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**Aquatic Invasive Species Awareness Week** - Jun 10: Governor Granholm has proclaimed June 13-21, 2009, as Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Awareness Week to raise awareness about the need for citizens to take action to stop new introductions and control the spread of AIS. According to a release, "Michigan is defined by the Great Lakes and its vast inland waters, which draw millions of tourists and recreational users every year, making it critical that they are protected from the growing threat of AIS." AIS Awareness Week is sponsored by MDEQ's Office of the Great Lakes (OGL) with collaborative efforts from other State and Federal agencies, as well as, private and nonprofit organizations.

MDEQ indicates that recreational boaters should demonstrate caution while enjoying Michigan's vast water resources this summer. A few simple preventative measures can help protect Michigan's pristine waters from AIS such as zebra mussels and Eurasian watermilfoil. For example, watercrafts and recreational equipment should be inspected before leaving a lake, any vegetation should be removed, all live wells drained, areas that may contain water cleaned, and unused bait should be disposed in the trash.

Access a release from MDEQ ([click here](#), *posted soon*). Access AIS Awareness Week information, the Governor's proclamation, event listings, activities and more ([click here](#)).