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NDDEQ Highlights Water Quality Protection During ANS Awareness Week

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) is observing Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Awareness Week, May 3–9, by emphasizing the critical link between invasive species prevention and the long-term health of the state’s water resources.

“Our mission is to safeguard North Dakota’s environment,” said NDDEQ Watershed Management Program Manager Joshua Wert. “Preventing the spread of invasive species is essential to maintaining the water quality and ecological integrity of our lakes and rivers for future generations.”

Healthy aquatic ecosystems depend on the diligence of every water user. To protect our state’s environmental assets, the NDDEQ encourages these best practices:

- Thoroughly inspect and clean all equipment, including boats and trailers, before leaving any water body.
- Choose native plants for water features and never release unwanted pets or bait into the environment.
- Always follow all ANS regulations when entering and departing a body of water.

The public is encouraged to join the effort in protecting North Dakota’s natural resources. To report a sighting, view ANS regulations, and access more prevention resources, visit gf.nd.gov/ans.

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