

WD-BB-24

2018

Eurasian Milfoil

Species Description

Eurasian milfoil is a submerged aquatic plant with whorled, feather-like leaves that appear to have been clipped on the end. Eurasian milfoil can grow 12-15 feet tall and exhibits a reddish shoot near the surface. It forms dense mats of tangled plants in lakes and ponds. Leaves have 12 or more pairs of leaflets, which is an identifying factor to aid in species-level identification.

General Information

Eurasian milfoil, which originally came to this country from Europe and Asia, is a serious nuisance to many lake residents. Once introduced to a lake (usually by transient boats), it grows and spreads very quickly, ultimately impairing the ecology of the system, and value of shorefront property.

There are five waterbodies with Eurasian milfoil in New Hampshire:

- Mountain Pond in Brookfield.
- Nashua River in Nashua.
- Mine Falls Pond in Nashua.
- Post Pond in Lyme.
- Connecticut River in Hinsdale.
- Mascoma Lake in Enfield.



Eurasian Milfoil
(*Myriophyllum spicatum*)

This is a less common invasive milfoil species to the state than variable milfoil, due primarily to water chemistry factors (Eurasian milfoil is often found in higher pH waters than New Hampshire typically supports). This species can also be found in nearby Vermont and Massachusetts, and is considered a national problem in lakes and other freshwater systems.

For more information about exotic species, please visit the NHDES website at <https://www.des.nh.gov/>.