

2017 Zebra Mussel Policy for Sundance Lake

A committee was formed in 2016 to take a proactive approach in addressing the Zebra Mussel threat.

What are Zebra Mussels?

Zebra mussels are a small, destructive invasive species that can infest lakes by hitching a ride on boats and trailers coming in from infected lakes and rivers. They grow to only about 1 ½ inches and develop a distinctive zebra-striped shell. One zebra mussel can produce up to one million microscopic larvae.

Why are Zebra Mussels a problem?

Zebra mussels can cause tremendous environmental and economic damage - hurting aquatic life, damaging your boat, hindering water recreation and even threatening your water supply. The shells are extremely sharp and make it impossible to walk on the beach with bare feet. Zebra mussels have spread to some South Dakota, Kansas and Nebraska lakes.

How are Zebra Mussels transported?

You can't always see zebra mussels because their larvae are invisible to the naked eye. They can survive for days in water trapped in a boat. The only way to be sure you're not carrying zebra mussels from another body of water to our lake is to always clean, drain and dry your boat, jet-ski, paddle boats, trailers, gear, etc... before re-entering Sundance. *The best safeguard is to not travel with your boats to other lakes and rivers. However, if you do so, then these procedures must be followed:*

CLEAN: Inspect and clean anything that came in contact with the water, including boats, trailers, equipment, clothing, dogs, boots and waders, etc.

DRAIN: Drain all water from the boat, including the motor, bilge, live wells, and bait buckets.

DRY: Dry the boat and trailer for 14 days before re-entering Sundance Lake. It is also recommended to wash it with a high-pressure washer and hot (140-degree), soapy water.

SUNDANCE LAKE ZEBRA MUSSEL REGULATIONS:

1. All Sundance registered boats must have the Sundance sticker on the driver's side of the boat/jet-ski. Stickers have been issued by the Sundance Committee.
2. Outside boats/jet-skis will not be allowed to enter the lake. Other aquatic devices such as paddle boards/boats and kayaks must be thoroughly inspected by the lot owner.
3. Each lot owner will be issued a dock gate key. Usage of this key places the responsibility for following the above regulations onto the lot owner.

***The committee requests the support and cooperation of each lot owner. Working together ensures that our lake will remain safe and zebra mussel free.**