



Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS), Their Lookalikes, and Stories From the AIS Realm

Andy Teal

Aquatic Invasive Species Project Coordinator

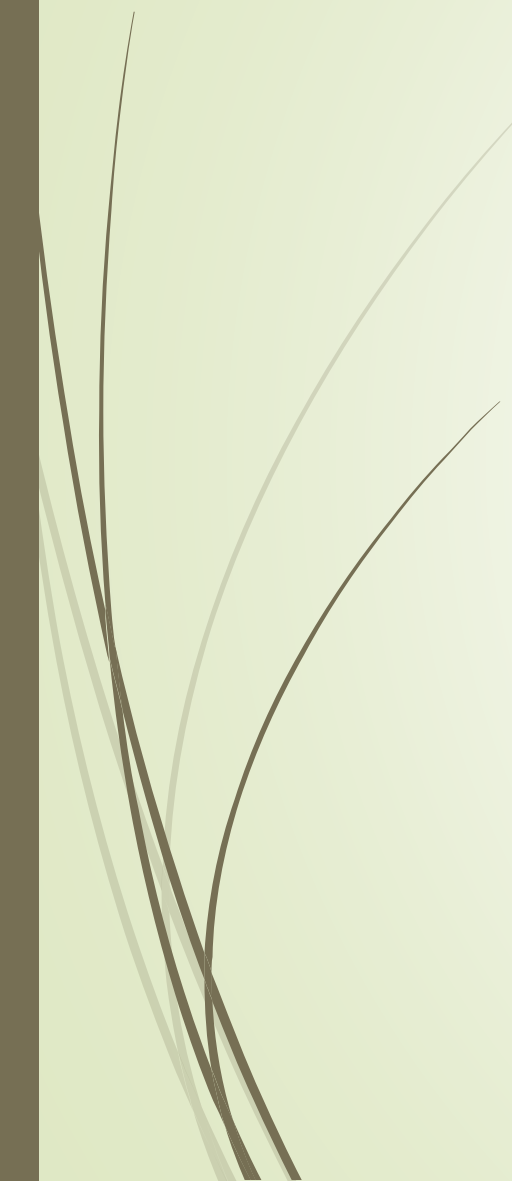
Bayfield County Land & Water Conservation Department

The Bag Game

- ▶ Everyone should have a paper bag in front of them. You may open them and remove the contents.
- ▶ Rules:
 - ▶ 1. Go around the room trading the contents 1:1 with anyone else who has a bag-you may keep the contents of your bag after the game ends.
 - ▶ 2. For time's sake, trade with three-four people, and introduce yourself as you go. Be sure to write their names on your bag!
 - ▶ 3. Have fun!
- ▶ Clock starts now: 3 minutes! 😊
- ▶ Full picture: I played the “super spreader”, a body of water with lots of traffic and AIS. I dropped a few invasive species into a few random bags. If you have an X on the bottom of your bag, you had an invasive species!
- ▶ Disclaimer: Not all species spread this readily or quickly, some take multiple introductions and several age classes to build a population.

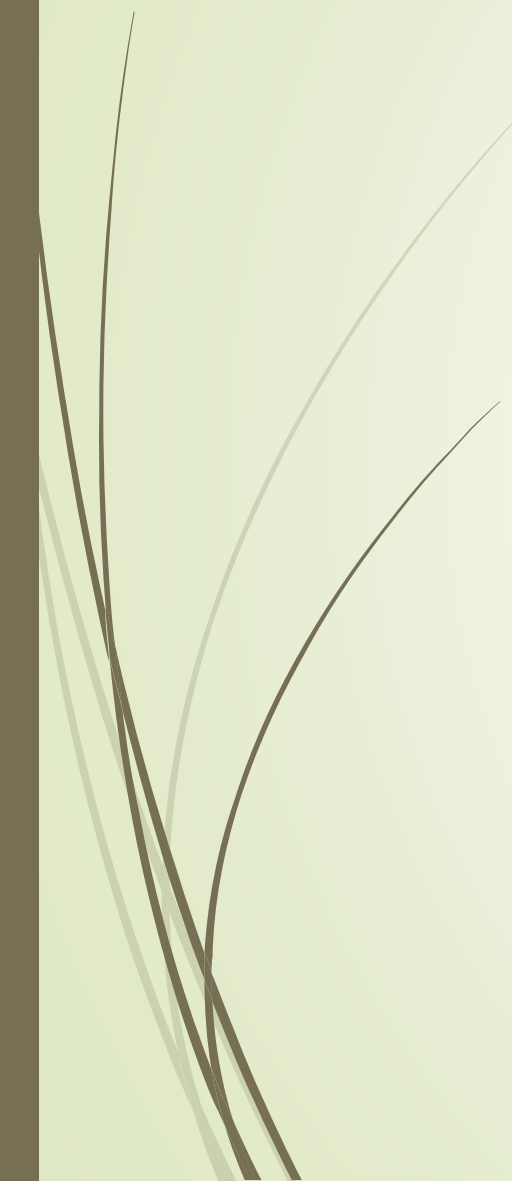


What are aquatic invasive species?

- Organisms that are not native to an area
 - Cause environmental or economic harm
 - Pose a human/pet/livestock health risk
 - They typically live in, on, or near water
- 



AIS Characteristics

- ▶ Mature early, grow fast, and can produce many offspring per season
 - ▶ Have no natural predators, diseases, parasites, etc. to check them
 - ▶ Tolerate a wide range of conditions, and take advantage of disturbances
- 



Basically...

- ➔ **AIS are primarily spread, whether intentionally or accidentally, by humans**
- 



Why Should We Care? What's Our Stake in This Situation?

- ▶ The Public Trust Doctrine
- ▶ The Tragedy of the Commons
- ▶ States and local governments typically have more authority on water regulations than the Feds
- ▶ AIS can harm wildlife, damage infrastructure, threaten historical sites, and cause habitat loss
- ▶ Invasive species are the 3rd leading cause of species decline globally
- ▶ We ALL NEED water: for drinking, recreation, irrigation, and more! Businesses require it for everything from tourism to brewing beer



HELP DRINK AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Milfoil Lakehouse Saison Ale

Brewed with:

- Eurasian Milfoil
- Zebra Mussel Shells
- Minnetonka Gold Honey
- Minnesota Wild Rice
- Wet hopped Centennial, Nugget, and Cascade hops grown in our back yards.

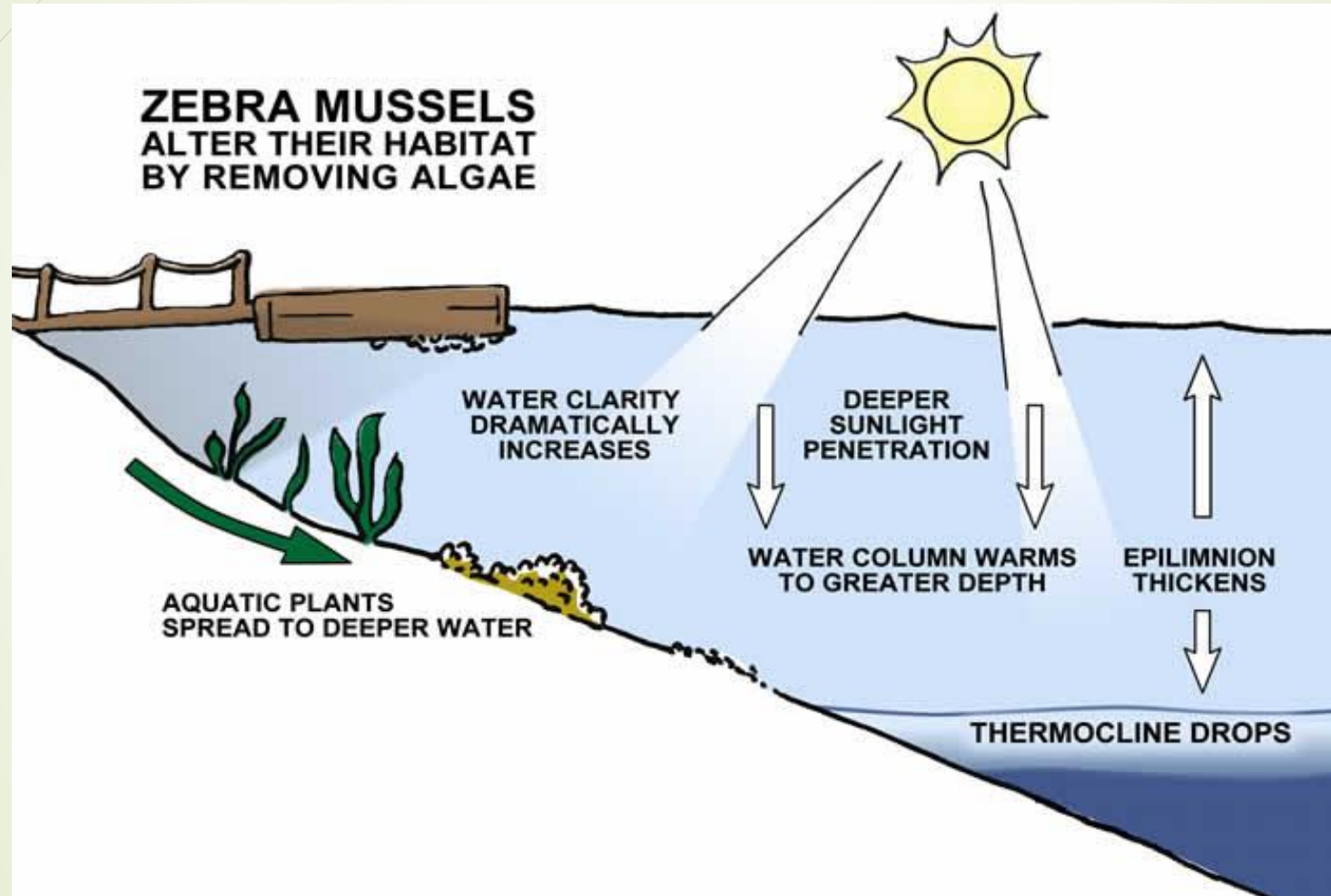
Provides an exotic, invasive flavor profile that will help remind you to check for Aquatic Hitchhiker's.

ABV 8.2 IBU 65 OG 18.5



Choose Your Craft™

Wildlife Harm



Infrastructure Damage



Not be confused with...

Dogwood



Photo Credit: Phlorum

Lilac



Photo Credit: Phlorum

Historical Sites



Photo Credit: National Park Service

Sevona shipwreck



Photo Credit: National Park Service

Habitat Loss



Seed
Capsules:
Photo Credit to
Jim Giffin and
Jeremy Bates

Yellow Iris Management



I Can Grow Anywhere...In a Lake, or in a Brook. Eurasian milfoil!



Weevil Knievel: He Eats Milfoil for Breakfast



DASH



LLC

Curly-leaf pondweed



A Few Good Native Species



Northwoods Cooperative Weed Management Area



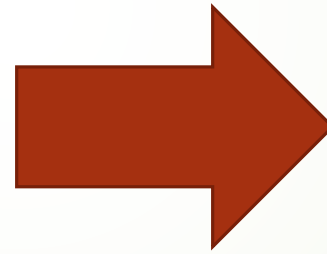
- Been around (officially) since 2005, helping landowners with invasive plants, including a few species that are traditionally wetland invaders.
- We work together on knotweed most often, but other partners also manage Phragmites, purple loosestrife, and yellow iris.
- They have a community toolshed available for public use!

(Some) Great Success!

- ▶ Eurasian watermilfoil in George Lake, Barnes, Bayfield County
- ▶ Phragmites at WWTPs in Bayfield County, thanks to Red Cliff's efforts and partnerships
- ▶ Purple Loosestrife...all over Wisconsin



INSPECT



REMOVE



DRAIN



Photo credit: Emily Heald



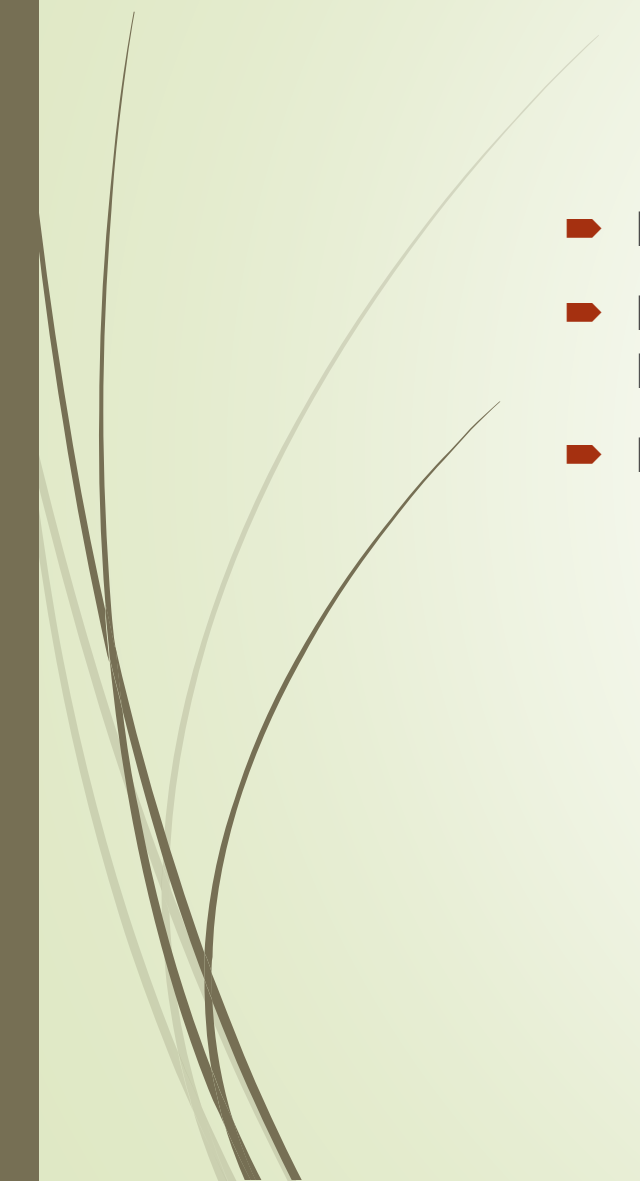
Photo credit: Emily Heald

NEVER MOVE!





Credits

- ▶ Parody song title credits: Paul Skawinski and Kaycie Stushek
 - ▶ Photo credits: Disney, Emily Heald, Endangered Resource Services, Jeremy Bates, Jim Giffin, National Park Service, Paul Skawinski, Shipwreck Explorers
 - ▶ Editing and review: Anna Short and Saige Thornley
- 

Questions?



THANK YOU!

<https://erc.cals.wisc.edu/music/>

