



## Vilas County Land & Water Conservation

330 Court Street • Eagle River, WI 54521

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October 28, 2020

Dear Surface Water Grant Reviewers:

I am writing in support of the UW-Oshkosh Boat Decontamination project. Spiny waterfleas were verified in yet one more Vilas County lake in 2019. Spiny waterfleas are small-bodied, transparent, and easy to miss when using the required “inspect, remove, and never move” Clean Boats Clean Waters protocols. Decontamination using pressurized hot water is more effective at removing them from watercraft. The decontamination program targets three higher-use spiny waterflea verified lakes and one nearby lake that is considered suitable by the Smart AIS Prevention 2.0 tool. In addition, analyzed survey data from the 2018-2019 decontamination programs indicate potential exposure in uninvaded lakes to spiny waterfleas is prevented in several instances.

To support these efforts in 2021, Vilas County Land & Water Conservation is prepared to offer:

- 10 hours of staff time to prepare and assist with decontamination staff training valued at \$244.90
- 10 hours of staff time to analyze the 2021 decontamination survey data valued at \$244.90
- 5 hours of staff time for communications related to the decontamination program (lake organization awareness, radio, tv news, etc.) valued at \$124.45
- Up to \$125 in repairs/maintenance fees related to the upkeep of the decontamination unit

The above mentioned dollar amounts totaling \$739.25 will be not be sourced from funds related to the DNR’s Surface Water Grant Program or Lake Monitoring & Protection Network Contracts.

Thank you for continuing this partnership to prevent the spread of the Prohibited spiny waterfleas in Vilas County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Scholl".

Carolyn Scholl, County Conservationist