

VHS ALERT

BOATERS & ANGLERS







The Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) virus is affecting fish species in Wisconsin.

Keep in mind that the **VHS virus is not a threat to people who handle infected fish or want to eat their catch.** Anglers should still enjoy their angling opportunities. However, fish caught in these waters should be killed or put on ice before leaving the shore or landing.

Please do not take live fish or water from this location.

WARNING! Equipment that has been in contact with infected waters should be disinfected before going to another lake or river. A solution to kill the virus can be made by mixing 1/3 cup of bleach with 5 gallons of water. Apply solution to the hull, trailer, livewell, bilge and any other areas or things that may hold water or moisture. Leave solution in contact with these areas for at least 5 minutes before rinsing off. Do not allow this bleach solution to reach lakes or rivers.

Keep Wisconsin Fish Healthy. Follow these steps:

-  Drain all water from your boat, motor, bilge, live wells, and fishing equipment including bait buckets and coolers before leaving the lake or shoreline.
-  Never move live fish or fish eggs, including unused bait minnows, to other waters.
-  Always buy bait minnows from licensed Wisconsin bait dealers.
-  Inspect your boat, trailer, and equipment and remove visible aquatic plants, animals, and mud before leaving the landing.
-  If fishing infected waters, disinfect your boat and equipment using the disinfectant process described above OR dry them for at least five days.
-  If you see a large number of dead or dying fish, please report them to the DNR Hotline at 1-800-TIP-WDNR (847-9367).

*For additional information on the VHS virus in Wisconsin
visit <http://dnr.wi.gov/fish/pages/vhs.html>.*

