

# How much do you know about biosecurity?

## What is biosecurity?

Biosecurity is taking steps to reduce the risk of introducing or spreading invasive species (and other harmful organisms like diseases).

## Why is it important?

A new invasion can start from a single tiny animal, egg or fragment of plant which can be hard to see with the naked eye. A good biosecurity routine will help to remove these from your clothing and equipment.

## Why should it matter to me?

Invasive species have an impact on everyone, whether through harm to native species you love, the aquatic sports you enjoy, or by causing problems in your garden and home.

**Some aquatic invasive species, including the ones below, can survive out of water for 16 days and more on damp clothing & equipment.**



• Australian swamp stonecrop.



• Asian Clam.



• Parrot's feather.



• Killer Shrimp.



• Floating Pennywort.

**Everyone has a role in helping to prevent the spread of invasive species.**

If you work in the environment or enjoy fishing, boating, canoeing or other similar activities, remember to:



Check your equipment and clothing for living organisms. Pay particular attention to areas that are damp or hard to inspect.



Clean and wash all equipment, footwear and clothes thoroughly. Use hot water where possible. If you do come across any organisms, leave them at the water body where you found them.



Dry all equipment and clothing - some species can live for many days in damp conditions. Make sure you don't transfer water elsewhere.

If you are a gardener, have a pond or own an aquarium, remember to:



For more information visit:  
[www.invasivespeciesireland.com](http://www.invasivespeciesireland.com)

