

KEEP BOATING, FISHING AND SWIMMING FUN FOR EVERYONE.

Why should you care?

Zebra mussels damage boat motors and hulls, harm native species, including popular sport fish, and litter shorelines with their sharp shells. Zebra mussels also disrupt municipal water supply systems by attaching to the insides of pipes and restricting the flow of water, causing the price of water to increase for everyone. If you don't take action, you risk spreading these destructive invaders to lakes across Texas. Do your part — always clean, drain, and dry your boat.

“Once zebra mussels become established in a water body, they are impossible to eradicate with the technology currently available.”

National Atlas of the United States

It's the law! Possession or transportation of zebra mussels in Texas is illegal. State law also requires boaters to drain all water from their vessel, including live wells, bilges, motors, and any other receptacles or water intake systems before leaving or approaching public waters. This applies to all types and sizes of boats.

Violations are Class C misdemeanors for the first offense, punishable with a fine of up to \$500.

If you see
a violation,
report it to
(800) 792-4263.

Thanks to our partners.

City of Dallas
North Texas Municipal Water District
Tarrant Regional Water District
Trinity River Authority
Sabine River Authority
Brazos River Authority
San Jacinto River Authority
Lower Colorado River Authority
Guadalupe Blanco River Authority
Coastal Water Authority
Water Oriented Recreation District of Comal County
Upper Trinity Regional Water District
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

WWW.TPWD.TEXAS.GOV/ZEBRAMUSSELS



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A large photograph of numerous brown, sharp-edged zebra mussel shells scattered on a white surface. The shells are piled up in some areas and scattered in others, creating a textured border around the text.

PROTECT THE LAKES YOU LOVE. STOP ZEBRA MUSSELS.

The logo for Texas Parks & Wildlife, featuring the text "TEXAS PARKS & WILDLIFE" in a white, sans-serif font inside a dark green square with a thin white border.



up to 1½ inches

What are zebra mussels?

Zebra mussels are a highly invasive freshwater species that multiply rapidly and can cause devastating environmental and economic damage. This small mussel grows to only about 1½ inches long and each zebra mussel can produce up to a million microscopic larvae, called veligers.

The spread of zebra mussels.

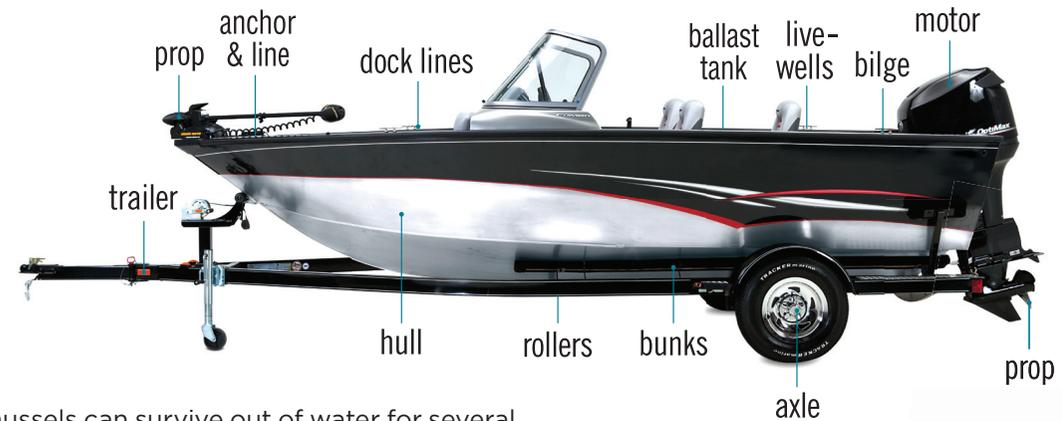
Originally from Eurasia, zebra mussels are now firmly established in much of the U.S. Zebra mussels have infested several North and Central Texas lakes and rivers. They are spread by boaters or other recreational water users who do not clean, drain and dry their boats before traveling from an infested lake.

How do you spot them?

Young zebra mussels are microscopic and adults hide in crevices and intakes and can be difficult to spot. Always inspect your boat and if it's been stored on an infested lake, assume zebra mussels are attached and have it professionally cleaned.



ZEBRA MUSSELS HIDE HERE.



Zebra mussels can survive out of water for several days in hot weather and up to a month in cool, wet weather.

Don't be a carrier! Protect the lakes you love and prevent damage to your boat by following these three steps.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

CLEAN your boat, trailer and gear by removing plants and mud and checking all crevices for foreign objects.

DRAIN all water — including the motor, bilge, livewells, and bait buckets — it's the law! Microscopic zebra mussel larvae can hide in water in your boat.

DRY your boat, compartments, gear, and trailer for a week or more before entering another water body. If unable to dry it completely, wash it with high-pressure, hot, soapy water. If your boat has been stored on an infested lake, have it professionally cleaned.

For information on zebra mussels, visit:

www.tpwd.texas.gov/zebramussels

Text **TPWD ZM** to **GOV311** for updates on zebra mussels.

**CLEAN, DRAIN
AND DRY YOUR
BOAT, TRAILER
AND GEAR.**

IT'S THE LAW!

If you've stored your boat on an infested lake or find zebra mussels attached to your boat, call Texas Parks and Wildlife at (800) 792-4263 for guidance before moving it.

**PROTECT THE LAKES
YOU LOVE.**

