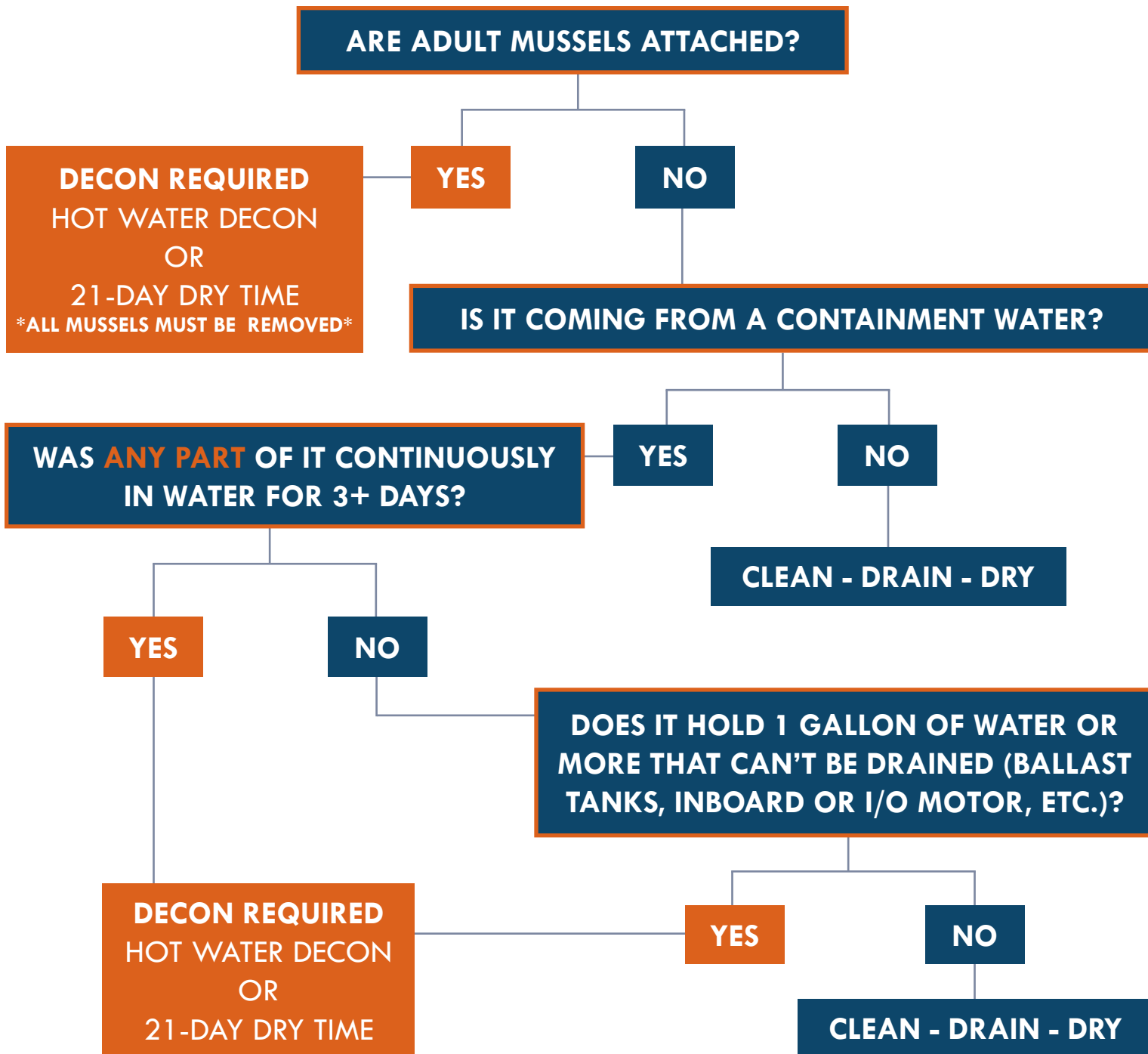


DOES MY WATERCRAFT NEED A DECONTAMINATION?

Zebra mussels have been slowly spreading to new waters in South Dakota. Decontaminating watercraft used in infested waters is the most effective way to slow the spread. Decontaminations are required for certain watercraft that have used zebra mussel-infested waters and for any watercraft with adult zebra mussels attached. Any mussels attached to a watercraft must be removed. It is illegal to possess zebra mussels.



WHAT ARE CONTAINMENT WATERS?

Containment waters are waterbodies with established populations of zebra or quagga mussels. These waters are

- » Lewis and Clark Lake
- » Lake Francis Case
- » Lake Sharpe
- » Any part of the Missouri River below Oahe Dam
- » The Bad River from its confluence with Lake Sharpe to the U.S. Highway 83 bridge
- » McCook Lake
- » Lake Yankton
- » Pickerel Lake
- » Waubay Lake
- » Minnewasta Lake
- » North Rush
- » South Rush
- » Any water outside the state of South Dakota that has been designated as infested with zebra or quagga mussels

WHAT DOES A DECONTAMINATION INCLUDE?

All types of decontamination require that all zebra mussels are removed before the watercraft is launched into the water again.

Watercraft which sit out of the water for a minimum of 21 days meet the dry-time decontamination requirement. Boats removed from infested waters and stored over winter will meet the requirement for dry-time decontamination before the next boating season. Dead zebra mussels must be removed before the next launch.

If dry time cannot be met before the next planned launch, watercraft needing decontamination will require a hot water decontamination.

- » Outboard motors will be lowered and allowed to drain.
- » Inboard and inboard/outboard motors will receive a ten-second flush with 140°F water.
- » Ballast tanks or internal compartments that retain more than one gallon of water after draining will be flushed with 120°F water for two minutes.
- » Watercraft with zebra mussels attached or any part continuously in infested water for three or more days will have all internal compartments flushed with 120°F water, and 140°F water will be used to flush the boat motor and pressure wash the watercraft's hull.
 - o Marine dealers are best equipped to remove zebra mussels from within boat motors

HOW CAN I GET MY BOAT DECONTAMINATED?

If meeting dry time requirements is not possible, contact your local Game, Fish and Parks office to learn about decontamination options in your area. The GFP website (gfp.sd.gov/contactus) and the hunting and fishing handbooks list contact information for GFP offices.

WHAT ABOUT BOAT DOCKS AND LIFTS?

All boat docks and lifts pulled from the water in the fall should be inspected for attached zebra mussels. Please report the discovery of zebra mussels in a lake not listed as infested with them to your local Game, Fish and Parks office. Any mussels found must be removed before the dock or lift is transported or placed back into any body of water. Docks and lifts containing mussels may only be transported away from a lake for the propose of decontamination.

GUIDANCE ON BEST PRACTICES

Good boating practices should be used even when visiting waters not infested with invasive species. Boaters can always clean, drain, and dry their watercraft, pull all plugs and leave them out until they are at the next boat ramp, and lower their boat motor before leaving the boat ramp to allow excess water to drain out.

