



# CARLTON COUNTY

## ZONING AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

P.O. Box 220 • 301 Walnut Avenue, Room 103 • Carlton, MN 55718

CHRISTOPHER BERG

Zoning and Environmental Services Administrator

### AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM 2024

Minnesota waters are threatened by aquatic invasive species (AIS). Invasive species that are not native to Minnesota cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Carlton County and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are committed to these core principles:

- coordination of their authority and resources to develop a reasonable and effective water related equipment inspection requirement to stop the spread of AIS in the state and prevent the introduction of new AIS;
- a collaborative, cooperative approach to AIS management and prevention;
- ensuring continued access to public waters.

It is the intent of this program to comply with all the requirements in Minnesota Statutes section 84D.105 and in the DNR Watercraft Inspection Program procedures and manuals.

Carlton County is tackling AIS in five ways: **Inspections, Enforcement, Education, Treatment, and Early Detection.**

**Inspections** will be conducted in accordance with the attached spreadsheet. The inspectors will be hired by Carlton County, and they will undergo DNR Level 1 Watercraft Inspection training. Inspectors will work Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from May 11th through September 1st.

**Enforcement** will be conducted by local law enforcement and MN DNR Conservation Officers. Inspectors may not issue citations, but they can deny launch. Inspectors can contact local law enforcement or conservation officers for assistance and notify them of potential violations.

**Education** is important in helping prevent the spread of AIS. Staff will prepare press releases, newspaper advertisements, and informational materials reminding boaters to CLEAN, DRAIN and DRY their boats.

**Treatment** is included for the 2024 program to assist Chub Lake Association and Bear Lake (City of Barnum) to treat and manage Eurasian Water Milfoil (EWM). Chub Lake, Bear Lake, and Little Hanging Horn Lake are the only known AIS infested lakes which lie entirely within Carlton County. Little Hanging Horn Lake's EWM infestation is currently being managed with manual removal by the Minnesota DNR but may require chemical treatment in 2024.

**Early Detection** surveys were conducted in 2023. No new AIS were observed. A contracted firm will survey aquatic vegetation at public boat accesses to verify the presence or absence of aquatic invasive species. Surveys of lakes with existing AIS will be completed prior to any treatment.

Any funds not expended in 2024 will be rolled over into the budget for the Carlton County AIS Program 2025. This plan may be amended as needed to support the Carlton County AIS Program.

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**Toll Free:** 1-800-862-3760 (218 Area Code Only) – **Courthouse:** 218-384-4281 – **Zoning:** 218-384-9176 or 218-384-9593  
**Recycling/Household Hazardous Waste:** 218-384-9178 – **Water Testing:** 218-384-9177 – **Fax:** 218-384-9121

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