

Gear Cleaning Requirements

Check

Look for debris and strands of algae on angling gear, tubes, boats, trailers and swimming attire. Remove aquatic hitchhikers from gear and leave at stream side.

Clean

Soak gear in a 2.5-5.0% solution of household bleach with hot water for 10 minutes. Hard to remove debris should be scrubbed with biodegradable detergent.

Dry

Dry all gear to touch. Once dry to touch, continue dry time for an additional 48 hours. Didymo will live in a moist environment for up to 60 days.

Wading Boot Recommendations

Anglers are encouraged to use the new Vibram® StreamTread™ wading boots that help prevent the spread of Didymo and other invasive aquatic species. Even these need to be cleaned and dried. If this is not an option, anglers should have a second pair of wading boots for use only within the Park.

For questions or to report suspected Didymo within the park call: (865) 436-1250

Photo courtesy of MAF New Zealand

For more information contact:

Great Smoky Mountains National Park
107 Park Headquarters Road
Gatlinburg, Tennessee 37738
(865) 436-1200
www.nps.gov/grsm

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior
Great Smoky Mountains National Park



Didymo Prevention



Didymo (*Didymosphenia geminata*) is a single-celled diatom alga conditioned for growth in cold, high altitude European and Asian waters. Didymo is not native to America, but has been transferred to streams in 16 states. Park staff is taking proactive steps to prevent the introduction of Didymo into Great Smoky Mountains National Park streams. You can assist with this effort by taking the following actions.

Follow the gear cleaning requirements found on the reverse side of this card.

Wade, tube, swim, boat, and fish only with clean, thoroughly dried equipment.