Know the Invaders!
One of the first steps to preventing the spread of invasive species is being able to identify them. Below are some high priority species in our area:

- Zebra Mussel
- Yellow Flag Iris
- American Bullfrog
- Northern Pike
- Fragrant Water Lily
- Flowering Rush

Clean, Drain, Dry

**ALL Watercraft & Equipment!**

- **CLEAN** off all plants, animals, and mud from watercraft & related equipment (e.g. waders, fishing gear, life jackets)
- **DRAIN** onto dry land any item that can hold water (e.g. bilge, ballast, wells, buckets)
- **DRY** all items completely before launching the watercraft into another body of water

Report Invaders

- Contact [columbiaashuswapinvasives.org](http://columbiaashuswapinvasives.org)
- Call RAPP line 1-877-952-RAPP for zebra and quagga mussels and fish
- Call provincial hotline 1-888-WEEDSBC

For more information

[CSISS](http://www.csiis.org)
1-855-785-9333
columbiaashuswapinvasives.org
info@columbiaashuswapinvasives.org

Visit [columbiaashuswapinvasives.org](http://columbiaashuswapinvasives.org) to learn more about the other high priority species in the area.

Protect Our Waters
from aquatic invasive species!

It would only take 1 boat carrying Zebra or Quagga Mussels to cause a devastating lake infestation. Let’s work together to keep these destructive mussels out of BC!
Aquatic Invasive Species are non-native plants and animals that have been introduced into an ecosystem where they do not belong. They are able to reproduce and spread quickly through waterways causing negative impacts on our environment, communities and infrastructure. Humans are the #1 way invasive species are introduced and spread. Learn what simple actions you can take to protect our waters!

**Unwashed watercraft & equipment**
Invasive species like Zebra & Quagga Mussels can travel undetected on boats and trailers. Even their larvae can survive up to 30 days in standing water.

**Releasing pets & plants into natural environments**
Invasive species drastically disturb the natural web of life when people dump their aquariums into the "wild". Releasing pets into the wild is both inhumane and dangerous.

**Planting invasive species & improper disposal of garden waste**
Invasive species can quickly spread along waterfronts and creek banks. Even tiny plant clippings can spread unwanted plants.

**Environmental**
- Cause toxic algae blooms
- Introduce parasites & diseases
- Reduce biodiversity & weaken aquatic ecosystems
- Out-compete native species for space and resources

Bullfrogs will eat ANYTHING that fits in their mouths, destroying natural ecosystems.

**Economic**
- Decrease in tourism
- Higher utility bills, taxes, & maintenance costs
- Reduce waterfront property values

Infestations can cause massive damage to infrastructure like this hydro-electric dam pipe clogged with invasive mussels.

**Social**
- Contaminate drinking water
- Reduce swimming, fishing & boating opportunities
- Threaten local fisheries
- Cause health problems

Dense patches of invasive species can make it difficult to fish, swim or even paddle a canoe.

**Clean, Drain, Dry**
- Properly clean ALL your watercraft AND equipment
- Remember to drain any standing water in hoses, tanks or bilges
- To find a boat wash location near you contact us at: columbiaflushinvasives.org

**Don’t Let it Loose!**
- Know a pet’s long-term needs before purchase
- Find a new home for your unwanted pets
- Drain aquariums on dry land
- Find alternatives to release by contacting us at: columbiaflushinvasives.org

**Be PlantWise!**
- Choose non-invasive plants for your garden
- Never compost invasive plants
- Dispose of invasive plants responsibly
- For proper disposal methods contact us at: columbiaflushinvasives.org