

# Aquatic Invasive Species

## EID's Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention Program

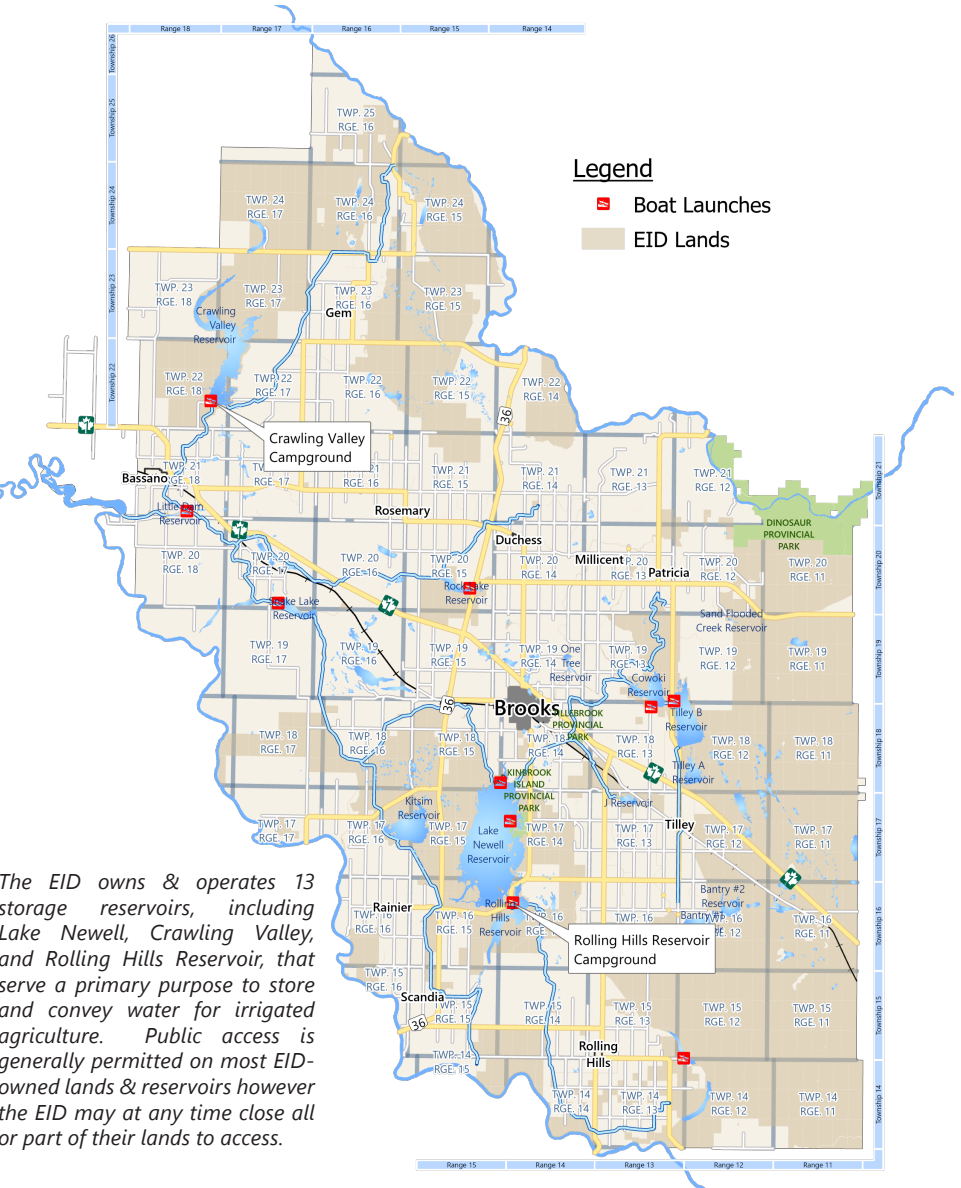
In 2018, the Eastern Irrigation District initiated an Aquatic Invasive Species Prevention (AIS) Program to prevent the introduction of zebra & quagga mussels in EID waterways. All watercraft, including kayaks, canoes & paddleboards, wishing to access EID reservoirs must be registered with the Program prior to launching and follow all AIS protocols. As part of the program, trailered watercraft must only be launched from approved boat launches and must check-in with Rolling Hills Reservoir or Crawling Valley Campground, Lake Newell Resort Marina, or EID staff prior to launching. Canoes, kayaks and other non-trailered watercraft may continue to be launched at random locations but are still required to check-in prior to launching. If your watercraft has left the province you are required to produce a valid Alberta provincial watercraft inspection form to EID staff prior to launching in any EID reservoir.

Failure to participate in, or abide by the protocols set out by, this Program will result in loss of access to EID lands & reservoirs and applicable fines under the County of Newell's Bylaw No. 2001-21 Boating Safety & Aquatic Invasive Species:

Section	Offence	Penalty
4(2)(a)	Launch Watercraft when not participating in AIS Prevention Program	\$115
4(2)(b)	Fail to ensure Watercraft is clean, drained and dry	\$115
4(2)(c)	Fail to obey lawful sign	\$115
5(1)	Launch Trailered Watercraft where prohibited	\$115
5(2)	Fail to notify EID prior to launching	\$115
5(3)	Launch watercraft that has not been enrolled in the AIS Prevention Program	\$115
5(4)	Launch Watercraft coming from High Risk Area without approval	\$230
5(5)	Launch Watercraft without approval after leaving the province	\$115
6(5)	Fail to affix Decal to Watercraft	\$50
6(7)	Providing false information regarding a Watercraft participating in the AIS Prevention Program	\$500
7(2)	Launch Watercraft after failing to participate in an inspection	\$230
7(7)	Provide false or misleading information to an Inspector or Peace Officer	\$500
8(1)	Transporting Watercraft with drainage holes plugged	\$172
8(2)	Transport Watercraft with Aquatic Invasive Species on or in the Watercraft	\$500
8(3)	Transport Watercraft with standing water	\$115
8(4)	Being in unauthorized possession of Aquatic Invasive Species	\$500
10(1)(b)	Fail to remove Watercraft from Waterbody when requested to do so	\$500

For more information contact:

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*The EID owns & operates 13 storage reservoirs, including Lake Newell, Crawling Valley, and Rolling Hills Reservoir, that serve a primary purpose to store and convey water for irrigated agriculture. Public access is generally permitted on most EID-owned lands & reservoirs however the EID may at any time close all or part of their lands to access.*

Zebra & quagga mussels are invasive, fingernail-sized mollusks that are native to the Black & Caspian Sea regions in Eastern Europe and not currently present in Alberta. They pose an immense threat to Alberta irrigation by clogging irrigation pipelines, damaging irrigation infrastructure, and decreasing water quality, risking food and crop production. In all of Alberta, irrigated farmland makes up only 5% of the land base but produces 20% of our gross agricultural product.