

Search

Pressurized-car-wash facilities now available to boaters **(http://pressrepublican.com/0100_news/x952274992/Pressurized-car-wash-facilities-now-available-to-boaters)**

By **JEFF MEYERS**, Press-Republican
Press-Republican (<http://pressrepublican.com>)

PLATTSBURGH — Boat owners who want to pressure wash their vessels before entering or leaving area waters now have a new option available.

The Lake Champlain Basin Program and the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation have established an agreement with several car-wash businesses in the basin to provide facilities to successfully clean boats, trailers and equipment and help prevent the spread of unwanted invasive species.

“Because there are not sufficient resources for both the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Service to install boat-launch stations at access sites, the alternative was to find local car washes that can accommodate cars with trailered vessels,” said Meg Modley, invasive-species management coordinator for the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

“What they offer is high-pressurized wands that boaters can use to clean their boats and trailers.”

Pressure washing boats, trailers and equipment helps remove plant fragments, zebra mussels and other invasive species that may unknowingly cling to boaters' property.

BROCHURE LISTING

“For their participation, we've put the names of businesses on our brochures and will give them sandwiched signs to put up at their place of business,”

PLEASE NOTE: There is a 150 word maximum for comments. All comments greater than 150 words in length will be deleted in their entirety.

ALSO NOTE: Derisive name-calling of an individual or group will result in the entire comment being deleted. This includes the terms "stupid" and "idiot" and similar references.

Welcome to our new online comments feature. Before you can join the discussion, you must first register with Disqus and verify your email address.

Once you do, your comments will post after they have been reviewed by a moderator.

We welcome your thoughts and your opinions, including unpopular ones. We ask only that you keep the conversation civil and clean.

Not all comments are deemed printable. Some are disqualified, at the newspaper's discretion, for a number of reasons. Here are some typical practices to avoid in trying to get your comment printed:

There is a 150 word maximum for comments. All comments greater than 150 words in length will be deleted in their entirety.

Don't state as a fact something that is unsubstantiated or that our editors wouldn't know to be true.

Don't presume someone's guilt in a case when it hasn't been established by a court.

Don't assail or impugn an identifiable individual or group. If you have that kind of criticism, sign your name and submit it as a Letter to the Editor. (There is some leeway on this in connection with public officials, but it is not unconditional.)

Don't use profanity. This includes the term “tea bagger.”

Modley said.

“We have identified existing infrastructure (at area car washes) that can provide boaters with what they need (to clean their boats properly).”

The service is not free; boat owners must pay whatever the businesses charge.

VERMONT LAW

Vermont boaters are required by law to remove all vegetation, mud and animals from their boats when leaving Vermont waters, but a similar law does not exist in New York.

Still, using the cleaning stations can benefit owners as well as the environment.

“People like to keep their vessels clean,” Modley said. “This (program) gives them a great place to go now.”

LOCATIONS

New Way Car Wash at 269 Margaret St. and Washland Car Wash at 310 Margaret St. both offer the service in Plattsburgh.

Other New York stations are at Crown Point Car Wash, 2738 Main St., and Treadway Car Wash, 1203 Route 9 in Ticonderoga.

Eight stations are available in Vermont, ranging from Swanton to Vergennes.

Aquatic invasive species are non-native plants and animals that typically out-compete native plants and animals for food and habitat. They can obstruct waterways, clog recreational areas and greatly reduce biodiversity.

For instance, water chestnuts and Eurasian watermilfoil can grow rapidly, hampering boating, fishing and swimming. Zebra mussels can clog water intake pipes, clutter beaches, encrust docks and harm native mussels.

Forty-nine non-native species occupy Lake Champlain, and many more threaten to invade in the near future.

Many inland lakes remain uninfested but are threatened by their proximity to Lake Champlain.

Email Jeff Meyers:

jmeyers@pressrepublican.com

Don't be incendiary or tasteless. Those qualities are subjective, of course, and our editors will be the arbiters.

Do not identify yourself in the main content area of the article content form. Only by enforcing this rule can the moderators prevent unscrupulous commenters from falsely identifying themselves as someone they are not.

Don't type in all caps. It is considered the Internet equivalent of shouting.

In sports articles, do not criticize officiating.

Remember, moderators are not allowed to edit any article comments. If an article comment fails any of the above criteria, the entire comment will be deleted.

We monitor comments Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. Approval of comments outside these times may be delayed.

Like

Comments for this page are closed.

Showing 1 comment

Sort by newest first



[new and used cars in doha qata](#)

Force washing boats, trailers and equipment assists remove vegetation fragments, zebra mussels and other invasive species that may innocently cling to boaters property.

M [Subscribe by email](#) S [RSS](#)

comments powered by [DISQUS](#)



Press-Republican P.O. Box 459, 170 Margaret St. Plattsburgh, NY 12901