

EURASIAN WATER-MILFOIL

"*Myriophyllum spicatum*"

French: MYRIOPHYLLE À ÉPI

INVASIVE AQUATIC PLANT

“UNWANTED”

**WELL ESTABLISHED IN SOME LAURENTIAN LAKES
AND
THREATENING TO INVADE ALL LAKES**



Source: University of Florida
Center for Aquatic & Invasive Plants

GENERAL INFO

- Once introduced into a lake, Eurasian Water-Milfoil grows rapidly and aggressively.
- It is virtually impossible to eradicate and extremely difficult and costly to control.
- The introduction of one single fragment of this plant can result in the infestation of an entire lake.
- Impacts of an infestation can be devastating:
 - creating dense mats of Eurasian Water-Milfoil which impair swimming, boating, paddling, fishing, etc.
 - reducing lake water quality with a potential decline of shorefront property values

DESCRIPTION

- Eurasian Water-Milfoil has vine-like stems and feather-like leaves growing below the water's surface with flower spikes emerging above the surface.
- Eurasian Water-Milfoil grows in water depths from **1 – 10 meters** (3 – 33 feet).
- Growth is rapid, aggressive and invasive; forming thick, dense mats at the water's surface.

IDENTIFICATION

- There are several native milfoil species with very similar characteristics, making it very difficult to identify the invasive Eurasian Water-Milfoil.
- Generally, native milfoil species have fewer than 14 leaflet pairs while the invasive Eurasian Water-Milfoil has **12 – 24** pairs of leaflets.



Native milfoil



INVASIVE
Eurasian Water-Milfoil

Source: CRE Laurentides

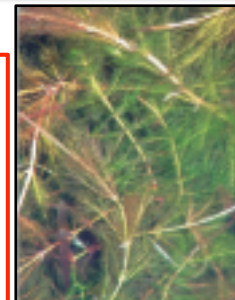
PREVENTION IS THE ONLY DEFENSE

- **THE LAKE HUGHES ASSOCIATION HAS A BY-LAW RESTRICTING ACCESS TO ALL NON-RESIDENTS' BOATS.**
- **RESIDENTS ARE REQUESTED TO AVOID TRANSFERRING THEIR BOATS, PADDLES, RECREATIONAL EQUIPMENT, FISHING & SWIMMING GEAR, ETC., FROM ONE LAKE TO ANOTHER.**

INSPECTION and CLEANING

IF WATERCRAFT OR EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN USED ON ANOTHER LAKE, ASSUME THAT THE LAKE IS INFESTED WITH SOMETHING THAT IS "unwanted":

- Visually inspect for plant fragments & debris / dispose in the garbage.
- Pressure wash / preferably with hot water (away from the lake).
- Soak & clean smaller articles in a javel solution.
- **AND** Leave out of the water to dry for **5 days** (longer if it rains).
- Visually inspect again before returning to the water.



Source: Maine VLMP (Don Cameron)

*** EURASIAN WATER-MILFOIL HAS BEEN DETECTED IN MORE THAN 40 LAURENTIAN LAKES. ***

IN 2016, FOLLOWING A VISUAL INSPECTION BY A BIOLOGIST WITH THE CRE LAURENTIDES TEAM AND VOLUNTEERS, NO SUSPICIOUS / INVASIVE AQUATIC PLANT WAS DETECTED.

THE AQUATIC PLANTS CONTINUE TO BE MONITORED EVERY YEAR BY LAKE HUGHES VOLUNTEERS.

REFERENCES:

Maine VLMP (Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program)
Quebec: CRE Laurentides / SENTINELLE

THE CRE LAURENTIDES 2016 AQUATIC PLANT REPORT
IS ON THE LAKE HUGHES WEBSITE (French only)

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