

## Decontamination Kit Instructions

### The First Step in the Fight Against Invasive Species is Prevention

What should be in my kit?

Plastic tote with lid	Towel	Kit Instructions
Reusable latex gloves	32oz Spray Bottle	5 gallon bucket with lid
Scrub brush	Boot brush	Lint Roller
Trash Bags	Educational Handouts	

1. Clean all of your gear that has been used at your site of all material and debris using:
  - a. **Boot brush** - for cleaning out the treads of your footwear
  - b. **Scrub brush** - for scrubbing off waders or for using on vehicles or other larger gear
  - c. **Lint roller** - for picking up seeds and other plant material from your clothing
2. Collect any invasive species material you find in a garbage bag for later disposal. Any garbage bag will do, but black bags work the best for the drying method described below
  - a. Leave your trash bag in a sunny location for a few days to allow the plant material to dry up before sending it to a landfill
  - b. Empty the contents of the bag (and reuse the trash bag later) in a location safe for burning. Just remember that you may need a permit to burn in certain areas
3. When you are wading in waters that potentially carry New Zealand Mudsnaileds, follow one of these procedures below. Remember to follow step 1 above first.
  - a. Use your bucket (or if you would like a smaller container, reuse an empty plastic jug) to carry in tap water to your site
  - b. Bleach Solution Method
    - i. Mix a ½ cup of bleach to 5 gallons of water (or 120 ml bleach to 19 liters of water). Use the **spray bottle** to apply the solution
    - ii. Let the solution stay on the equipment for ten minutes before rinsing with tap water
    - iii. If near the water, collect the rinse water in your **tote** or **bucket** and dispose of it in a sewer. You can also rinse your equipment in an upland gravel parking lot where it can slowly absorb into the ground.
  - c. Drying Method
    - i. Wash you gear with the appropriate method: laundering or high pressure washing
    - ii. Let your gear dry in the sun for at least 5 days
    - iii. You can receive a similar outcome by freezing your gear, using a high pressure heated wash or steaming
  - d. Virkon Aquatic® Method
    - i. Mix a 2% solution with water and apply to equipment with the **spray bottle**
    - ii. Let the solution stay on the equipment for 20 minutes before rinsing
    - iii. Make sure to follow all manufacturer label instructions. It is recommended to wear the **reusable latex gloves** when mixing
  - e. Formula 409 Method
    - i. Submerge or spray your equipment with Formula 409



- ii. Rinse clean after 10 minutes
- iii. Formula 409 rinse water should be treated similarly to bleach rinse water for its disposal

\*Chemical methods have been known to degrade rubber over time. Use your own discretion when applying to waders.

#### 4. Expand Your Decontamination Practices

- a. Vehicles and large equipment – Visually inspect and remove any built up mud/dirt or plant life before leaving the site, paying special attention to tires/treads. You can also take your equipment to a local car wash or high power wash it yourself before heading to a new site.
- b. Pets – Fur likes to trap seeds just like our clothing does. Be sure to visually inspect your furry friends and give them a brushing before heading to explore a new area.
- c. Boats – Visually inspect all boats and trailers before and after leaving a body of water to remove any vegetation. Make sure to drain all live wells and the boat itself. It is also a good idea to high power wash your boat to remove microscopic hitchhikers. Remember, it is against the law in Michigan to travel with vegetation attached to your vehicle or the equipment your hauling.

#### 5. Reporting Invasive Species Sightings

- a. Report species to the Midwest Invasive Species Information Network at [www.misin.msu.edu](http://www.misin.msu.edu) or by using their free app. When a species is reported, natural resource managers receive alerts that a new species has been located in their area.
- b. If you find invasive species on your property that you would like to report or receive treatment information on, contact Huron Pines at 989-448-2293 ext 13 or by emailing [invasives@huronpines.org](mailto:invasives@huronpines.org).

#### 6. The Educational Resources Found in Your Kit

- a. Hand out these resources at all of your events to spread the word on stopping the spread of invasive species
- b. When you need to replenish your handout materials, you can check the websites below or contact Huron Pines and we can supply you with more

#### 7. Further Decontamination Resources

- a. Play Clean Go: [playcleango.org](http://playcleango.org)
- b. Michigan's Clean Boats Clean Waters program: [mibcw.org](http://mibcw.org)

If you have any questions, please call Huron Pines at 989-448-2293 or email us at [invasives@huronpines.org](mailto:invasives@huronpines.org)

This project was funded by the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program ([www.michigan.gov/invasives](http://www.michigan.gov/invasives))