



HELLO INVASIVE SPECIES. GOODBYE TEXAS LAKES.

Texas is one of the best places in the country to boat and fish. But this may not always be true. Right now our lakes, rivers and bays are under attack by invasive species.

Why should you care?

Invasive species push aside and out-compete native plants and animals, throwing our ecosystem out of whack. Invasive plants like giant salvinia can double in size in a week and block recreational access. And many species, like zebra mussels, harm water quality and damage boat engines by plugging the water intake system used for cooling. Invasive aquatic species cost the state millions of dollars and can cost you a hefty fine if you transport them to other water bodies.

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Boaters can prevent the spread!

You can prevent the spread of invasive species by ALWAYS following these 3 easy steps: clean, drain and dry your boat, trailer and gear EVERY time you leave the water.

1. CLEAN

Inspect your boat, trailer and gear and remove all plant material, mud or foreign objects that are found.

2. DRAIN

Pull the plug and drain all water from the boat, including the motor, bilge, livewells and bait buckets BEFORE leaving the lake.

3. DRY

Open all compartments and livewells, and allow the boat and trailer to sit completely dry for a week or more before entering another water body.

If you can't leave your boat and trailer out of the water for at least a week, then taking it to a commercial car wash and washing it with high-pressure, hot, soapy water will help remove and kill any invasive species that may be hitching a free ride.



There are hundreds of invasive species threatening Texas. Learn more at www.texasinvasives.org

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