

**University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute's
Zebra Mussel Watch Pocket Brochure**

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**Zebra Mussel
ALERT**

The barnacle-like zebra mussel poses a multibillion-dollar threat to North America's industrial, agricultural and municipal water supplies, and it could become a costly nuisance for freshwater shipping, boating, fishing and clamming as well. First found in 1988 in the Great Lakes, this invader could become more widespread than the German carp and cause far more economic damage than the Mediterranean fruit fly.

PUBLIC ASSISTANCE IN REPORTING ZEBRA MUSSEL SIGHTINGS AT NEW LOCATIONS IS ESSENTIAL TO HELP PREVENT ITS SPREAD TO OTHER LAKES AND RIVERS!

**How to
Identify It**

- ▼ Zebra mussels look like small clams with a yellowish or brownish "D"-shaped shell, usually with dark- and light-colored stripes (hence the name "zebra").
- ▼ They can be up to two inches long, but most are under an inch. Zebra mussels usually grow in clusters containing numerous individuals (see photo) and are generally found in shallow (6-30 feet), algae-rich water.
- ▼ Zebra mussels are the **ONLY** freshwater mollusc that can firmly attach itself to solid objects — submerged rocks, dock pilings, boat hulls, water intake pipes, etc.

**What to
Do**

- ▼ Note the date and precise locations where the mussel or its shell(s) were found;
- ▼ Take the mussel with you (several, if possible) and store in rubbing alcohol (in any case, **DON'T** throw it back in the water); and
- ▼ **IMMEDIATELY** call the Wisconsin Sea Grant Zebra Mussel Watch (920/683-4697) or the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (608/266-9270).

More Information

To find out more about Zebra Mussels, be sure to check out the following sites

- Dane County Lakes and Watershed site on Lake Invasives at <http://www.co.dane.wi.us/commissions/lakes/invasives.shtml>
- University of Wisconsin's Zebra Mussel's Watch site at <http://www.seagrants.wisc.edu/zebramussels/index.html>

To order this free brochure in its original format from the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute, please visit the following site

- <http://www.seagrants.wisc.edu/zebramussels/orderform.asp>