

Invasive Aquatic Plants in Chautauqua Lake

Chautauqua County, New York

Eurasian Watermilfoil *Myriophyllum spicatum*



Alison Fox

Identification:

- Leaves are divided like a feather with a short stalk and 14-20 pairs of leaflets
- Each leaf tip is flat (looks like it's been clipped)

Brittle Naiad *Najas minor*



Graves Lovell

Identification:

- Leaves are long, serrated and oppositely arranged on highly branched stems
- Can grow up to 4ft in length

Curly-leaf Pondweed *Potamogeton crispus*



Dan Busemeyer

Identification:

- Leaves are rigid, reddish-green, oblong, finely-toothed and wavy edged
- Stems are reddish-brown and grow 1 to 16ft

Starry Stonewort *Nitellopsis obtusa*



Jim Grazio

Identification:

- Branches are long, gelatinous and look angular at the joints
- At the base of each branch, one cream colored bulb may be present

Help Protect Our Waterways!

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Help Protect Our Waterways!

Help Prevent the Spread of Invasive Aquatic Plants from Chautauqua Lake

- Invasive aquatic plants can negatively impact the ecological, recreational and economic values of the waters in which they are introduced.
- Management of established populations of invasive aquatic plant species is complex and costly.
- Prevention and Early Detection of invasive aquatic plants is the most effective way to protect our waterways.

Recreational boating and fishing are primary pathways by which invasive aquatic plant species colonize new areas:

- On boats, trailers and fishing gear.
- In bilge and live bait wells.

YOU can help prevent their spread by:

- Educating yourself.
- Remembering **CLEAN, DRAIN & DRY**: Clean your equipment, drain wells and allow time to dry prior to entering a new waterbody or watershed.
- Join the Chautauqua Lake Early Detection Volunteer Network to assist in surveys of new invasive plants that pose a threat to Chautauqua Lake.

References:
Johnson, R. L. (2017). "Late Spring 2017 Presence and Abundance of Aquatic Plants in Chautauqua Lake." Racine-Johnson Aquatic Ecologists, 1185 Ellis Hollow Road, Ithaca, NY 14850. pp. 1-107.
Western New York PRISM. (2018). Aquatic Invasive Species. Retrieved from: http://www.wnyprism.org/species_environments/aquatic/

The Chautauqua Lake Association's Watercraft Stewards Program can assist with boat inspection and answer questions. Contact the CLA by calling 716-763-8602.

This project is a collaboration between the Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance and the Roger Tory Peterson Institute of Natural History. Funding was provided from the Environmental Protection Fund as administered by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, through the generous support of Senator Catharine Young. The County of Chautauqua provided support in the form of a pass-through grant to the Chautauqua Lake & Watershed Management Alliance.



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