

# Take action

to stop the spread of invasive species in the Broads

CHECK

CLEAN

DRY

## Anglers

Waders, landing and keep nets are great hiding places for invasive freshwater species including killer shrimp. Take special care to Check, Clean and Dry these items when moving between waterways. Peg out nets to dry or soak them in hot water (above 45°C) for 15 minutes to ensure they are pest free. Don't take water mixed ground bait from place to place.

## Boaters, Canoeists, Kayakers and Windsurfers

Please follow Check, Clean, Dry actions when moving between waterways.

**Cruiser owners** – not all Check, Clean, Dry actions are practical for your vessel, but you can help prevent the spread of invasive pests by lifting and cleaning your hull once per year. However, Check, Clean, Dry actions can be carried out on clothing, equipment and tenders.

Following the simple procedures in this leaflet will help prevent the further spread of freshwater invasive species like killer shrimp and floating pennywort throughout the Broads and other UK waterways. It is everyone's responsibility to help protect and preserve our waterways for future generations to enjoy.

Remember to **Check, Clean, Dry** everywhere, every time to protect the Broads, Britain's Magical Waterland.

There is more information about freshwater invasive species online:

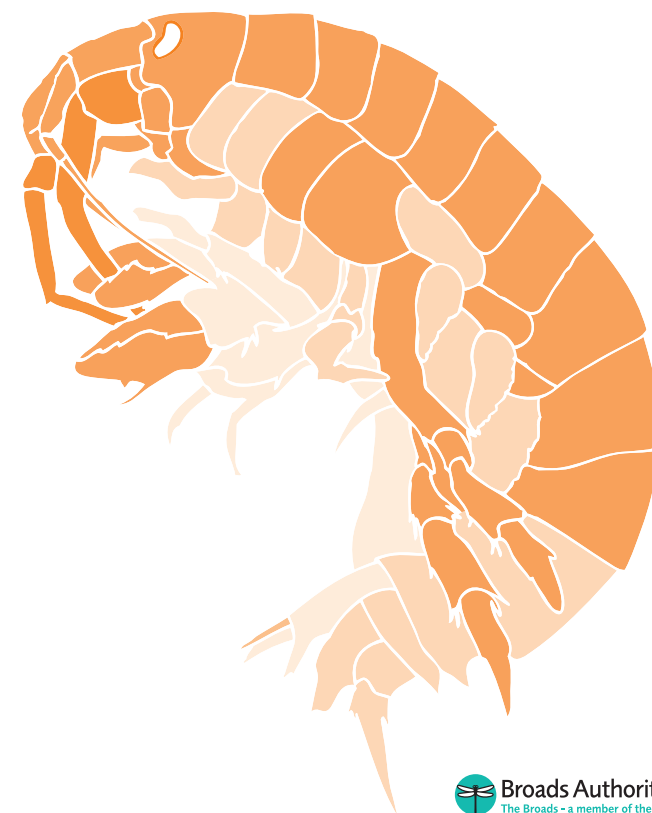
[www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry](http://www.nonnativespecies.org/checkcleandry)

To find out more about what is being done in Norfolk to reduce the impacts of these species, and other ways you can help, please visit:

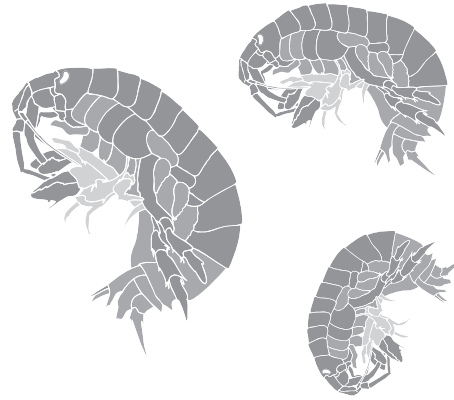
[www.norfolkbiodiversity.org/nonnativespecies](http://www.norfolkbiodiversity.org/nonnativespecies)

To report a suspected find of freshwater pests or invasive species please email a photograph to:

[alert\\_nonnative@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:alert_nonnative@ceh.ac.uk)



# We all have a part to play in protecting the Broads, from the harmful effects of freshwater invasive species.



## The Facts

Unwanted non-native plants and animals are invading our waterways and pose a serious threat to our broads, lakes, rivers and streams. Once in a waterway these invasive species can disperse rapidly, adversely affecting recreational facilities, reducing fish populations and restricting navigation.

Some freshwater pests are microscopic and can be spread by a single drop of water. Even if you can't see the danger, you could be spreading it. To stop the spread of invasive species you must Check, Clean and Dry your clothing and equipment when you are moving from one waterway to another, anywhere in the UK.

Invasive non-native freshwater plants can grow rapidly, blocking out light and removing oxygen from the water, rendering waterways unsuitable for wildlife and our own recreational activities. Floating pennywort (pictured below) was first found in the UK in 1990. It is able to grow 20cm per day and is now causing widespread problems.

Invasive non-native invertebrates such as the killer shrimp, zebra mussels and signal crayfish can also have a harmful effect on our freshwater environment. These organisms can reproduce rapidly, compete with or eat our native species and spread diseases and parasites.

Killer shrimp feed on native shrimp, damselfly larvae, water boatmen, fish fry and fish eggs.

## We all have a part to play.

Individual river, broad and lake users are being asked to take care not to transport plants, fish and other organisms from one waterway to another. It is everyone's responsibility to slow the spread of invasive species. Please remember to follow these simple steps.

## Check

Before you leave a waterway, check your equipment and clothing for any organisms or debris that may have been in contact with the water. Leave anything you find on the bank side. If you find any later, put it in your rubbish bin, do not wash down drains.

## Clean

Clean and wash all equipment, footwear and clothes thoroughly. Soaking fishing nets and equipment in hot water (above 45°C) for 15 minutes will kill any invisible pests.

## Dry

Drying will kill all freshwater pests, but even slightly damp items can harbour killer shrimp and other microscopic pests for several weeks. To ensure pests are dead by drying, the items must be completely dry to the touch, inside and out.