

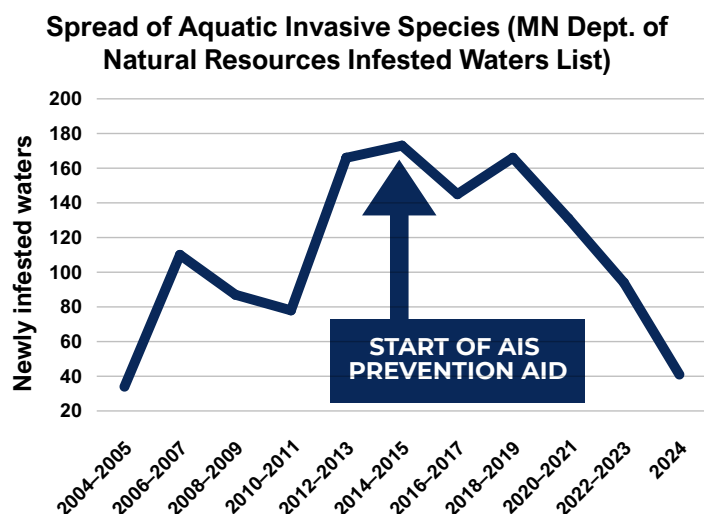
COUNTY AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) PREVENTION AID

Protecting Minnesota's lakes & river heritage

A STATE INVESTMENT LOCAL PARTNERSHIP & ACTION

County Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Prevention Aid, established in 2014, invests \$10 million/year for local efforts to curb the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species. Counties determine how the funding is used and partner with local lake associations, Tribes, and other watershed groups to do the work.

IT WORKS. Every \$1 spent on prevention saves \$100 in long-term management costs. Over the past decade, the rate at which aquatic invasive species spread to new waters declined. The Minnesota Aquatic Invasive Species Research Center estimates the Aid helped avert around 70 zebra mussel infestations.



**AIS PREVENTION AID
IS SCHEDULED TO BE
REDUCED BY 50%
BEGINNING IN 2027.**



**THERE IS STILL TIME
TO REVERSE THESE
CUTS & PROTECT OUR
LAKES & RIVERS**

At \$10 million a year, County AIS Prevention Aid has cost taxpayers less than \$2/year. Minnesotans are willing to pay \$75/year to protect the waters they love from the threats of AIS.

WATER CONNECTS US ALL.

97%

of Minnesotans
say lakes & rivers
are important to
their quality of
life.

**IF COUNTY AIS
PREVENTION AID IS
CUT...**

...water quality will be diminished.

...fishing and boating economies will suffer.

...local jobs will be lost.

...property taxes will increase to make up the difference, while property values will decrease.

85%

of lake association
members say their
communities need
funding to protect
against AIS.

SOURCES

University of Minnesota, CFANS Insights Survey: Minnesotans' Water Worries Run Deep (2025), survey of 1,000 Minnesota residents, July 31–August 5, 2025.
Pradhananga, A., et al. (2024). Lakeshore residents' perspectives about aquatic invasive species management: Findings from a statewide survey of lakeshore residents. University of Minnesota, Center for Changing Landscapes
Puri, R., Levers, L. R., & Pradhananga, A. K. (2026). Economic benefits of aquatic invasive species management in freshwater systems: A contingent valuation study. PLOS ONE, 21(9), e0346515.