

FOCA Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention & Monitoring Program

Tips for Waterfront Property Owners

- 1** Learn about the aquatic invasive species (AIS) and their locations on your lake. Use [EDDMapS Ontario](#) to view maps of your area showing reports of invasive species. Steer clear of aquatic invasive plant patches with your boat or personal watercraft. Boat motors, paddles and other activity may cut up the plants and cause them to spread further.
- 2** Make it a habit to inspect your boat, motor, and boating equipment regularly and remove any visible AIS. Always make it a habit to rinse your boat, motor and trailer with hot or pressurized water, before launching into another body of water. This will minimize the spread of aquatic invasive species by reducing the introduction of new populations to different areas of your lake or other lake systems. Dispose of plant material well away from the water.
- 3** Never release live bait into Ontario waters, or move aquatic species from one waterbody into another. It is illegal to use gobies, Eurasian ruffe or rudd for bait. Never introduce any fish or plants into any body of water (e.g. Aquarium plants and animals or live fish purchased from a store).
- 4** If you are removing aquatic vegetation from around your dock or waterfront, do so responsibly as aquatic vegetation is important for lake/river habitat. When removing vegetation proper disposal is important. Removed plant parts, animals or mud can be disposed of in a garbage can. If no garbage can is available, dispose of the material on any land at least 30 metres from any waterbody.
- 5** Always plant native or non-invasive plants when gardening and resist planting ornamental plants that are aggressive or invasive on your property. Find more information about what to grow from the "[Grow me instead](#)" guide.
- 6** Maintain a natural shoreline on your property to encourage habitat and reduce shoreline erosion. View the guide "[A Shoreline Owners Guide to Healthy Waterfronts](#)" for more information.
- 7** If you identify AIS on your lake or waterbody, report them using the [Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System \(EDDMapS\) Ontario](#). You can also call the Invading Species hotline at 1-800-563-7711 or visit www.invadingspecies.com.

Visit the FOCA Invasive Species webpage at www.foca.on.ca/invasive-species.

Find it. Report it. Monitor it. Prevent the Spread.