

Don't transfer organisms between waterbodies, in mud or in water. Help to stop the spread of non-native invasive species and harmful diseases by following the simple biosecurity protocol below.

Be aware:

- Look at the River Thame Conservation Trust website to learn how to recognise invasive species (www.riverthame.org/invasive-species/).
- If you know a non-native invasive species is present on site take extra special care to prevent spreading it between freshwater habitats.

Biosecurity Protocol

Always follow this protocol before and after visiting a sites to prevent the spread of non-native species and disease between freshwater habitats.

1. Check –

- Check your equipment, clothing and shoes for live organisms, plant fragments and seeds, even the difficult to see spots.

2. Clean –

- Scrap off wet and dry mud off all footwear and equipment with a stiff brush, a screwdriver or stick may be useful to clean shoe treads.
- Clean and wash all clothing, equipment and footwear thoroughly.
- Disinfect equipment (nets and footwear) in blech solution (1 part bleach to 16 parts water).

3. Dry –

- Dry all equipment, clothing and footwear, as some species can survive for days in damp conditions. UV light (sunlight) can help to kill organisms. Leave equipment to air dry completely, preferably in a sunny location, before using at another site.

For more information please visit:

- Check-Clean-Dry - www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry
- Non-native species factsheets - www.nonnativespecies.org/index.cfm?sectionid=47
- Amphibian Disease - www.arc-trust.org/Pages/Category/disease

Non-native species facts

- New Zealand Pigmyweed can regrow from a fragment 2mm long
- Killer Shrimp can survive in damp conditions (i.e. the bottom of your wellie) for 5 days
- Himalayan balsam can shoot it seeds over 5m.
- Floating Pennywort can grow 20cm a day.

