

INVASIVE SPECIES OVERVIEW

Invasive species: any organism that is non-native to the environment in question that has the ability to cause harm to the environment, economy, or human health.

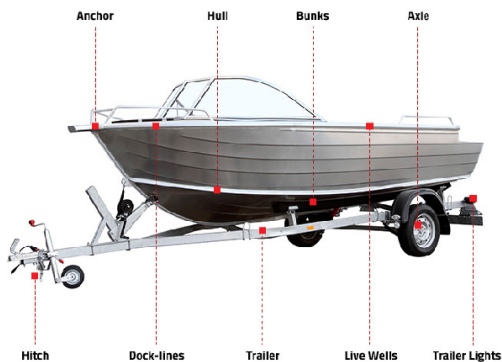
How do invasive species spread?

- Hitchhikers on shipping material, recreation gear, work equipment, etc.
- Extreme weather events
- Wildlife dispersal
- Pet Trade
- Ornamental Plants

Threat to Aquatic Habitats:

- Outcompete native species
- Clog intake pipes and other infrastructure
- Inhibit recreation
- Alter water chemistry

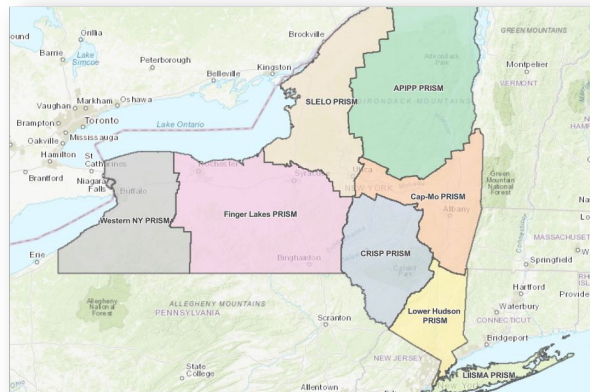
CLEAN DRAIN DRY



Capital Region PRISM

The CR-PRISM is a not-for-profit organization, that receives its funding from the NYS DEC. The CR-PRISM is hosted by the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Saratoga County and provides services to eleven counties.

These include Albany, Columbia, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Schenectady, and parts of Fulton, Herkimer, Saratoga, Warren, and Washington.



iMap Invasives

iMapInvasives is an online tool used to record and map out the location of invasive species. Data collected in iMapInvasives is used to help natural resource professionals protect the environment from the threat of invasive species.

Download the iMap Invasives Mobile App or visit imapinvasives.org.



AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES OF THE CAPITAL REGION

ANIMAL EDITION



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Saratoga County



The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation provides financial support to the Capital Region PRISM via the Environmental Protection Fund

Capital Region Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM)
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capitalregionprism.org

AQUATIC INVASIVE ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION



Asian Clam

(*Corbicula fluminea*)

Small (10-30mm), rounded triangle shells
3 dark radial bands
Found in sandy substrate
Change water chemistry



Round Goby

(*Neogobius melanostomus*)

Body mostly slate gray, with black to brown spots
Frog-like raised eyes and thick lips
Usually 3-6 inches (7.6 - 15.2 cm) long
Displace native fish, take over optimal habitat



Chinese Mystery Snail

(*Cipangopaludina chinensis*)

Dark brown
7-8 whorls, 2 in. long
Operculum covers opening
Host to parasitic worms



Quagga Mussels

(*Dreissena rostriformis bugensis*)

Up to 2 in. long
White with brown banding, tip over on flat surface
Filter feeding changes water quality



Bloody Red Shrimp

(*Hemimysis anomala*)

Small (<.5in) crustacean
Has a red patch and flat tail with 2 spikes
Swarming behavior
Spread by boats and fishing equipment



Zebra Mussels

(*Dreissena polymorpha*)

Up to 2 in. long and spread in standing water
Brown with dark banding, sits flat on side on flat surfaces
Filter feeding changes water quality



Northern Snakehead

(*Channa argus*)

Long, thin fish with single long dorsal fin and long anal fin
Brown and black blotches
Predatory fish
Spread by aquaria releases and fish market



Fishhook Waterflea

(*Cercopagis pengoi*)

Predatory zooplankton
Long tail with three barbs, get stuck in fish gills
Spread on fishing gear and standing water



Spiny Waterflea

(*Bythotrephes longimanus*)

Small predatory crustacean with 0.5 in long barbed tail
Poor nutrients for fish
Form globs on fishing line and nets

**Tips on Reporting
Invasive Species**



1. Record location
2. Take photo, use ruler or hand for size reference

3. Include name and contact information on report
4. Send report to iMapInvasives or local PRISM