



By His Excellency Dannel P. Malloy, Governor: an
Official Statement

*W*HEREAS, Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) are nonindigenous aquatic organisms that invade ecosystems beyond their natural, historic range; and

*W*HEREAS, Aquatic Invasive Species, both animals and plants, threaten Connecticut's aquatic ecosystems as they are not native and have few natural predators to limit their growth and reproduction; and

*W*HEREAS, AIS can reduce recreational opportunities, clog water intakes, decrease real estate values, negatively alter the natural ecosystems of a body of water, and endanger human health; and

*W*HEREAS, Aquatic Invasive Species are a significant threat to native species that are currently listed as endangered, threatened or a species of concern; and

*W*HEREAS, non-native plants exist in 75% of the lakes and ponds in the State of Connecticut; and

*W*HEREAS, once Aquatic Invasive Species are established, attempts to eradicate the species are expensive and often fail; and

*W*HEREAS, I urge Connecticut's residents and those recreating on Connecticut's waters to help prevent the spread of AIS by removing plant material and mud from boats, trailers and other associated equipment, properly disposing of bait and aquarium plants, and by following the proper Clean, Drain, Dry management practice on their vessel and equipment; now

*T*HEREFORE, I, Dannel P. Malloy, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby declare July 16-17, 2016 as

**CONNECTICUT AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES
AWARENESS WEEKEND**
in the State of Connecticut.




GOVERNOR