

# NATIONAL INVASIVE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK

## National Invasive Species Awareness Week is February 23<sup>rd</sup> through February 27<sup>th</sup>

Invasive species are plants or animals found outside their natural range whose introduction is likely to cause economic and environmental harm, or affect human health. Wisconsin's invasive species rule ([Wis. Admin. Code NR 40](#)) makes it illegal to possess, transport, transfer, or introduce certain plants and animals in Wisconsin without a permit.

Nevertheless, invasive species have found their way into Wisconsin's landscape, wetlands, and waterways. The best way to prevent the spread of invasive species is to learn more about the identification of species, how they may impact you or the environment, and take prevention steps when possible.



Photo By: Paul Skawinski, UW-Extension Lakes

## Simple Steps to Prevent the Spread:

- Clean hiking boots, waders, boats, trailers, off-road vehicles, and other gear in between outings.
- Buy firewood where you'll burn it.
- Take extra care when moving plant material. Buy your plants from a reputable source and plant native species.
- Clean, drain, dry all watercraft, trailers, and equipment before and after boating or fishing.
- Do not dump unwanted aquarium content into waterways.
- Dispose of unwanted live bait properly.