

Risk Assessment Worksheet

Aquatic Invasive Species

Assessment Worksheet 1 - Invasive Species

The assessment worksheet below will help you identify potential environmental risks. For each question indicate your risk level in the right-hand column. Some choices may not correspond exactly to your situation. Choose the response that best fits. When finished, turn to the Aquatic Invasive Species Action Worksheet on page 9-25 and record your medium and high-risk practices. The goal is to lower your risks. Use the BMP recommendations provided in this section to help you determine the best solution.

	LOW RISK	MEDIUM RISK	HIGH RISK	YOUR RISK
Early detection	I am knowledgeable in aquatic invasive species identification, and I routinely monitor the lake.	I know that Eurasian watermilfoil is a problem, but I don't know how to tell it apart from other water plants.	I don't know why aquatic invasive species are a problem, and I never think about it.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Aquatic weed control	I always contact a weed specialist before addressing aquatic plant problems on my property.	I pull, dig, or cut aquatic plants throughout the season (some plants may spread with pulling, digging, or cutting).	I use herbicides to control aquatic weeds around my dock, without consulting a weed specialist.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Boat and trailer inspection and cleaning	I always clean and inspect my boat and equipment before and after launching, to prevent spreading aquatic invasive species to other water bodies.	I check my boat and equipment only when time allows.	I never clean and inspect my boat and equipment.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Shoreline vegetation	I have preserved or added native plants along my shoreline to reduce maintenance, provide wildlife habitat, filter nutrients, and prevent erosion.	My lawn stretches all the way to the water's edge, but I don't use fertilizers or apply herbicides within 25 feet of water.	My lawn stretches all the way to the water's edge, and I regularly mow, fertilize, and apply herbicides.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High
Invasive Species Fund sticker	I have stickers on all of my watercraft.	I have a sticker on my motorized watercraft, but not on my canoe or kayak.	I do not have stickers on any of my watercraft.	<input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> High

Action Worksheet Aquatic Invasive Species

Write all high and medium risks below.	What can you do to reduce the risks?	Set a target date for action.
<i>Sample:</i> I don’t know how to identify Eurasian watermilfoil.	Look at identification books and materials, then go out and get hands wet looking at the real thing. Hopefully you can’t find any!	When plants begin emerging in mid July.