

TOWN BOARD

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Town Lakes

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Town of Lac du Flambeau Office at:
715-588-3358

Tribal Water Quality Specialist:
Gretchen Watkins at
715-588-4162

Town Lakes Committee

Introduction to the TLC and Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

The Lac du Flambeau Town Board established the Town Lakes Committee (TLC) in March 2005 to **Protect the Lakes from Aquatic**

- Prevent AIS Infestations
- Manage AIS Infestations
- Administer Efficiently and Effectively

The public is encouraged to attend the meetings as well as participate in a variety of TLC activities.

See the TLC Calendar for a complete list of the activities.



Purple loosestrife

Invasive Species (AIS).

The TLC includes volunteers who promote lake stewardship through education and action. The TLC is guided by three goals:

The TLC meets on the third Wednesday of each month from April through October (10:00 am – 12:00 pm) at the Lac du Flambeau Town Hall.

MISSION
Protect the lakes from Aquatic Invasive Species

GOALS
Prevent AIS Infestations

Manage AIS Infestations

Administer Efficiently and Effectively

Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS)

What are they?



Rusty crayfish

They can be pushy. They can be nuisances.

Sometimes, they can even be dangerous.

lakes and lands.

They take over new waters and lands because their natural predators are not present or the native species lack the ability to compete with them or hide from them.

Six of the over 180 AIS currently in Wisconsin are now in the waters

of Lac du Flambeau: purple loosestrife, rusty crayfish, rainbow smelt, freshwater jellyfish, Chinese mystery snail and banded mystery snail.

Other AIS, like Eurasian water milfoil, curly-leaf pondweed, zebra mussel and spiny water flea, are in nearby counties.

Freshwater jellyfish



AIS are non-native plants and animals that enter our ecosystem and threaten plants and animals that are native to our

Where do AIS come from?

Other than the Rusty crayfish, native to the Ohio River Valley, the AIS that threaten Lac du Flambeau came from Europe and Asia, entering the U.S. at the Great Lakes ports in the bilge wa-

ter of ships or as cargo for the garden and aquaria trade.

Once they arrived, they moved further and further inland on boat motors and trailers, in bait buckets

and bilge water, and via sales at nurseries and pet stores. Some also spread during floods.

Spiny Waterflea



Curly-leaf pondweed

Protecting the lakes of Lac du Flambeau from Aquatic Invasive Species is very important!

Guarding the pristine nature of the lakes, fishery, and all the

wildlife that depends on the quality of the lakes should be reason enough.

Moreover, the Lac du Flambeau area affords vacationers and residents a full range of

activities, such as world-class fishing, boating, swimming, water-skiing, and other water sports. AIS threatens all of these and the local businesses that support them.

What should you do?

Be a lake steward!
You can support the effort to combat AIS in the following significant ways:

INSPECT boats, trailers and equipment.

REMOVE plants, animals and mud.

DRAIN water from boat, motor, bilge, live

wells and bait containers.

BUY MINNOWS from Wisconsin bait dealers and if you have leftover minnows, only use them on another waterbody if you have not added fish, lake water or river water to the bait container.

WASH your boat thor-

oughly to remove or kill AIS that are not visible.

BECOME familiar with what AIS look like and, while enjoying the water, continually check for aquatic plant or animal life that appear out of the ordinary.



Chinese mystery snail

What does the TLC do?

Members on the TLC and other volunteers protect the lakes and promote stewardship in a variety of ways. For example, they

- inspect watercraft and trailers at the landings;
- raise beetles to combat infestations of Purple Loosestrife;
- publish and distribute newsletters and brochures;
- conduct workshops on how to identify and look for aquatic invasive species;
- conduct workshops on how to establish a lake association
- train volunteers how to inspect watercraft;
- participate in community activities like Lakes Fest and the Fourth of July celebrations;
- collect water clarity data and lake level data;
- promote shoreline sweeps to look for AIS as well as keep the lakes clean

Do want to
join the
Town Lakes
Committee
or help in
some way?
Call 715-
588-3358

If You Believe You Have Spotted an AIS,

CALL the Town Hall at 715-588-3358, or the Tribal Natural Resources Department at 715-588-4162.



Eurasian water milfoil