The new regulations will require all boats leaving any Texas public fresh water lake or river to drain their entire boat or watercraft, and all other things like bait buckets. In addition to that they suggest boaters to run their boat through a car wash or use a high pressure washer, and then allow their boat to dry for about a week before getting back on the water.

If you are found breaking the drain regulation you could be ticketed with a Class C misdemeanor punishable with a fine up to $500. A second offence could bring a fine up to $2,000 and or 180 days in jail.

**Transporting zebra mussels is illegal**
Possession or transportation of zebra mussels in Texas is a Class C misdemeanor for the first offence, punishable by a fine of up to $500. Repeat offenses can be elevated to a Class B misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to $2,000, jail time up to 180 days, or both.

In addition, under this law, anglers and boaters are required to take all reasonable steps to drain all water from their vessel, including live wells, bilges, motors, and any other receptacles or water intake systems. This applies to all types and sizes of boats used on public waters.

