

# Our Lake is at Stake!

## Mussel Threat to Lake Mission Viejo

**Lake Mission Viejo is mussel free** and we need your help and cooperation to protect and maintain it! The quagga and zebra mussels are a major threat to Lake Mission Viejo Association. (LMVA) There are dozens of contaminated lakes and reservoirs in Southern California and thousands across the country. This has LMVA on heightened alert!



### Why

- Mussels can destroy our world class fishery and ecosystem
- Mussels ruin boats, equipment, water intake pipes, docks
- Mussels litter beaches with smelly, razor sharp shells
- Mussels cost millions of dollars to control resulting in increased assessments and potential 'special assessments'
- Mussels can put property values at risk



### **What LMVA is doing**

- LMVA requires all watercraft to be inspected and registered before launch
- LMVA requires a 30 day quarantine tag (yellow tag) which prohibits the use of the watercraft on any body of water, including Lake Mission Viejo. Once the 30 day quarantine has expired, a day use tag (green tag) is applied and can only be removed by authorized Lake personnel prior to launching. If the tag has been removed or tampered with, the 30 day quarantine is re-instated
- LMVA continues to stay abreast of new developments through State Agencies, our staff Biologist, outside Consultants and ongoing training. (Latest training through Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, US Fish and Wildlife Service.)

### **What you can do**

- Don't take access to the Lake for granted
- Never launch an uninspected, unregistered watercraft into the Lake
- Never launch any watercraft from anywhere but North Beach launch area
- Clean, drain and dry all watercraft and equipment
- Cooperate with Lake Staff to help protect your Lake
- Stay informed and vigilant in protecting our Lake

For more information, visit:

[www.ProtectYourWaters.net](http://www.ProtectYourWaters.net)

[www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/quaggamussel/](http://www.dfg.ca.gov/invasives/quaggamussel/)

[www.lakemissionviejo.org/19movies/QuaggaAware13.html](http://www.lakemissionviejo.org/19movies/QuaggaAware13.html)

# **Spread the message....not the mussels!**