



WHAT TO EXPECT AT A WATERCRAFT INSPECTION STATION

Inspectors examine boats, trailers, and gear to ensure no invasive plants, animals, mud or water are transported.

Your help is needed to complete the inspection.

A watercraft inspection can include:

- Checking the boat hull and trailer for debris and foreign objects.
- Lowering the engine/motor to ensure all water is drained.
- Examining the engine compartments, transom, and gimbal area.
- Pulling the drain plugs.
- Removing of boat cover or tarp to allow access to internal compartments.
- Examining live wells, bait buckets and internal compartments.
- Operating ballast pumps and ensuring bilges are drained.
- Checking the anchor, anchor line and anchor compartment.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Please answer a few questions so we can continue to improve Montana's watercraft inspection program.



Find the survey at fwp.mt.gov/AISCustomerSurvey or scan QR Code.

Inspector # _____



fwp.mt.gov/AIS

Protect Our Waters Montana
406-444-2440



CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.

Your guide to protecting Montana's waters

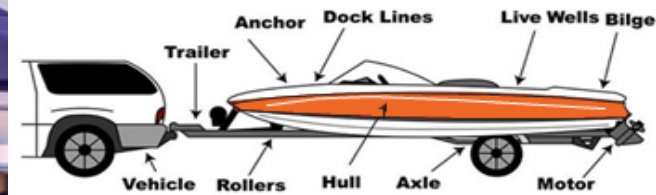
BOATERS-ANGLERS- RECREATIONISTS

Practicing **CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY** is key to stopping Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) from harming our waters. AIS are non-native plants, animals and diseases that can hitch a ride on boats, trailers, fishing gear, and waders.

PREVENTION IS OUR BEST DEFENSE AGAINST AIS!

MONTANA'S AIS REGULATIONS

- Stop at ALL open watercraft inspection stations as directed by signs.
- When traveling from out-of-state, west across the Continental Divide or into the Flathead River Basin, watercraft must be inspected before launching. Boats with ballast tanks that are entering the state require a decontamination before launching.
- Pull the drain plug when leaving the launch area. Drain all water and remove all aquatic vegetation.
- Retain proof of inspection (paper or electronic)
- Failure to stop at inspections stations could result in a fine up to \$500.



BRINGING YOUR BOAT TO MONTANA

- Watercraft transported into Montana from out-of-state must be inspected before launching.
- Stop at all open inspection stations as directed by signs.
- Out-of-state boats with bladders or ballast tanks, such as wakeboard or wake-surfing boats, must obtain a decontamination before launching.
- It is illegal to transport aquatic invasive species, live fish, bait fish or surface water into Montana.

VESSEL AIS PREVENTION PASS

Non-resident watercraft launching in Montana must purchase a Vessel AIS Prevention Pass (Vessel AISPP).

- Purchase the Vessel AISPP online at fwp.mt.gov/AIS, any FWP office or any FWP license provider.
- Motorized watercraft fee is \$30. Required for all watercraft that have a motor.
- Nonmotorized watercraft fee is \$10. Required for all nonmotorized watercraft.
- Proof of purchase is electronic (on your cell phone) or a paper receipt. There is no decal.
- All Vessel AISPP expire on December 31.
- Not transferable between vessels.
- Not required if nonresident is transporting watercraft through Montana and not launching.

BEFORE LEAVING THE WATER BE SURE TO:

CLEAN

- Remove mud, plants and organisms from boat, trailer and gear.
- Clean anchor, lines, live-wells and waders.
- Check rudder, hatches and cockpit.
- Clear through-hull fittings.

DRAIN

- Eliminate water from boat and equipment.
- Remove drain plugs.
- Lower motor and allow to drain.
- Drain live-wells, pumps, bilges and ballast tanks.

DRY

- Allow time for boat and equipment to dry before your next trip.
- Open compartments and towel dry.
- Wipe bilge and live-wells dry.

DISPOSE

- Place unwanted bait in the trash, never in the water.

NEVER

- Transport water, plants, fish or animals into a different body of water.



fwp.mt.gov/AIS

