

# CAUTION

# ZEBRA MUSSEL!

## LAKEFRONT RESIDENTS

HELP MONITOR THIS  
DEVASTATING INVASIVE SPECIES!



### How?

1. Learn to identify zebra mussels
2. Inspect your dock and water line intake when you remove them in the fall
3. Create and install a zebra mussel collector on your dock

### 1 LEARN TO IDENTIFY THEM

- Two shells like other mussels
- Maximum length of 5 cm
- Triangular shape with a flat underside
- Varying zigzagged patterns, but not always
- Attach to surfaces with filaments



### PSSST!

Don't confuse it with our local mussels (native mussels), which may be larger, oval-shaped, and don't attach to surfaces!



Mireille Boulianne, SEPAQ

This is a native mussel, not a zebra mussel!  
It belongs in our waterways!!

## THINK YOU'VE FOUND A ZEBRA MUSSEL?

You can contact your local lake protection association or reach out directly to the *ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs* :

services.clientele@mffp.gouv.qc.ca | 1 877 346-6763



## 2 INSPECT YOUR DOCK AND WATER LINE INTAKE WHEN STORING THEM IN THE FALL

- When removing your dock from the water in the fall, take the time to inspect it.
- Zebra mussels attach firmly to surfaces submerged in water, often in areas sheltered from sunlight and current.
- Check for zebra mussels on dock legs, under ladder steps, on concrete blocks, ropes, and chains.
- If you have a water line intake and remove it in the fall, inspect it carefully as well.

**BE WATCHFUL!** Zebra mussels can be tiny!

## 3 CREATE AND INSTALL A ZEBRA MUSSEL COLLECTOR

- Use a 5 cm diameter, 15 cm long sanded PVC tube.
- Insert an eyelet through the tube, secured with a bolt, and attach two sturdy ropes.
- Tie one rope to your dock and the other to a brick placed at the bottom of the lake. The collector should hang 30 cm from the lakebed.
- Leave the collector in the water from June to October, ideally.
- When removing it, carefully inspect the inside and outside for zebra mussels, which can be as small as 1 mm.

**Ideally, someone qualified in zebra mussel detection should check your collector at the end of summer, as they can be very difficult to detect. You can install the collector in collaboration with your local lake association. This method is more effective when multiple collectors are used, so spread the word to your neighbours!**



**RAPPEL**



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