers, and motor) *and* drain bilge, livewell, and baitwell by removing drain plugs. **Keep drain plugs out** and water-draining devices open while transporting watercraft. You may not transport lake water, or arrive at a water access with the drain plug in place, in Minnesota.
- ✓ **Dispose** of unwanted bait, including minnows, leeches, worms, and fish parts in the trash. If you want to keep live bait, drain bait containers and refill with bottled or tap water. It is illegal in Minnesota to release bait in the water or to release worms on the ground.

Additional recommended precautions:

Some aquatic invasive species can survive more than two weeks out of water, and they are often small and difficult to see at the access. To remove or kill them, take one or more of the following precautions before moving boats and equipment to another waterbody, especially after leaving waters infested with zebra mussels or spiny waterflea:

- ✓ **Spray** with high-pressure water.
- ✓ **Rinse** with very hot water (hot tap water 120 degrees F).
- ✓ **Dry** for at least 5 days (dry, hot days).

Burn local or certified firewood: rather than bringing firewood from out of town, buy firewood locally. Check the label for "DNR Approved" or the state shield indicating the wood has been certified pest free by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

Clean mud, seeds, and plant parts from your OHVs, ATVs, bikes, boots, pets, and camping gear before you transport your gear to prevent the spread of weeds and other invasive species.

We are looking forward to you bringing new and returning visitors into Beltrami County. We are sharing this information to help you comply with Minnesota regulations and protect the lakes and forests you live with.

- ✓ Beltrami County Watercraft Decontamination Ph. 218-760-8519
- ✓ [www.co.beltrami.mn.us>Departments>Environmental Services](http://www.co.beltrami.mn.us/Departments/Environmental%20Services)