SLELO PRISM Partners Share These Goals:

PREVENTION

Prevent the introduction of invasive species into the SLELO PRISM region.

EARLY DETECTION & RAPID RESPONSE

Detect new and recent invaders and rapidly respond to eliminate all individuals within a specific area.

COOPERATION

Share resources, expertise, personnel, equipment and information.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Collect, utilize, and share information regarding surveys, infestations, control methods, monitoring and research.

CONTROL

Control invasive species infestations by using best management practices, methods and techniques to include:

ERADICATION - Eliminate all individuals and the seed bank from an area.

CONTAINMENT - Reduce the spread of established infestations.

SUPPRESSION - Reduce the density but not necessarily the total infested area.

RESTORATION

Develop and implement effective restoration methods for areas that have been degraded by invasive species and where suppression or control has taken place.

EDUCATION / OUTREACH

Increase public awareness and understanding of invasive species issues through volunteer monitoring, citizen science and community outreach.

SLELO PRISM

This QR code will link to more resources.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT THE:

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

SLELO PRISM

C/O The Nature Conservancy

(315) 387-3600 x 7724

www.sleloinvasives.org

Get Involved

Help find invasive species of interest in your region. For details, contact **megan.pistolese@tnc.org**

Stay informed, join our listserv
Follow these steps to join:

1. Email **cce-slelo-l-request@cornell.edu**
2. Type "join" in subject space
3. Leave email body blank and send

Cover Photo:http://www.terra.hu/haznov/htm/Stratiotes.aloides.html. Inside left column bottom photo of water soldier population: Biolab.cz, http://www.biolib.cz/en/taxonimage/id140600/. Inside right column top identification photo: http://www.ecosystema.ru/08nature/flowers/193.htm. Seeds photo: USDA, http://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=STAL6.

SLELO PRISM

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

SLELO PRISM

What You Should Know About

Water Soldier

(Stratiotes aloides)

SLELO PRISM

"Teaming up to stop the spread of invasive species"

What is a Water Soldier?

Water soldier (*Stratiotes aloides*) is a submerged and emerged invasive aquatic perennial native to Europe and Northwest Asia. It was likely introduced as an ornamental plant in aquatic gardens. The first sighting in North America was in the Trent River in Ontario, Canada in 2008.

Water soldier forms dense submerged and floating mats that displace native aquatic plants, alter water chemistry and impedes recreation. Water soldier has sharp serrated leaf edges that can cause injury. Below is a photo that shows how dense water soldier populations can become.

You Can Stop The Spread:

Don't buy or sell this aquatic plant. **Clean, Drain, Dry** your watercraft and all fishing/sporting equipment before entering and leaving a body of water.

Control/Management:

Small infestations can be managed by hand pulling. Extreme care and proper protection should be used as the serrated edges can cut skin.

If you find water soldier:

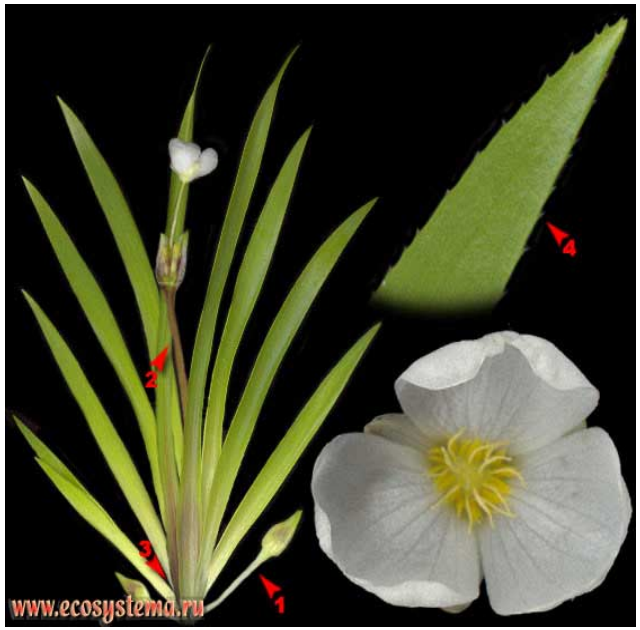
- Note the location
- Take clear photos
- Report to iMapInvasives.org

iMapInvasives
Sharing information for strategic management

Water Soldier Identification:

Water soldier have leaves that sit below and eventually grow above the water surface. Water soldier **Leaves** are roughly 15 inches long, sword-shaped, bright green and have sharp spines along the edges.

Flowers are white with three petals. **Fruits** are fleshy berries containing up to 24 seeds each.



Water Soldier Seeds