



The Bear Creek Watershed Association protects and restores water and environmental quality within the Bear Creek Watershed from the effects of land use.

Clear Creek County
 Jefferson County
 City of Lakewood
 Town of Morrison
 Aspen Park Metropolitan District
 Brook Forest Inn
 Conifer Sanitation Association
 Conifer Metropolitan District
 Denver Water Department
 Evergreen Metropolitan District
 Forrest Hills Metropolitan District
 Genesee Sanitation & Water District
 Geneva Glen
 Jefferson County School District
 Kittredge Water & Sanitation District
 Tiny Town Foundation, Inc.
 West Jefferson County Metropolitan District
 Evergreen Trout Unlimited
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



Elodea in Evergreen Lake



ZEBRA AND QUAGGA MUSSELS

Fact Sheet 11 Invasive Species Protection Programs

Update June 6, 2016

Aquatic Nuisance Species Bear Creek Reservoir

Zebra mussels, and their close relatives Quagga mussels, are highly invasive aquatic species that negatively impact plankton communities, fisheries, water based recreation, and water supply and distribution systems for municipal, industrial and agricultural supply. Bear Creek Lake Park is involved in Colorado efforts to stop the spread of Aquatic Nuisance Species in Colorado waters such as, Zebra and/or Quagga Mussels. A Watercraft Inspection and Decontamination station is located in the Whitetail parking lot. All trailer and motorized boats require inspection by state certified inspectors at the station for any aquatic invaders. Station staffed from 6am to 8pm on Fridays and the weekends, then every morning and evening during the week. During the middle of weekday, the entrance gate would call out when a boat came in and the nearest staff member would do the inspection. Annually, the lake closes from November 15 to March 15. The park averages > 2,000 standard inspections per year.



Zebra mussel

Aquatic Nuisance Species Evergreen Lake

The Evergreen Park & Recreation District requires a permit for all personal watercraft to be on Evergreen Lake. This is an opportunity to do the mussel inspection at the Lake House prior to launch. The Recreation District staff inspects boats and trailers. The recreation district and the Evergreen Metropolitan District have a program to harvest and compost the invasive algal species Elodea from the lake in the summer months. The districts introduced grass carp to manage the Elodea growth.

Noxious Weed Management

Clear Creek, Jefferson and Denver Counties have noxious weed management programs. The Association reports sightings of noxious weeds (such as purple loosestrife, picture on right) and otherwise cooperates with these county programs.



Invasive Algal Species in Bear Creek and Turkey Creek

The Association has begun collecting and identifying invasive algal species found in streams throughout the watershed. Please report any invasive species found in the watershed, such as the Rusty Crawfish (right) or new Zealand Mud Snail (Left). The Daphnia waterflea has been found in Bear Creek Reservoir (left).

