



## PRESS RELEASE

**Mark B. Liedl, Director  
Land Services Department**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### COUNTY OPENS AIS DECONTAMINATION STATION IN CROSSLAKE

Crow Wing County Land Services has opened a permanent watercraft decontamination station in Crosslake to help stop the spread of aquatic invasive species (AIS). The station is open to the public and is located at the Crosslake Joint Highway Maintenance Facility off Highway 3 at 13870 Whipple Drive. The station will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week.

Watercraft decontamination consists of a very hot water rinse used to kill zebra mussels and if needed a high pressure spray to remove material from boats, motors, trailers and personal gear. No soaps, bleaches, or chemicals are used during the process. The station is operated by DNR-trained and certified inspectors who ensure the process effectively and safely removes or kills AIS.

“Working in partnership with the City of Crosslake, this decontamination station will provide a useful service to boaters,” stated Mark Liedl, Land Services Director. “The entire process takes a short time and will be a valuable tool for limiting the spread of AIS in our lakes and rivers.”

Decontaminations are available to boaters free of charge, with priority given to boaters who have been referred for decontamination by watercraft inspectors or law enforcement present on area landings. Under DNR guidelines boaters will be referred for decontamination when AIS or other unknown items or materials are discovered, the watercraft has been in the water for more than 24 hours, the watercraft is being transported to a new water body within 24 hours, or if undrainable or unverifiable water is present.

Information about county AIS prevention efforts, including interactive maps to search for the status of area lakes can be found on the web at [www.crowwing.us](http://www.crowwing.us), and search for “AIS.”

The Land Services Department is committed to providing excellent customer service while helping landowners make wise choices that protect Crow Wing County’s extraordinary natural resources. Citizens are encouraged to contact the Environmental Services Office at (218) 824-1125 or [environmental.services@crowwing.us](mailto:environmental.services@crowwing.us) to discuss AIS or other land use related activities.

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**Our Mission:** Serve well. Deliver value. Drive results.

**Our Values:** Be responsible. Treat people right. Build a better future.