

How To Get Involved:

1. Join our Invasive Species Volunteer Surveillance Network & learn how to recognize invasive species at www.sleloinvasives.org. Be careful of “look-alikes”.
2. Take a trip to your favorite body of water and look for the species of interest. *Pay special attention at boat launches, trail heads and disturbed sites.*
3. If possible-remove the species and properly dispose of it to prevent spread. Report observations via iMapinvasives.org
4. Form an annual neighborhood surveying/removal event, look for invasive species and remember always bring safety gear and equipment.



Safety First!

Things YOU can do to stop the spread of Invasive Species:

1. Clean your boat, trailer, and gear thoroughly before entering a new waterbody.
2. Remove debris from your hiking shoes prior to entering and leaving a trail.
3. Never release unwanted aquarium plants, fish or bait into waterways.
4. Plant native plants instead of exotic non-native species.

Importance of Early Detection

- Reduces negative impacts (ecologically and economically).
- Improves response time, helps to slow the spread of invasives.
- Smaller infestations are easier to manage.

For more information or to get involved, contact the SLELO-PRISM office at (315) 387-3600

www.sleloinvasives.org

SLELO PRISM

St. Lawrence Eastern Lake Ontario Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management



Surveying for AQUATIC Invasive Species

You Can Help!



Invasive species are a leading cause of ecological and economic damage

SLELO PRISM

“Teaming up to stop the spread of invasive species”

Hydrilla (*Hydrilla verticillata*)

Leaves are whorled in bunches of 4 or more leaflets with distinctive serrated edges



Stems can grow up to 25 ft. in length and branch at the surface where growth become horizontal and form dense mats



Distinguishing Hydrilla From Look-Alikes

4 or more leaves + visible leaf serrations + tubers =

Hydrilla

Where to Look

Slow moving fresh bodies of water & boat launches.

How to Respond if Found

For small scale infestations, remove ENTIRE plant by hand and dispose of it.

Take a close up photograph and/or collect a sample and contact 315-387-3600 x7725.

Why monitor for Hydrilla

Hydrilla is a highly aggressive aquatic plant that can congest waterways interfering with navigation, recreation, ecology and aesthetics.

Water Chestnut (*Trapa nantans*)

Leaves float on surface and form a rosette, are waxy, triangular in shape, and toothed. Petioles have a bladder-like swelling filled with air and spongy tissue giving the plant buoyancy.



Flowers are slightly erect, inconspicuous, and located in the central area of the leafy rosette. They have four white petals each 1/3 inch in length. Fruits are four-horned, pointy, green when immature, and black when mature.



Where to Look

Shallow freshwater habitats.

How to Respond if Found

For small scale infestations, hand pull to remove.

Why monitor for Water Chestnut

Water chestnut creates dense floating mats that can completely dominate surface waters rendering them unusable for boating, fishing, swimming and other recreational activities.

Fanwort (*Cabomba caroliniana*)

Leaves are submerged, opposite, feathery and “Y” shaped at the end (like the tip of a snakes tongue).



Flowers have six white petals with a yellow center.

Where to Look

Found in a wide range of aquatic habitats; prefers slow moving waters, such as lakes and ponds but can be occasionally found in rivers.

How to Respond if Found

For small scale infestations, remove ENTIRE plant by hand and dispose of it.

Take a close up photograph and/or collect a sample and contact 315-387-3600 x7725.

Why monitor for Fanwort

Fanwort has the ability to overwinter and grow early in the spring allowing it to outcompete native vegetation. Populations can become extremely dense and alter native biological diversity.