

Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition

A cooperative partnership managing invasive species in Dickinson, Menominee (MI), Florence, Forest, and Marinette Counties (WI)

CBCW Volunteer

Volunteer Season: May 1st (approx.) - September 30th (approx.)

Do you like to be lake side? Do you like to educate others? Then help us educate boaters on the importance of keeping their watercrafts clean to limit the spread of aquatic invasive species.

Description: The Wild Rivers Invasive Species Coalition (WRISC) is a cooperative invasive species management area (CISMA) operating in Florence, Forest, and Marinette counties in Wisconsin and Dickinson and Menominee counties in Northern Michigan. Our CISMA consists of partners and members from local, state, tribal, and federal agencies, land managers, utility companies, civic organizations, businesses, and individuals, all interested in the education and management of invasive species in the five county WRISC area.

Non-native invasive species can have devastating ecological and economic impacts to communities. Industries such as forestry, agriculture, and outdoor recreation are all at risk, as are native fish and wildlife habitats. This coalition strives to combine multi-agency resources and expertise to coordinate education and management of invasive species across borders, promoting best management practices that will help to slow the spread of these invaders.

As a Clean Boats Clean Waters (CBCW) volunteer you will be conducting surveys with recreational boaters and fishermen, inspecting the watercraft to ensure there are no invasive species/weeds attached, as well as educating boaters of the current boating laws in that state. This form of education is essential, as you will be helping us prevent invasive species from being transported to the water bodies you care about. Volunteering for CBCW is a great way to meet likeminded people that love life on the water, while educating them on the effects of aquatic invasive species.

Due to COVID1-19, CBCW volunteers will not be operating watercraft inspections as usual and will be asked to follow guidelines from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. These guidelines will be will provided to volunteers on the CBCW Volunteer page.

WRISC will still provide a standard data collection form to record information obtained from boaters. This sheet can be found on the CBCW Volunteer page.

Video trainings on how to approach boaters, questions, aquatic invasive species knowledge, and what to look for will be provided by the WRISC staff to ensure you are fully prepared to be a CBCW volunteer.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We are excited to have you join our team and look forward to a great season!