

Invasive species: Hitchhiking to a location near you

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Michigan Invasive Species

Invasive species: Hitchhiking to a location near you

Invasive species are on the move in Michigan – traveling by land, air and water. Like all other plants, animals and insects, [invasive species](#) have their own natural ways of getting around – but you might be surprised to find out their most common modes of transportation are with some help from us!

How does it happen?

Human movement of invasive species is almost always unintentional, but weeds caught in a boat motor or seeds stuck on shoes or blankets can be more than just a nuisance – they could be the start of a new infestation at your next destination.

Want to know more? Take a few minutes to [watch this new video](#) that quickly explains several pathways for invasive species transportation.



Why does it matter?

Recognizing how our actions can spread invasive species is the first step toward limiting their range.

“Once invasive species move in, it takes money and time to control them,” said Tom Alwin, aquatic biologist with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. “In some cases, it may be impossible to completely eliminate an invasive species or to undo the damage it has caused.”

What can you do?

- Share this email and [video link](#) with others: neighborhood and lake associations, friends and family, etc. If sharing on social media, please use the tag [#NotMiSpecies](#).
- Watch this short companion video ([Invasive Species: The Basics](#)) to find out about Michigan’s invasive species and the risks they pose.
- Visit [Michigan's invasive species website](#) and learn more about what to watch for and how to respond.
- Believe that you can make a difference, and [remember these easy tips](#).

Michigan's Invasive Species Program is cooperatively implemented by the Michigan departments of Agriculture & Rural Development, Environmental Quality and Natural Resources. For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/invasivespecies.

