

## **BAD MEDICINE LAKE NEEDS YOUR HELP**

Aquatic Invasive species (AIS) are a serious threat to the pristine lake we all enjoy. Perhaps the biggest threat is Zebra mussels. So far we have been fortunate enough to avoid an infestation. A key component to preserving the quality of our lake is the AIS inspection program.

Inspectors are on duty seven days a week from the opening day of fishing through Labor Day. In 2025 more than 1200 watercraft were inspected. Of those 354 were last used on designated infested waters. It only takes a small amount of water from a bilge, live-well or motor to transfer zebra mussel larvae into a lake. Currently there is no way to eradicate zebra mussels once they are introduced into a lake. In a short time they attach themselves to hard objects such as rocks, boat lifts and docks. Here is an example of what your boat lift could look like.



The AIS inspection program is funded by Becker County, Forest Township and the Bad Medicine Lake Area Association (BMLAA). Becker County administers the program and will bill the Lake Association for its share in the fall. The County share is funded by the State of Minnesota. State funding is secure for 2026 but will be cut in half in 2027. At this time the Lake Association does not have sufficient funds to meet its obligation for 2026. If we are to meet our 2026 obligation and continue inspections at their current level for 2027, we are in desperate need of funds.

**Please consider making a donation to support AIS inspection.** Checks should be made payable to BMLAA and sent to the following address:

BMLAA  
Katie Blohm, Treasurer  
48112 North Dr.  
Ponsford, MN 56575