STOP THE SPREAD

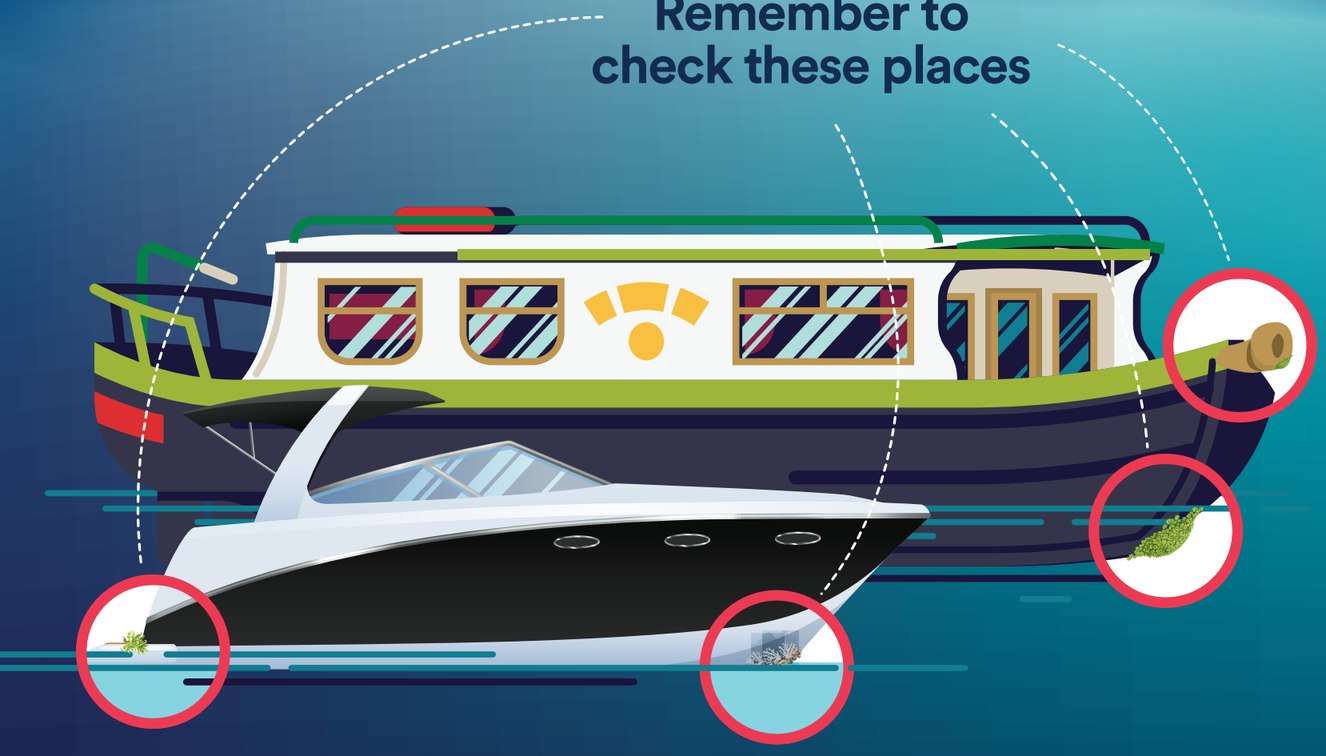
Invasive plants and animals harm the environment and wildlife, block waterways, and can damage your boat's engine and props. They can be small and hard to spot so are easily spread on damp boats, equipment, and clothing.

Protect the environment you enjoy. While you're on the water:

- Avoid patches of floating plants
- Remove any plants caught on your boat or props.
- If your boat has an inboard engine, clear weed filters and strainers regularly

If you take your boat out of the water, remember to CHECK CLEAN DRY:

Remember to check these places



CHECK

Check boats, equipment and clothing after leaving the water for mud, fouling, or plant material. Remove anything you find and leave it on the bank or in the bin.

CLEAN

Clean everything thoroughly as soon as you can, paying attention to fenders, props, the lip around your boat, and areas that are damp and hard to access. Use hot water if you can.

DRY

Dry – drain water from every part of your boat and dry everything for as long as possible before using elsewhere as some invasive plants and animals can survive for two weeks in damp conditions.

Watch out for:

SIGNAL CRAYFISH

QUAGGA MUSSEL

FLOATING PENNYWORT

NIEA Northern Ireland Environment Agency
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

An Agency within the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Find out more about invasive plants and animals and how you can help to stop the spread at:

http://invasivespeciesni.co.uk/what-can-i-do/check-clean-dry/