

## **Seeking Boat Inspection Volunteer Help!!**

The Okauchee Lake Management District (“OLMD”) sought and received a “Clean Boats, Clean Waters” Grant for the summer of 2018 to undertake the difficult but important role of inspecting boats before they enter Okauchee Lake.

As lake users and riparian owners know, Okauchee Lake, and most southeastern Wisconsin lakes, has suffered from aquatic invasive plants and other species, such as Eurasian Watermilfoil and Zebra Mussels that are carried from lake to lake, often on the bottoms of boats or trailers, harming our lakes and ecosystem. Recently a new invasive species, Starry Stonewort, has exploded from affecting one lake in Wisconsin to at least seven, including two in Waukesha County: Big and Little Muskego Lakes. These lake-smothering algae can easily and unknowingly be spread from lake to lake making it essential to ensure boats are clean of debris. As a result, we will train and staff adult volunteers to help with inspection duties at the two main entrance points for recreational users on Okauchee Lake: the DNR launch site and the launch site at the Golden Mast. Volunteers will be trained in inspecting boats and trailers carrying lake debris and informing those boaters that they must clean the bottom of their boat and trailer to ensure that no invasive species is able to enter Okauchee Lake.

Please consider volunteering to be a boat inspector! Send your expression of interest in volunteering to the Okauchee Lake Management website at [info@olmd.org](mailto:info@olmd.org). Please include the following contact information:

- Name
- Complete Address- including Street/City/State/Zip Code
- Preferred Phone Number for Contact
- Verification that you are over the age of 18

Over the next several weeks we will be organizing our volunteers for training and assignment.

Thank you very much for considering your part in maintaining the beauty and value of Okauchee Lake!