

Algonquin Park Invasive Species Prevention – Wilderness Traverse Adventure Race

As of January 1, 2022, Ontario has regulated watercraft (boats, canoes, kayaks) as a carrier of invasive species under the Invasive Species Act. Watercraft users are required to take reasonable precautions to remove all aquatic plants, animals, and algae from any boat or boat equipment prior to transport overland. <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/160354>

The discovery of Spiny Waterflea in Algonquin is an emerging issue that park management is continuing to evolve to meet. The Adventure Race will have many watercraft crossing from infected to uninfected waters during one of the peak times for Spiny Waterflea abundance.

Due to the presence of Spiny Waterflea in some sections of watersheds along the race route, the following steps shall occur to prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species.

1. Racers shall minimize equipment in contact with the water (e.g. painter lines).
2. All equipment touching the water shall be treated to remove aquatic invasive species between infected and uninfected waters.

Removal of aquatic invasive species will occur using a clean cloth to completely wipe the boat hull, paddle, and any surface or component in contact with the water. A clean cloth will be used for each competitor. The proponents shall ensure all equipment is cleaned sufficiently before entering the next lake.

For more information about equipment cleaning please see:

<https://www.ontario.ca/files/2022-03/ndmnrf-best-management-practices-for-preventing-the-spread-of-aquatic-invasive-species-en-2022-03-2022.pdf>

<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especes/ais-eae/prevention/index-eng.html>

<https://www.michigan.gov/->

[/media/Project/Websites/invasives/Documents/Action/Training_AISDeconModule_NoQuiz_ADA.pdf?rev=3bf97924c633467f84cdcf0a124fc45e](https://www.michigan.gov/-/media/Project/Websites/invasives/Documents/Action/Training_AISDeconModule_NoQuiz_ADA.pdf?rev=3bf97924c633467f84cdcf0a124fc45e)

For more information on the distribution of Spiny Waterflea [spiny waterflea \(Bythotrephes longimanus](#) Leydig, 1860) - EDDMapS State Distribution - EDDMapS

Thank you so much for your help in protecting Algonquin.