



MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CENTRAL REGION
1200 WARNER ROAD
SAINT PAUL, MN 55106
651-259-5800

Date: 28 October 2021

The **MNDNR Aquatic Invasive Species Program** requests your help in the early detection of zebra mussels in our lakes. Because of the large number of lakes in the state and the challenges of monitoring every lake for zebra mussel infestations, we are asking citizens to pitch in.

This fall as docks, boatlifts, and other water equipment are pulled ashore for the winter, we ask that you check the equipment for the presence zebra mussels. Any mussels found should be photographed, collected, and reported to **Keegan Lund**, a DNR Invasive Species Specialist at keegan.lund@state.mn.us or **April Londo** at april.londo@state.mn.us.

Any mussels you find will likely be juveniles, so you can expect them to be small (1/4 - 1/2 inch). Additionally, in the earliest stages of an infestation mussel densities can be very low; you might only find a single zebra mussel on your entire dock or boatlift. The best places to look are areas that stay submerged throughout the summer; the wheels of a roll-in dock are a great place for zebra mussels as well as underside of a boat lift cross beam. Zebra mussels have a characteristic shape and pattern which is not easily mistaken for any of our native species (Attachment 1).

Again, the DNR is hoping to keep everyone on the lookout for zebra mussels. If they are found at the earliest stages of infestation there may be efforts we can take to eradicate the mussels from the lake. We hope that with the help of the citizens of the State we can keep close track of these critters and protect our lakes from further invasions. Please feel to visit our website (www.dnr.state.mn.us) and search for "invasive species" for more information.

Many thanks,

Keegan Lund

Aquatic Invasive Species Program
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

mndnr.gov



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Attachment 1: Zebra Mussel Identification Reference Images



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