

# Aquatic Invasive Species Update

Washington & Waukesha Counties



May 2018

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## Clean Boats, Clean Waters Trainings

Over the past month, we held eight Clean Boats, Clean Waters training sessions. We trained 45 people and are excited for everyone to get their feet wet with CBCW surveys! Our crew members were stationed at Big Muskego, Pewaukee, and Friess Lakes on Memorial Day. Combined, we talked to 105 boats and educated 258 people!

Feel free to contact us if you need materials, want to find out more about Clean Boats, Clean Waters, or are interested in volunteering or applying for grants!

Miss a training? No problem! Click on the picture below to view other CBCW Training sessions held throughout the state.



CBCW Team Members give boaters a survey and remove invasive species.

## Meet the AIS TEAM!

We have hired an amazing team this year, and are excited to introduce them! Look for our team members at local boat launches providing outreach and education, giving Clean Boats, Clean Waters surveys, or surveying our lakes for invasive plants and animals!

Sara had so much fun last year, she's decided to return! Sara is a second year student at UW-Madison studying environmental science and political science. Sara hopes to learn about the intersection of policy and ecology in Waukesha County this summer. When she's not working on a lake you can find Sara recreating on one!



Maddelin was brought onto Washington County's Clean Boats, Clean Waters program hoping to make a difference by educating the public about Aquatic Invasive Species. It brings her so much happiness to see boater's genuine concern when reaching out to them at the boat launch. Maddelin believes if we can all come together as a community, we can make a difference.



Meet Washington County Intern Maddelin  
McGovern

Graceanne is a senior biology and math major at St. Norbert College. She hopes to use her education and passion for aquatic ecosystems to pursue a career in marine biology, focusing on research and conservation. When not working with aquatic invasive species this summer, you can find her hiking in local parks, running along the lakefront, or whipping something up in the kitchen.



Meet Waukesha AIS Intern Graceanne Tarsa

## CLMN Aquatic Plant I.D. Training

On Wednesday, May 23rd, Lake and Conservation Groups were trained on Citizen Lake Monitoring Network Aquatic Plant Identification at the Oconomowoc Community Center. State CLMN Coordinator Paul Skawinski visited to train our group on plant identification and monitoring.



Paul Skawinski demonstrates how to throw a rake on a rope

After the classroom training, we had time to get on the water and look for invasive species! It was a perfect day, and everyone learned how to identify some different

species of plants and animals.



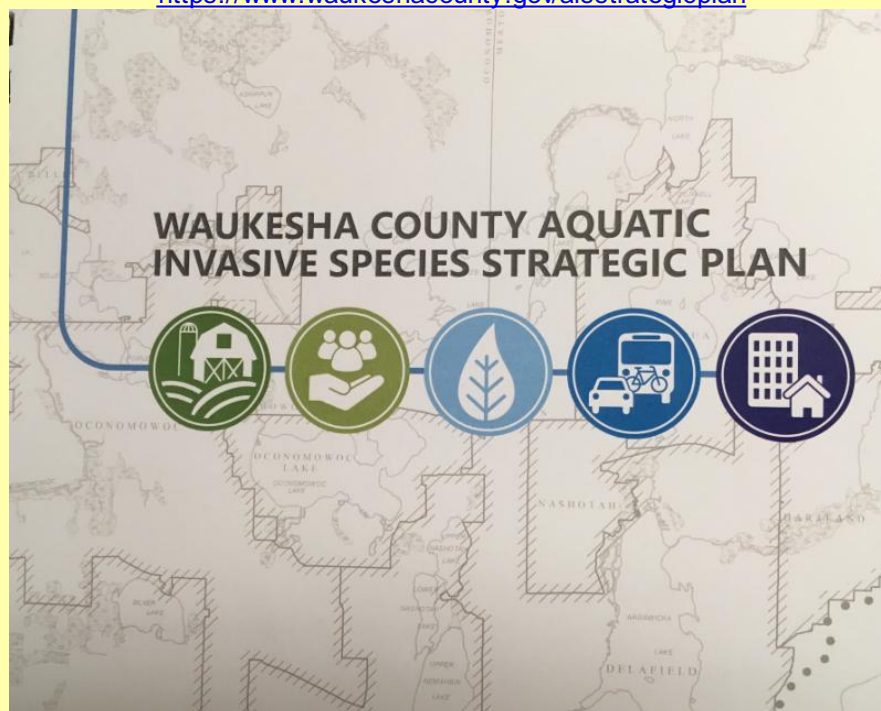
Citizen Lake Monitoring Training on Lac La Belle

## Presenting AIS Strategic Plan to LUPE

We had a chance to present our AIS Strategic Plan [Waukesha County Aquatic Invasive Species Strategic Plan](#) and mapping application to the Waukesha County Land Use, Parks, and Environment (LUPE) Committee. The committee expressed great support for the AIS program. The next step is to include the AIS program costs in the 2019 County budget this fall, for which state grant funds have already been approved.

Thanks to our County support and partnering Lake Organizations, the AIS program continues to gain momentum and bring strong conservation efforts to our region! We are so glad to be a part of Washington and Waukesha Counties!

<https://www.waukeshacounty.gov/aisstrategicplan>



The Cover of the Waukesha County AIS Strategic Plan.

# Upcoming Events: Drain Campaign

## ANGLERS URGED TO DRAIN LIVEWELLS TO PREVENT SPREAD OF AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES

Protect Wisconsin's Waters During Statewide Drain Campaign, June 1-3

(Waukesha, WI) - Waukesha County Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) staff urge boaters and anglers to drain live wells, bait buckets, motors, and bilges before leaving a boat launch to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species and fish diseases between lakes, rivers and streams.

"Anglers are passionate about protecting their waters and are great spokespeople and teachers for Wisconsin's Drain Campaign," says Brad Steckart, the Aquatic Invasive Species Coordinator for Washington and Waukesha Counties. "They know draining water from boats helps keep microscopic invasive species and diseases from moving between lakes and rivers."

Volunteers from the Clean Boats, Clean Waters project will talk with boaters at launches around the state during the annual Drain Campaign from June 1-3. Many locations will also provide free icepacks to remind people that icing is the best way to keep fish fresh. "Ice is preferred by many anglers, since it stops bacterial growth and helps to protect the flavor of the catch," added Steckart

The following steps are required by law to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species:

- \* INSPECT boats, trailers and equipment for attached aquatic plants or animals.
- \* REMOVE all attached aquatic plants and animals.
- \* DRAIN all water from boats, vehicles, and equipment
- \* NEVER MOVE plants or live fish away from a waterbody.
- \* DISPOSE of unwanted bait in the trash
- \* BUY minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer.
- \* Only use LEFTOVER minnows on the same body of water or on other waters if no lake/river water or other fish have been added to the container.



Little Muskego is back to normal levels

## Lake of the Month - Little Cedar Lake

This Month's "Lake of the Month" is Little Cedar Lake in West Bend. Little Cedar Lake is a 260 acre lake located in Washington County. It has a maximum depth of 56 feet. Visitors have access to the lake from a public boat landing at Ackermans Grove County Park, which also has a public beach. Fish include Panfish, Largemouth Bass, Northern Pike, and Walleye. The lake's water is moderately clear.



This photo circa 1910 is from the LCLPRD Webpage. [Click to visit.](#)

Reminder - June is Invasive Species Awareness Month! Contact us if you'd like to find out how to volunteer!

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