# NORTH DAKOTA AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES AWARENESS WEEK

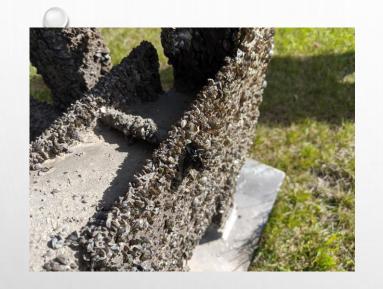
MAY 16<sup>TH</sup>-22<sup>ND</sup>



#### WHAT ARE ANS?

- 1. PLANT, ANIMAL OR PATHOGEN
- 2. OUTSIDE OF ITS NATIVE RANGE
- 3. THREATENS- native species, ecological stability, or commercial/recreational activities.

#### **EXAMPLES OF ANS**



Lake Ashtabula- zebra mussels



Raleigh Reservoir- curly-leaf pondweed



James River-silver Carp

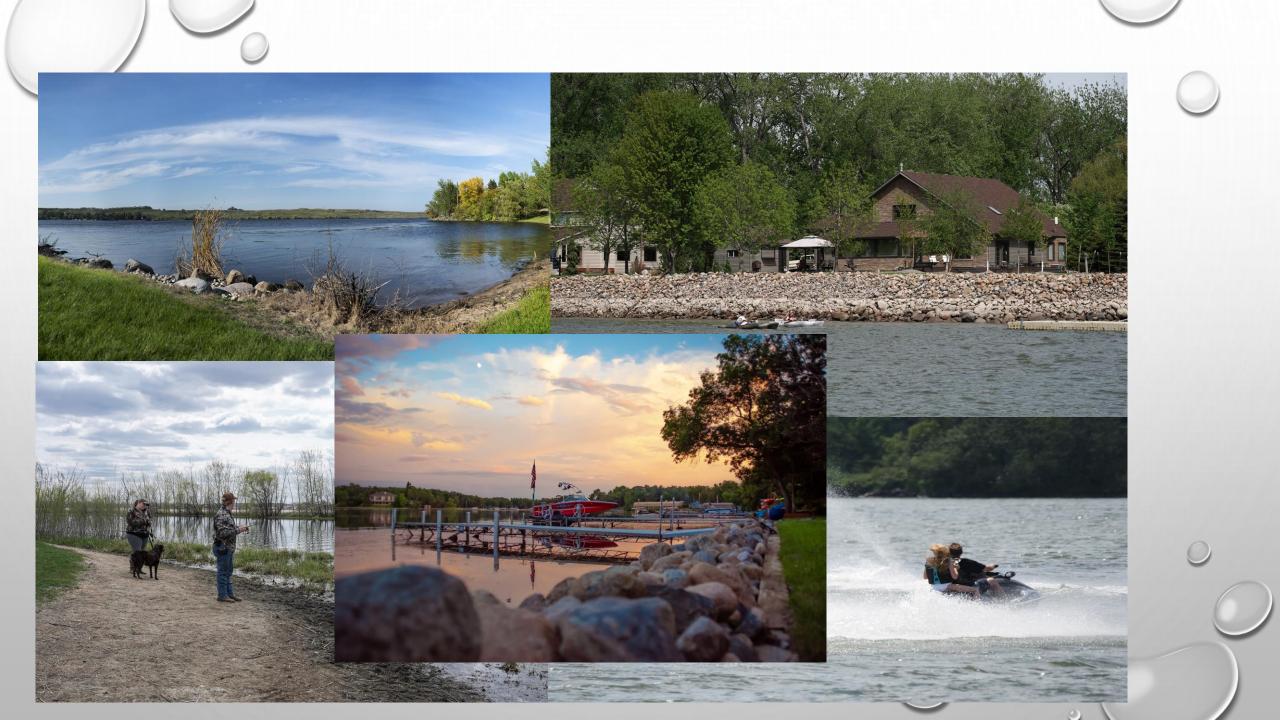


#### WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

North Dakota only has 6 ANS and their distribution in the state is limited

• Once in the water, ANS are nearly impossible to eradicate and control options can be very expensive. The cost of mitigating/controlling of ANS in the Great Lakes alone is over 100 million, annually

 North Dakota is blessed with incredible water resources and ANS can negatively impact recreation, angling, water infrastructure, water supply, agriculture, property values, tourism and much more





#### WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW

- Public education is the number 1 tool to slowing/stopping the spread of ANS
- ALL water users must take steps to prevent the spread of ANS
- Talk to others about the importance of this issue

Clean- All watercraft, fishing equipment, watersports gear, buoys, life jackets, anchors

**Drain**- Live wells, bilges, ballast tanks, interior compartments, and all water storage devices

Dry- Everything that's been in the water before its next use



### WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW (CONT.)

- Never release a pet into the wild
- Choose native plant options when aquatic landscaping or gardening
- Do not bring bait from outside of North Dakota
- Dry docks/lifts for a minimum of 21 days before placing in a new body of water
- Know and follow all ANS regulations found on the North Dakota Game and Fish Department Website

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#### Take Time To:

Learn the steps to prevent the spread of ANS

Share ANS information with others

Help protect and preserve our water resources