

Polk County AIS Taskforce I-LIDS Project

A new project that boaters will notice this year is the installation of I-LIDS units at Maple Lake and Union Lake. I-LIDS stands for Internet Landing Installed Device Sensor. I-LIDS is a self-contained, solar powered system installed at boat launches to prevent the spread of AIS through video capture and remote inspection of boats and trailers entering a waterbody. The audio message provides education to boaters using the lake.

The goal of I-LIDS is to capture boats entering and leaving the lake when we are unable to have AIS inspectors on site to educate the users and discover any potential AIS violations. The captured videos are uploaded to the cloud and can be viewed by the I-LIDS company and staff. Any AIS violations are forwarded to local law enforcement for appropriate action. The main goal isn't to catch violators, but to help remind boaters to take the time to inspect their boats and make sure they are not entering or leaving our lakes with AIS attached.

FAQs

How does the I-LIDS system work?

As a boater enters a launch, they see signage indicating that the area is monitored. They are instructed how to inspect and clean off their boat and trailer before they launch. At the same time, the I-LIDS system utilizes advanced sensors that tell it when a boater has entered the launch area and turns on video monitoring of the bottom of the boat to identify whether there are aquatics present on the trailer or boat.

Who views the videos and what is done with the information?

The videos are stored on a secured server and can only be accessed through a user account and password. I-LIDS staff review 200 videos per month for the County, and the remainder of the videos are viewed by County AIS staff. The videos are only used to look for AIS violations, such as the presence of weeds, zebra mussels, etc. that are attached to watercraft and trailers. No other data or information is used or disseminated from the videos.

For more information about the I-LIDS project feel free to call Environmental Services at (218) 281-6445

