



CAUTION: Invasive Species

Hydrilla

Impact - An aggressive underwater perennial, Hydrilla is similar to the American Waterweed (*Elodea Canadensis*). It is one of the world's worst aquatic invasive plants since it can tolerate various environmental conditions while spreading rapidly, clogging waterways, blocking sunlight to native vegetation and changing a lake's physical and chemical features. Much like Eurasian Watermilfoil, Hydrilla plants are broken and spread by boats.

How to Identify - Hydrilla is often referred to as water thyme. It has long stems branching at the surface with small bright green toothed leaves. Its leaves generally are clustered in whorls of five, although they can appear in spirals of 4-8. Undersides may have one or more spines and the midrib of each leaf is generally reddish. Hydrilla spreads by seeds, roots, fragmentation and overwintering buds. Can grow one foot per day.



Control - A variety of techniques have been used, but the most effective is prevention. Follow clean boating techniques: Avoid traveling through areas of thick vegetation and be sure to inspect and clean your boat before and after usage. Remove any materials and place in the garbage.