



Hydrilla Stakeholder Outreach and Education

Invasive Species Check Stations and Outreach at Pymatuning State Park

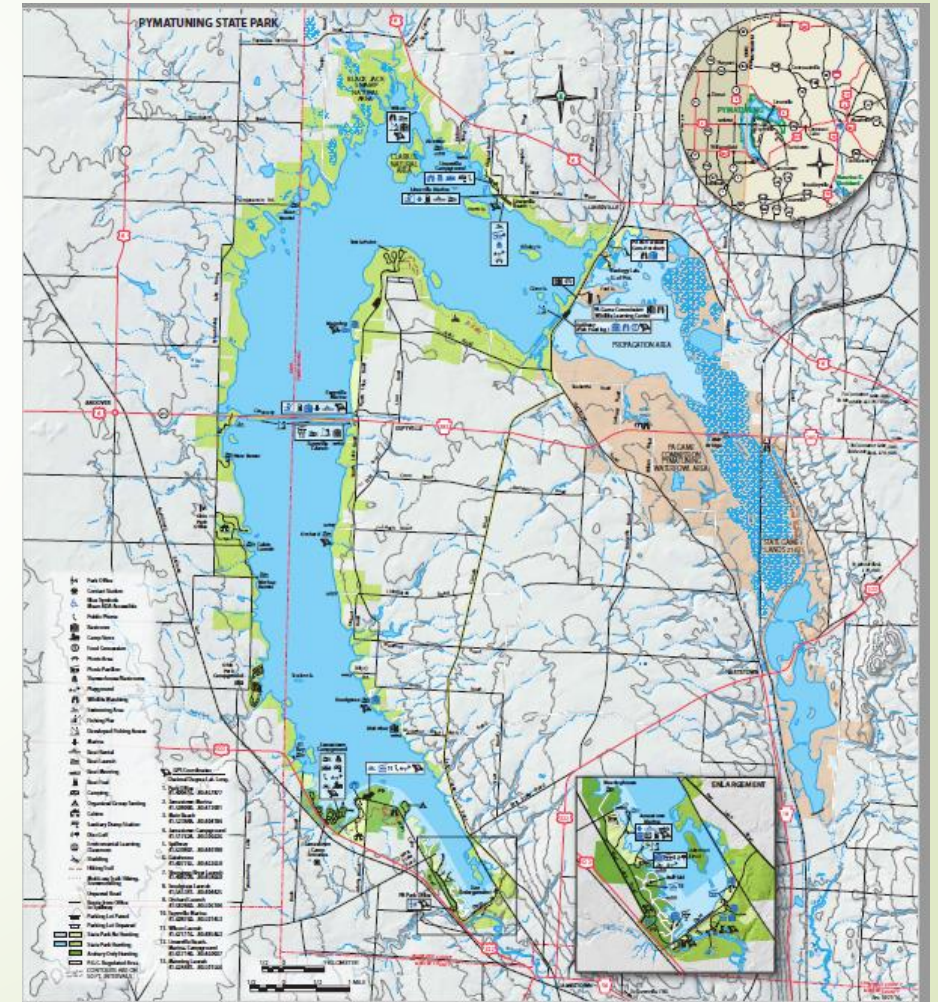
Stacie Hall, Assistant Manager

DCNR Pymatuning State Park



Pymatuning State Park

- 16,892 acre State Park administered by PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- 17,088 acre reservoir built in 1934 holding 64 Billion Gallons of water
- Cooperative management between PA DCNR, Ohio DNR, PA Fish and Boat Commission, and PA Game Commission
- Maximum Depth- 35 ft Avg Dept- 17 ft
- Roughly 3 million visitors per year
- 3 marinas with 516 seasonal slips
- 567 shoreline mooring spaces
- Water flows south into the Shenango River / ACOE Shenango Reservoir



Located 22 miles south of Lake Erie.

So how do we fit in to the Great Lakes Hydrilla Collaborative?



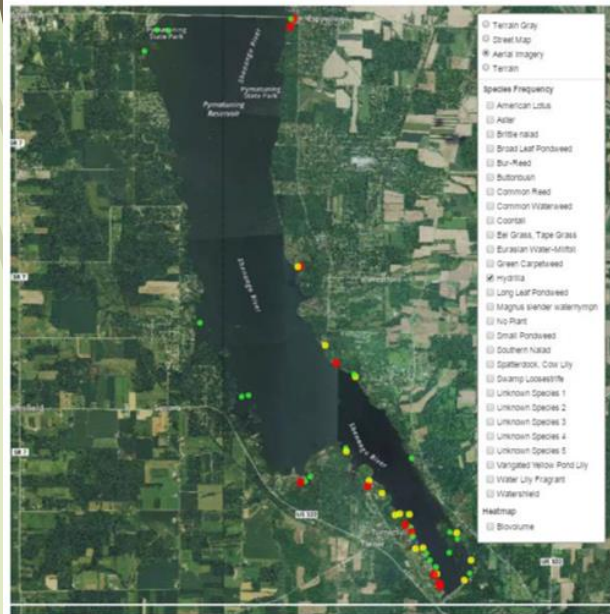


In 2010 hydrilla was discovered during a routine survey at the very southern end of the lake.

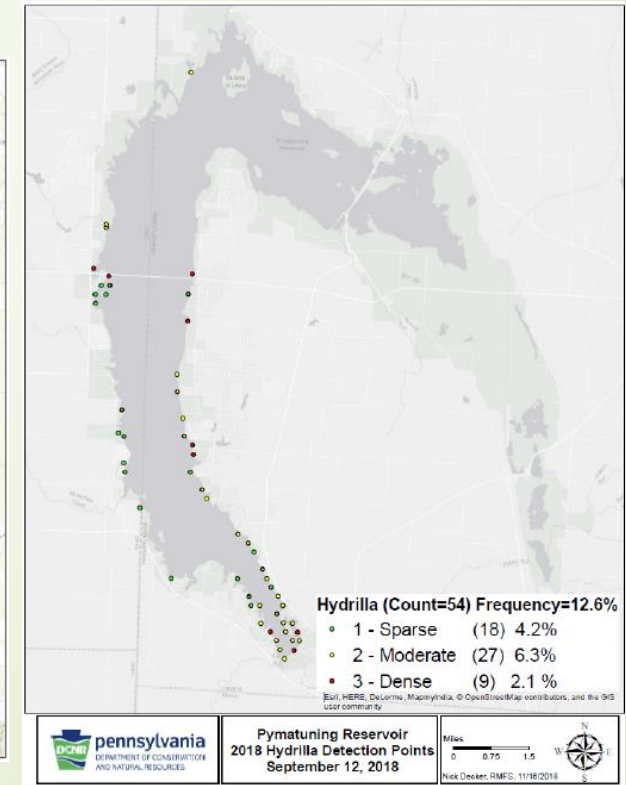
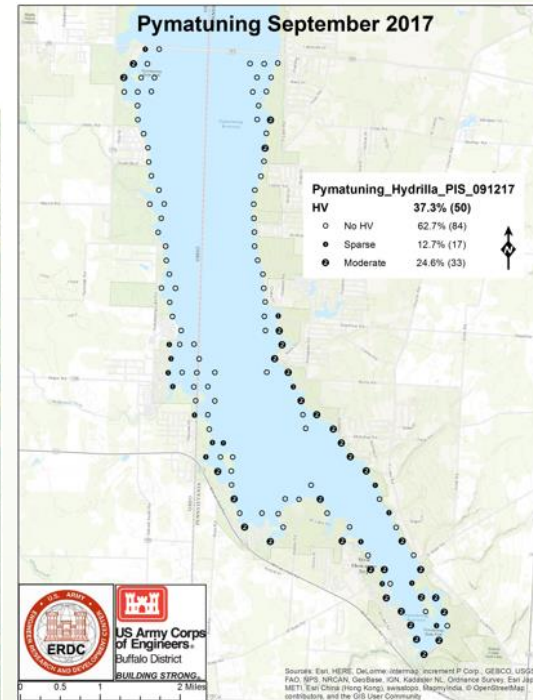
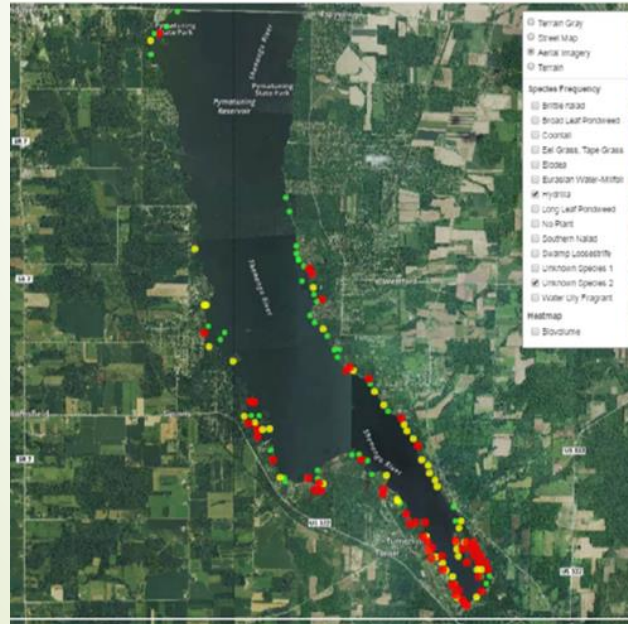
Full lake surveys done with the assistance of ACOE, Crawford County Conservation District, PA Dept of Agriculture, and Ohio DNR show the changing extent of infestation as we narrow in appropriate herbicide treatments based on funding availability. (2015-2018)

Year	Acres	Herbicide
2016	58 acres	\$38,000
2017	29 acres	\$13,000
2018	795 acres	\$466,000

2015 Hydrilla – Frequency 10.9%



2016 Hydrilla – Frequency 28.0%





Education and Outreach- Why?

- It's in DCNR mission (Conservation, Recreation, Education)
- Attempt to slow the spread of hydrilla via boats between the launches at Pymatuning and to other lakes in the surrounding area
- Attempt to stop other invasive species such as Starry Stonewort currently at Presque Isle from coming to Pymatuning, stretching our resources further
- Misconceptions and rumors as to what we are doing running around the lake on the airboat / putting red dye in the water.
- Helping park users understand the significance of the issue of hydrilla, our available resources, and priorities

Invasive Species Check Stations

2016

Pymatuning State Park

Pilot

Invasive Species Courtesy Boat
Inspection Stations



Handbook for Inspection
Stewards

- Developed a site specific program for PA Pymatuning' s 11 lake launches (5 in Ohio not included) and Shenango River Launch
- Used Ranger 1's, Paid and Unpaid Interns
- Assisted by Crawford County Conservation District in development and identification training
- PA Sea Grant provided informational sheets / identification books



Aquatic Invasive Species Boat Inspection Survey Form

Today's Date: _____ Time _____ Launch Location _____

Boat Reg # _____ Boater Home Zip Code _____

Type of Boat: motor pontoon sailboat canoe kayak

Approximate Date Boat Last Used on a Waterbody: _____

Name of Last Waterbody: _____

If Known, Next waterbody going to after today: _____

If answer to the above is- home pond try to get a county/state for the pond.

Is Visitor Aware of Aquatic Invasive Species? Yes No Unsure

Was the boat/trailer/live well cleaned, drained, dried for at least 5 days between the last waterbody and today? Yes No

Did they inspect their boat and trailer prior to coming to the lake today for any vegetation/shells?
Yes No

Reason for visit today?(ie fishing, general boating, geocaching, etc) _____

Boat Inspection:

Was any plant material/mussels/snails found on the boat? Yes No

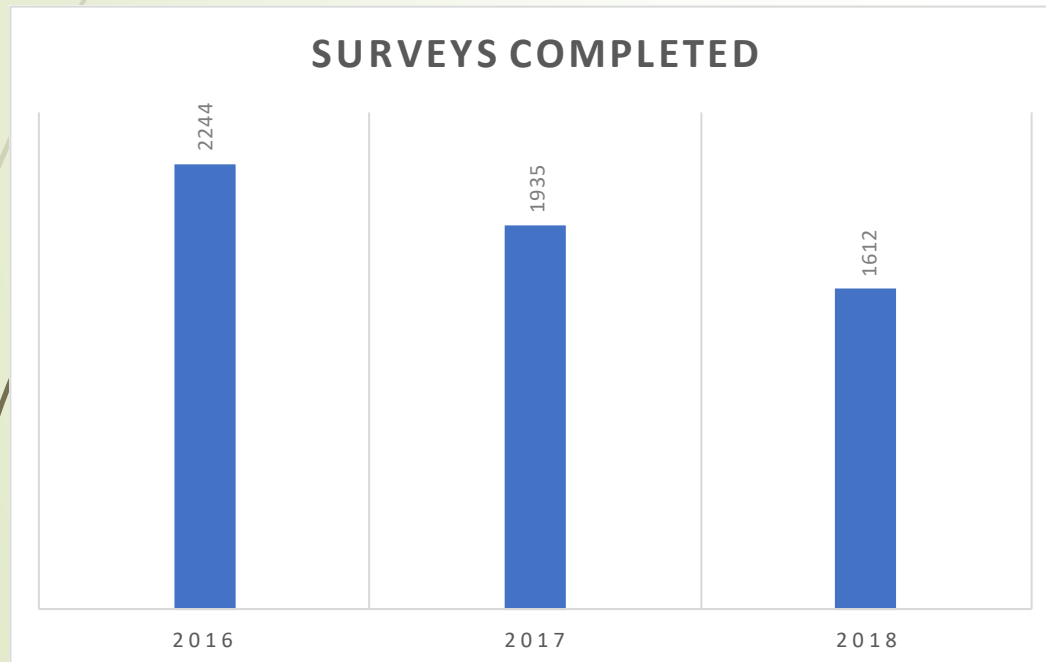
If yes- where on boat and possible identification:

2017 Improvements: Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species Grant (\$9,400)

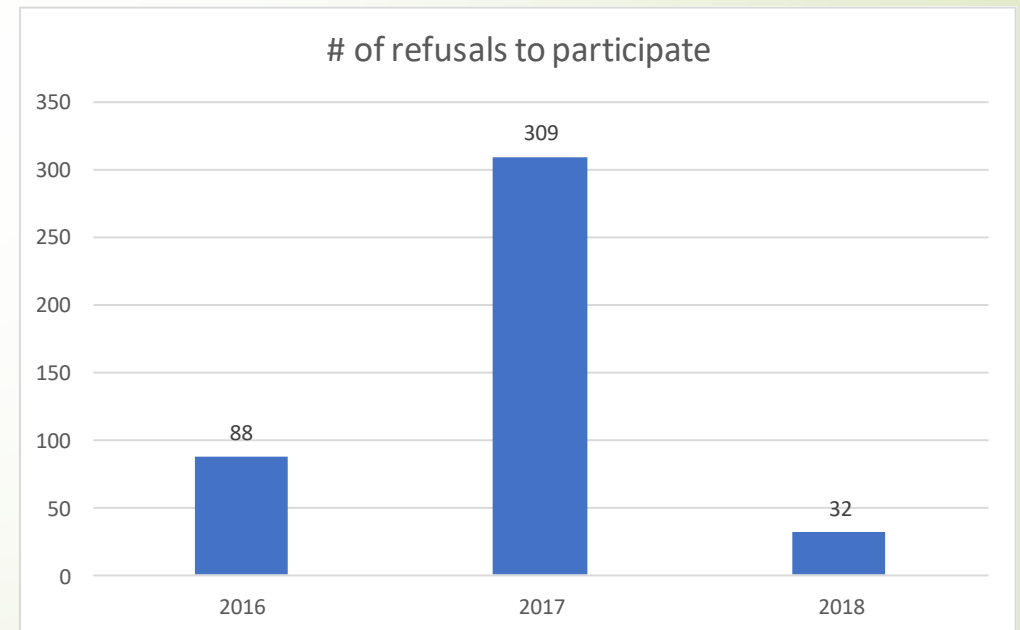


2016-2018

5,791 Surveys and Inspections Completed

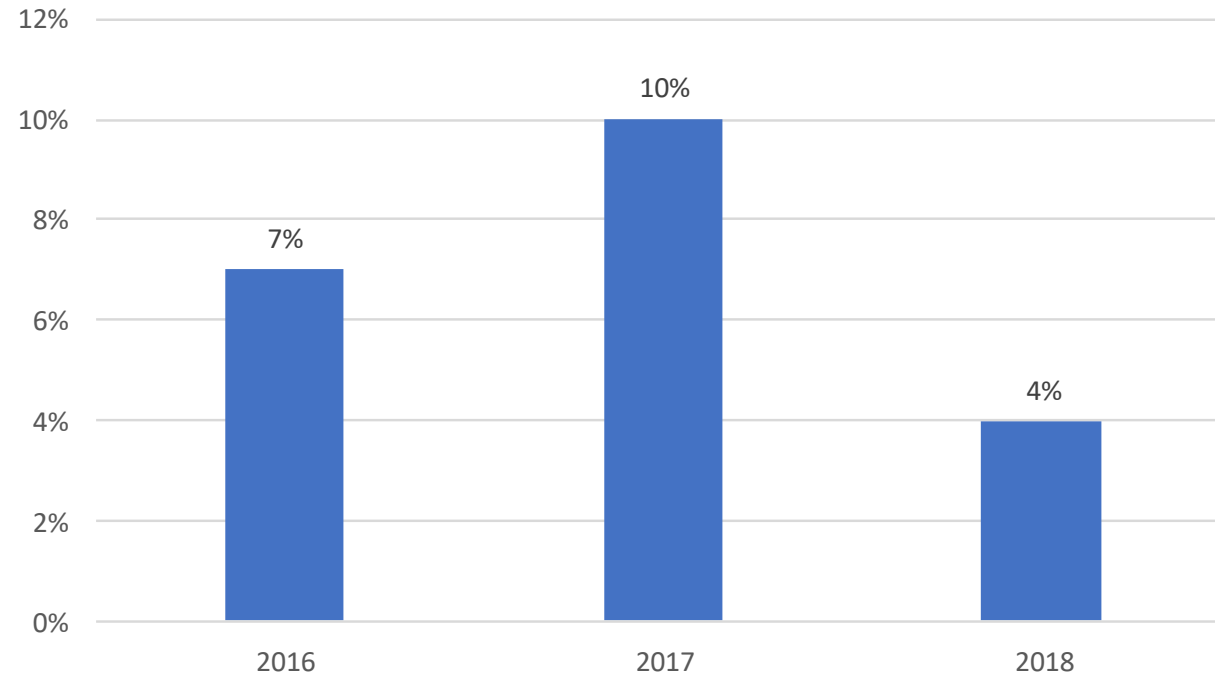


429 Refusals



637 Staff Hours (Intern/Ranger 1)

Percent of Boats with Aquatic Species Removed



Species Removed- Currently Present in Pymatuning

Coontail
Hydrilla
Eurasian Watermilfoil
Elodea
Curly-leaf Pondweed

Water Lily
Eel Grass
Cattail
Brittle Naiad
Mystery Snail

Species Removed- Currently Not Present in Pymatuning

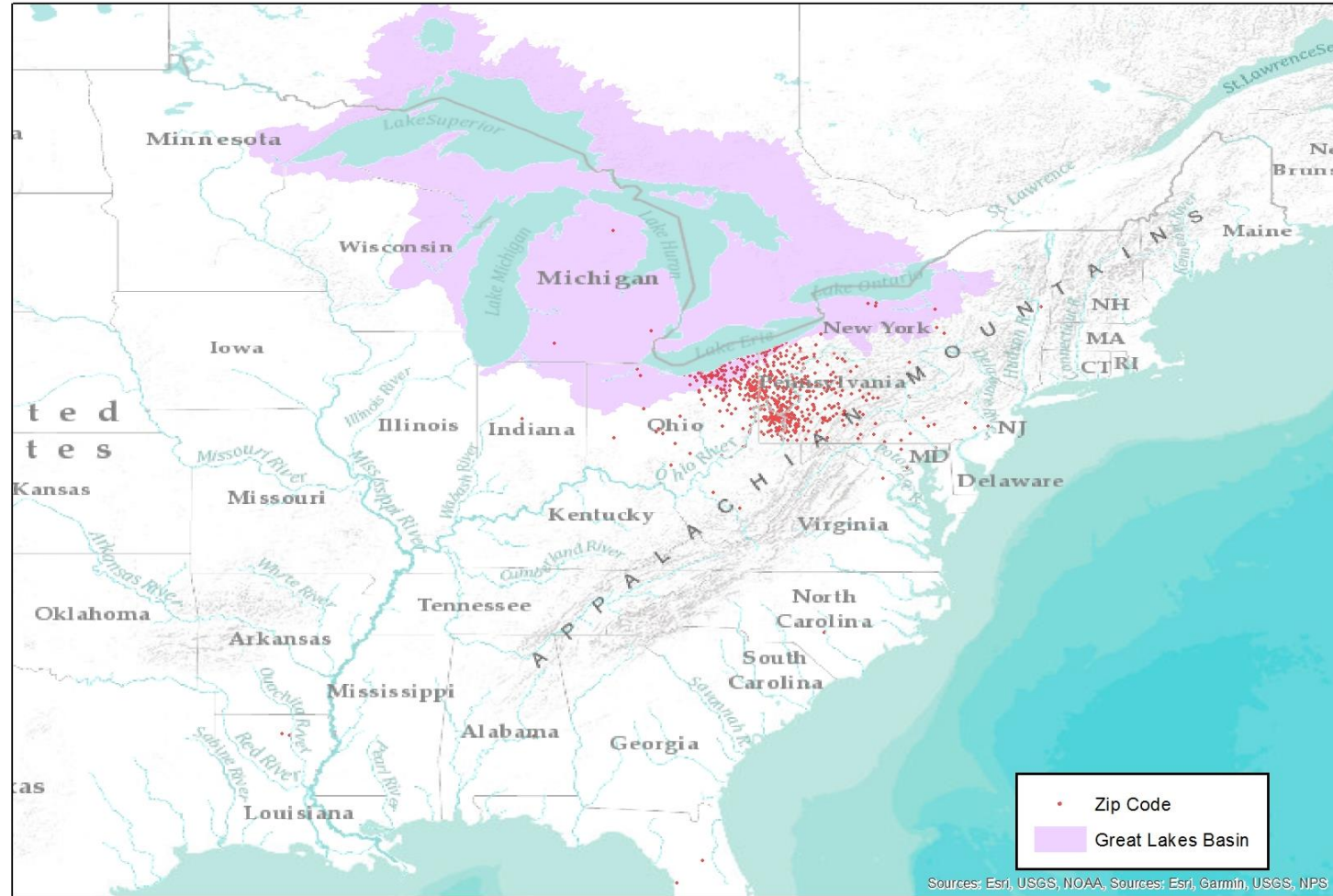
Zebra Mussels
Fanwort

Where are they from?

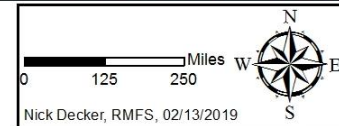


Boats registered to 12 different states

Zip codes (635 distinct mapped)-
8.3% within the Great Lakes Basin
82.5% within Ohio's River Basin
9.2% Other



**Pymatuning Reservoir
Launch Steward '16-'18
Zip Codes**



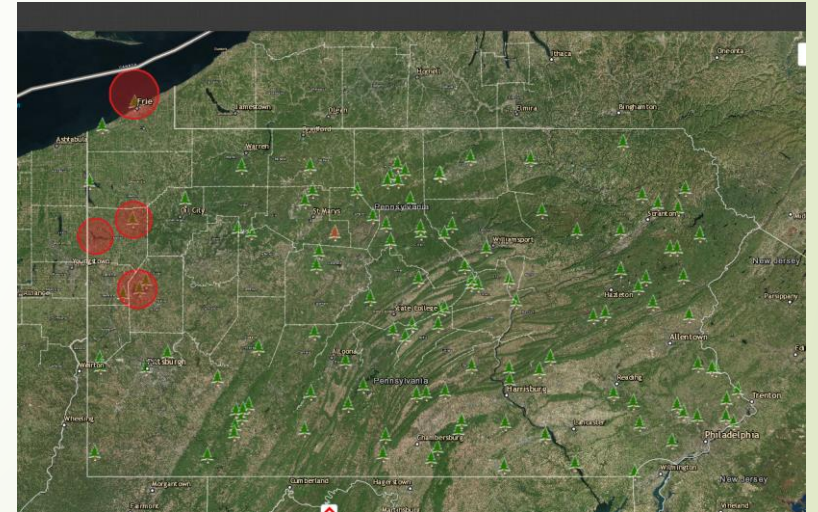
Where did boaters last use their boats and where are they going next?

Boaters over the 3 year period consistently gave Moraine State Park, MK Goddard State Park, Lake Erie/Presque Isle State Park and Shenango Reservoir as their top last/next locations beside Pymatuning.

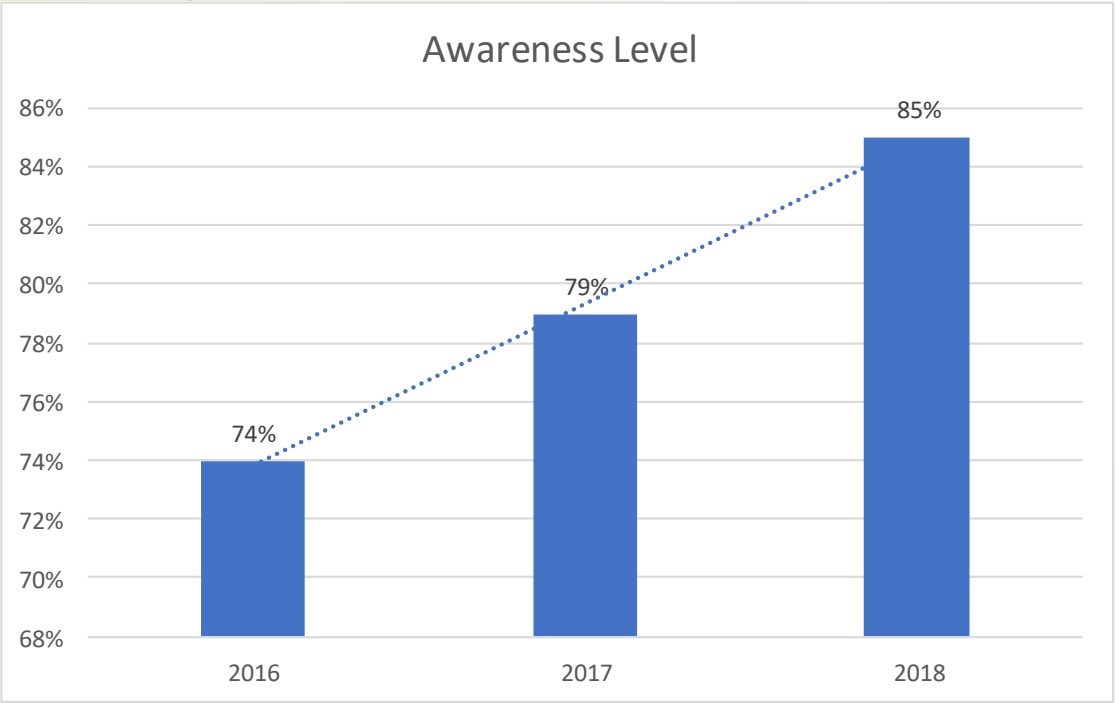
Average number of answers to last used = 58 locations

Average number of answers to next = 70 locations

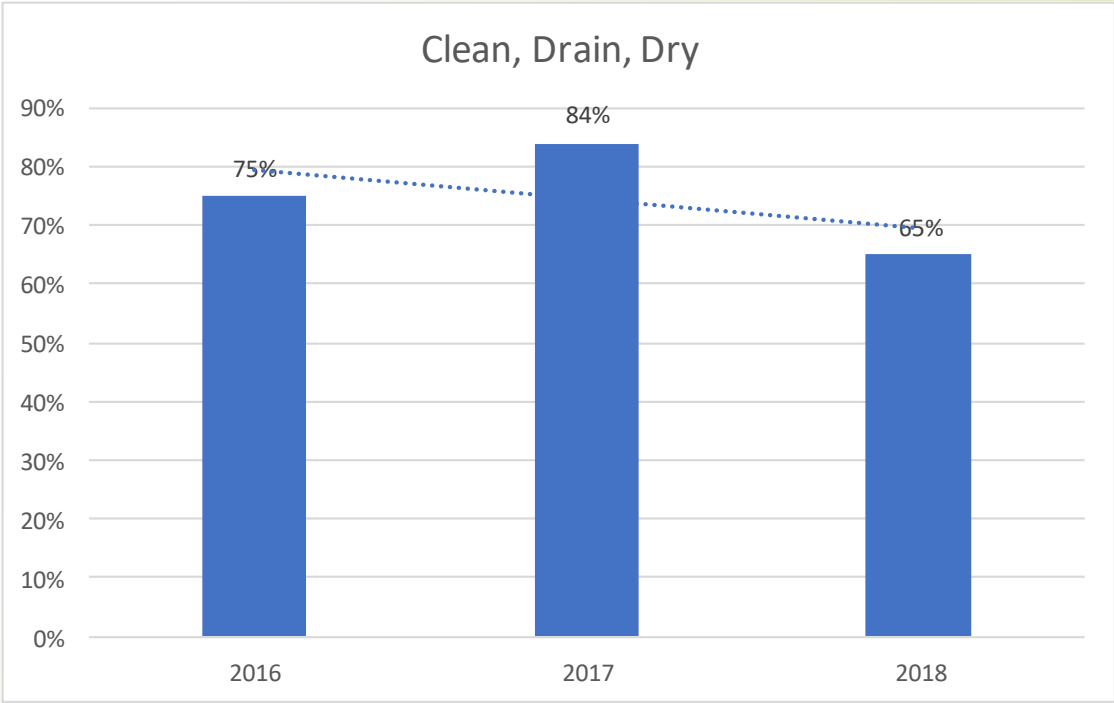
Answers have included several locations in Canada, Lake Huron, New York, Ohio, Maine, and West Virginia



Are you aware of invasive species and the issues they can create?



Did you clean drain and dry your boat before coming to Pymatuning?



2018 Other Results

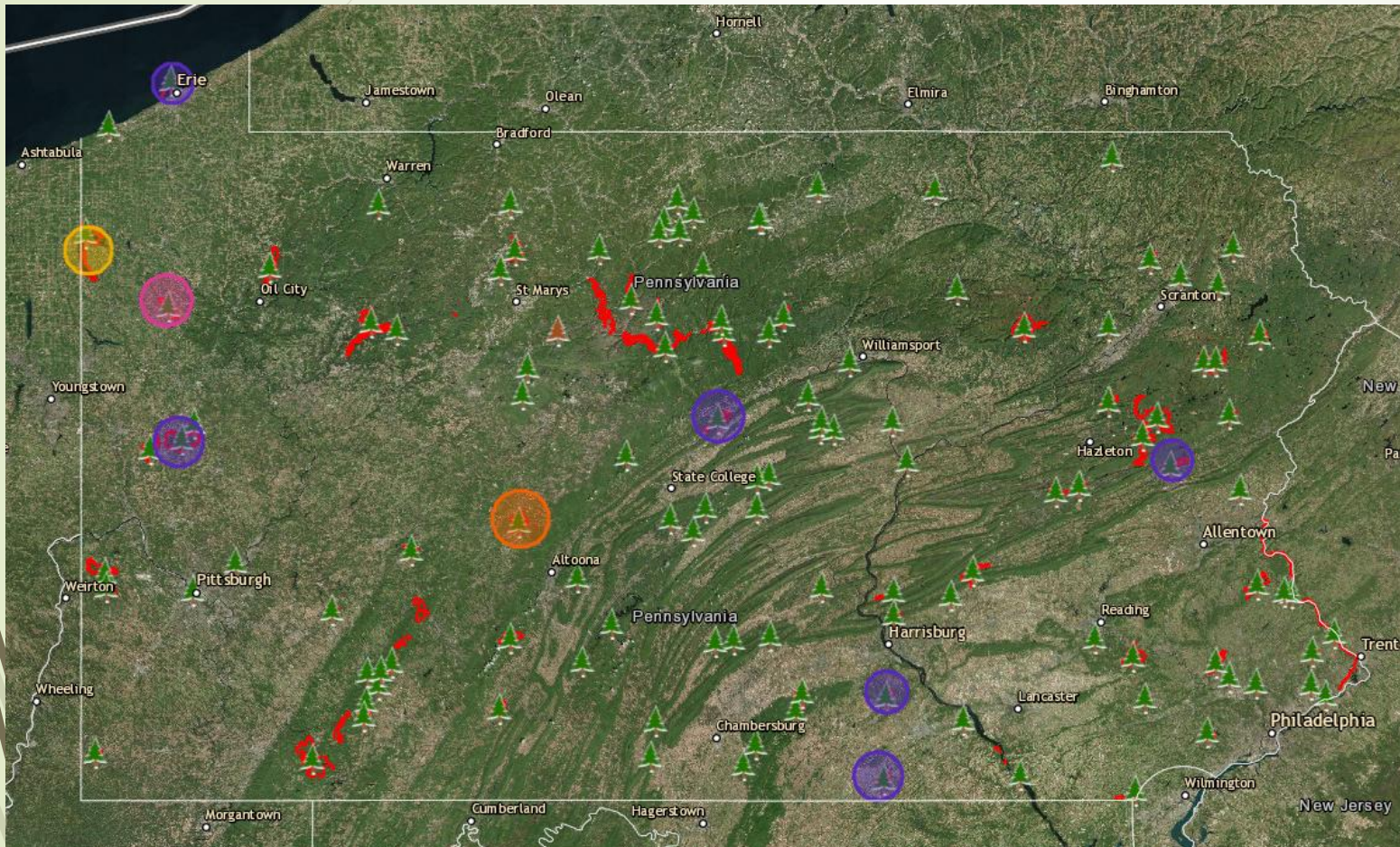
28 (3%) said they had cleaned, drained, and dried their boat but vegetation were found on them. 2017: 113 (7%) 2016: 88 (5%)

82% of boaters reported the reason for their visit was for **fishing**. Other reasons listed were: floating, sailing, recreation, docking/mooring. (2017:93% 2016: 89%)

37% of boaters reported using their boat **within the 5 day recommended dry time** (2017: 35% 2016: 36%).



Check Station Expansion across PA State Parks



Region 1 (North Central PA):
Bald Eagle (2019)

Region 2 (Western PA):
Presque Isle (2019)
Pymatuning (2016, 2017, 2018)
M.K. Goddard (2017)
Moraine (2019)

Region 3 (South Central):
Prince Gallitzin (2017, 2018)
Gifford Pinchot (2019)
Codus (2019)

Region 4 (Eastern PA):
Beltzville (2019)

General Public Outreach and Education

Public Program held at Pymatuning State Park's Environmental Classroom

9 people attended

Brian Pilarcik presented on aquatic plant identification
Stacie Hall covered current efforts at Pymatuning to control invasive species

Program lasted 2 hours with good question and answer portion



SEP
22

Aquatic Plant Identification and Management at Pymatuning

Public · Hosted by Pymatuning State Park · 1 co-host pending
[?]

★ Interested

✓ Going

...



Saturday, September 22, 2018 at 10 AM – 11 AM
about 1 month ago



Pymatuning State Park Jamestown Marina Classroom



Hosted by Pymatuning State Park
Typically replies within a few hours

Message Host

About

Discussion

Social Media

Invasive hydrilla clogging lakes across state

By Deborah Weisberg
Southwest Correspondent

Pittsburgh — As hydrilla spreads among Pennsylvania waters, fisheries managers are struggling to control the pernicious weed that overtakes desirable vegetation, impedes boating and makes young fish more vulnerable to predation.

"Hydrilla is incredibly aggressive and establishing itself in many parts of the state," he said. "It's in western Pennsylvania and pretty much all through eastern Pennsylvania. We're now worried about it spreading through the Poconos."

It doesn't take much for hydrilla to root and then thrive. "Just a one-inch clump can start a new plant," said Brian Pilarcik, water-

An Asian native, the plant is believed to have first come to the southern United States through the aquarium trade in the 1950s, and to have surfaced in northeastern states in the 1980s, when backyard water gardens were becoming popular.

"Pieces of hydrilla probably piggybacked on other pond plants, like water lilies," Pilarcik said. "Once hydrilla winds up in a...

Pymatuning State Park
Published by Stacie Hall [?] · July 19, 2018 ·

Our neighbors at MK Goddard are looking for volunteers to assist with pulling the invasive plant European Frog-bit from Lake Wilhelm on July 31.

VOLUNTEERING EVENT



Goddard State Park needs your help. We are looking for volunteers that like to kayak and help our lake. European Frog-bit is an invasive species that our lake has. Native to Europe and northern Asia, but intentionally in the United States as a commercial ornamental. This dense plant forms a mat on the water surface. Together we can clean the lake out, and keep it out of Pennsylvania.

Where: Lake Wilhelm-Launch #3
When: July 31st, 2018
Time: 8:30 A.M.

Please either call or visit the park office to sign up to volunteer. If you are bringing your own kayak we ask that you wash your kayak before entering our lake. If you are in need of a kayak we have six. Limited spots are available.

Please bring with you water, bug spray, sunscreen and a snack.

Shelby Shadron: 724-253-4833; sshadron@pa.gov

https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/333_Field/Doing/DoingVolunteer/

Pymatuning State Park shared a post.
Published by Stacie Hall [?] · July 22, 2018 ·

For the protection of the fishery at Pymatuning and all of the lakes around Pennsylvania, please clean, drain, dry your boat and gear every time you enjoy our waterways. A reminder that the boat wash station at Espyville Launch is available 24/7 during the summer season to clean your boats before and after your time on the lake.

Tips for lake-goers to stop invasive hitchhikers

- Know how to identify some of the more common aquatic invasive plant species in your area, so you can avoid walking and boating through them.
- Avoid activity that fragments and spreads aquatic plants even within the same body of water, such as boating where there's dense vegetation on the water's surface.
- Don't transfer bilge water from your boat to other bodies of water. Also, don't dump leftover bait into or near the water.
- Remove any visible plant parts, mud, bugs, and animals from your equipment or clothes leave them at the site.
- Wash your boat with a high-pressure spray or hot water, and dry it before going to another body of water.

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
July 20, 2018 ·

Pymatuning State Park
Published by Stacie Hall [?] · March 1, 2018 ·

Happy National Invasive Species Awareness Week! Here's a pop quiz. Who can name some of the invasive species currently present at Pymatuning? This includes terrestrial and aquatic, plant, animal, and insect. Unfortunately the list is long. Ready, get set, go!



James Scott · Jamestown Online
4 hrs ·

James Scott

Today, I found on Pymatuning Lake at Jamestown, Pa boat launch two of our super Dcnr employees doing an aquatic study via an airboat. Great to see we have a state that cares.

41 · 7 Comments · 2 Shares

Like · Share

James Scott · Like · 4h

Wayne Beckstein Bet the horse powers over legal limit. · Like · 4h

Mike French It's nice being horsepower exempt, same with Fire Depts. · Like · 2h

Maria Cowher Thanks gentlemen, I love being at home there. · Like · 4h

Questions?

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