

Just a few of the invasive species that are a problem in our waterways:



Killer Shrimp

This large shrimp (up to 3cm) is a voracious predator of other invertebrates and can survive up to 15 days in damp conditions.

A very small freshwater mussel (2-4cm long) which can alter whole ecosystems by forming dense colonies and filtering vast amounts of water.



Zebra Mussel



Floating Pennywort

This plant can grow up to 20cm a day! Look out for its shiny leaves (up to 7cm wide) with a crinkled edge.

Pests and diseases such as the "fish louse" cause extensive suffering, and even death of fish, and can lead to fishery closures.



Fish diseases



The Check Clean Dry campaign was launched in 2011 following the discovery of the highly invasive Killer Shrimp in British waters in 2010.

The main aim of the campaign is to draw attention to the need for aquatic biosecurity measures to prevent the spread of this and other problem species.



Check Clean Dry has been developed in partnership with a range of organisations, including:



A joint BMF and RYA initiative



For more information go to
www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry

STOP THE SPREAD



Are you unknowingly spreading invasive species on your water sports equipment and clothing?

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www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry

Invasive plants and animals harm the environment, block up waterways, make navigation and paddling difficult and can damage boat engines and props. Please help to stop the spread. Remember to Check, Clean, Dry:

CHECK

Check your equipment and clothing for living plants and animals. Pay particular attention to areas that are damp or hard to inspect.

CLEAN

Clean and wash all equipment, footwear and clothes thoroughly. If you do come across any plants and animals, leave them at the water body where you found them.

DRY

Dry all equipment and clothing - some species can live for many days in moist conditions. Make sure you don't transfer water elsewhere.



While most boat users are vigilant about the risk of spreading non-native species and diseases, there is a real risk that those that aren't could accidentally spread these organisms, harming the environment and potentially damaging the reputation of the sport.

Everyone visiting a water body is responsible for helping to avoid the spread of non-native species on their clothes, equipment and everything else that comes into contact with water.

Remember to check and clean these places

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