

STOP THE SPREAD

Spiny Water Flea

Bythotrephes longimanus

Spiny Water Flea will negatively impact Manitoba's waterways!

Origin

A zooplankton species native to Eurasia. It was introduced to North America from ballast waters of ocean-going ships in 1982.

Status

This crustacean has invaded all the Laurentian Great Lakes, and some inland lakes in Ontario and Minnesota including the Lake of the Woods region.

Impacts

Reproduces quickly. Avoided by small native fish, thus populations can grow out of control. Competes with native fish for food and fouls fishing gear. Reduces abundance and diversity of native zooplankton species. Their eggs are resistant to drying, freezing and extreme temperatures, and even withstand being eaten by fish. Can easily be transported over land in undrained water (bilge, livewells, bait buckets, etc.) on watercraft and equipment.

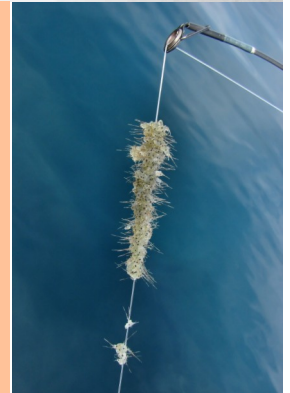
Where to Look

All lakes, rivers and streams.



Look For:

- ◇ 1 to 1.5 cm (1/3 to 5/8 inch) long.
- ◇ Long tail (2/3 body length) with barb-like spines.
- ◇ Commonly found in Clumps on Fishing lines or Fishing gear that look like gelatin or cotton batting with tiny black spots.



Prevent the Spread!

CLEAN and inspect watercraft, trailer and gear before leaving the access. Remove all plants, animals and mud. Rinse using high pressure, and/or hot tap water.

DRAIN all water from watercraft and gear including the motor, live-well, bilge and bait bucket.

DRY watercraft and gear for at least 5 days in the hot sun (if rinsing is not available).

DISPOSE of unwanted live bait and worms in trash and dump bait.

For more information or to report a sighting,
Call: **1-87-STOP AIS-0** or 1(877) 867-2470

Visit: **Manitoba.ca/StopAIS**

Invasive Species Council of
Manitoba

5006 Roblin Boulevard Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3R 0G7
ph: (204) 232-6021 fax: (204) 986-7236
info@invasivespeciesmanitoba.com
www.invasivespeciesmanitoba.com

UNWANTED INVADERS

Funding for this project was provided by the **Fisheries Enhancement Fund**

EDD Maps Prairie Region
Early Detection & Distribution Mapping System Manitoba & Saskatchewan

<http://www.eddmaps.org/prairieregion/>

Photo credits, Banner: fishcrazy-bigdog.blogspot.com; Actual size of Spiny water flea (scale bar represents 1 mm): J. Liebig, NOAA GLERL; Fishing line clumped with Spiny water fleas: Jeff Gunderson, Minnesota Sea Grant.