



**Big Blake Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Protect our lake, prevent invasives**

**Join us.** We have great volunteers, but always need more. Let's talk. It's easy and fun.

## Clean Boats, Clean Waters Program

**WHEN:** June through September

**TIME:** 4 hours per month

Best times: Fridays: 3-9pm; Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, fishing tournaments

**WHO:** You and a buddy, friend or spouse (homeowners on the lake, or in area)

Veteran volunteers will assist and train new volunteers.

**WHAT:** you can volunteer to help in many ways, such as:

- a) inspect boats at the landings, hand out literature to visitors and neighbors launching a watercraft;
- b) put brochures at bait shops in the area; help with displays at the annual meeting
- c) enter data online into SWIMS database as other volunteers complete inspection forms;
- d) write copy for the newsletter, social media or for mailings.

**TRAINING:** Watch one of several 7-minute videos, read a few pages of orientation and do your first inspection with an experienced volunteer. That's it ....easy and fun.

### **DNR grant to district requires 400 hours**

The Big Blake Lake P& R District receives a grant to remove coontail weeds and control the spread of AIS. Currently, curly-leaf pondweed is an invasive weed in Big Blake Lake. The DNR requires a contribution of 400 hours per season inspecting boats at 2 landings, 200 hours per landing. Without this grant, homeowners would have to pay these costs. Volunteers are critical to keep costs down.

### **About Clean Boats, Clean Waters Program**

With the growing concern over the spread of [aquatic invasive species](#) to Wisconsin's inland lakes, many lake district members and other concerned citizens are looking for ways to get involved. The *Clean Boats, Clean Waters* volunteer watercraft inspection program is an opportunity to take a front line defense against the spread of aquatic invasive species.

**Contact:**

**Peggy Lauritsen** / [Clean Boats, Clean Waters](#) – AIS Volunteer Coordinator

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### Resources for CBCW Volunteers

#### 1) Learn more about Clean Boats, Clean Waters?

Learn about aquatic invasive species laws?

Learn about data entry?

Instructions or tips for completing inspection forms?

Get more inspection forms forms?

Find more training?

This site has it all for you:

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/cbcw/default.aspx>

**2) Enter data** from completed inspection forms? *(if you don't want to enter data online, submit forms to Peggy L. and she will handle data entry for you).*

<http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/cbcw/data.aspx>

Enter data here: Wisconsin DNR: Surface Water Integrated Monitoring System (SWIMS)

<https://dnrx.wisconsin.gov/swims/login.jsp?site=ais>

#### 3) CBCW Inspection Video Scenarios, June 4, 2015

New Clean Boats, Clean Waters Watercraft Inspection Video Scenarios are now available to view on the CBCW website! Seven scenarios were created to help volunteer inspectors learn how to have a conversation with boaters and anglers at the boat landing while conducting an inspection. An introductory video explains the purposes of the scenarios, and the first scenario provides an example of a complete watercraft inspection from start to finish. The following six videos focus on specific scenarios, such as how to talk to an angler leaving the landing with live bait, and begin after the inspector has introduced themselves to the boater and asked some of the initial questions from the inspection report form. The last video discusses how to thoroughly take the prevention steps and walks through the process of cleaning off a boat. These videos are meant to enhance the CBCW trainings, not replace them, and serve as a post-training resource for our inspectors.

CBCW Inspection Video Scenarios: <http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/UWEXLakes/Pages/programs/cbcw/resources.aspx>

This older video is a good one for new volunteers: Watch this 7-minute video about boat and trailer inspections: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OdFmFaC7ldE&noredirect=1>



## Big Blake Lake Protection & Rehabilitation District

CBCW VOLUNTEERS

# AIS - Facts to use at the landing

**Invasives Blake Lake has now:** Curly-leaf pondweed, banded mystery snail, Chinese mystery snail. 38 Polk County lakes have curly-leaf pondweed.

**TOP THREATS:** Eurasian milfoil and zebra mussels

*Why?* Because these invasives are very difficult and expensive to get rid of

### **Eurasian Milfoil**

Quick to spread: It only takes ¼ inch of the plant to start a new population.

Small fragments can blow from one side of the lake to the other.

Costly: In another lake district in the area, members pay \$600+ per year to treat milfoil with herbicide.

Extra caution: **4 nearby waters have milfoil; Horseshoe, Pike, Long Trade (and St. Croix River).**

Nearby in Twin Cities lakes: 150 TC lakes have milfoil. 275 lakes in Minnesota have milfoil.

Many visitors to Blake Lake are from the TC metro, only 77 miles away.

### **Zebra Mussels**

Nearby in St. Croix County: Bass Lake and Lake St. Croix.

Nearby in Minnesota: 141 waterbodies in MN have zebra mussels!