

PROTECT OUR RIVERS

From Didymo



What is didymo?

Didymo, often called rock snot, is an invasive freshwater alga. It can impact native fish, plants and the aquatic insects on which fish depend. It is not a threat to human health but can affect the enjoyment of recreational activities. It can foul fishing lines, lures and flies. To date, it has been found in the Restigouche and Upper Saint John river systems.

What does it look like?

It looks slimy, feels like wet cotton wool and forms large brown mats that cover the bottom of streams and rivers. Dry didymo looks like toilet paper.



How is it spread?

It can drift downstream or cling to boots, fishing gear, clothes, boats, trailers and even pets.

Stop the invasion.

Clean all equipment before moving from one location to another, even on the same river. If you find didymo please contact the nearest Natural Resources office.

CHECK

Remove everything that sticks to fishing gear, boats and trailers.

CLEAN

Soak and scrub all gear at least one minute with 60 °C water or a 2% solution of bleach or a 5% solution of salt, antiseptic hand cleaner or dishwashing detergent. Absorbent materials like felt-soled waders require longer soaking times, at least 45 minutes in hot water (above 45 °C). Note: A 2% solution is 200ml with water added to make 10 liters; a 5% solution is 500ml with water added to make 10 liters.

DRY

If it is not possible to clean equipment, let it dry out for at least 48 hours before using it in another location.

Be Alert!

For more information: www.gnb.ca/naturalresources

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