

Please help stop the introduction and infestation of invasive species in Sunset Lake. If a lake becomes infested with an invasive species, early detection is crucial in order to implement a rapid management response. Visit this website for more detailed color plant pictures: [http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/exotic species/index.htm](http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/exotic%20species/index.htm) go to *The frightful fourteen* under publications.

### Invasive Species Training Guidelines

	Habitat	Common Name	Leaves/Stems/Flowers (text derived from NHDES websites)
	Floating	<b>Yellow Floating Heart</b>	Water lily-like growth habit with bright, yellow flowers about an inch or so in diameter. 2-5 flowers from each flower stalk. 5 petals per flower with a distinctive fringe along the edges of the petals arranged like the spokes of a wheel. Heart-shaped floating leaves with slightly wavy margins and purplish undersides. Flowers June-Sept.
	Floating	<b>Frogbit</b>	The plant can float free or put down roots up to 50 cm long in shallow water. It produces a single white flower up to 2cm wide with 3 rounded petals and a yellow center. Leaves are 2.5 to five cm wide – about the size of a Canadian one-dollar coin – and round to heart-shaped. They form a rosette up to 6 cm wide. Leaf bottom is purple-red with a spongy coating along the middle vein of the leaf that allows it to float on the water
	Floating	<b>Water Chestnut</b>	Floating triangular toothed leaves forming rosettes and submerged feather-like leaves along the stem/cord like stems/bladder-like swelling on floating leaves/small whitish to green flower June-Sept/spinney fruit

Triplet, showing floating leaves (top), submerged leaves (bottom left) and root (right) (after: CTRN/COORIS)

	<p>Submerged/E mergent flower stalks</p>	<p><b>Variable Milfoil</b></p>	<p>Densely packed fine feather-like leaves whorled <b>along</b> main stem/emergent flower stalk green spike like flowers with football shaped bracts June-July. Stem cross section revels "pie shaped" air chambers. Native look-alike: Coontail, Bladderwort, Native milfiol</p>
	<p>Submerged/E mergent flower stalks</p>	<p><b>Eurasian Milfoil</b></p>	<p>Feather-like leaves whorled <b>around</b> main stem that appear to be clipped on the end. Reddish shoot near the surface/emergent flower stalk green flowers with bracts smaller then flowers. Native look-alikes: Coontail, Bladderwort, Native milfiol</p>
	<p>Submerged/E mergent flowers</p>	<p><b>Parrot Feather</b></p>	<p>Very small compact feather-like leaves whorled around stem. emerged and submerged leaves similar/ flowers opposite, emergent</p>

	Submerged	<b>Curley-leaf Pondweed</b>	Oblong leaves with very curly edges, leaf margins finely toothed/winter buds generally present
	Submerged	<b>Brazilian Elodea</b>	A very bushy plant with dense whorls of bright green leaves (in shaded conditions, leaves may be widely spaced). Typically 4 leaves per whorl (arranged around the stem). Each leaf is usually less than .4" long with 3-petaled, white blooms, less than .4" in diameter, that float on the water..Mature leaves radiate from the stems in sets of 4. Native look-alikes: Native Elodea
	Submerged	<b>Fanwort</b>	Branching bright green narrow leaves forming fan shape opposite on stem. Floating lily-like leaves float on surface when flowering. White flowers with small lily pad-like structures July-Sept. Native look-alikes: Coontail, Bladderwort, Native milfiol
 <p data-bbox="422 1495 680 1511">Source: Don Cameron, MNAP, VLMP © 2007</p>	Submerged	<b>European Naiad</b>	Leaves are lime green, very slender and 1 ¾" long with 6-15 deep conspicuous teeth along margin. Leaves are usually opposite each other with a wide base that tapers to a sharp tip. Brittle, re-curved leaves branch profusely at the apex, giving a minor a bushy appearance. Small 1.5 – 3 mm fruits develop in the leaf axils. Fruits are slightly curved with white ladderlike longitudinal rows.

 <p><i>Hydrilla verticillata</i> 1996 Kerry Dressler</p>	Submerged	<b>Hydrilla</b>	Heavily branching erect stems/Small pointed bright green leaves toothed along margin, leaf whorls of 3-10 (5 most common) along main stem/Very small white flowers near water surface/peanut-sized tubers in sediments. Native look-alikes: Waterweed <i>Elodea nuttallii</i> : leaves in 3s whorled around stem with narrow leaves, no teeth on margin of leaf
	Emergent	<b>Common Reed</b>	Stems 3-14' tall, leaves alternate along stem/Reddish to silver flowering head forming large tuft.
	Emergent	<b>Purple Loosestrife</b>	Woody square stem average 5' tall/leaves opposite or whorled along stem/long spikes of magenta purple flowers July-Sept
	Emergent	<b>Flowering Rush</b>	Emerges in spring. Emergent leaves are stiff, narrow, sedge-like (3-edged or triangular in cross-section) and up to 3 feet above the water surface. In deep water, the plant can be entirely submerged. Submerged plants have limp leaves and do not flower. Often unnoticed among other wetland plants until it blossoms, flowering rush has a distinctive spray of attractive white, pink, or purple flowers on a tall stalk. Blooming in late summer to early fall, flowers have 3 petals, 3 sepals and red anthers.

		<p><b>Asian Clam</b></p> <p>Adults typically less than 1.5" long. May form dense clusters with thousands/sq. meter. Prefers sandy substrate in quite warmer sunlit waters.</p>
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**If you think you've found an Exotic Aquatic Plant:**

1. Record the exact location of the sighting. If you have a buoy use it to mark the location.
2. Collect a specimen including a piece of stem with leaves as well as any flowers or fruit if present.
3. Wrap specimen in a moist (not dripping) paper towel, place in sealable plastic bag, put in an envelope and contact Sunset Lake Association. See below for contact information.

OR

1. Take a digital picture of the plant including the stem with leaves as well as any flowers or fruit if present. Use a pen or coin next to the plant to provide some sense of scale.
2. Email the photo to the Sunset Lake Association [info@slahampstead.org](mailto:info@slahampstead.org) with exact location description.

Sunset Lake Association  
[info@slahampstead.org](mailto:info@slahampstead.org)  
 PO Box 135  
 Hampstead, NH 03841  
 Contact: Team leader  
<http://www.slahampstead.org>

**What else can we do?**

Spread the word to lake users. Preventative Actions to avoid the spread of both invasive aquatic plants and the Asian Clam: INSPECT BOAT, MOTOR, TRAILER for tag-along plants, flush engines, DISPOSE of tag-along material bait, bilge water, bait bucket water **in trash.**

It is illegal to transport and introduce exotic plants in NH.