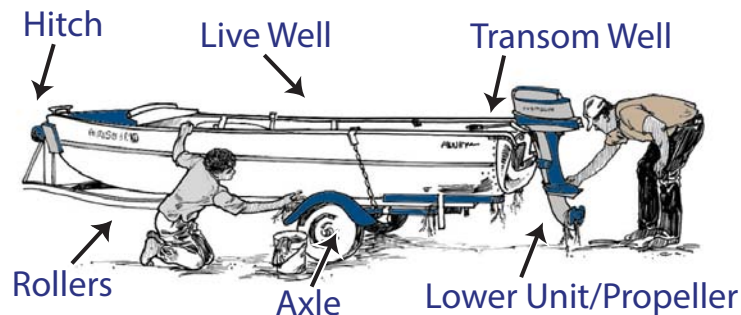# CLEAN BOATS CLEAN WATERS

No More Free Rides

Under Vermont Law, you may be fined up to $1000 for transporting any aquatic plant or plant fragment, zebra mussels or quagga mussels.

So carefully inspect and clean your boat and trailer every time you take them out of the water.

WATERCRAFT CHECK POINTS

Hitch
Live Well
Transom Well
Rollers
Axle
Lower Unit/Propeller

When you leave a body of water:

Clean off any mud, plants (even small fragments), and animals from boats, trailers and equipment. If possible wash at home or at a car wash.

Drain boat and equipment away from water.

Dry anything that comes into contact with water.

Never release plants, fish or animals into a body of water unless they came out of that body of water.

STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!™

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

Aquatic Invaders to Look Out For:

Hilary Smith, APIPP

Water Chestnut
• Triangular leaves & toothed edges
• Forms dense floating mats
• Seeds & plants attach to trailers

J.E. Marsden, UVM & David Jude

Zebra/Quagga Mussel
• Tiny, "D" or oval shaped striped shells
• Covers hard surfaces & sharp shells cut feet
• Shells attach to plants & boats

A. Fox, U. of Florida, Bugwood.org, &
Michigan DNR

Eurasian & Variable-Leaved Watermilfoil
• Feathery leaves in whorls of 4 (Eurasian)
  or more (variable-leaved) leaves
• Forms dense beds
• Plant fragments attach to boats & trailers

J. Gunderson, MN Sea Grant & Darrin
Fresh Water Institute

Spiny Waterflea
• Tiny, ½ " crustacean with long, barbed tail
• Competes with fish for food
• Masses collect on fishing line

D. Moorhead, U. of Georgia & R.Vidéki,
Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org

Hydrilla
• Blade-like leaves in whorls of 4-8
• Forms dense beds
• Plant fragments attach to boats & trailers

J. Gunderson & D. Jude, Center for
Great Lakes, Bugwood.org

Live Bait
• Non-native crayfish and minnows
• Alters aquatic habitats; may carry pathogens
• Often released or illegally stocked

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and the Lake Champlain Basin Program collaborate to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species throughout our region. Follow the links below to learn more about Lake Champlain boat launch stewardship, access area greeter programs and the Vermont Invasive Patrollers early detection network.

For more information go to www.vtwaterquality.org or lcbp.org.