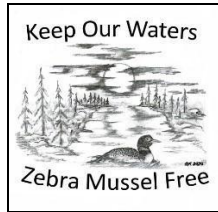


Citizens for Protecting Our Northern Waterways Inc. (CPONW)

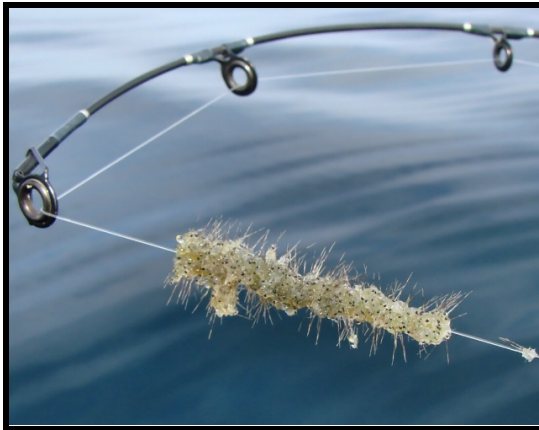


Spring Newsletter - 2023

As we approach the open water season our volunteer committee is busy preparing our various activities. Here is a brief summary of our plans for this year, and other important information.

Status of Zebra Mussel Expansion

We recently received the preliminary results from the 2022 lake testing for the presence/absence of [zebra mussels](#) and [spiny waterflea](#) (see below). The following is a summary of these results for our northern regions.



NW Region (Grand Rapids/The Pas/Flin Flon/Snow Lake area) - all waters remain free of zebra mussels and spiny waterflea at the time of sampling except for the following:

- Footprint Lake (north of Grand Rapids) where spiny waterflea was detected for the first time.
- Cross Bay (Cedar Lake by Grand Rapids) where monitoring confirmed the establishment of spiny waterflea and zebra mussel populations.
- Cedar Lake proper where monitoring confirmed the presence and establishment of spiny waterflea.

NE Region (Churchill River/Nelson River/Wabowden/Thompson area) - all waters remain free of zebra mussels and spiny waterflea at the time of sampling except for the following:

- Nelson River where zebra mussels are present along its entire length.
- Echimamish River downstream of Hairy Lake where zebra mussel veligers were detected.*
- Walker Lake where spiny waterflea were detected.*

*connected to the Nelson River System

This critical work is coordinated by the provincial [Aquatic Invasive Species \(AIS\) Unit](#) who, along with partners, test for the presence/absence of Zebra Mussels and other AIS across the province. Last year CPONW volunteers contributed to these monitoring efforts by sampling Wekusko Lake, Kissinging Lake, Lake Athapap, First Cranberry Lake and Rocky Lake. We plan to contribute again this year.

Please remember - although our local waters are currently free of zebra mussels, we must do our part to help keep them this way!

Awareness and Prevention

Public awareness remains the primary focus for our group. Although most people seem to know



about zebra mussels, and don't want them in our northern waters, not everyone is aware of the proper steps to "prevent the spread". In addition, it's important to be aware that gear such as ropes and water toys can also spread zebra mussels and other Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

So far this year we will be at the Flin Flon Trade & Leisure Show (April 27-29), The Pas Trade Show (May 11-13) and the Cranberry Portage Artisan Market (May 27), [Kelsey Watershed District](#) Water Festival (June 13). We also have plans to share a booth with the Boreal Discovery Centre at

the Thompson Trade Show (May 5-7). If you see us, please stop by to say hi and learn what you can do to help prevent the spread of invasive Zebra Mussels and other AIS.

Over the course of the summer, we will be at other events including boat launches across the north.

Signs

Highway 6 Billboard Sign - We are currently working to determine the best location for our second highway sign on #6 by Ponton. This sign, which has been delivered, will be the same as the one we placed north of The Pas last year. Once the site is finalized we will proceed with securing the appropriate government approvals. We anticipate this sign to be in place sometime in the summer.



Boat Launch Signs - We also plan to place smaller signs at selected boat launch sites and fish cleaning shacks reminding people what they can do to prevent the spread of zebra mussels and other AIS. It's simple and only takes five minutes to [Clean - Drain - Dry](#) your watercraft and associated gear that has been in contact with the water.

We are thankful to the [Fish and Wildlife Enhancement Fund](#) for grant money that will help finance this project.

Watercraft Inspection Stations

The government watercraft inspection stations will be in operation again this year once we have ice out. Since these stations do not operate 24/7 it's important for those transporting a watercraft from the south to check the hours of operation and adjust their travel plans to ensure their watercraft gets inspected. If you have friends who are coming north with their watercraft, please share this important information with them.

An informative video on what to expect when your watercraft is being inspected can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pg526CsRYkc>. To find out the hours of operation, simply click here: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/stopais/index.html>

If you would like to decontaminate your own water related equipment **see page four** for more information.

Website and Facebook Page

We encourage everyone to check out our CPONW [website](#) that has a lot of valuable information on



zebra mussels and other AIS - including various fact sheets and how-to videos. You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) for ongoing important and interesting information.

CPONW Executive and Regional Representatives

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us!

Chris Smith: President (chrisransmith@gmail.com)

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Lannie Bosman-Leptick: Secretary (lanniebosmanleptick@gmail.com)

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Sheryl Matteson: Sherridon (kenanowlodge@gmail.com)



SCHEDULE C
(Section 18)

APPROVED DECONTAMINATION METHODS FOR WATER-RELATED EQUIPMENT

Water-related equipment may be decontaminated using the treatment set out in Column 1 of the Table below in accordance with the procedures set out in the columns opposite.

Column 1 Product	Column 2 Dilution	Column 3 Method	Column 4 Duration	Column 5 Next steps
Bleach 5.25% (household sodium hypochloride)	100 ml bleach to 1 L of water	Completely submerge and ensure the item is in direct contact with solution	30 minutes	Rinse thoroughly with potable water and wipe down with a completely dry cloth
Vinegar (White) (5% acetic acid)	No dilution required	Completely submerge and ensure the item is in direct contact with solution	60 minutes	Rinse thoroughly with potable water and wipe down with a completely dry cloth
7% Hydrogen Peroxide	64 ml to 1 L of water	Completely submerge and ensure the item is in direct contact with solution	60 minutes	Rinse thoroughly with potable water and wipe down with a completely dry cloth
Table Salt (NaCl)	10 ml of salt to 1 L of water	Completely submerge and ensure the item is in direct contact with solution	24 hours	Rinse thoroughly with potable water and wipe down with a completely dry cloth
Hot water (>60°C)	N/A	Completely submerge and ensure the item is in direct contact with water at all times	10 minutes	Wipe down with a completely dry cloth
Hot water (>60°C)	N/A	Clean with hot water (minimum 60°C) that is discharged at a pressure between 40 to 60 psi. The water must be sprayed no more than 10 cm from the surface being cleaned.	All surfaces being cleaned must receive a minimum of 10 seconds of exposure to the hot water.	Wipe down with a completely dry cloth
Temperatures below -10°C	N/A	Expose item to required minimum temperature	3 consecutive days	None