

SPREAD THE WORD.

KEEP PELICAN LAKE FREE OF ZEBRA MUSSELS.

Why should you care?

Zebra mussels pose an immediate and major risk to Pelican Lake. If introduced they will negatively impact the lake and those who enjoy it in many ways. Zebra mussels colonize on any hard surface and damage boat hulls and motors, docks, and boat launches. They devastate the recreational fishery by depleting fish food sources and fouling the water. Dead mussels wash up on shore and create foul odours and can cut feet if stepped on, rendering beaches unusable. Clean up is expensive and ongoing once a lake is infested, costing property owners and municipalities.

Once zebra mussels enter a body of water, they are next to impossible to control.

It's The Law!

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) regulations under the Fisheries Act (Canada) make it illegal to possess, transport or release live or dead zebra mussels.

To report a violation, call
1-800-867-2470

Decontamination video:



For more information please visit
www.healthylake.ca

Other resources:
www.dontmoveamussel.ca
www.100thmeridian.org
www.manitoba.ca/StopAIS

Contact us:
info@healthylake.ca
204-761-0400
Healthy Lake Committee
637 10th Street
Brandon, MB, R7A4G6



DON'T MOVE A MUSSEL.

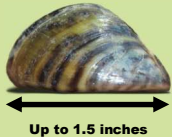
ZEBRA MUSSELS AND THEIR THREAT TO PELICAN LAKE



Presented by
The Healthy
Lake Committee



ZEBRA MUSSELS HIDE HERE.



What are zebra mussels?

Zebra mussels are a highly invasive small aquatic animal resembling freshwater clams. They multiply rapidly and cause devastating environmental and economic damage. This small mussel only grows to 1.5 inches long at most and each zebra mussel can produce up to a million microscopic larvae, called veligers.

The spread of zebra mussels.

Since their initial introduction to North America in the 1980s, zebra mussels have steadily invaded south-eastern Canada and the majority of the eastern half of the United States. They have infested the Laurentian Great Lakes, and the Hudson and the Mississippi drainage areas. In 2010, zebra mussels were found for the first time in the Red River, and in 2013 they were found in Lake Winnipeg. They are spread by boaters or other recreational water users who do not clean, drain, and dry their boats and equipment before traveling from an infested lake. Once introduced, they are impossible to control and multiply rapidly.

How do you spot them?

Veligers (larvae) are microscopic and cannot be seen by the naked eye. Adult zebra mussels hide in crevices and intakes, so they are difficult to spot and easily missed. If your boat has been in an infested lake you should assume it has zebra mussels attached and carefully follow the de-contamination procedures described in this brochure. Remember, even when cleaned properly, a boat coming from an infested lake is highly likely to introduce zebra mussels into Pelican Lake.



Adult zebra mussels can survive out of water, in moist cool conditions, for up to 30 days. They attach to watercraft or other water-related equipment being transported from one body of water to another unless the proper steps are taken to avoid moving them to new areas. The larvae/veligers are not visible to the naked eye and can survive in very little water or dampness, and are therefore easily transported as well.

Don't be a carrier! Follow these decontamination procedures before leaving any infested body of water and coming to Pelican Lake:

CLEAN your boat, trailer, and all water related equipment. Remove all plants, aquatic animals and mud. Rinse all surfaces that came into contact with the water with very hot water; 60°C (140°F) or hotter, to kill any zebra mussels. Use high pressure to remove any attached mussels. Young mussels attaching to surfaces feels like sandpaper. Inspect drain holes, speedometer brackets, motors, propellers, and other difficult to clean areas, including the trailer and vehicle as zebra mussels like to hide in crevices and hard to access areas.

DRAIN all on-board water from the motor, livewell, bilge, ballast tanks and bait buckets. Any hard to completely drain areas should be dried with a dry towel or sponge. Microscopic zebra mussel larvae can live in water anywhere in your boat or equipment.

DRY all water related equipment and boat completely. Leave all compartments open to allow drying. Dry for 8 consecutive days in the hot summer sun, 18 days in the spring/fall, or 3 days of exposure to constant freezing temperatures (-10°C or lower).

BEST PRACTICE recommended by The Healthy Lake Committee: **If your boat has been in a body of water that is infested with zebra mussels, do not use it in Pelican Lake in the same season. The only way to 100% guarantee that zebra mussels are destroyed is to let the boat and equipment freeze over the winter.**

