

Dear Pine Mountain Lake Member,

Pine Mountain Lake’s vessel inspection guidelines are important to keep Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) from entering our lake. Common AIS in our region include animals (New Zealand mud snails, quagga and zebra mussels) and plants (water hyacinth, hydrilla, Eurasian watermilfoil, Brazilian waterweed). Invasive mussels in particular are spread primarily by recreational boaters. AIS can cause damages such as; reduced water clarity, foul odors, floating mats of vegetation, impaired boating, and weed clogged beaches. No boat inspection program can completely protect our lake from these threats, but with a little education, minimal effort, and voluntary cooperation, we can substantially reduce the threats of AIS to our lake.

The first step in protecting our lake from AIS is **member education**. It is much easier to prevent AIS from becoming established in the lake than is to treat infested waters. Treatment can often involve expensive chemical applications or equally expensive mechanical harvesting, and rarely exterminates them.

In California it is illegal to import, transport, or possess live or dead quagga or zebra mussels, including water that may contain their microscopic juveniles. Please do your part in protecting our lake from the harmful effects of AIS species by taking the precautions advised on the next two pages. Don’t move a mussel!

In addition, if you are launching your vessel into Pine Mountain Lake after recent use on another body of water, notify the Marina staff and they will be glad to assist you in inspecting your vessel, trailer and water toys. Your vessel needs to be cleaned and clear of any water, debris, mud, plants and animals transported from other water ways. If your boat has been used elsewhere, you need to clean, drain and dry it thoroughly and DO NOT use it here for at least 30 days.

More information can be found at:

<http://www.dbw.ca.gov/?page_id=28764>

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Invasives>



**General Clean Drain Dry Procedure**

Clean, Drain, Dry… In every waterbody, every time.

Preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species starts with you. A cooperative effort is necessary by all persons and agencies involved with recreational activities to achieve the best results and protect our aquatic resources and recreational opportunities.

The general Clean Drain Dry procedure is described below.

**CLEAN** off visible aquatic plants, animals, and mud from all equipment before leaving water access

* Rinse equipment and boat hulls (with high pressure, hot water when possible)
* Rinse interior compartments of boats with low pressure, hot water (120°F)
* Flush motor with hot water (120°F) for 2 minutes (or according to owner’s manual)

**DRAIN** motor, bilge, livewell, and other water containing devices before leaving water access.

**DRY** everything for at least five days OR wipe with a towel before reuse.

Together the three steps of Clean Drain Dry greatly minimizes the risk of spreading Aquatic Hitchhikers into new locations*.*

**Motor Boats**

**CLEAN** off visible aquatic plants, animals, and mud from watercraft, motor, trailer, and equipment before leaving water access. **Scrub** hull using a stiff brush. **Rinse** watercraft, trailer, and equipment with high pressure hot water when possible.  **Flush** motor according to owner’s manual.

* ***Jet Boats and Personal Watercraft (PWCs) users:***Clean off visible aquatic plants, animals, and mud from hull, trailer, intake grate and steering nozzle, etc. Run engine 5-10 seconds to blow out excess water and vegetation from internal drive before leaving water access.
* ***Sailors:***Clean off visible aquatic plants, animals, and mud from the centerboard, bilge board wells, rudderpost, trailer and other equipment before leaving water access.

**DRAIN** water from watercraft, motor, bilge, bladder tanks, livewell, and portable bait containers before leaving water access.

**DRY** everything for five days or more, unless otherwise required by local or state laws, when moving between waters to kill small species not easily seen OR wipe with a towel before reuse.



**Non-Motorized Watercraft**

For canoes, boards, rafts, kayaks, rowboats, paddleboats, inflatables, sculls, and other non-motorized recreational watercraft:

**CLEAN** off visible aquatic plants, animals, and mud from watercraft, gear, paddles, floats, ropes, anchors, dip nets, and trailer before leaving water access. **Scrub** hull using a stiff brush.  **Rinse** watercraft, trailer and equipment with high pressure hot water, when possible.

**DRAIN** water from watercraft, sponges, bailers, and water containing devices before leaving water access.

**DRY** everything five days or more, unless otherwise required by local or state laws, when moving between waters to kill small species not easily seen OR wipe with a towel before reuse.

**Anglers**

**CLEAN** off plants, animals, and mud from gear and equipment including waders, footwear, ropes, anchors, bait traps, dip nets, downrigger cables, fishing lines, and field gear before leaving water access. **Scrub** off any visible material on footwear with a stiff brush.

**DRAIN** water from watercraft, motor, bilge, bladder tanks, livewell and portable bait containers before leaving water access.  **Replace** with spring or dechlorinated tap water when keeping live bait before leaving water access.

**DRY** everything five days or more, unless otherwise required by local or state laws, when moving between waters to kill small species not easily seen OR wipe with a towel before reuse.

**DISPOSE** of unwanted bait, fish parts, and packing materials, in the trash; do not dump them in the water or on land.

Other key actions:

* Use non-felt soled boots to further reduce the risk of spreading aquatic invasive species.
* Fish caught for eating or taxidermy should be cleaned at designated fish cleaning stations or placed on ice.
* Never dump live fish or other organisms from one water body into another.