

# TOURNAMENT ANGLERS! Do your part to prevent the spread of aquatic hitchhikers

By following a general set of procedures every time you come in contact with any body of water, you can protect your waters from aquatic hitchhikers. There are hundreds of harmful species of plants, fish, amphibians, crustaceans, mollusks, diseases and pathogens—some so small you may not even realize they are hitching a ride with you. The following steps will help to ensure that you are not part of the problem but the solution.



**STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!**<sup>™</sup>



**To prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and diseases WISCONSIN LAW REQUIRES THAT YOU:**

**INSPECT** boats, trailers and equipment.

**REMOVE** any attached aquatic plants or animals (before launching, after loading & before transporting on a public highway)

**DRAIN** all water from boats, motors and all equipment.

**DON'T MOVE** live fish away from a waterbody.

**BUY** minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer and Use leftover minnows only under certain conditions.\*

\*You may take leftover minnows away from any state water and use them again on that same water. You may use leftover minnows on other waters only if no lake or river water, or other fish were added to their container. See [www.dnr.wi.gov](http://www.dnr.wi.gov) for more information.

If you leave a waterbody that contains aquatic invasives species **it is recommended** that you also disinfect your boat, equipment and gear by either:

**WASHING** with ~212° F water (steam clean), OR

**DRYING** thoroughly for 5 days after cleaning with soap and water and/or high pressure water, OR

**DISINFECTING** with either 200 ppm (0.5 oz per gallon or 1 Tablespoon per gallon) Chlorine for 10-minute contact time or 1:100 solution (38 grams per gallon) of Virkon Aquatic for 20- to 30-minute contact time. *Note: Virkon is not registered to kill zebra mussel veligers nor invertebrates like spiny water flea. Therefore this disinfectant should be used in conjunction with a hot water (>104° F) application.*

## Safety Precautions for Disinfectant Use:

It is recommended that eye protection, rain gear, and gloves are worn while applying any disinfectant. While disinfecting, stay well away from any waterbody and upwind of any spray. After disinfecting, rinse all surfaces with tap water.

## Sources of disinfectants:

**Chlorine** - Household bleach (5.25% chlorine) can be purchased from a grocery or convenience store. HTH is granular chlorine (70% calcium hypochlorite) and can be purchased from a pool supply company.

**Sodium Thiosulfate** - Commonly used to neutralize chlorine and iodine. It should be available at a pool supply company or from a chemical supply company.

**Virkon Aquatic** - is available from Western Chemical. It is the same formulation, but without the perfume and dye, and the label addresses specific fish pathogens. Their phone is 1-800-283-5292.