

# Biosecurity at 2019 Marathon Nationals

**Help British Canoeing stop the spread of invasive plants and animals around the UK**

## **Why?**

1. Invasive non-native species can have a damaging impact on native British plants and animals by spreading disease, competing for habitat and food and preying on our native species.
2. Plants that grow profusely can block waterways and damage riverbanks. These have economic impacts on our environment and add significant to management costs for navigation authorities.
3. As canoeist, you may unknowingly be helping to spread invasive species from one water body to another on your equipment or clothing.
4. Help stop this happening by following 3 simple steps: Check, Clean and Dry (see attached poster)

**Before you leave home and arrive at the regatta**, please ensure that all your equipment is Check, Cleaned and Dry by:

CHECKING there are no visible plant matter or animals on or in your boat – put them in a bin!

CLEANING AND WASHING your boat inside and out away from any watercourse.

DRYING your boat thoroughly

**Before you leave the regatta**, please could you:

Visit the wash down station to learn more about biosecurity and have your boat washed down

**For further information please follow:**

<http://www.nonnativespecies.org/downloadDocument.cfm?id=1780>

<http://www.nonnativespecies.org/downloadDocument.cfm?id=1790>