



OTTER TAIL COUNTY – MINNESOTA

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES PREVENTION

2018 Summary

WATERCRAFT INSPECTION

- 25 Watercraft Inspectors.
- Inspectors on duty May 21, 2018 to September 10, 2018.
- 12,059 Inspections.
- 12,706 Inspection hours.
- Inspections conducted at 134 Public Water Accesses.
- 89 watercraft prevented from launching with aquatic plants hanging from them.
- 57 watercraft prevented from launching for containing residual water.
- 0 entering watercraft attempted to launch with Zebra Mussels attached.
- 95.31% Drain plug compliance rate for 2018, down from 98.03% in 2017.
- Sheriff's Department—27 sworn officers enforcing AIS laws.
- 1 Full Time AIS Deputy in summer—2,235 contacts made with citizens.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

- Train the Teachers to Train the Kids: AIS curriculum in 15 classrooms across 11 school districts in County.
- 585 students reached in 2018, total of 2,050 since start of program in 2014.
- AIS billboard on I-94 near Brandon, MN sponsored by Otter Tail, Douglas, and Grant Counties.
- AIS Public Service Announcements produced in partnership with Douglas, Grant, Pope, Cass, Aitkin and Crow Wing Counties, as well as Becker County SWCD, Pelican Lakes Association, and J&K Marine.
- County Board of Commissioners amended the Dock and Riparian Use Ordinance to establish a dock and lift registry. Docks and lifts must be registered before being moved from one body of water to another.
- Dock and Lift Awareness Campaign—24,000 post cards mailed out to Otter Tail County residents reminding residents of 21-day dry time for docks and lifts.
- Dock and Lift Registry—22 docks and lifts registered in 2018.
- Dock and Lift Registry prevented boatlift with dead Zebra mussels attached from being placed into Clitherall Lake in June 2018.

OVERSIGHT

- Aquatic Invasive Species Task Force established in 2012.
- 12 voting Members appointed by Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners.
- Meets monthly.
- Promotes public awareness, education, containment, research and provides recommendations to the Otter Tail County Board of Commissioners.
- Committee system is used to evaluate and develop programming.