

A few examples of the invasive plants and animals that could become a serious problem in our waterways:

WATER PRIMROSE

Freshwater plants like water primrose block waterways restricting navigation, and clog ponds and lakes. Water primrose is not yet widespread in Britain but if it spreads further, like it has in other parts of Europe, it will cost £millions to manage.



QUAGGA MUSSEL

This tiny freshwater mussel breeds extremely fast and grows in dense colonies which can cover the underside of boats and clog propellers.



KILLER SHRIMP

This shrimp is a voracious predator of other small animals including our native shrimp and young fish, which can significantly impact on the whole ecosystem. Its small size (3 cm max) means it could easily be hidden in damp parts of your boat or clothing, where it can survive for two weeks.



STOP THE SPREAD

Find out more about invasive plants and animals and how you can help to stop the spread at:

nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry

Twitter: @CheckCleanDryGB

Scan QR code on your mobile



Photos from Natura Resources Wales, Trevor Renals and the Environment Agency.



Invasive plants and animals block waterways and harm the environment
Don't spread them on your boat

CHECK

CLEAN

DRY

Invasive plants and animals from all over the world have been introduced accidentally to British waters. Over fifty different species have already been found in our lakes, rivers, and other waterways, and the number of new arrivals is increasing rapidly.

They cause serious environmental problems that can be irreversible – outcompeting native wildlife, damaging ecosystems, and spreading disease. They can also clog propellers and damage boats, and block up waterways restricting navigation and increasing the risk of flooding.

They can be small and hard to spot so are easily spread on damp boats, equipment and clothing. **Protect the environment and fishing you enjoy by keeping your kit free of invasive plants and animals.**

STOP THE SPREAD

It's even more important to **Check Clean Dry** if you're taking your boat abroad to make sure you don't bring any plants or animals back with you.

Make sure everything is clean and has been dried thoroughly before you use it again at home.

CHECK

Check boats, equipment and clothing after leaving the water for mud, aquatic animals or plant material. Remove anything you find and leave it at the site. Reapply anti-fouling annually.

CLEAN

Clean everything thoroughly as soon as you can, paying attention to ropes, bilges, trailers, and areas that are damp and hard to access. Use hot water if you can.

DRY

Dry - drain water from every part of your boat and trailer before leaving the site. Dry everything for as long as possible before using elsewhere as some invasive plants and animals can survive for two weeks in damp conditions.

Remember to check these places



You can request free Check Clean Dry awareness-raising materials for your club from nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry