

CLEAN. DRAIN. DRY.



PROTECT YOUR INVESTMENT Help stop Aquatic Invasive Species.

AIS Threatens Montana's Agriculture.

Agriculture is a leading industry in Montana. Our farms and ranches are vital to the state's economy and our way of life. Invasive mussels threaten 2 million acres of irrigated land and the livelihood of Montana's farmers and ranchers.

What are the impacts?

Invasive mussels pose serious threats to our water resources. They can:

- ▶ Travel downstream to infest canals and pipelines.
- ▶ Clog irrigation pipelines, pumps, screens, head gates & intakes.
- ▶ Reduce pumping capacity.
- ▶ Increase algae blooms and decrease water quality

Invasive mussel larvae are so small they can survive undetected anywhere there is standing water.



An attached mussel is an invasive mussel. Montana's native mussels do not attach to underwater surfaces.





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WHAT YOU CAN DO

You can stop the spread of AIS the same way you stop noxious weeds. When working in or near water, think about these factors:

- ▶ If using irrigation or construction equipment, where did it come from? Any equipment coming from out of state is considered high risk and should be **CLEANED, DRAINED & DRIED**.
- ▶ Have boaters and anglers **CLEANED, DRAINED & DRIED** their boats and fishing equipment before accessing a stream or lake on your property?
- ▶ Before transporting anything that has been in the water, ensure that it is **CLEAN** by removing all organic material, including plants and mud.
- ▶ **DRAIN** all water from every compartment of the equipment. Sponge or towel any residual standing water.
- ▶ Leave equipment to **DRY** before entering another body of water or moving upstream in a river. Equipment should be dry to the touch.
- ▶ If filling tanks with stream or pond water, avoid dumping that water into other streams or ponds. Well water is the safer option to avoid transporting AIS.

Learn more - contact your local conservation district: macdnet.org
For emergencies or to report a suspect species call **1-800-TIPMont**

fwp.mt.gov/ais

 : 406.444.2440



**MONTANA FISH,
WILDLIFE & PARKS**



The Montana Department of
**Natural Resources
& Conservation**