

# Zebra Mussel Hypothesis

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# Zebra Mussel Information

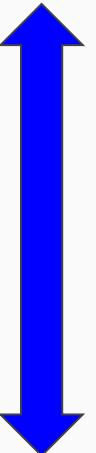


- The Zebra Mussel size in length ranges from anything less than 50 millimeters.
- The Zebra Mussel was introduced to the Great Lakes in 1996.
- Zebra Mussels occupy the Great Lakes, and small lakes and rivers in the region.
- Zebra Mussels are one of the most important North American invasions ever.
- Zebra Mussels can live up to 4 or 5 years.
- The Zebra Mussels mainly eat phytoplankton, causing them to compete with fish

"Zebra Mussel (Dreissena polymorpha) - FactSheet." *Zebra Mussel*. N.p., n.d. Web. 22 Oct. 2015.

"Zebra Mussels (Dreissena polymorpha)." *Zebra Mussels (Dreissena polymorpha)*. N.p., n.d. Web. 22 Oct. 2015.

# Riedel Beach

Shallow  
  
Deep

	Number of Zebra Mussels	Length of Time Observed	Number of Zebra Mussels Observed per Hour
Kathryn	224	10 Minutes	1344
Hunter	381	10 Minutes	2286
Luke	450	10 Minutes	2700
Matt section# 4	320	10 Minutes	1920
Kamryn	175	10 Minutes	1050
Sarah	485	10 Minutes	2910
Claire	725	10 Minutes	4350
Nolan	600	10 Minutes	3600

# Hidden Valley

Shallow  
  
Deep

	Number of Zebra Mussel	Length of Time Observed	Number Per Hour
Matt and Nolan	300	10 Minutes	1800
Luke and Kamryn	800	10 Minutes	4800
Kat and Hunter	748	10 Minutes	4488
Sarah and Claire	1340	10 Minutes	8040

# What is the Zebra Mussel's preferred surface?

From what we saw, our hypothesis is that the Zebra Mussel's preferred surface is metal on the docks and they preferred plastic tire over rubber tires.



# What Depth does the Zebra Mussel prefer?

Our data showed that Zebra Mussel's prefer the parts of the dock that were deeper in the water. At Hidden Valley the evidence is overwhelming and at Riedel Beach we can see that the numbers of Zebra Mussels grew as the depth got deeper.

# What is the Zebra Mussel's preferred position on a surface?

We noticed that Zebra mussels like hard flat surfaces that they can attach easily on but we also noticed that they prefer to be under things. This is a picture that we took under steps of a dock and in deeper water.



# What is the preferred conditions for Zebra mussels?

Zebra mussels stop growing at 37.4 F, live at their prime between 68- 77 F and start to die at 86 F.

They live most commonly in still or slow moving freshwater.

# Zebra Mussels

*In a nutshell*

\*spreading rapidly

\*getting everywhere

\*need to be stopped

*The big question is how?*