



Capitol Region Watershed District

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For Immediate Release

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Zebra Mussels Discovered in Lake McCarrons

Saint Paul, Minn. (August 22, 2019) – A resident trained to identify aquatic invasive species discovered zebra mussels in Lake McCarrons near the public access. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) returned to the area and found six additional zebra mussels north and south of the public landing. The DNR also reported seeing signs of natural reproduction in the lake. DNR staff and partner organizations including Ramsey County and Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) will conduct follow up surveys to determine how widespread the problem is in Lake McCarrons.

Zebra mussels begin their lives as free-floating larvae. After two to three weeks, they start to form shells and attach themselves to hard surfaces underwater such as rocks, boats, swimming rafts, pipes and docks. A female can produce 100,000 to 500,000 eggs per year. To prevent the spread of aquatic invasive species like zebra mussels, experts encourage residents to clean, drain and dry out boats, trailers and equipment for five days before visiting new lakes. Docks and lifts are required to be out of the water and dry for 21 days before they can be moved between lakes.

CRWD is involved in the management of five lakes including Lake McCarrons in Roseville, Minnesota. With growing concerns about aquatic invasive species, CRWD developed a framework for managing them in the event of an infestation. The first step in the process is to evaluate the extent of a newly identified aquatic invasive species to determine whether it's established, new or threatening. Criteria are then used to further understand the status of the population. This information helps CRWD and its partners determine the appropriate actions for managing aquatic invasive species such as zebra mussels.

CRWD is working closely with the Minnesota DNR, Ramsey County and agency partners to gather more information about the presence of zebra mussels in Lake McCarrons. Residents are encouraged to follow CRWD on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#) for updates.

About Capitol Region Watershed District

CRWD, established in 1998, covers 40 square miles and includes portions of Falcon Heights, Lauderdale, Maplewood, Roseville and St. Paul. CRWD is governed by a [five-member Board](#) of Managers that work to protect, manage and improve the water resources of the District.

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